



# 2023

## ANNUAL REPORT

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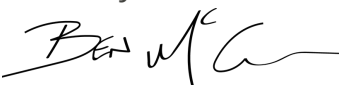
# FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**A world of possibility through the outdoors.** For nearly 25 years, Outdoor Outreach has provided youth from low-income and marginalized communities with the chance to explore their world in new ways, develop their strengths, and find their passions. **With each outing comes the opportunity to embrace vulnerability, demonstrate leadership, and summon the courage to try again.** We've served over 20,000 individual youth and each one has a different story to tell of why this work matters.

In the pages ahead, you'll read some of the stories that motivate and inspire our team. We want to share these stories of impact with you, our dedicated community of supporters, who make our work possible.

**With your support, we've expanded our work beyond the outdoor programs we run every day across San Diego.** In recent years, we've been working on public policy to increase access to parks and beaches and ensure that more kids across California have the opportunity to connect to programs like Outdoor Outreach. In 2023, we saw the state implement many of our recommendations, from funding after school outdoor programs to passing Outdoor Outreach-sponsored legislation that allows the Department of Parks and Recreation to provide support and access to **ensure more kids can get their feet in the sand, feel the sting of salt water on their face, and camp under the stars.** Your support is having a ripple effect that extends far and wide. **With your help, we are pursuing a vision of an outdoors for all that sustains healthy and vibrant communities.**

Thank you,



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# FIRESIDE CHATS

## Carlos

*Carlos started his Outdoor Outreach journey in 2022 as a Leadership Program participant, graduate, and shortly after, Youth Programs Assistant and Field Instructor.*

“

...the biggest thing that brought us closer together was the outdoors.”

**When & how did you get involved with Outdoor Outreach?**

In my freshman year at The O’Farrell Charter School, after my first trip with Outdoor Outreach, I was told about the Leadership Program, but was too young to join. In my junior year, I was told about the Leadership Program again and applied for the summer cohort. Following graduation, I was excited to look more into what Outdoor Outreach had to offer in experiences and positions with the organization.

**Can you tell me about a moment while in the Leadership Program that changed your perspective and why it was important?**

It wasn’t a specific moment but in general, looking back at the summer, I met people I wouldn’t have without this program. I realized that the biggest thing that brought us closer together was the outdoors. This moment was significant because it hit me how incredible it is that nature brings people together.

**Can you tell me about an influential moment with an Outdoor Outreach participant from your time as a staff member?**

On a Mesa Rim rock climbing trip, there was a participant who made a comment that they were disappointed they didn't bring their camera. That comment gave us space to form a connection by bonding over photography, electronics, and other interests we shared- making it easier to engage with them and their friends while guiding them on the rock wall.

**Describe when you and your loved ones experienced the outdoors recently.**

I was telling my mom about wanting to go to Julian- but not for the pie. While in Leadership Program, we went on a backpacking trip and it was the first place I wanted to make a drive when I received my driver’s license. However the cost of gas, not having my own car, and other factors made the trip challenging. My mom loves to be outside and the idea of going on a camping trip with my family but work, bills, and other things get in the way. So when I saw an opportunity to go, I told her and we went that same week. She told me she loved every second of it. Seeing her happiness from it brought joy to my heart and I fully plan on helping her with making that camping trip happen.

**Does your community face similar accessibility challenges and is there a solution?**

Those challenges are in my community and I strongly believe it is possible to solve them. What exactly that solution is, I couldn't say. The parks nearby are getting better but there are challenges.

**If you could explore any outdoor location in the world with Outdoor Outreach, where would you go?**

I would love it if we could explore part of the Dixie National Forest because the idea of going with Outdoor Outreach seems really fun and I feel it would bring a lot of great memories.

# FIRESIDE CHATS



(Pictured third from front in the Sierra Nevadas on Leadership Program backpacking trip)

## Ivanna

***Outdoor Outreach welcomed Ivanna as a 2023 Leadership Program participant, graduate, then a Youth Programs Assistant and Field Instructor.***

### **When and how did you get involved with Outdoor Outreach?**

I learned about Outdoor Outreach programs through The O'Farrell Charter School. I would attend to hang out with friends, since I have rather strict parents that don't often let us socialize. These trips gave me the opportunity to try new things and spend time with my peers outside of school. When I learned Outdoor Outreach was running a summer program I immediately signed up alongside my friends, I never did anything during summer so I was incredibly excited for this opportunity.

### **Do you feel that this opportunity gave you a chance to change your outlook?**

It was a new way to enjoy the summer and there was a substance to my time. Admittedly, most summers I'd be in a routine to keep myself busy but I never enjoyed the weather outdoors. It was a grand experience that facilitated trying new things that promote personal growth, physically and emotionally. Following my lack of exposure to the outdoors, I was introduced to a new aspect of living in San Diego and put in a position where I could learn skills based on tangible experiences.

### **Can you tell me about a pivotal moment while in the Leadership Program that changed your perspective?**

Once I saw the internal processes for trips and witnessed my first "work" environment, I realized that I'd love to apply for a job at Outdoor

Outreach. I had already been looking into getting a job and would spend free time updating my resume. Being in the leadership program was a great pleasure and an amazing learning experience that brought me such a newfound sense of capability. My father had doubts every time I shared about physically demanding activities, thinking I wouldn't be able to do it. However, each day I finished and accomplished victories and I knew I was capable of anything. Knowing I was enough was a good feeling.

### **How have you shared your connection with the outdoors?**

I encouraged my school mates to go on Outdoor Outreach programs and take these opportunities to learn about the outdoors. I also speak passionately about Outdoor Outreach promoting environmental mobility to communities.

### **What impact does getting youth outside have on them?**

Becoming familiar with something one learns to care subconsciously. From teaching them to appreciate the natural state of the world, we can gain back knowledge, rebuild green spaces, and unite under what we have always shared. The outdoors shouldn't seem intimidating, it is where we originate from, the place we adapted to exist. It's not about returning but about honoring the nurturing aspect of nature. As future generations wander the trails that they have learned to love, they'll be able to appreciate it as we once did.

# 2023 BY THE NUMBERS

**1473**

Total youth served in 2023

**45 +**

school and community partners  
across San Diego County

**1/2**

Of Field Staff are program  
graduates

# 2023 PROGRAM PARTNERS

## Central Region

- Barrio Logan College Institute
- e3 Civic High
- Monarch School

## City Heights Region

- Crawford High School
- Hoover High School
- Pro Kids, First Tee - San Diego
- Reality Changers

## Community Partners

- Level Up: Summer Adventures
- Loma Linda University
- National Marine Mammal Foundation
- Nature Collective
- San Diego Audubon
- San Diego County Parks & Recreation
- SAY San Diego

## East County Region

- Cajon Valley Middle
- Chaparral High School
- International Rescue Committee
- El Cajon Valley High School
- Mount Miguel High School
- REACH Academy
- Southern Indian Health Council

## Juvenile Justice

- National Conflict Resolution Center
- Youth Transition Campus
- San Diego County of Education Juvenile Court and Community Schools including:
  - Cuyamaca Prep Community School
  - Escondido Community School
  - Innovations Academy
  - North County Technology Academy
  - SOUL Academy
  - Victoria Community School

## Military

- Military Initiative

## North County Region

- Encuentros Leadership
- North County Lifeline - Club Crown Heights

## South Bay Region

- Castle Park Middle
- Hilltop High School
- Mar Vista High School
- National City Middle School
- San Ysidro High School
- Sweetwater High School

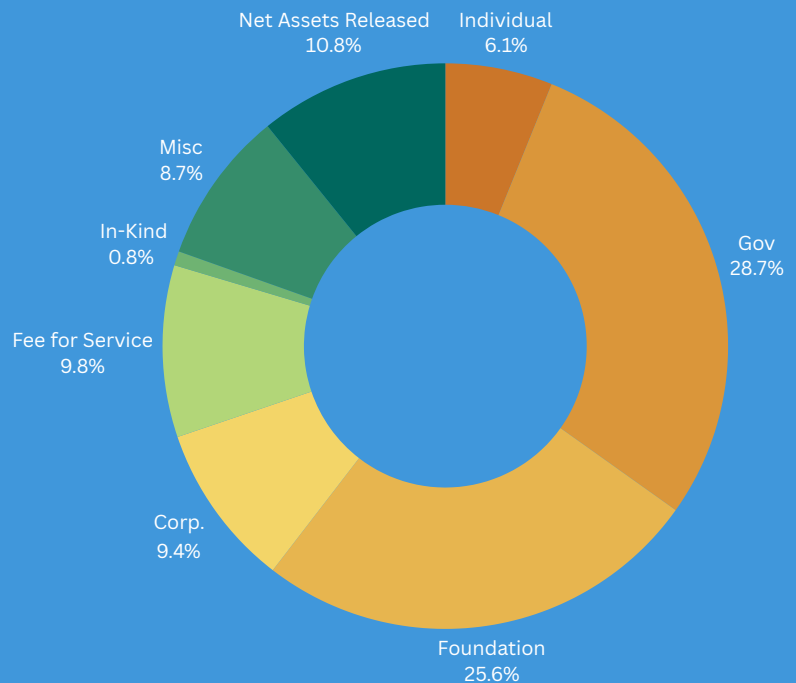
## Southeast Region

- D.E.T.O.U.R. Empowers
- Ingenuity Charter School
- Groundworks SD
- Keiller Leadership Academy
- Lemon Grove Academy Elementary
- Lincoln High School
- Morse High School
- The O'Farrell Charter School

# 2023 FINANCIALS

## Revenue Breakdown:

Individual	\$206,412
Government	\$965,865
Foundation	\$861,016
Corporate	\$314,595
Fee for Service	\$330,542
Misc/Other Revenue	\$294,301
In-Kind Donations	\$27,447
Gain/Loss on Assets	\$0
Net Assets Released from Restriction	\$363,850
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,364,028</b>



## Expenses Overview:

Operating	\$572,147
Program	\$2,560,027
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,132,174</b>

### 2023 Assets

Fixed Assets	\$416,853
Cash	\$306,989
Other Current Assets	\$1,815,924
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,539,766</b>

### 2023 Liabilities

Current Liabilities	\$1,557,950
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$981,816</b>

# ♥ SENDING LOVE TO OUR 2023 DONORS & FUNDERS

## **\$100,000+**

- California State Parks
- California Natural Resource Agency
- Prebys Foundation
- U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
- United States Treasury
- Zable Foundation

## **\$25,000-\$99,999**

- California Coastal Commission
- California State Coastal Conservancy
- County of San Diego
- David C. Copley Foundation
- J.M. Huber Corporation
- National Fish & Wildlife Foundation
- National Park Foundation
- Price Philanthropies Foundation
- Qualcomm
- REI
- Resources Legacy Fund
- San Diego Foundation
- TMCity Foundation
- Vanguard Charitable

## **\$10,000-\$24,999**

- California Department of Fish & Wildlife
- CLIF Family Foundation
- Columbia Sportswear
- Conservation Lands Foundation
- Coronado Junior Women's Club
- DICK's Sporting Goods
- Dr. Squatch

- Friends of San Diego Wildlife Refuges
- John Krakauer Charitable Trust
- Mesa Rim
- Nonprofit Insurance Alliance
- National Marine Mammal Foundation
- Nordson Corporation Foundation
- San Diego Unified Port District
- SDGE
- The Bravo Foundation
- The California Wellness Foundation
- The Sydney Holland Foundation
- U.S. Bank

## **\$5,000-\$9,999**

- City of San Diego
- Cox Communications
- Day for Change Foundation
- Elwyn Heller Foundation
- Goodwin Family Memorial Trust
- Hunter Industries, Inc.
- Schwab Charitable Fund

## **\$1,000-\$4,999**

- Adventure 16 (NOLS)
- Aegean Capital, LLC
- Andrew Yuen
- Brian & Karen Vikstrom
- California State Parks Foundation
- Capital Group
- Cheryl & Greg Cox
- Dane Bustrum
- Del Mar Doves Club
- Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
- Giving University
- Google
- Heidi Wolin
- Hope & Christopher Mirendil (Give Lively Foundation)
- Instant Biologics LLC
- James Darby
- James LaGrone
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- Thomas & Linda McCue

## **\$1-999**

*Too many to list!  
Thank you for  
your support.*







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