



Annual Report

Prepared By :

Wild Gift

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www.wildgift.org

2022

WILD GIFT ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Friends,

It brings me great joy to bring you the Wild Gift report of 2022. We built on our two decades of experience to expand our impact and deliver additional programs in wilderness' both new and known. In 2022, for the first time, we delivered two cohorts of Wild Gift fellows. The spring cohort trekked through the wilds of southern Utah's Canyonlands - experiencing seventeen days in the far reaches of the desert whilst honing their venture and leadership skills. The summer cohort took in the Boulder and White Cloud ranges in central Idaho, keeping the smoke at bay they soloed on ridge-tops, overcame sprained ankles, and built lifelong connections to each other and the wild.

I'm also happy to report that in 2022 we took the first step in expanding our programming by introducing Wild Strides, a shortened pilot version of our wilderness experience. Led by our incredible program director, Cassidy, Wild Strides partnered with SheFly to bring together eight women who have founded and lead outdoor companies into the Enchantments in Washington state for a 4 day experience. This pilot was so successful that we're rolling out more Wild Strides in 2023 so keep a lookout for one near you!

Finally, our alumni continue to have an outsized impact in the world. In this report we're highlighting the 2022 fellows, with ventures ranging from software to foodtech to concrete to everything in between, all focused on making the world a better place.

Our alums have raised over \$500M, reduced carbon emissions by the '000s of tons, and become changemakers around the world. Please join me in congratulating them on all their accomplishments. I look forward to sharing their and our journeys with you in 2023.

In Wildness,

Adam Marvel
Executive Director



2022 Board of Directors

Sarah Eminhizer

Laura Fieselman

Lisa Curtis

Alex Bailey

Chris Howell

Alex Wankel

Pete Land

Our Vision

Wild Gift envisions a more just and sustainable world built by change-makers who share a common bond with wild nature. The Fellowship connects and empowers environmental entrepreneurs through immersive wilderness experiences and dynamic business programming.



Our Values

1

We believe that reverence for wild nature is essential for leadership and the welfare of all people.

2

We believe that the dynamism and diversity of wild places are vast resources for learning and creativity.

3

We believe that strong connections with wild places and a supportive community are the foundation for lasting change.

4

We believe that diversity in race, age, gender, ability, and sexual orientation makes us a more capable organization.

About Us

Wild Gift provides wilderness-based Fellowships designed to drive environmental startups to the next phase of growth. Since its inception 20 years ago, the Wild Gift Fellowship has supported over 70 founders of social impact ventures that continue to make meaningful impact around the world.



Our unique Wild Gift leadership development experience affirms the “wildness” of spirit needed to change the world and instills in each Fellow a lasting belief in the importance of courage, teamwork, integrity, resilience, and audacity.

www.wildgift.org

2022 Wins

In 2022 we set an ambitious goal of doubling our treks - a goal we accomplished in taking fellows to both Utah and Idaho! We also wanted to increase our impact by piloting a new, shortened version of the Wild Gift experience.

We achieved this by piloting Wild Strides in the Washington wilderness in summer 2022. The pilot was so successful that we are rolling out more Wild Strides in 2023! We also grew in staff numbers and partnerships, all with the goal of allowing more leaders to be impacted by a Wild experience as they grow individually and as venture founders.

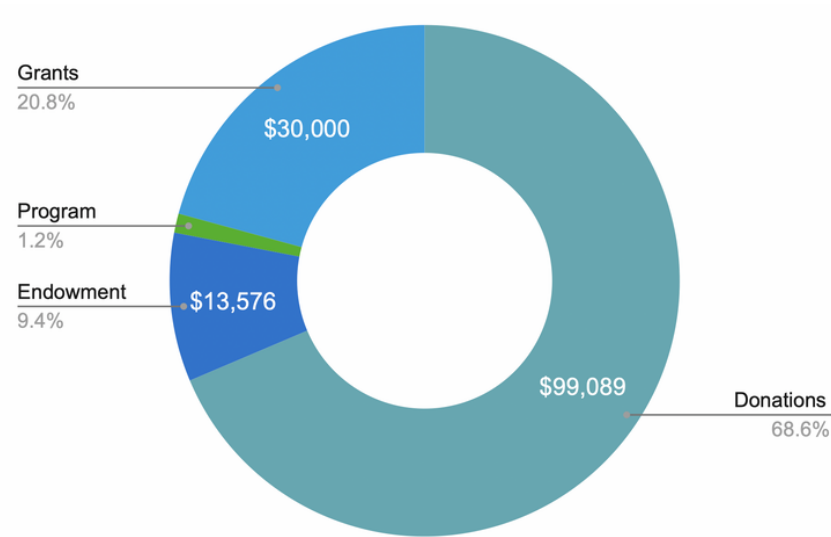


In summary...

- We trekked in **Idaho, Utah, and Washington**
- **Doubled** the number of fellows from 5 in 2021 to 10 in 2022
- **Doubled** the number of treks from 1 to 2
- **Tripled** the number of total applicants
- Successfully piloted **Wild Strides**
- Held **4 alumni events** around the country
- Held annual community event in Idaho
- **Doubled** the number of staff

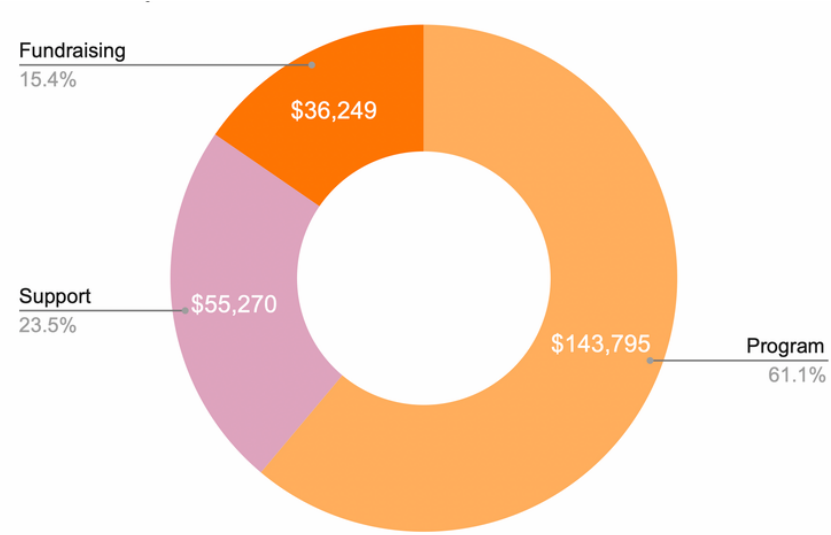
Financials

Income



Wild Gift supported two classes of five fellows in 2022 as well as a pilot of Wild Strides. Expenses were slightly lower than expected because we did not run a river trip and made efficiency gains in administrative work. Income was less than expected because of a fundraising crunch owing to uncertainty in the economy alongside rising interest rates. Major expenses included the positive increase in staffing, additional program facilitation, and the reintroduced grants to fellows. Major income sources included private donations and endowment distributions.

Expenses



In 2023 we expect a positive increase in donations as well as additional revenue from Wild Strides. Expenses are expected to be less than 2022 as we return to one class of fellows in 2023 in an effort to maintain a balanced budget.

A National Impact

Our class of 2022 came from from the Bay Area and Oregon to Colorado, Texas and Illinois then all the way to New York to work on their ventures with like minded individuals. More information on each of their ventures can be found on our website at wildgift.org/alumni.



**Jay Simpson**

Wayfinding Ecologies, NYC

Wayfinding Ecologies partners with public cultural institutions to use art, stewardship activities, and direct nature experiences to re-entangle communities with historic and future ecologies.

**Zulma Torrones**

Life Stages, USA

Life Stages is an outdoor holistic health service that combines the power of nature and science to help individuals self-actualize at any stage in life.

"There are so many layers to the Wild Gift. I gained new perspectives on myself and my stories that have led to my venture. I gained a much stronger sense of the essence of my offering to the world, and I gained so much inspiration throughout the trek from the route, our guides, and my fellow Wild Gift peers."

Hannah Calloway

Kelly Wyche

Collective Power, Colorado & North Carolina

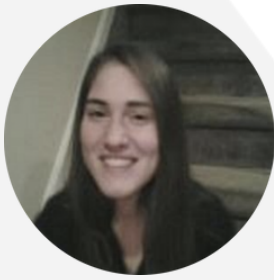
We help communities organize and develop infrastructure they need to support themselves (energy, water, housing, roads, waste mgmt, etc) .

**Michael McMillan**

Solstice Sown Designs, Colorado

Solstice Sown Designs practices ecological landscape design working with clients who want to invest in the regeneration of their land.





Marissa Goldstein

Peace Through Peace of Mind, NYC

Peace through Peace of Mind aims to connect survivors of domestic and sexual violence in New York with the healing power of nature through mindfulness outings to Central Park and Prospect Park.



Maeve McDermott

Green Communities Across America, USA

Green Communities aims to reduce pollution at the community-level across North, Central, and South America and to assist American countries with environmental governance development and capacity building, while creating an inter-American environmental bond.

Hannah Calloway

Rogue Environmental Leaders Program, OR

RELPE aims to inspire, empower, and equip teenagers to become lifelong environmental change makers..



Brittany Coleman

Tough Cutie, Austin, TX

Tough Cutie is an up-and-coming women's outdoor brand on a mission to support women from the ground up.



James Gray

Seren Labs, Austin TX

We need to develop and scale zero-carbon concrete to make a dent against the 8% of annual carbon emissions that come from concrete production today. Seren Labs provides a map of concrete R&D networks to make it easier for organizations to find the best experts and create novel solutions faster.



"This is easily one of the most meaningful, soulful experiences of my life. Thanks to all the Wild Gift community, staff and leadership for making this possible!"

James Gray

Dear Wild Gift Supporters,

Reflecting on 2022, I am so proud of the great work Wild Gift has accomplished. It was a year of innovation and growth for the organization.

Some of my personal highlights: We hired a fantastic Program Director, Cassidy Cichowicz. Together she has worked with the Executive Director, Adam Marvel, to expand programing which will bring the Wild Gift magic to a greater number of founders and innovators through short, wilderness-based engagements.

We launched Wild Weekends to reconnect alumni across fellowship classes and held events in California and Vermont and are already planning events for 2023. Our alumni board continued to provide strategic insight and guidance to the organization. A special thanks to our outgoing board members, Arun Gupta, Raj Vable, and Ki'Amber Thompson, each of whom has contributed deeply to the organization. Warm welcome to our new board members, Alex Bailey, Lisa Curtis and Alexander Wankel.

We are eager for the year ahead and look forward to increasing Wild Gift's reach through the Fellowship, Wild Strides, new supporters, and exploring additional wild opportunities. We are deeply thankful to our donors, friends and alumni.

Warmly,

Sarah Eminhizer
Wild Gift Board President

What Next?

In 2023 we are expanding our Wild Strides program in Colorado with new partners, taking our fellows trekking in Utah, and hosting an alumni reunion in Idaho at the end of the summer.



Thank you to our donors

Anonymous	Cristina Harmon	Christine Reed
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