

# 2023

FISCAL YEAR

# IMPACT REPORT

**We envision a world...**

where every child has the  
opportunity to thrive through  
a joyful relationship with nature.

Thrive  
 Outside





From our Executive Director

# Equal Access to Nature For All

Dear Thrive Family,

Close your eyes with me and think back to when you were a kid playing outside... warm sun on your face, the aroma of fresh cut grass and the sound of birds chirping. Perhaps you remember feeling a sense of joy, freedom and connection with nature...

Now imagine what life would be like without those simple joys.

When I close my eyes and reflect back on this past year with Thrive I am invigorated and inspired by our ability to expand nature access for children in Rhode Island.

Collectively you...

- Gave your resources to fuel our movement & mission
- Volunteered
- Attended our hikes, workshops & events
- Used our services
- Spread the word!

At this critical moment in time where our children and teens need nature connection more than ever, we appreciate you being a part of the solution!

*Shannon Rozea*  
Executive Director



Art & Nature



Mindfulness & Birding



Tiverton Library Vision Planning



Thrive Outside in the Mud



Teacher Learning Circle



Peace Garden Project



Family Hikes



# together

we are working to give every child the opportunity to thrive through a joyful relationship with nature and overcome barriers.

-  **The influence of screens.**  
*(on which kids spend an average of 44 hours a week)*
-  **Lack of access to safe, beautiful & natural spaces.**  
*(74% of communities of color and 70% of low-income communities in the U.S. live in nature-deprived areas)\**
-  **Our culture keeps kids busy & INSIDE.**

# together

we are working to change how we nourish our children to include this vital nature connection.

# together

we are a force of nature!

*Thank you*

for being a part of our Thrive Family and Movement!  
We could not do this work without you.

\*Source: The Center for American Progress & The Hispanic Access Foundation



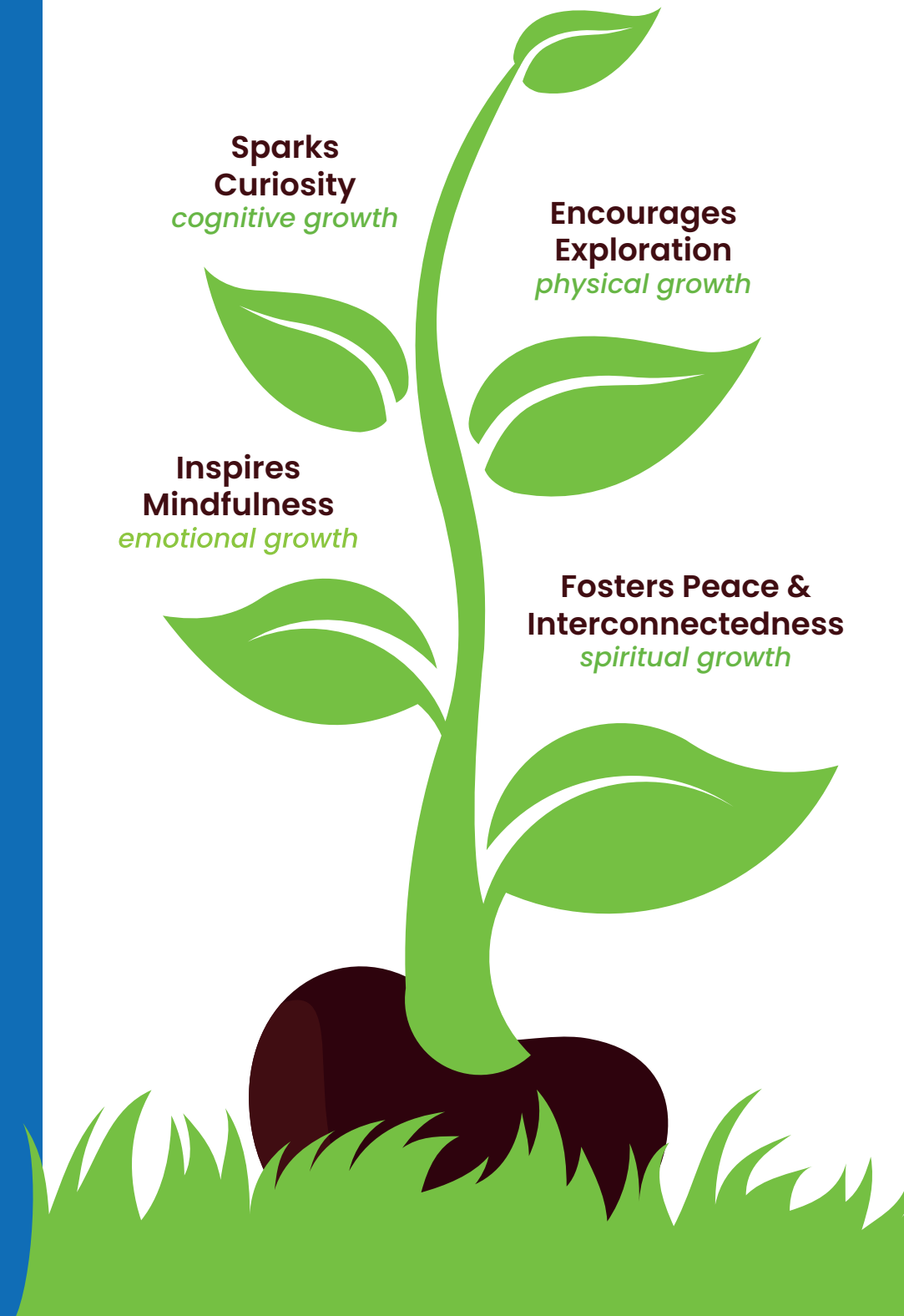
# We are on a Mission...

to give every child  
the opportunity to  
thrive through a joyful  
relationship with nature.

We know that kids thrive outside.  
Like a seed planted and nurtured with  
nutritious soil, water and sunlight, our  
**children will grow  
to their full potential**  
with encouragement to learn, explore  
and play in the natural world around them.



**Children  
are nourished  
by nature.**



**Sparks  
Curiosity**  
*cognitive growth*

**Encourages  
Exploration**  
*physical growth*

**Inspires  
Mindfulness**  
*emotional growth*

**Fosters Peace &  
Interconnectedness**  
*spiritual growth*





## Who We Serve

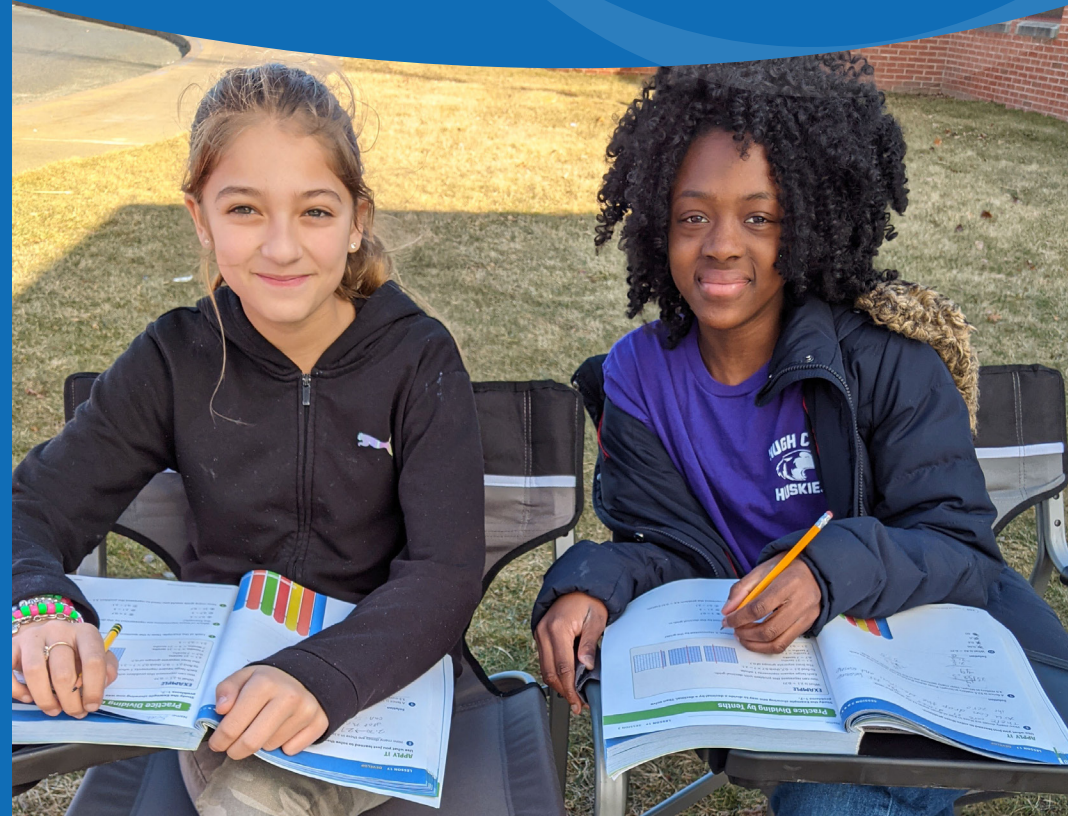
We are working to reach as many children as possible, especially those who have the least opportunity and access to safe, beautiful, natural spaces.

We also serve educators, schools, libraries and community centers to help bring their outdoor learning and nature play dreams and goals to life.

## What We Do

Thrive supports the design and implementation of:

- Outdoor Learning Zones
- Outdoor Education Training
- Nature-based School & Community Events, Workshops & Programs





# You, Our Thrive Community, Impact Kids' Lives



Scaling  
Obstacles  
to Nature  
Access



Supporting  
Physical &  
Mental Health



Putting Kids  
in Touch  
with Nature



Learning  
Beyond  
Classroom  
Walls



Together, in FY 2023

# We Made Nature More Accessible



We launched our FREE Outdoor Education Teacher Learning Circle in-depth learning program.

**426**

**Students Impacted**



We provided daily access to nature learning through our Outdoor Learning Zones.

**560**

**Students Impacted**



We offered 26 sessions of community & school programs, workshops & events.

**884**

**Participants**





Powered by your support,  
we are making a difference.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS



**Peace Garden & Art + Nature Program**  
Kingston Hill Academy Public Charter School  
*Putting 260 Students in Touch with Nature*



# You help us build it and... They will come.

PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

## preliminary concept design



eponymous practice | Tiverton Outside

Tiverton Public Library | Community Meeting | Tiverton, RI | 35



## Vision Design for the **Tiverton Public Library "Learning Landscape"**

In Collaboration with Eponymous Practice

*Will Benefit up to 2,500 Children*

# Hollie DiOrio

## Thrive Outside • Teacher Learning Circle



**It will be difficult to fully describe the impact that Thrive Outside and the Teacher Learning Circle (TLC) have had on my practice and beliefs as an educator.**

I have been lucky as an educator to work in multiple public charters and now in the public school system of Rhode Island. These experiences have provided me with firsthand experience in seeing the inequities surrounding our children, environmental education, and basic access to the outdoors.

I walked away from our first session enthusiastically, with community contacts, incredible hands-on activities and the knowledge that outdoor education, in an under-served community, IS POSSIBLE.

**My students THRIVED OUTSIDE.**

This led to us bringing out quilts and reading and writing outside. Soon we buddied up with a

kindergarten class and began reading outside with them every Friday. Students grew more confident, calm, and their behaviors decreased.

**From the TLC I was not only able to gain valuable lessons for my students, I gained the confidence to share my experiences with my peers.**

At the end of the year, I was able to engage my peers in professional development where they were able to engage in many of the same hands-on activities that I learned about through the TLC.

**I believe my experience only again reaffirms how important it is to get children outside and engage with the world around them.**

There is an incredible amount of inequities in our world. Accessing and learning about the outdoors should not be one of them.

[Check out the video!](#)





# Thrive Outside in the Mud

357 Kids, Families & Adults

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS





# Family Hikes

226 Participants

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



"Being outside is important because it makes me unstressed & it's... beautiful outside!"  
11 Year Old  
Nature Workshop Participant





# Outdoor Classroom Week & Art + Nature Programs

Approximately 350 Students Benefited

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



"Learning outside helped us focus and be calm and understanding of ourselves. The sounds of nature help me focus on my work. Learning outdoors helped me and my classmates be calm and not stressed out about our work. I believe that we should treat our planet with respect and dignity. Our lives depend on it."

5th Grade Student - Djuna





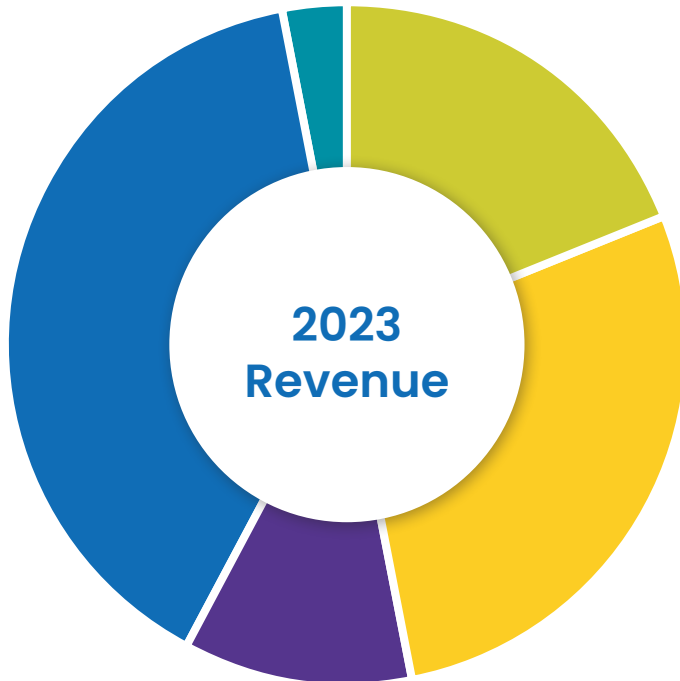
# The Destination of Your Dollars

## Financials FY 2023

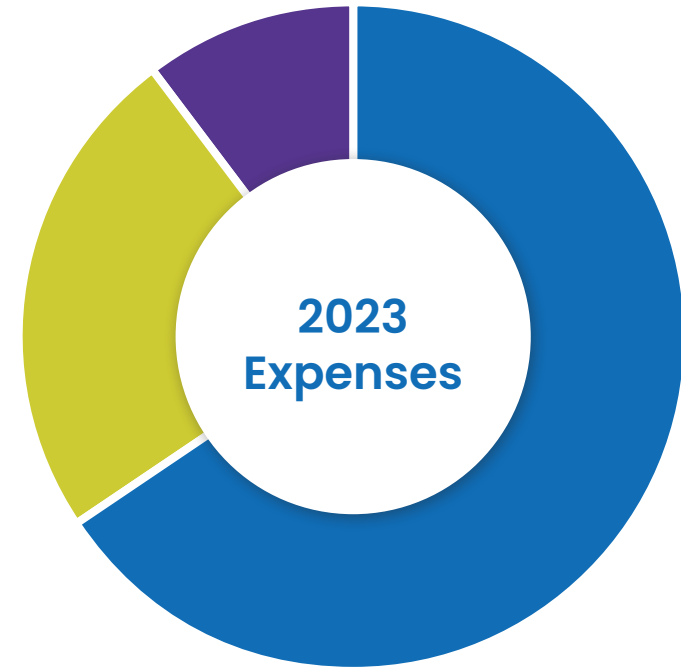
## REVENUE GROWTH




FY 22: \$53,836

FY 23: \$86,833



Revenue	Amount	%
 Program Income	\$34,093	39%
 Individual Donations	\$24,182	28%
 Business Sponsorships/Donations	\$16,833	19%
 Grants	\$9,500	11%
 In-Kind Contributions	\$2,225	3%
<b>Total Support &amp; Revenue</b>	<b>\$86,833</b>	



Expense Category	Amount	%
 Program Services	\$56,990	65%
 Fundraising	\$21,379	24%
 Management & General	\$9,076	10%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$87,445</b>	

NOTE: Expenses exceed revenue due to a change in accounting methods.



# With Gratitude... You fuel the Thrive Outside Movement!

## Thrive Team:

**Shannon Rozea**  
Executive Director &  
Landscape Architect

**Sheila Dobbyn**  
Development & Teacher  
Learning Circle  
Coordinator

**Tiffany Healey**  
Operations & Programs

**Katherine Skuba**  
Communications

**Melissa Labonte**  
Teacher Learning Circle  
Coordinator

**Karen Griffith-Dieterich**  
Grant Writing

**Joseph James**  
Landscape Architect  
Eponymous Practice

**Sarah O'Neil**  
Graphic Designer  
Virtual Ink Productions

**Bill Dukes**  
Videographer/Producer  
First Priority Media

## Experts:

**Erin DeThomas**  
Makers, RI

**Awilda Reinoso Lopez**  
Amorosa Wellness

**Alisha Pina**  
Inner Wingspan

**Amanda Peavey**  
Education Director  
Woonasquatucket River  
Watershed Council

**Carol Entin**  
Environmental Educator  
Moses Brown School &  
Audubon Society of RI (*retired*)

**Lisa Maloney**  
Environmental Educator  
Audubon Society of RI

**Leslie Brow**  
The Sargent Center

**Sara Medeiros**  
Special Educator

**Jeff Danielian**  
LaSalle Academy Educator & Author

**Janet Johnson**  
RIC Education Professor & Author  
Site Director for the RI Writing Project

**Mary Beth Dzedzic**  
Yoga Teacher, Ecotherapist  
Licensed Social Worker  
NOURISH walk talk flow grow

**A huge thank you to our Thrive Team, Board, Committees, Experts,  
Collaborating Organizations, Volunteers, and Family of Supporters.**



# With Gratitude... You fuel the Thrive Outside Movement!

## Collaborating Organizations:

Bristol Health Equity Zone  
Warren Health Equity Zone  
East Bay Community Action Program  
Bristol-Warren Child Equity Zone  
Audubon Society of Rhode Island

## Board of Directors:

Marc Domina, Board Chairperson  
Jessalyn Jarest, Secretary  
Charlie Kellner, Treasurer  
Chuck Rozea, Director  
Amy Boutchie, Director (*Ended Term 12/22*)

## Our Committees:

### Finance

Tamara Kaplan  
Jessalyn Jarest  
Charlie Kellner

### Family Hikes

Jay Blackbeard  
Tiffaney Cayton  
Ed Tanner  
Orlando Lugo

### Mud Run

Chuck Rozea  
Amy Boutchie  
Marc Domina

**A huge thank you to our Thrive Team, Board, Committees, Experts, Collaborating Organizations, Volunteers, and Family of Supporters.**



# It takes a village...

## 2023 Sponsors

### Business Partners

NuGen Capital  
Rhode Races & Events

### Program Sponsors:

Rhode Races  
NuGen Capital  
Washington Trust  
The Ski House  
Fat Brain Toys  
Bajah's Cat Cafe  
Portside Tavern  
Sunflower Design  
Boys & Girls Club Pawtucket  
Farmaesthetics  
Trek Bicycle East Providence

### Grants Received:

#### Rhode Island Legislative Grant

In support of expanding our Family Hikes to underserved communities

#### Robert F. Schumann Foundation

In support of Mindfulness & Birding Workshop/Hikes in underserved communities

#### Warren Take It Outside Grant

In support of our pilot Mindfulness & Birding Workshop/Hike in Warren

#### BankNewport

In support of our Teacher Learning Circle

### 2022 Mud Run Sponsors

Domina's Agway  
People's Credit Union  
Jaffe Orthodontics  
Frerichs Farm  
Bartlett Tree Experts  
Blount Fine Foods  
Borealis Coffee Company  
Bristol Bikes  
Crate Escape  
Edward Jones  
Forster Orthodontics  
John Andrade Insurance  
Mosquito Mary's  
Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island  
OceanPoint Insurance  
Performance Physical Therapy  
Prisca Farina Fresh Pasta Co.  
Six Pack Brewing  
Staton's Landscaping  
Sunshine Fuels & Energy Services  
Sunflower Designs, LLC  
Ultimate Defense Bristol  
Warren Fire Department  
Bonnie Howland Photography

### Holiday Guide Sponsors:

#### Holiday:

DISH  
MakersRI  
Inkfish  
The Greenery  
Coral Anchor  
Strawberry Moon  
Frog and Toad  
Bristol Yoga Studio

#### Mother's Day:

The Heal Room  
Nature's Apothecary  
Wildflour Vegan Bakery & Cafe  
Garden Grille  
Urban Thread

#### Father's Day:

E. Frances  
Coral Anchor  
Prisca Farina  
Sowams Cider Works

"We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give." - Winston Churchill



# It takes a village...

## 2023 Individual Donors

Susan Aiello  
Kelly Ales  
Anne Alix  
Patricia Belcher  
Amy Boutchie  
Mary & Michael Brabeck  
Elizabeth Brito  
Adrienne Cady  
Cara Camacho & Adam Hodge  
Johnnie Chace  
Loretta Clark  
Suzanne Cohn  
Barbara Collins  
Mark Collins  
Stephen Collins  
Patrick Conboy  
Jack & Rosemary Conboy  
Deborah Coury  
Erin Crowell  
Matthew Cunningham  
Cherie & Eric Daniel  
Inge Daniels  
Chiara Deltito  
Kerri Demitrovic  
Barbara Dobbyn  
Dennis Dobbyn  
Mark Dobbyn  
Sheila Dobbyn  
Marc & Elizabeth Domina  
Glenn & Susan Donovan  
Allyson Drag

Patricia Driscoll  
John Eaton  
Daniel Feldman  
Edward Fitzsimmons  
Kyle Flynn  
Michael Fournier  
Deborah Fowler  
Jean Francesc  
Mark Freitas  
Nancy Fritz  
Lucy Furtado  
Ira Goodman  
Rachel Goodman  
Brian Gormley  
Carol & Mike Gormley  
Michael & Lisa Gormley  
Elizabeth Gouveia  
Karen Griffith-Dieterich  
Diana Grigsby  
Lindsey Gumb  
Cara Habek  
Robert & Gwen Hancock  
Erin Hanna  
Peter & Heather Harley  
Alison Harrall  
Tim & Irene Healey  
Tiffany & Dean Healey  
Brandt Heckert  
Ron & Deah Hofeldt  
Thomas Holt  
Kerry Hopkins

Susan Howells  
Stacia & Chris Jackson  
Linda James  
Sandra Jaquay-Wilson  
Charlene Jarest  
Jessalyn Jarest  
Kate Joy  
Susan Juhasz  
Alexander Kellner  
Charles Kellner  
Emily Kellner  
Robert Kellner  
Emma Kelly  
Sean Kenny  
Megan Kristopik  
Aaron Ley  
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Yvonne Mark  
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Tony & Susan Morettini  
Elise Nash  
David Nicolato  
Lauren Parmelee  
Al and Dale Perron

Philip Snyder Foundation  
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Christine Rodrigues  
Michael & Denise Rossi  
Mark Rossi  
Ahna Rozea  
Chuck & Shannon Rozea  
Cynthia Sadler  
Erin Schofield  
Nancy Searle  
Katherine Skuba  
Danielle Stanley  
Ed & Liz Tanner  
Nancy Telford  
Scott Throwe  
Robert Tingle  
Bailey Todd  
Paul Webb  
Noel Weldon  
Elizabeth Woodhouse  
MaryKae & Michael Wright  
Marie & Ron Zullo

**“Every individual matters.**

**Every individual has a role to play. Every individual makes a difference.” - Jane Goodall**





# Looking Ahead...

## Our Strategy to Thrive



We are working to give every child the opportunity to Thrive Outside.

### **Our Overarching FY 2024 Strategic Goal**

To expand our impact and ability to give EVERY child the opportunity to thrive outside.

### **Our Key Strategies**

- Infuse DEIJ (Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Justice) into every aspect of our organization and work
- Broaden our reach to impact more youth
- Expand our environmental focus



# Thrive Outside



“Change will happen on a fundamental level  
only if we fall back in love with the planet...  
When we recognize the virtues, the talent, the  
beauty of Mother Earth, something is born in us,  
some kind of connection, love is born.”

– Thich Nhat Hahn