



Growing

A Better Tomorrow

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



seeds

Ecology & Education Centers

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Natasha Koss

Ed Smith

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Cover Photo: EcoCorps Crew Member
Elisa Webster tends produce at the
SEEDS Farm at Historic Barns Park.

Twenty three years in, SEEDS has become a leader among Michigan-based nonprofits.

Our practical world-repair and resilience strategies engender trust from our partners, keep us innovative, and result in impactful work. We are known for taking a whole-system approach, working with all sorts of people of all ages in multidisciplinary ways. You can just as easily find us taking kids to the Manistee River as you might find us training folks to build and maintain Michigan trails, and local governments across the state have partnered with us for climate action, nature-based policy, and to leverage funding.

We care deeply about this region, our sweet waters, our fertile soils, and the people who make it so special. We recognize that what we do here influences the world. Thank you for nurturing and supporting us! SEEDS is growing because you want us to partner harder, build habitat faster, and fully invest in the leadership we need to thrive in the coming years.

Schedule a visit with us and see what's growing!

Nature-Based Solutions

After systematically destroying the living systems of Earth for generations, we are awakening to the fact that humans need to support our nonhuman relatives more than ever.

Collaborating with nature happens at all levels, from cultivating the beneficial bacteria that make up over half of the cells in our bodies (hint, diet and time outdoors helps!), to restoring land and oceanic systems that regulate flows of nutrients, temperature, and freshwater, to the healing relationships we have with our own gardens and pets.

Installing 1000 woody plants at Historic Barns Park, pictured on the right, was one of the many ways we collaborated with nature in 2022.



46 *trail miles built or improved*

178 *acres improved*

1750

*EcoCorps professional
development hours*

28

*EcoCorps members
employed*

618

*EcoSchool students served
during the 2021-2022 school
year*

63,079

*hours spent with EcoSchool
students during 2021-2022
school year*

Practical Action for All Ages

Together, with you, we are expanding networks of people doing fabulous things – from adults improving policies and equity, to kids who will transform our future. We support institutions in reaching their “green” goals through facilitation, analysis, and action planning.

We provide skill training and leadership development to individuals interested in green collar careers while simultaneously filling a need for skilled labor in our region. We bring place-based learning opportunities to students across Northern Michigan in wholesome, nurturing environments where each child is greeted by name.

We caught a snapshot of this captivating geology lesson led by Brett Bontrager. As EcoSchool Site Coordinator at Rapid City Elementary School in Kalkaska, Brett inspires his students to connect to nature and each other every day with high quality, educational programming.

Rapid City Elementary is one of eleven current partner schools.



Carbon & Climate Resilience

Solutions that prevent and drawdown atmospheric carbon can simultaneously improve human health, food access, air and water quality, downtown economies, equity, and wellbeing. We support solution multiplying efforts like:

- Policies that incentivize efficient buildings that run on clean energy and are made from safe materials.
- Investments in healthy soil and sharing tasty food.
- Air that is free of particulates, heavy metals, volatile organic compounds, and viruses which makes for healthier and smarter kids – adults too.

“Our family foundation supports SEEDS because they work with groups of students and adults as well as towns and cities, helping them learn how to take care of the environment.”

*Rebecca Tuuk,
Shafer-Tuuk Family Foundation*



5408

*pounds of food donated
or rescued*

2477

*pounds of food waste
composted*

2022 Financial Summary

REVENUE

Government Grants	\$	1,660,211
Private Grants	\$	334,737
Earned Income	\$	242,397
Donations	\$	232,760
In Kind & Other	\$	181,421

EXPENSES

SEEDS Amazing Staff!	\$	1,629,856
Contracted Services	\$	134,306
Supplies	\$	229,937
Transportation	\$	106,009
Other	\$	287,230

NET

Net Revenue	\$	264,188
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Our 2022 Supporters

Visionary | \$25,000+

- Anonymous
- Brookby Foundation
- Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa & Chippewa Indians
- Great Lakes Fisheries Trust
- Consumers Energy Foundation
- Michigan Department of Education - Michigan Office of Great Start Early Childhood Education & Family Services
- Michigan Fitness Foundation
- National Forest Foundation
- National Park Foundation
- The Ostdiek Family
- Rotary Charities of Traverse City

Champion | \$10,000+

- The Les and Anne Biederman Foundation
- Carls Foundation
- Barton J Ingraham and Gail G Ingraham Foundation
- Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development
- The Oleson Foundation
- Ken & Toby Salzman
- Art and Mary Schmuckal Family Foundation
- Shafer-Tuuk Family Foundation
- TC Energy Foundation
- Traverse City Light & Power
- United States Department of Agriculture
- United Way of Northwest Michigan

Ally | \$5,000+

- In memory of Carl and Pinkie Albright
- The Amdur Family Fund
- Cherry Republic
- Grand Traverse Regional Community Foundation
- Heather & Scot Korth

Mentor | \$1,000+

- Amical
- Black Star Farms
- Cadillac Area Community Foundation
- Mike Coco
- Desmond Liggett Wealth Advisors
- DTE Energy Foundation
- Fremont Area Community Foundation
- GoGo squeeZ
- Grand Traverse Resort and Casinos
- Sally & Tim Hanley
- The Herrington-Fitch Family Foundation
- Thom Greene & Nadeen Kieren
- Lori & Michael Lyman
- Lois Bahle & Larry Mawby
- John Michael
- Noon Rotary Club of Traverse City
- Oryana Community Co-op
- Mary Anne Powers
- Rove Estate
- Sawyer
- Dave Seabury
- Joanne Sprouse
- St. Andrews Presbyterian Church
- Target
- Joanie Fisher Woods & Randy Woods

Leader | \$500+

- Alfie Logo Gear
- Ed & Marlene Bailey
- Cuppa Joe Coffee & Cafe
- Evil Queen LLC
- Grand Traverse Construction
- Megan Motil
- Martha & Thomas Phillips
- Daniel Remahl
- Yvette Babin-Ringsmuth & Blake Ringsmuth
- Brian Beauchamp & Sarna Salzman
- Armen & Marie-Claude Shanafelt
- Sherwood Smith & Suzannah Lane Tobin
- Traverse City Track Club
- Petra Von Kulajta & Tim Werner
- Kimiko & Richard Williams

Guide | \$250+

- Bonnie Alfonso
- Gary & Mimi Appel
- Backcountry North
- Steve & Terry Cousins
- Michele & Scott Howard
- Laura & Paul Jacobson
- Camilla & Hunter Marvel
- Levi Meeuwenberg
- Ed & Patty Petrick
- The Refillery
- Jim Lemire & Denise Samuels
- Harold Leverenz & Aarti Subramaniam
- Rachael Franks Taylor & John Taylor
- June Thaden
- Mary Van Valin
- Nancy Gallagher & Kevin Weber
- Timothy Young
- Gary & Norma Zuckerman

Companion | \$100+

- Isabell Astor
- Mickie Barnhart
- Peg Brace
- Amanda & Paul Brink
- Andrew & Emily Buchholz
- Ed & Leslie Butt
- Michael & Theresa Corcoran
- Michael Beauchamp & Kay Cornell
- Don & Yvonne Cunkle
- Marcia Curran
- Martha Daniel
- Monica & Tom Dutmers
- Sandra Ehlers
- ELEV8 Climbing and Fitness
- Linda Hebert
- Linda Kelley
- Janet & Michael Kronk
- James Bizer & Mary Jo Larson
- Robert LaPorte & Harriette Lemke
- Colleen & Richard Lewis
- Margaret Littin
- Chris & Jim MacInnes
- Bob & Pamela Mang
- Caitlin Mangiardi, in honor of Roberta Bellinger
- Dyann Munoz
- Karen McCleary & Pete Munoz
- Sarah & Troy Naperala
- Cristine & Robert Nichols
- Christine & John Noteware
- Timothy Ascroft & Jann Parsons
- Amy & John Pflughoeft
- Lyn Dolson Pugh & John Pugh
- Diane Samarasinghe
- Serra Traverse City
- Jo Meller & Jim Sluyter
- Sue Kopka & Steve Smiley
- John & Julie Smith
- Sally Somsel
- Jennifer Reed & Daniel Spencer
- Mindy Shock & Connie Sprague
- Brad & Jandy Sprouse
- Judy Twigg
- Cindy Vaughan
- Michael C. & Phyllis Wells

- Ellen Whitehead
- Diane Wilbur
- Jessica & Mark Wilson
- Bruce Baker & Eugenie Wolfson

Friend | \$1+

- Rodrigo Almeida
- Jackie & Steve Baase
- Darcy Bluhm
- Gary & Lee Cheadle
- Anonymous
- Karen Comella
- Jon Cump
- Richard Deletetsky
- Jane Ecclestone
- Yaakov Epstein
- Lisa Franseen
- Bill & Debbie Hershey
- Kathryn & Steven Holl
- Janice Hudson
- John & Sandra Korzek, in memory of Roger Bloom
- Matthew & Natasha Koss
- Gary Cozette & Joe Lada
- Abdeen Jabara & Holly Maguigan
- John McDonald & Donna Miller
- Stephanie Mills
- Pat & Vic Munoz
- Bruce & Cathy Odom
- Timothy O'Donnell
- Jan & Pete Ostrowski
- David Page
- Monnie Peters
- Judy & Kevin Prost, in memory of Roger Bloom
- Sara Boys & Whitney Roberts
- F. Josephine Arrowood-Ross & Jeffery Ross
- Elizabeth Dunham & Ron Shock
- Ed Smith & Raz Smith
- Randy Smith
- Marcia Bellinger & Irv Stoner
- Laura Jaquish & Cal Steinorth
- Rebekah Phelps-Susinko
- George & Sally Thompson
- Don Thomson

- Hannah Israel & Kevin Uhl
- Sally Van Vleck
- Barbara & Phil Von Voigtlander
- Ms. Jane Watts & Mr. Price Watts
- Lin & Terry Westra
- Emily Wilson
- Katelyn Wilson
- Kathy & Robert Young
- Chris & Dave Zarnoch

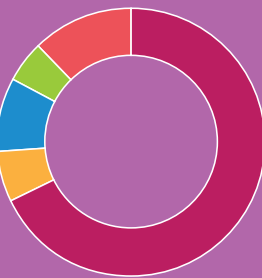
In Kind Gifts

- AmeriCorps NCCC
- Americorps VISTA
- Mickie Barnhart
- Conservation Resource Alliance
- Grand Traverse Mushrooms
- Steven & Kathryn Holl
- Laura & Paul Jacobson
- Lowe's of Ludington
- Anonymous
- The City of Traverse City and Garfield Township Rec Authority
- Judy Twigg
- Chad Womack

Volunteers

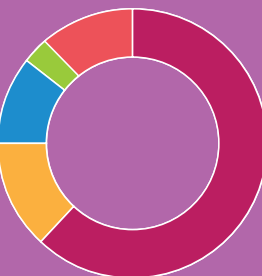
- Mickie Barnhart
- Jamal Bernard
- Karlee Cope
- Marlene Ford
- Joshua Fox, SR
- Tasha Galbraith
- Abigail Gordon
- Mia Green
- Rick Heitmeyer
- Heidi Kato
- Janet Kronk
- Sylvie Martin-Eberhardt
- Cari Jo Roberts
- John Roberts
- Jane Roesemeier
- Kaitlyn Rogers
- Kristin Page
- Jenna Scheub
- Karen Sharp
- Sandra Warnaar

REVENUE



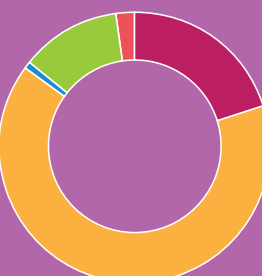
- 62% Government Grants
- 13% Private Grants
- 9% Earned Income
- 9% Donations
- 7% InKind & Other

EXPENSES



- 68% SEEDS Amazing Staff!
- 6% Contracted Services
- 10% Supplies
- 4% transportation
- 12% Other

EXPENSES BY PROGRAM



- 20% EcoCorps
- 65% EcoSchool
- 1% EcoStrategies
- 12% Administration
- 2% Fundraising

The information presented above was audited by Baird, Cotter, and Bishop. Financial statements are available upon request.

*Be Part of the Solution
with a Gift to SEEDS!*

Send Us Mail

P.O. Box 2454
Traverse City, MI 49685

Send Us an Email

hello@ecoseeds.org

Donate

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Instagram @SEEDSTC @EcoCorps

Right: SEEDS EcoSchool students at
Benzie Central Middle School learning
about beekeeping during summer camp.

SEEDS Ecology & Education Centers is a
501(c)3 nonprofit organization established to
implement local solutions to global issues at the
intersection of ecology, education, and design.

