

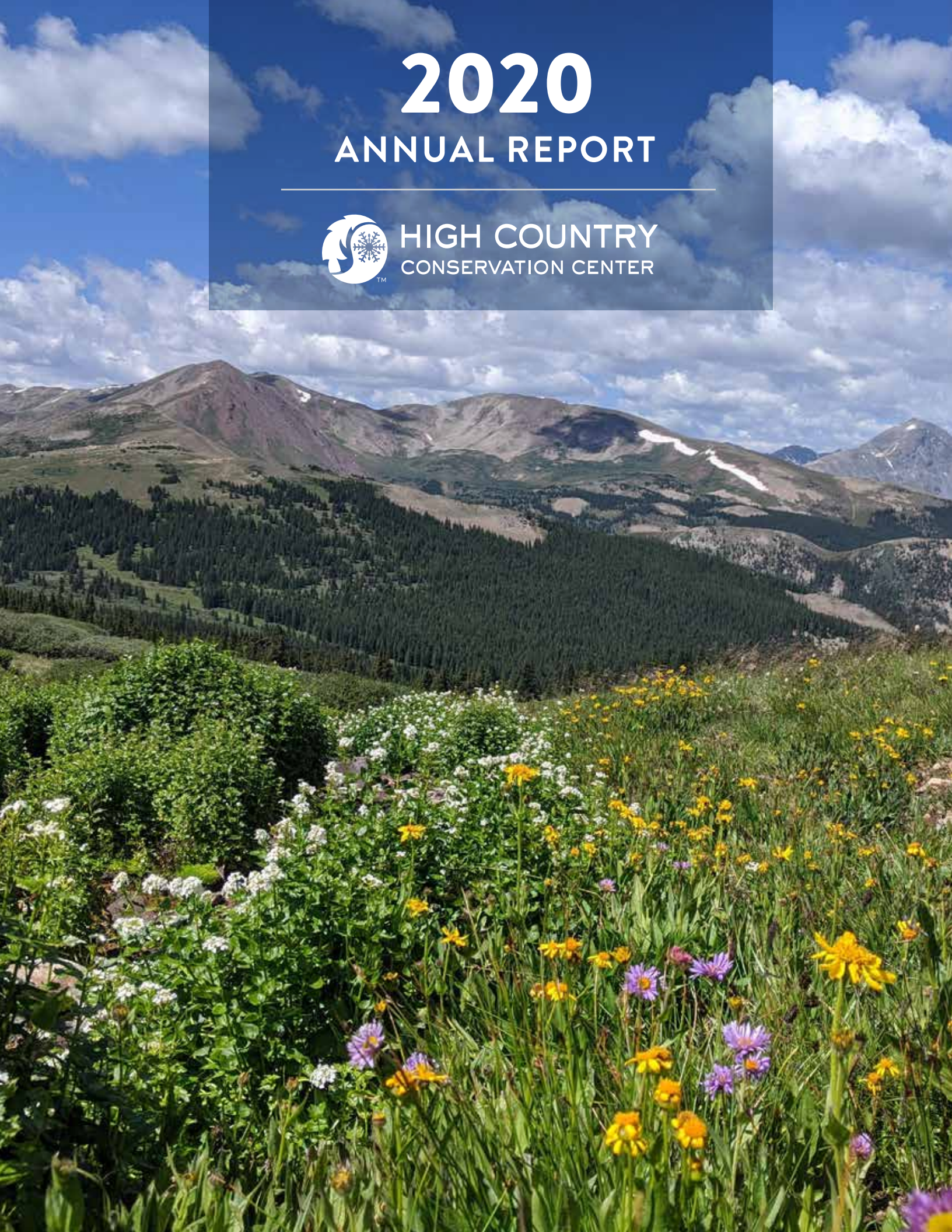
# 2020

## ANNUAL REPORT

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HIGH COUNTRY  
CONSERVATION CENTER





## FROM OUR DIRECTOR

Dear HC3 Supporters,

What a difference a year makes.

2020 was defined by the COVID pandemic, with challenges the world and our local community had never seen before. It was shocking how abruptly our entire national and local economy shut down. Within days, life as we knew it was on hold.

From an environmental perspective, it was encouraging to see Denver's "brown cloud" disappear and see photos of cleaner air and water from around the world. But continued drought and massive wildfires kept climate concerns front and center for Coloradans. The pandemic gave us a window into what worldwide disruption looks like, but unfortunately we can't develop a vaccine for climate change.

The pandemic forced HC3 to adapt our services, and we doubled down on our efforts to curb local climate change and reduce waste. We're excited to share our 2020 successes in this report and are grateful for the continued support of our community. And we're looking forward to seeing you again soon at our recycling centers or upcoming events.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Schenk,  
Executive Director



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## **VISION**

*Creating a healthy planet through local action*

## **MISSION**

*Promote practical solutions for resource conservation in our mountain community*



# CLIMATE ACTION



## LEADING OUR COMMUNITY IN ACTION

Climate change is not just a global problem. From declining snowpack and increased risk of wildfire to persistent drought, we all have a stake in this fight.

**OUR COMMUNITY GOAL: REDUCE EMISSIONS 80% BY 2050.**



*"Our electric bill is \$0 every month!"*

—JENNI AND BRET BONENBERGER

## SOLARIZE SUMMIT

For the second year in a row, Solarize Summit made it easy for residents to install solar on their rooftops. We gave out \$58,500 in rebates, making the decision more affordable, too.



**44** SOLARIZE PARTICIPANTS

**413** KILOWATTS SOLAR INSTALLED

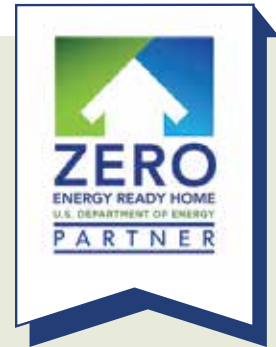
## ENERGY EFFICIENT BUILDINGS

Because of HC3's leadership, new homes and buildings constructed in the county will be more energy efficient than ever.



### DILLON VALLEY VISTAS SUSTAINABLE BUILDING PROJECT

Homes in Dillon Valley Vistas are 20 percent more efficient than the average Summit County new home. All residents have solar panels on their roofs, which provide 100 percent of their electricity needs.



All new homes in the county will now be certified by the Department of Energy's Zero Energy Ready Home Program. What makes these homes so special?

- Extra insulation
- Tight exterior so no heated air leaks out
- Water and energy efficient appliances, lighting, and fixtures
- Safe paints and flooring to keep indoor air healthy

## ELECTRIC VEHICLE PLANNING

Transportation accounts for over 30 percent of our community's greenhouse gas emissions. With our community partners, we developed an Electric Vehicle Readiness Plan to help us meet our goal of 10,440 registered electric cars in Summit County by 2030.



# ENERGY CONSERVATION



## HELPING YOU MAXIMIZE COMFORT AND EFFICIENCY

HC3's Energy Smart Colorado program makes it easy for residents to save energy. And not only does energy efficiency help us meet our climate action goals, it also makes homes more comfortable to live in.



## ENERGY SMART PROJECT

The Bast family replaced their thermostats, which will save them up to 10 percent on heating costs each year.

*"Our home is warmer, and it's also less expensive to heat."*

—MORGAN & STEFAN BAST

## PROGRAMMABLE THERMOSTATS

**COST:** \$1,259

**REBATES:** \$400

**NET COST:** \$859

**ANNUAL ENERGY BILL  
SAVINGS:** \$287

**PAYBACK PERIOD:** 3 YEARS

## ENERGY SMART COLORADO IMPACTS

**186** HOME ENERGY  
ASSESSMENTS

**76** HOME ENERGY  
UPGRADES

**1,069** LED BULBS TO  
HOMEOWNERS

**\$468** AVERAGE ANNUAL  
HOUSEHOLD  
SAVINGS



# WATER CONSERVATION



## THE VALUE OF WATER

HC3 helps residents and visitors understand the value of our precious water resources. How? With creative educational activities including concerts along the Blue River and county-wide promotions like Fix a Leak Week.

**510**

PEOPLE REACHED  
THROUGH LOCAL  
CONCERT SERIES



HC3 and Breckenridge Creative Arts hosted musical performances and educational talks on the Blue River.

## TAME THE TAP

In partnership with local water utilities, HC3 teaches residents how and why to save water in their homes. Check-ups include leak detection, on-the-spot quick fixes and water education.

**20** HOMES  
INSPECTED

**93,019** GALLONS OF  
WATER SAVED



# WASTE REDUCTION



## DOUBLING RECYCLING BY 2035

Recycling rules are different everywhere. HC3 eliminates the guesswork, helping residents, visitors and businesses recycle the right way.

While our landfill diversion rate was 20% in 2020 – meaning that 80% of our waste is being trashed – HC3 is driving new programs and creative outreach to increase local recycling and composting.



## RECYCLING SUCCESSES

In 2020, Summit County welcomed the Silverthorne Recycling Center. This much-needed recycling center offers easy, expanded recycling access on the northern and eastern sides of the community. It's all thanks to Strong Future, a ballot measure approved by voters in 2018.

The food scrap drop-off program, mattress recycling, glass stations and carton recycling are just a few of the new initiatives funded by Strong Future, and 2020 marked the first full year of these programs.

**913** TONS OF GLASS  
DIVERTED FROM  
THE LANDFILL

**233,680** POUNDS OF FOOD  
WASTE DIVERTED BY  
RESIDENTS

**16** TONS OF MATTRESSES  
DIVERTED FROM THE  
LANDFILL



## CLEANING UP LOCAL RECYCLING

In 2020, HC3 staff and expert volunteers offered educational events at all three Recycling Centers.



**12** WEEKS OF IN-PERSON RECYCLING CENTER EDUCATION

**38%** OF HOUSEHOLDS IMPROVED RECYCLING WITH SUPPORT FROM HC3

**28** EDUCATIONAL TRAININGS

## BUSINESSES GO ZERO WASTE

HC3 works closely with local restaurants and homeowners' associations to add or improve recycling. Thanks to a state grant, HC3 started food waste and glass recycling at 25 restaurants throughout Summit County. Many residential buildings received new recycling signs and labels, along with hands-on guidance, to ensure that residents and visitors are recycling the right way.



# RESOURCE WISE



## MAKING THE BUSINESS CASE FOR SUSTAINABILITY

Local businesses are the backbone of our economy, but they also account for a third of our energy use and much of our waste. Through Resource Wise certification, businesses become more sustainable, setting an example for visitors and helping to preserve our mountain home.



## BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT: WILD & FREE

Wild and Free focused on waste reduction and energy efficiency, earning a silver level certification and the highest score among all new businesses in 2020.

# \$29,444

ANNUAL SAVINGS FROM  
BUSINESS ENERGY  
EFFICIENCY PROJECTS

30 NEW BUSINESS  
PARTICIPANTS

\$1,338 AVERAGE SAVINGS  
PER BUSINESS

278 LED BULBS INSTALLED



### LED LIGHTING

TOTAL COST:  
\$1,645

ANNUAL  
SAVINGS: \$461





# K-12 EDUCATION

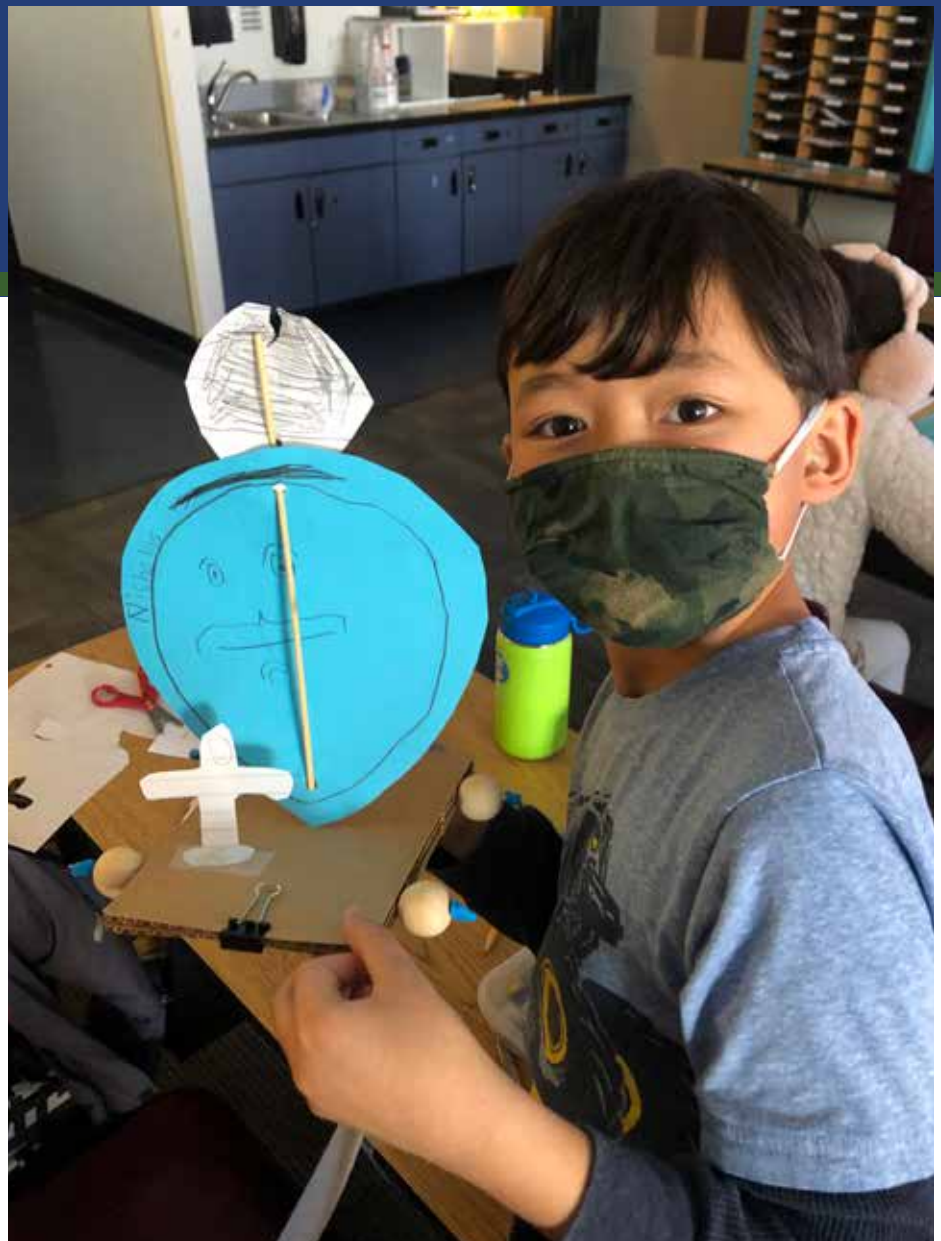
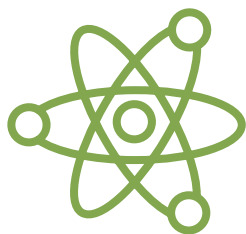


## INSPIRING SUMMIT COUNTY'S FUTURE LEADERS

Covid-19 and remote learning didn't stop HC3 from teaching Summit County's K-12 students the importance of protecting our natural resources. We perfected our online teaching skills and delivered activities to teachers so students could engage in hands-on learning whether at school or at home.

**342** 4TH & 8TH GRADERS  
(ENERGY  
EXPLORERS)

**177** 3RD GRADERS  
(ROCKY'S  
RECYCLERS)



- *Is it possible to get energy from space?*
- *Are we still inventing different ways to get energy?*
- *How is a landfill made?*
- *What would happen if no one recycled?*

-INSPIRING QUESTIONS FROM SUMMIT  
COUNTY'S FUTURE LEADERS

# SUSTAINABLE FOOD



## GROWING LOCAL FOOD

Greens grown in California travel over 1,200 miles to reach Summit County. The greens – and much more – grown locally by HC3 account for far less emissions and much more nutrition.



*“We used all the herbs and a radish for pesto – two-year old approved, she even asked for seconds!”*

- GROW TO SHARE RECIPIENT

## GROW TO SHARE

Fresh produce donations and nutritional education for local families.



**20** SHARES WEEKLY  
TO FAMILIES IN  
NEED

**171%** INCREASE  
IN DONATED  
PRODUCE



## SUMMIT CSA

Community farm-share program offering fresh, locally-grown food.

**75** COMMUNITY  
SHARES

**6,971** POUNDS  
LOCAL  
PRODUCE

## COMMUNITY GARDENS

Physical distance didn't keep us apart in 2020. Through instructional videos and virtual workshops, HC3 helped local gardeners grow their own high altitude vegetable gardens.



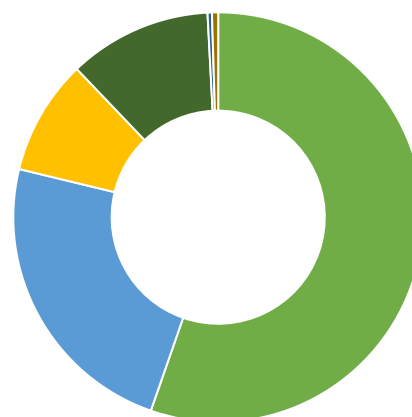
# FINANCIALS

## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

### INCOME

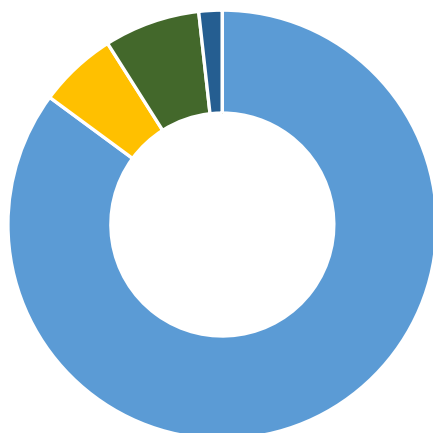
	2020	2019
Program/product revenue	\$571,052	\$577,627
Grants	\$241,923	\$112,159
Special events	\$93,886	\$91,027
Contributions	\$116,534	\$113,499
Investments	\$3,552	\$4,999
Contributed services	\$5,050	\$5,050
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,031,997</b>	<b>\$904,361</b>

### 2020 Income



- Program revenue (55%)
- Grants (23%)
- Special events (9%)
- Contributions (11%)
- Contributed services (<1%)
- Investments (<1%)

### 2020 Expenses



- Programs (85%)
- Management and Operations (6%)
- Fundraising (7%)
- Depreciation (2%)

### EXPENSES

	2020	2019
Programs	\$748,244	\$745,303
Management and Operations	\$51,948	\$48,452
Fundraising	\$63,527	\$61,239
Depreciation	\$15,502	\$16,821
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	\$11,579
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$879,221</b>	<b>\$883,394</b>

## FINANCIAL POSITION

12/31/20

Total Assets	\$746,878
Total Liabilities	\$85,053
<b>Net Assets</b>	<b>\$661,825</b>

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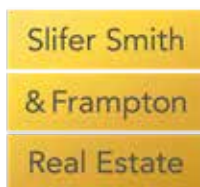
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