



**YOUTH EXPERIENTIAL TRAINING INSTITUTE**  
**2023 ANNUAL REPORT**

# Outdoors for ALL



**PAY WHAT YOU CAN**  
FAMILY FINANCIALS WILL NOT PREVENT PARTICIPATION.



**TRANSPORTATION, FOOD, EQUIPMENT**  
ALL TRIPS INCLUDE TRANSPORTATION, FOOD, AND EQUIPMENT SO THAT EVERY STUDENT CAN BE SUCCESSFUL ON THEIR Y.E.T.I. ADVENTURE.



**QUALITY INSTRUCTION**  
OUR STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS WORK ALONGSIDE COMMUNITY PARTNERS TO ENSURE QUALITY INSTRUCTION.

## Y.E.T.I.

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ANNUAL REPORT  
2023





# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

We are thrilled to share the highlights of another incredible year at Y.E.T.I. (Youth Experiential Training Institute). Increased support during this past year allowed us to hire program coordinators for the first time. This significant development expanded our reach to create **six weekly school outdoor clubs** which have become vibrant hubs of adventure, where students gather to **explore the wonders of the natural world, learn outdoor skills, and forge lasting connections with their peers.**

With these school clubs, our partnership programs, and open enrollment weekend trips, **we have organized over 100 trips** resulting in unforgettable journeys. From hiking through breathtaking landscapes to kayaking serene lakes, our young adventurers not only discovered the beauty and majesty of nature but have also developed **resilience, leadership skills, and a deep appreciation for the environment.**

**None of these achievements would have been possible without YOUR steadfast support.** Donations, grants, and community partners have empowered us to bring together a team of skilled and **passionate educators, teachers, and volunteers.** Their expertise, coupled with your generosity, has provided opportunities for young people to **connect with nature, challenge themselves, and grow into confident individuals.** We are inspired by the transformative power of these adventures and the positive influence they have on the physical and mental well-being of our participants. Your contributions are truly **changing lives** and shaping future generations of environmental stewards and outdoor enthusiasts.

On behalf of the entire Y.E.T.I. team and the countless young individuals whose lives you have touched, **we extend our deepest gratitude.** Together, we are empowering youth to develop a **lifelong love for nature, fostering a sense of adventure, and cultivating a generation that will protect and preserve our planet.**

*David Dunphy*

# #YETI SET GO

Nature Awaits, Here We Roam!

Empowering King County Youth to Embrace Outdoor Adventure and Time in Nature!

## Fun

We want all our participants to look back on trips and remember both challenging and good times, whether it's making new friends around a fire, reaching a peak, or trying a new activity.

## Equity

We embrace differences, recognize the unique needs of individuals, and adjust our actions to meet those needs.

## Respect

We value listening, honesty, and empathy. We focus on treating others and the environment how we want to be treated.

## Sense of Place

We invite our students to understand and steward our natural world and our public lands.

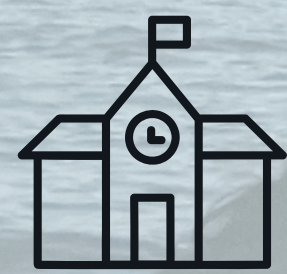
## Flexibility

We embrace flexibility on trips when working with community partners, students, and their families.

# Year in Review

THANKS TO YOUR SUPPORT, MORE VOLUNTEERS, NEW SPONSORS, NEW STAFF, AND NEW EQUIPMENT, WE NEARLY DOUBLED THE NUMBER OF TRIPS AND STUDENTS ON ADVENTURES, AND OFFERED MORE SCHOOL-BASED PROGRAMS THAN EVER BEFORE.

## Highlights



**6 SCHOOL SITES**



**NEW PROGRAM STAFF**



**ONLINE REGISTRATION**



**NEW PROGRAM VANS**

**133**

**OUTDOOR ADVENTURES**

**993**

**STUDENT DAYS**

***WITH YOUR HELP WE HAVE DOUBLED OUR TRIPS AND STUDENTS SERVED!***



# SCHOOL JOURNEY

*Overview of our school-based participants journey*

1. NEW CLUB & RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS
2. FIRST OFF-CAMPUS TRIP
3. LEARN NEW SKILLS OR SPORT
4. WEEKEND TRIP
5. STUDENTS LEAD TRIP
6. LEARN NEW SKILLS OR SPORT
7. BACKCOUNTRY TRIP
8. MENTOR AND GIVE BACK

# In Public Schools

WHETHER IT'S IN THE CLASSROOM OR AN AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB, Y.E.T.I. WORKS WITH STUDENTS AND EDUCATORS TO BRING OUTDOOR OPPORTUNITIES INTO THE LIVES OF YOUNG PEOPLE WITH OUR WEEKLY CLUBS.



HIGHLINE HS



PACIFIC MS



SELVESTER MS



# In Public Schools

WHETHER IT'S IN THE CLASSROOM OR AN AFTER-SCHOOL CLUB, Y.E.T.I. WORKS WITH STUDENTS AND EDUCATORS TO BRING OUTDOOR OPPORTUNITIES INTO THE LIVES OF YOUNG PEOPLE WITH OUR WEEKLY CLUBS.



Read More:



Learn more stories on the grit blog



**BIG PICTURE** 



**CASCADE VIEW**  




**CASCADE VIEW** 

**6** SCHOOL SITES

**91** TRIPS

**601** STUDENT DAYS



# Recreation

OUR OPEN ENROLLMENT PROGRAMS PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE TO DISCONNECT FROM TECHNOLOGY AND RECONNECT WITH EACH OTHER AND THE NATURAL WORLD. OVER THE LAST YEAR WE HAVE FOCUSED ON BRINGING MORE PROGRAMS TO LOCAL PARKS, AND INCORPORATING MINDFULNESS, ART, YOGA, AND OTHER ACTIVITIES IN ADDITION TO ADVENTURE SPORTS.



17

REC TRIPS

97

STUDENT DAYS

Read More:



Learn more stories on the grit blog



**BIKING - HIKING - SNOWSHOE - CLIMBING**

# Recreation Highlights



**Mental Health!**



**FUN!**



**Physical Health**



**Challenge**

## Y.E.T.I. TRIP FIDELITY MARKERS

- DID THE PARTICIPANTS HAVE FUN?**
- WAS THERE SELF-DIRECTED TIME OUTDOORS?**
- WAS THERE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ADVENTURE?**
- WERE STUDENTS PARTNERS IN CRAFTING THEIR EXPERIENCE?**

# Community Partnerships

Y.E.T.I. LEVERAGES ITS GEAR, TRANSPORTATION, AND INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES TO HELP OTHER YOUTH SERVING ORGANIZATIONS GET THEIR YOUNG PEOPLE INTO NATURE.

## SOUTH KING COUNTY OUTDOOR COHORT



Y.E.T.I. WORKED WITH OTHER OUTDOOR AND ENVIRONMENTAL YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS TO FORM THE SOUTH KING COUNTY OUTDOOR COHORT. THIS IS A BROAD COALITION OF ORGANIZATIONS THAT ARE WORKING TO PROMOTE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE FOR THE YOUNG PEOPLE IN SOUTH KING COUNTY. WE ARE EXCITED TO CONTINUE TO HELP FOSTER THIS COALITION'S GROWTH AS WE WORK TO INCREASE EQUITY AND ACCESS TO PUBLIC LANDS



## OTHER COALITIONS AND COLLABORATORS:



# Community Partnerships

Y.E.T.I. LEVERAGES ITS GEAR, TRANSPORTATION, AND INSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES TO HELP OTHER YOUTH SERVING ORGANIZATIONS GET THEIR YOUNG PEOPLE INTO NATURE.



WHILE WORKING WITH PIE, NOT ONLY DID YOUNG PEOPLE LEARN EMPLOYMENT SKILLS BY WORKING TO RESTORE LOCAL PARKS, THEY ALSO ENJOYED THE PARKS BIKING AND KAYAKING TRIPS!

EVERGREEN MOUNTAIN BIKE ALLIANCE AND Y.E.T.I. CONTINUE TO USE AND MAINTAIN THE COMMUNITY MOUNTAIN BIKES TO INCREASE YOUTH PROGRAMS ACROSS THE PUGET SOUND.

ANOTHER YEAR OF ADVENTURES WITH FISH CLUB! PHENOMENAL SHE, GAME OF LIFE AND LLK WORKED TOGETHER TO PROVIDE FISHING, CLIMBING, HIKING AND MORE ON THESE MONTHLY ADVENTURES.

WE JOINED WITH YOUR FRIENDS AT THE GREENWAY TO OFFER BIKE TRIPS TO STUDENTS THAT PARTICIPATED IN ENVIROMETNAL INTERNSHPS FROM ACROSS THE COUNTY IN THE SNOQUALMIE VALLEY



WORKING WITH MARITIME HIGH SCHOOL WE COLLABORATED ON KAYAKING PROGRAMS FOR ALL OF THEIR 9TH GRADE STUDENTS ON THE DUAMISH AND ANGLE LAKE

WORKING WITH GIBSON EK HIGH SCHOOL TO PROVIDE ROCK CLIMBING EXPERIENCES FOR THEIR SENIORS

WORKING WITH THE SEATTLE WORLD SCHOOL TO HAVE A CAMPING TRIP AT MOUNT RAINIER FOR THEIR SENIORS!

WELL OUTDOOR PROGRAM IS NOW BASED AT TYEE HIGH SCHOOL. WE WORK WITH THESE EMERGING LEADERS ON A KAYAKING TRIPS.

# Tools for Success

OVER THE LAST YEAR, WE BUILT THE INFRASTRUCTURE TO SERVE MORE STUDENTS. WE LAUNCHED A STUDENT REGISTRATION PLATFORM, GREW OUR STAFF AND VOLUNTEER TEAM, AND INCREASED OUR EQUIPMENT AND TRIP OFFERINGS.



## STAFF TEAM

TWO PART TIME PROGRAM COORDINATORS ALLOWED US TO SERVE MORE STUDENTS AND SCHOOLS THAN EVER BEFORE!



## NEW VAN

WITH THE SUPPORT OF KING COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBER, DAVE UPTHEGROVE, AND THE METRO COMMUNITY FLEET PROGRAM, WE WERE ABLE TO SECURE A NEW MINIVAN TO SUPPORT PROGRAMS.



## REGISTRATION

WE MADE AN INVESTMENT IN OUR REGISTRATION PROCESS TO IMPROVE THE EXPERIENCE FOR FAMILIES, PROVIDE MULTIPLE LANGUAGES, AND SYNC WITH OUR Y.E.T.I. DATABASE



## NEW GEAR

- SLEEPING BAGS FROM REI
- RAIN JACKETS AND PANTS FROM REI
- POGIES FROM NRS
- WATER FILTERS FROM GRAYL
- BAGS FROM TOM BIHN
- CLOTHING FROM OR
- GEAR WASH FROM NIKWAX

# Volunteers

**MAKE IT GO!**

**60 + VOLUNTEERS**

**5+ TRAINING EVENTS**

**40+ TRIPS MADE POSSIBLE**



**Read More:**



Learn more stories on the grit blog

**WHAT OUR VOLUNTEERS HAVE BEEN UP TO THIS YEAR:**

- **LEADING WEEKEND TRIPS**
- **SUPPORTING WEEKLY SCHOOL PROGRAMS**
- **PARTICIPATING IN FUNDRAISING EVENTS**
- **CORPORATE WORK PARTIES**
- **MANAGEMENT AND REPAIR OF GEAR**
- **AND SO MUCH MORE!**

**UW COMMUNICATION  
LEADERSHIP CONSULTING**

**CREATE ANNUAL REPORT & VIDEO  
BLOG WRITING**

**ALICE SHEN**

**IAN CHEN**

**JENNY**

# OUR TEAM

## STAFF



**SADDIE**



**MADDIE**



**SEAN**



**DAVID**

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**BETSY BOYER**

**JOHN NELSON**

**JUDY REED**

**NOAH HARPER**

**TONYA SEABERRY**

**VALERIE DANNA**

**CHRIS LOWE**

**JON OLIVERA**

**MEERA RAJAGOPALAN**

**CONNOR MCCUNE**

**MAXI POLIHRONAKIS**

**TANYA STRAWN**

**ISAAC PRIETO**

**GRANT SHAVER**

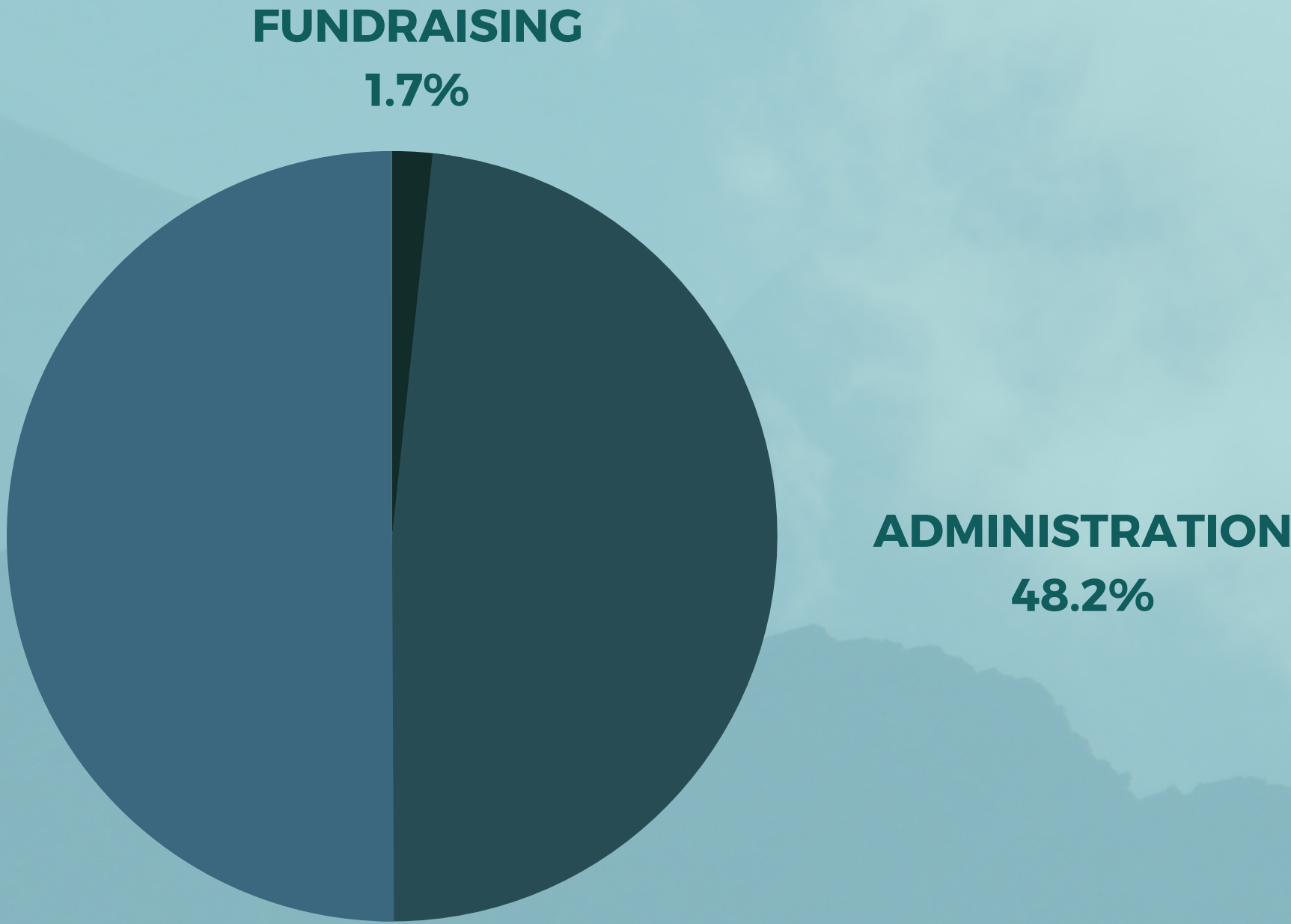
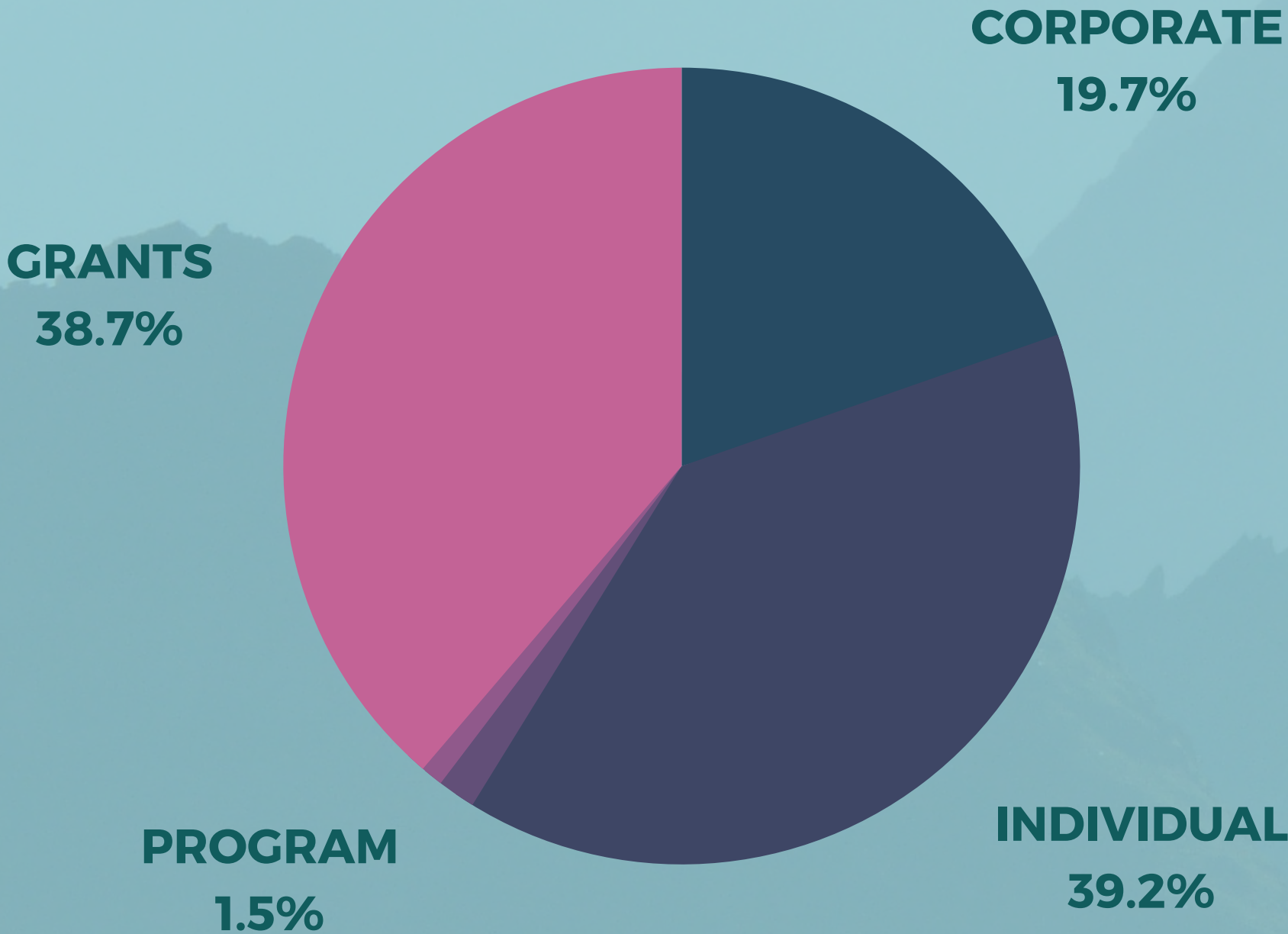
# Funding Our Work

## TOTAL REVENUE: \$167,684

- INDIVIDUALS: \$65,600
- GRANTS: \$65,000
- CORPORATE: \$33,000
- PROGRAMS: \$2,500
- OTHER: \$1,500

## TOTAL EXPENSES: \$236,000

- PROGRAMMING: \$119,029
- ADMINISTRATION: \$113,000
- FUNDRAISING: \$4,000





# Funding Our Work

## GUARDIANS OF GRIT

BEN RIEMENSCHNIDER  
BETSY & ANDY BOYER  
BERRY FAMILY  
CAROL LOUGHLIN  
CHARTER HARRISON  
DAN WILK  
DAN RAMIREZ  
DAVID SIMONS  
DAVID DUNPHY  
ELIOT FAMILY  
GRANT SILVERNALE  
GRANT SHAVER  
JESSICA WESTERMEYER  
KATHERINE MCDANIEL  
KRISTI GWINN  
MICHAEL COLEMAN  
MERIDITH LUETHE  
MAXI POLIHRONAKIS  
LOWE FAMILY  
LISA AND JUSTIN  
NATE GARBERICH  
NELSON FAMILY  
NOAH HARPER  
PATTY & PETER DUNPHY  
PERRY FAMILY  
RICHARD KELLOGG  
SUE ANN HOHEIMER  
TODD HARRISON  
TONYA SEABERRY  
TANYA STRAWN  
TRAVIS MERRIGAN  
TREY & VAL DANNA  
WOODLAND FAMILY  
ZENNIE WEY

## GRIT KEEPERS

ANDREW WEBER  
BRIAN ACKERMAN  
CHARLIE SELLARS  
CRYSTAL ENGLEHART-MALANG  
DANIEL GALINDO-NAVARRO  
DEB MCINALLY  
EILEEN TIERNEY  
GARY FALLON  
LEONA DEROCCO  
KONG YU HONG  
JAMES JOSEPH ACQUAVELLA  
JAMES LEATHERWOOD  
JUDY REED  
LEAH BECKETT  
MATHEW THORESEN  
BEVERLY ELMER  
MARCO WILLIS  
SARAH PARASIDA  
MEERA RAJAGOPALAN  
MICHAEL BRENNAN  
MICHELE STEPHEN  
NICK CONSTAITINE  
PATRICK PERKINS  
RACHEL SHAFFER  
THERESE MASSARONI  
SARAH FLEMING  
SHI HARRINGTON  
SOPHIE DEROSA  
SUE ANN HOHEIMER

## GRANTS AND FOUNDATIONS

ADOBE  
MICROSOFT  
MARIE LAMFROM CHARITABLE FOUNDATION  
KING COUNTY  
LONG LIVE THE KINGS  
GRAYL  
LOUGHLIN FOUNDATION  
KATE SVITEK FOUNDATION  
FEDERAL WAY YOUTH ACTION TEAM  
NW MARITIME CENTER  
SNOQUALMIE TRIBES FOUNDATION  
THE WILDERNESS SOCIETY  
VIRGINIA MASON FRANCISCAN HEALTH

## TECHNICAL SUPPORT



REACH OUT DES MOINES

## EQUIPMENT SPONSORS



# OUR WISHLIST

CREATING EQUAL ACCESS TO OUTDOOR ADVENTURES IS A CONTINUOUS EFFORT!



PICKUP TRUCK



OUTDOOR GEAR



PASSENGER VAN



FLY FISHING GEAR



ADOPT A SCHOOL CLUB!



STAFF



There are many ways to help us reach our goal to reach more young people. Transportation, equipment, staff, and sustaining donations all help **Y.E.T.I. GROW and GO!**

JOIN US! - LEARN MORE AT [GOYETI.ORG](http://GOYETI.ORG)

# OUR FUTURE

AS WE BUILD ON OUR SUCCESS WE WILL FOCUS OUR IMPACT THROUGH THREE PILLARS.

## RECREATION PROGRAMS

CONSISTENTLY PROVIDE ACCESSIBLE WEEKEND RECREATION PROGRAMS TO STUDENTS THROUGHOUT KING COUNTY THAT GIVE THEM THE OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE AND CONNECT TO THEIR PUBLIC LANDS IN NEW WAYS.

## SCHOOL-BASED OUTDOOR CLUBS

BUILD A STRONG NETWORK OF SCHOOL- AND COMMUNITY-CENTERED OUTDOOR CLUBS TO PROMOTE ADVENTURE AND STUDENT DEVELOPMENT THROUGH YOUTH-LED PROGRAMS.

## COLLABORATION

LEVERAGE OUR RESOURCES TO SUPPORT AND BUILD CAPACITY WITH OTHER YOUTH-SERVING ORGANIZATIONS. ENGAGE IN COALITION AND WORK GROUPS THAT ADDRESS SYSTEMIC BARRIERS TO OUTDOOR RECREATION THAT OUR STUDENTS FACE.

- **2 NEW SCHOOLS (8 SCHOOL SITES)**
- **BUILD SUSTAINING SUPPORTERS**
- **MEET OUR TRANSPORTATION AND EQUIPMENT NEEDS**
- **MORE INSTRUCTORS (VOLUNTEERS, STAFF, AND TEACHERS)**



@GO.YETI



@GOYETI.GRITOUTSIDE

**Y.E.T.I. | 2023 ANNUAL REPORT**

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