ANNUAL REPORT 2022

Adirondack Mountain Club

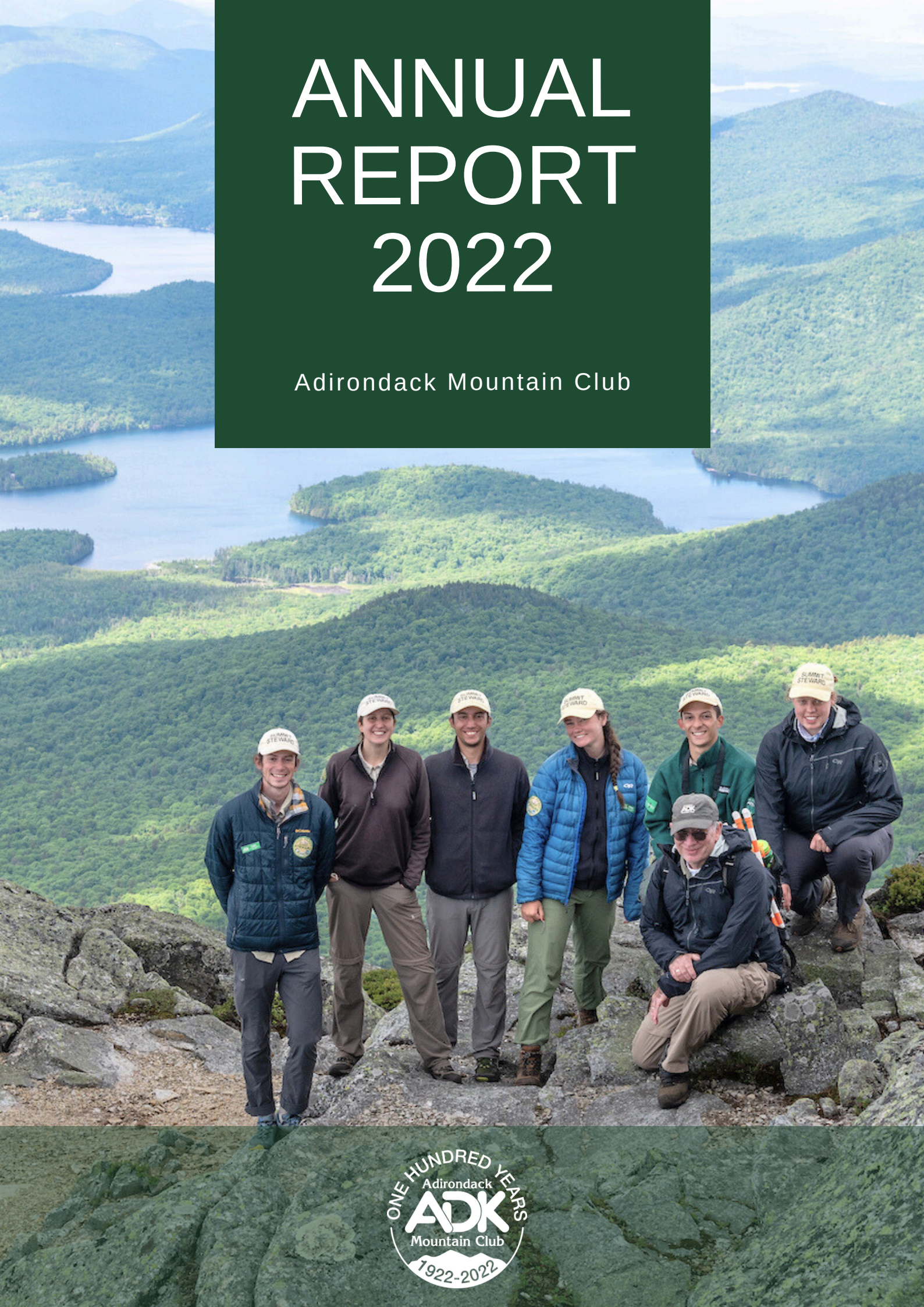


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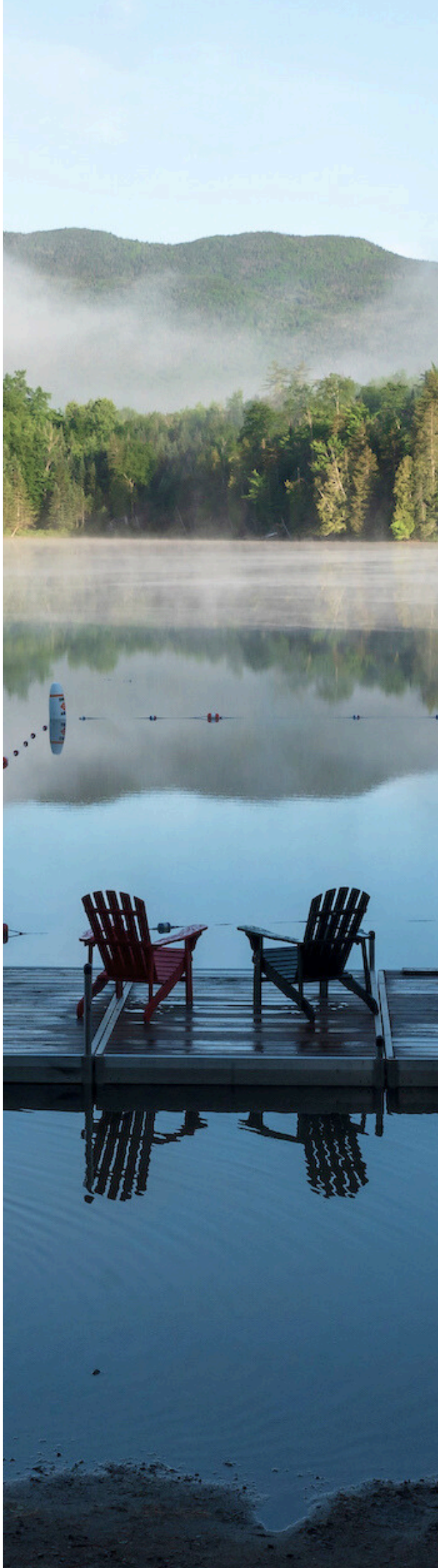
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THANK YOU

FROM THE PRESIDENT & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Last year, as we celebrated our centennial anniversary, you helped ADK prepare for its second century, which is already off to a strong start. From fundraisers to an event at Silver Bay, we spent 2022 celebrating how this organization has and continues to benefit New York's public lands and waters and all who enjoy them.

As we commemorated this legacy, we also made a big move to cement it by acquiring and opening Cascade Welcome Center, which we are working to transform into the Adirondack Park's premiere resource for visitor information and community-based recreation. On the policy front, we supported numerous successful efforts, including securing $8 million in state funding for the Forest Preserve and backing the successful passage of Prop 1—the Environmental Bond Act—which will provide much-needed funding for the environment.

In the Adirondack Park, we were equally impactful. Through our trails program, we partnered with the Adirondack 46ers, The Nature Conservancy in the Adirondacks, and others to continue building better trails in the region. Above treeline, summit stewards completed another round of photopoint monitoring, all while continuing to educate hikers about alpine vegetation. And along the shores of Heart Lake, we continued introducing kids to the outdoors through our school outreach programs.

We asked for your support in all these efforts, and you answered the call. Now, as we welcome 2023, there are a number of things to be excited about, including:

- Completing the new sustainably designed Mt. Jo Long Trail
- Fundraising for improvements at Cascade Welcome Center
- Announcing the findings of photopoint monitoring research
- Continuing to push for more Forest Preserve funding in the state budget
- And much more.

2023 is going to be a big year. Every step we take as an organization is made possible by your support. Your backing has allowed us to continue increasing our impact as we work to protect the Adirondacks through education and a statewide community of stewards. With support like this, we are excited about all that ADK can do in 2023 and beyond.

With gratitude,

Tom Andrews
President



Michael Barrett
Executive Director





Photo: Ben Brosseau



CELEBRATING DONORS

Karim Becker, Development Director

$1,353,089

fundraising total

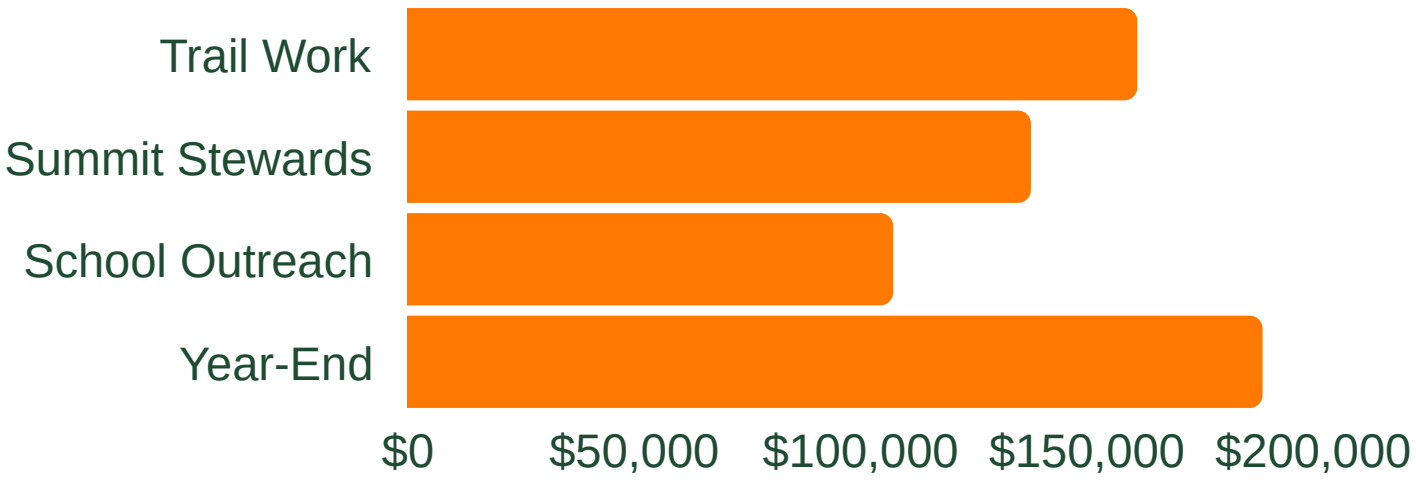
3605

individual donors in 2022

36%

from outside of New York State

Campaign Totals





PARTNERS IN TRAIL WORK

Charlotte Staats, Trails Manager

2022 was a big year for ADK's trails program. In total, our crews worked at twenty-three different project locations throughout the summer, including seven locations along the Northville-Placid Trail on National Trails Day. The season started mid-May with training and wrapped up at the end of September, totaling forty-eight crew weeks altogether. Between our 15 staff and 205 volunteers, our crews spent 8,000 hours completing projects.

As a part of this, we made notable progress on the reconstruction of the Mt Jo Long Trail. Last fall, we opened the first third of the trail, which showcases sustainable design techniques that will help reduce erosion and improve hiker safety. The rest of the trail has been flagged, and we hope to complete it in fall 2023. This has all been made possible thanks to broad support from not only donors, but also the local community. It is support like this that ensures that ADK is able to continue building better trails in the Adirondack Park and elsewhere in New York State.

ADK's Trails Department has and will continue to play a significant role in building and maintaining trails throughout the Adirondacks. It takes experience, skill, and a fair amount of sweat and grit to build trails in backcountry wilderness settings. We employ and train the best folks to do exactly that. Not only does ADK work in these hard-to-get-to areas, but we are a proving ground for people to become nationally-recognized professionals who are making a difference in and around the Adirondack Park.

Thanks again to our dedicated volunteers, donors, sponsors, and partners. Your support ensures ADK will continue to build and maintain trails in the Forest Preserve. We are proud of all the work we accomplished this year. The Adirondack Park is a unique national treasure with world-class wilderness and recreational opportunities. ADK is honored to play a part in building sustainable trails that protect these wildlands and ensure people connect with our natural world today and in the future.



Photo: Ben Brosseau



HOLDING THE LINE

Kayla White, Stewardship Manager

In its 33rd year, the Adirondack High Peaks Summit Stewardship Program has made exciting changes with an eye toward future growth. This included reaching 32,844 hikers, bringing the program's total contacts to 646,842.

Our five full-time summit stewards, one Photopoint Monitoring Field Tech, and 34 volunteers all played a crucial role in educating hikers about New York's alpine zone while also supporting our photopoint monitoring and outreach partnership on Hurricane Mountain.

Photopoint monitoring has been a part of the Summit Stewardship Program since 1999. By creating a "timeline" of images showing the same spot over many years, we are able to quantify the correlation between hiker trampling, vegetation growth and persistence, and hiker education and outreach. In 2021 we revamped the project by not only resampling, analyzing, and archiving our 59 established photopoints, but also updating its design and scope. As a part of this, we started adding 100 new photopoints to the analysis. We will continue building out this photo monitoring system so that it is straightforward to maintain, provides accessible data, and is easily transferrable to other locations and partner organizations.

This was also our second year of educating hikers on Hurricane Mountain, and it has been an amazing outreach opportunity. As fire tower stewards, we educate about the cultural history of the fire tower, the natural history of the area, and Leave No Trace outdoor skills and ethics. For some hikers, Hurricane is a stepping stone to the high peaks and we're there to educate them accordingly. We educated 3,535 hikers on Hurricane which contributed 11% of our total contact numbers for the year. This expansion has been an exciting opportunity for our staff and volunteers to try something new.

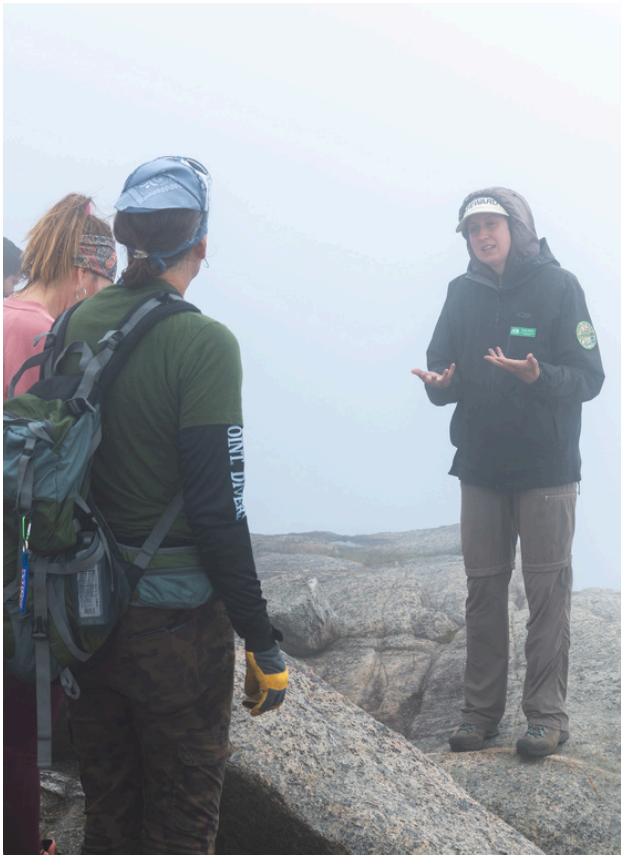
The Adirondack High Peaks Summit Stewardship Program has been and continues to be an incredible success story thanks to the support of our donors and partners. We look forward to yet another season of stewardship in 2023.

32,844

hikers educated by summit stewards in 2022



Photo: Ben Brosseau



8,000

hours of trail work
completed by volunteers



“I support ADK because I derive pleasure, satisfaction, and comfort in knowing that ADK works hard—through education and advocacy—to protect New York’s remaining wild lands from ever-growing pressures.”

— Jennifer
ADK member and donor

433

4th graders participated
in our school outreach
programs





FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Seth Jones, Education Director

ADK's *Marie L. Haberl School Outreach Program: Three Seasons at Heart Lake* is a vital initiative, aiming to instill a profound love for the outdoors in fourth-grade students from underserved communities in northern New York. This program breaks away from the constraints of standardized testing and rigid curricula by offering an inquiry-based environmental education experience that seamlessly blends responsible outdoor recreation, wellness, and natural and cultural history. Through hands-on experiences, it sparks curiosity and nurtures a sense of wonder about the world around us.

The program extends its reach to both rural and urban schools, including those from high-poverty areas, ensuring that children from diverse backgrounds have free access to this invaluable experience. The *Three Seasons at Heart Lake* curriculum unfolds throughout the school year, comprising classroom visits, journals, and field visits, all aligned with New York State Learning Standards. This integration enhances students' understanding of nature while strengthening academic skills.

The success of *Three Seasons at Heart Lake* can be attributed to the generosity of donors and grant funding, which enables ADK to offer the program free of charge to participating schools. This philanthropic support reflects a collective commitment to children's education and well-being, fostering empowered and engaged young learners.

In an increasingly urbanized and digitized world, it is essential to equip our children with knowledge and appreciation for the natural world. *Three Seasons at Heart Lake* serves as a prime example of how outdoor education enriches students' lives by connecting them to nature, promoting critical thinking, and encouraging a healthier lifestyle. By supporting and expanding such initiatives, we empower future generations to become responsible stewards of public lands, ensuring a sustainable future for all.



Photo: Ben Brosseau

"For some of our students, this program is an introduction to wilderness exploration. For others, it is an extension of what they already know. ***All of our students are gaining a greater love of the outdoors****, a sense of the need to protect our wild areas, and the desire to explore."*

— Ms. Leblanc
Saranac Lake Central School District

A LOOK AT CASCADE WELCOME CENTER

Cascade Welcome Center sets ADK up for the next century of education and outreach.





10,000

People visited Cascade Welcome Center during our inaugural winter season

Learn more at **ADK.org/cascade-welcome-center**



YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

From teaching children about Leave No Trace to educating hikers on mountaintops, we couldn't do what we do without the support of donors like you. In recognition of those who have gone above and beyond to support our mission, we would like to take a moment to thank the following individuals, chapters, and organizations, who all made commitments of $5,000 or more last year.

Individuals

Anonymous

Estate of Stephen C. Biklen

Natalia Chefer

Estate of Lois N. De Conca Trust

Estate of James Fresco

James A. and Bunny Goodwin

Arthur Haberl

Franklin Kneller

Leland and Mary Loose

Nancy M. Platt

Matthew Quigley & Nina Bogosian Quigley

Lisa D. & Richard C. Reichman

Evelyn Rinella

Thomas M. Rosato

Karen & Jeffrey Ross

Jennifer & Jason Ryan

Adrienne K. Wiese

Estate of Jeanine Wisniewski

Chapters

Glens Falls-Saratoga Chapter

Corporations, Foundations, & Organizations

Anonymous Family Foundation

Adirondack Forty-Sixers, Inc

Adirondack Foundation #507 Fund for High Peaks Stewardship

Athletic Brewing Company

Chapel Hill Foundation, Inc.

Cloudsplitter Foundation

Eastern Mountain Sports

Helen and Ritter Shumway Foundation

J.M. McDonald Foundation, Inc.

Miller Family Charitable Trust

New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission (NEIWPCC)

Nordic Moon Ent. LLC

Parks & Trails New York

The Nature Conservancy

Uihlein Foundation

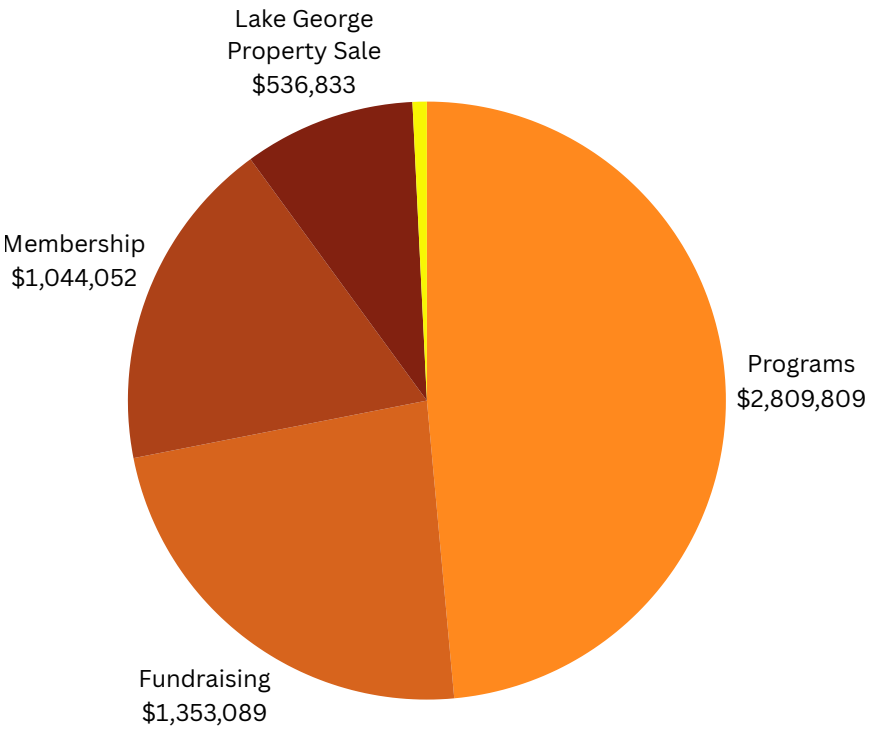
Virginia Lee Shirley Private Foundation

Waterman Fund, Inc.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

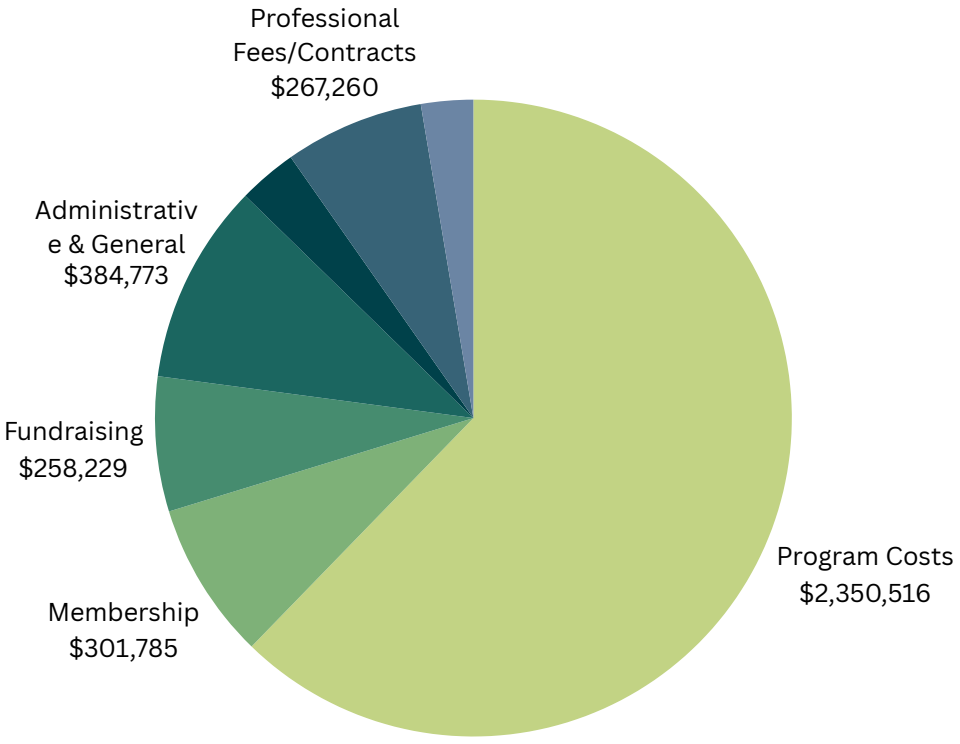
Revenue:

$5,788,454



Expense:

$3,774,896



The Adirondack Mountain Club is a private nonprofit 501(c) 3 registered New York State charity. All contributions are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.