

Who We Are

Mission: We are a hub for stewardship of the Sierra Nevada, which we achieve by empowering and collaborating with our partners.

Vision: Every Sierra ecosystem and community is healthy, resilient, and collectively cared for through thriving partnerships, as a legacy for future generations.

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Alexis Hagar, Education & Outreach Coordinator
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Nicole Lutkemuller, Sierra Corps Forestry

Jennifer Marshall, Development & Community Engagement Director

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Organizer

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Fellow

Sierra Riker, Monitoring & Outreach Specialist Jodi Schmitz, Finance & Human Resources

Rebecca Williams, SNAP Program Operations
Coordinator

Dear friends and partners,

As we approach our 30-year anniversary, we take this opportunity to reflect on all we've accomplished together during our last fiscal year. Let's celebrate our resilience and accomplishments, and look to the horizon as we grow our conservation impact for our beloved Sierra Nevada.

Each of our endeavors are driven by the intention of being a true Alliance. We are guided by goals created through collaboration and partnership with fellow nonprofits, agencies, businesses, and our communities. Thank you for joining us to protect and preserve this special place.

For 29 years, Member Groups have been at the heart of our mission, and last year was no different. We provided quarterly virtual training, networking and collaborative opportunities, platforms for sharing work, and built professional staffing capacity.

With support from the Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation and CalFire, we're placing forest health practitioners with our partner host sites and training them to be effective and successful forestry project managers. As megafires are now a reality in the Sierra, these funds will allow for significant expansion of our Sierra Corps Program to build resilient forests over the next four years.

Our longstanding Sierra Nevada AmeriCorps Partnership (SNAP) Program just wrapped up its 15th year, and we've been granted three more years of funding from California Volunteers. Over the life of this program, nearly 400 SNAP members have served at 45 host sites to conserve and preserve some of the world's most treasured landscapes.

This year, we began leading the Sierra Nevada's activities to protect in perpetuity an additional 30% of the region's land and water by 2030. Known as 30x30, this effort is part of the Biden Administration's "America the Beautiful" call to action to conserve, connect and restore the lands, waters, and wildlife we depend on.

Be on the lookout for a new stewardship campaign for the region called "Take Care Sierra." Pop over to takecaresierra.org and check out our online environmental stewardship campaign that encourages visitors and locals to take care while recreating.

These are just a few snapshots from the past year. To learn more about our successes, and future goals and strategies, keep reading!

Please reach out and connect with us in the coming months. We'd love to chat about your interest in the Sierra, and how you can get involved in efforts to protect this spectacular region.

With appreciation,



Juny Hatch

Executive Director



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Laura Beaton Board President

What is the Sierra Nevada?

Known as the Range of Light, the Sierra Nevada is a vast mountain range that lies primarily in California, with the Carson Range spur expanding into Nevada.

The collision of tectonic plates formed the Sierra Nevada around 40 - 100 million years ago, creating a chain of volcanoes through faulting and subduction. The volcanoes eventually became dormant and shaped the Sierra Nevada Range through time.

Today, the towering mountain range runs roughly 400 miles from Tehachapi Pass in the south to the Cascade Range, along the North Fork of the Feather River. It spans 24 counties and contains the headwaters of 24 river basins.

Did you know?

The Sierra is rich in natural resources. It produces 60% of California's water supply and delivers 50% of its hydroelectric energy. Wildlife is abundant with 3,500 plant, 572 animal, and 321 aquatic species.

The region is home to General Sherman, the world's largest tree by volume; Lake Tahoe, the largest alpine lake in North America; Mount Whitney, the highest point in the lower 48 states; and over 5,000 square miles of protected wilderness.

There are over 2,000 freshwater lakes in the Sierra Nevada and nearly 100 named rivers.

The Sierra Nevada Alliance is dedicated to protecting and preserving the Sierra Nevada region now and for generations to come.

Thank you for joining us in our critical endeavor to build a resilient Sierra in the face of climate change and explosive wildfire.

Working for the Sierra Nevada Alliance is what brought me to this special place more than ten years ago. This organization has an important positive impact on the Sierra's environment, wildlife, waters,



people, communities, and more, and I'm proud that I can continue to support it by serving on the Board.

- Lynn Baumgartner Board Secretary and former staff member

Program Achievements

2021 - 2022 Achievements



Healthy Forests

- \$11 million granted for forest health projects
- \$2.5 million secured for Sierra Corps future
- 55,000 acres of ecological restoration initiated



Sustainable Recreation

- 321 visitors engaged by Lake Tahoe Ambassadors
- 1 sustainable recreation and environmental stewardship campaign launched



Watershed & Land Stewardship & Conservation

- \$123.25 million reserved for Sierra Conservancies
- 12,000 pounds and a trailer of trash removed from Sierra waterways
- 7,957 youth and adults educated
- 3,899 volunteers recruited
- 1,967 environmental monitoring efforts at 98 sites
- 1,076 watershed acres restored
- 6 environmental protection and preservation Congressional bills passed
- 6 capacity building and educational webinars



Climate Resilience

- \$3.7 billion devoted to CA climate resilience efforts
- 500 community members engaged in climate action
- 15 groups and organizations engaged in climate action
- 6 community climate events executed
- 1 greenhouse gas inventory update report published
- 1 100% carbon-free electricity by 2030 resolution passed by SLT
- 1 EV Charger Siting Plan adopted by the City of South Lake Tahoe

Community Engagement

to cultivate momentum

Our community engagement activities aim to build stewardship, awareness, and common ground for conservation in the Sierra with these key efforts.

Member Group Program

At the core of the Alliance's founding purpose and mission, our Member Group Program works to empower and collaborate with our membership which consists of conservation organizations located throughout the Sierra. Our goal is to build unity and create efficiencies with these 43 groups dedicated to protecting the region.

Our website serves as a hub to announce job openings, advertise events and volunteer opportunities, search a robust conservation directory, and communicate advocacy efforts and ways to take action.

We elevate expertise by providing professional development and naturalist webinar training (also open to the public) for our Member Groups. As a member of the California Employers Association, we share comprehensive human resources and labor laws with our Member Groups. Training and networking opportunities are available at Member Group quarterly meetings and conservation conferences every two years.

Member Groups can count on the Alliance to represent their interests at gatherings of various collaboratives. As members of the Sierra Consortium, Sierra Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Partnership, Sierra Nevada 30x30 Working Group, and the California Watershed Network, we ensure the Sierra has a voice.

Sustainable Recreation

In the summer of 2021, we launched our Lake Tahoe Ambassador Program and hired and trained 14 high school and college students in collaboration with our partners at the City of South Lake Tahoe, Tahoe Rim Trail, and North Lake Tahoe Resort Association. Ambassadors model good stewardship, provide messages about how to take care of the Lake Tahoe Basin and share information about recreating responsibly. The Program is designed to spark interest in working in the conservation field. It creates a path of upward mobility for future career choices, and a

gateway to serve in our AmeriCorps and Fellowship workforce programs.

Thanks to the generosity of the Latrobe Fund, we tailored and implemented a stewardship and education campaign called "Take Care Sierra." With input from dozens of organizations and agencies, targeted messages address aquatic invasive species, living with bears, microplastics, wildfire preparedness, cigarette butts, litter, fire, dog doody, river use, broken sleds, and trails. You will also find information about the Sierra including maps, history, formation, flora and fauna, animals, a visitor center and conservation directory, and volunteer and event listings.

(Community Engagement continued on page 6)



Above: CivicSpark Fellow, Zoe Kusnick provides place-based environmental education to elementary students at Nevada Beach in Lake Tahoe, NV.

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(Community Engagement continued from page 5)

Events

Kicking off our fall events, the Alliance began a soft transition to the role of regional coordinator of the Great Sierra River Cleanup. Despite reduced capacity and less than half of the usual cleanup events across the region (due to a lapse in event coordination and COVID-19 restrictions), Alliance Member Groups South Yuba River Citizens League and Eastern Sierra Land Trust volunteers collectively removed 12,000 pounds and an entire trailer of trash from Sierra streams, rivers, and banks.

After two years of the pandemic, it was wonderful to get together with Wild & Scenic Film Festival On Tour ticket holders on Earth Day. One hundred and seventy-five lovers of the Sierra gathered at Lake Tahoe Community College to celebrate award-winning, awe-inspiring films focused on the environment, local activities, and adventure. Our guest film featured Molly Armanino, local freeskier and climate activist who shared her experiences both on and off the slopes and her passion for climate advocacy. We even had His Dudeness, Jeff Bridges, one of America's most respected storytellers narrating "The Beast of Our Time." The outpouring of support from community partners, generous event sponsors, and businesses made it all possible.



to protect our resources

Our advocacy efforts establish a coordinated voice for the Sierra. We organize joint comment letters with our Member Groups, contribute annual funding to pay a lobbyist in Sacramento as members of the Sierra Consortium, promote increased conservation funding to the region, support important environmental protections, and mobilize grassroots efforts within the conservation community.

This year, we hired a staffer to lead and diversify participation in the Sierra Nevada 30x30 Working Group. The Group prioritizes landscape conservation projects to increase permanent protection of the Sierra as part of California's 30x30 efforts to conserve 30 percent of California's land and waters by 2030. These advocacy efforts and partnerships build climate resilience through nature-based solutions while increasing equity and access to nature for all.



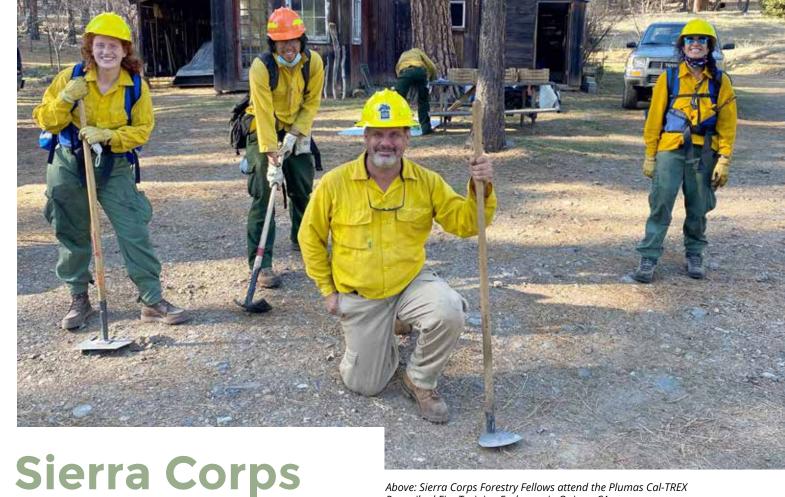
Above: SNAP Member, Sierra Riker works with their host site, Alpine Watershed Group to plant trees in the Tamarack Fire burn scar.

Sierra Nevada **AmeriCorps Partnership**

to prepare future leaders

The SNAP Program completed its 15th year serving the Sierra. Despite the significant barriers of COVID-19 and a nationwide labor shortage, our small but mighty crew restored over 1,076 acres, conducted environmental monitoring at 98 sites, and educated over 7,957 students and community members.

With the increased impacts of drought and large-scale megafires throughout the Sierra Nevada, the watershed work of SNAP members could not be more significant. SNAP members are crucial elements in protecting riverine habitats, empowering local communities through education and volunteerism, and developing sustainable partnerships. Many members have gone on to become conservation and stewardship leaders in the Sierra Nevada.



Prescribed Fire Training Exchange in Quincy, CA.

Forestry Fellowship

Program to build and restore healthy

forests

Sierra Corps is a workforce development program that increases the capacity of land managers, local agencies, and nonprofits. The program aims to train and develop future forestry management leaders in the Sierra's forest health industry. We supply a skilled workforce at a lower cost, facilitate regional collaboration, and efficiently work together in planning, funding, and implementing forest health and wildfire best practices.

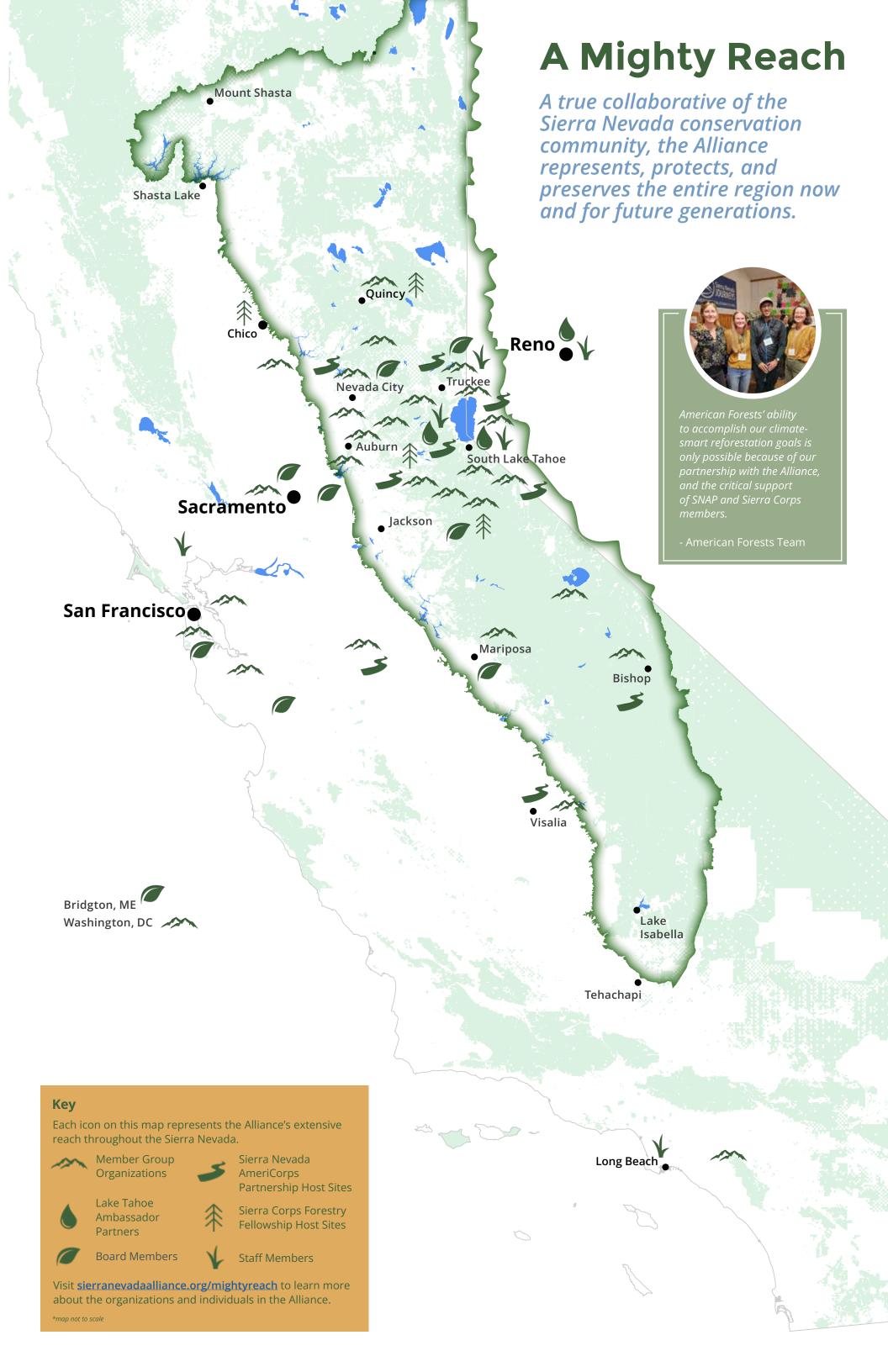
Last year, five Fellows successfully graduated upon completion of the Program's second year. Working with host sites at American Forests, Calaveras Healthy Impact Product Solutions, CSU Chico Ecological Reserve, Plumas Corporation, El Dorado National Forest, and the Feather River Resource Conservation District, Fellows wrote and obtained over \$11 million grant dollars and commenced ecological restoration planning on 55,000 acres for their host site organizations.

Climate Action to protect our resources

The Sierra is threatened by climate change, affecting heat and precipitation extremes. To help mitigate these impacts, we have been working with jurisdictions to build their capacity and provide technical support.

To help meet the climate planning needs of the City of South Lake Tahoe, we stepped in and hired a CivicSpark Fellow to advance their Climate Action Plan initiatives. Our Fellow filled the gap until the City hired a full-time Sustainability Coordinator who continues to lead the way for climate-forward initiatives.

One Fellow also presented a resolution to the South Lake Tahoe City Council to aspire towards 100% carbonfree electricity, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, by 2030. As the largest community in the range, South Lake Tahoe once again set a positive example as the first of many in the nation to make such a bold move. The resolution was unanimously passed.



Link to Leadership

Luis Vidal exemplifies the path of upward mobility

Our Sierra Nevada AmeriCorps Partnership (SNAP) and Sierra Corps Forestry Fellowship Programs are workforce development and capacity-building programs created to help address the challenges facing our treasured Sierra Nevada. Both initiatives produce conservation and stewardship leaders, project managers, and workers dedicated to protecting and preserving the Sierra.

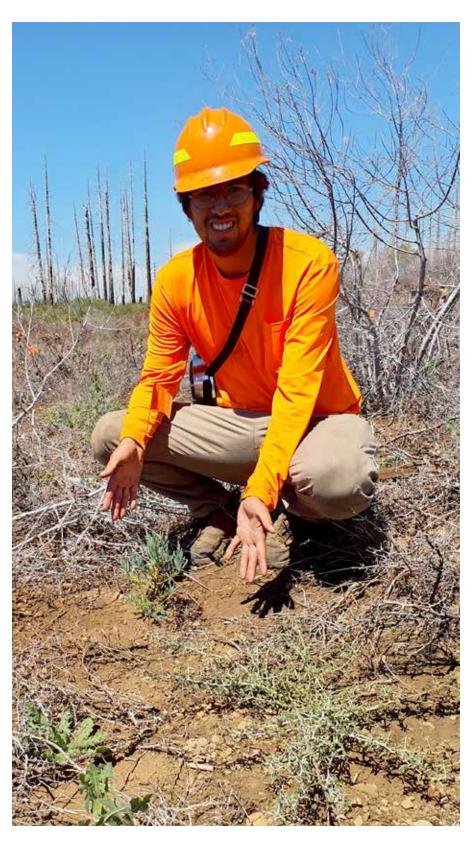
Luis Vidal grew up in Northern Utah and graduated from the University of Utah in Salt Lake City. Luis spent a short time in the SNAP program, and then applied for a Sierra Corps position to gain experience in project and grant management, and to build relationships with collaborative partners.

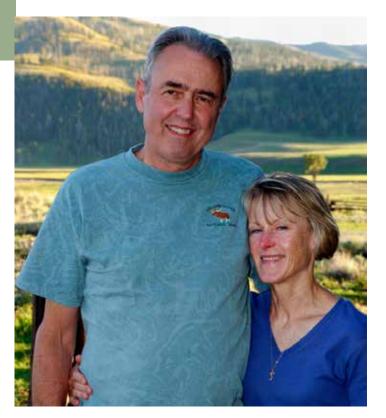
As a Sierra Corps Fellow, he learned to secure and manage grants, research reforestation methods, perform forest and watershed monitoring, and lead on project planning with his host site, American Forests. We offer Sierra Corps Fellows a training stipend, and Luis was able to further increase his knowledge of Sierra Nevada and California forestry and ecology by earning his California Naturalist and California Climate Steward certifications.

After completing his Fellowship, Luis was hired full-time with American Forests as their Northern California Forest Restoration Manager. He supports and manages landscape-level restoration projects and capacity-building initiatives in Northern California, and continues to support quality projects like cone collection and meadow restoration to protect Sierra forests.

Luis is amazed by the beauty of the snowy Sierra mountains and is inspired by high country and peaks. He enjoys the diversity of landscapes within the range, from montane meadows to high-elevation hemlock forests to low-elevation sugar pine and giant sequoia forests.

He enjoys backpacking in the wilderness - Ansel Adams, Desolation, Emigrant, John Muir, Yosemite National Park, and Granite Chief. He shares, "I feel like I could live several lifetimes in the Sierra and still not see and do all there is to experience here."







You can become a Sierra Keeper and join our Alliance today at sierranevadaalliance.org/donate.

Driving Efforts to Save the Sierra

Steve and Rosemarie Smallcombe step up to protect the Sierra

Steve and Rosemarie Smallbombe got involved with the Alliance in 2010 when they were members of a local environmental group, Mariposians for the Environment and Responsible Government. They were fighting to protect the Wild and Scenic designation of the Merced River. They attended an Alliance Member Group meeting and were connected with other nonprofits of similar interest. Shortly after, an Alliance board member approached the Smallcombes about becoming a Sierra Keeper. And, they agreed to donate \$500 or more to support the Alliance's critical efforts to save the Sierra.

Today, Steve and Rosemarie continue their support, and Steve is a current board member. He volunteers his time to strategically guide, philanthropically support, and enthusiastically represent the organization.

Steve and Rosemarie value more than the Sierra's natural beauty. They both recognize that the Sierra offers so much to California, and people all over the world. Supplying 60% of the water used by agriculture and cities in California, the Sierra fulfills them far beyond recreation opportunities for residents and visitors.

Steve's favorite Sierra memory is backpacking 110 miles of the John Muir Trail in ten days, including scaling a 14er, (a mountain over 14,000 feet), with his Caltech research group. Or, perhaps it's celebrating his and Rosemarie's honeymoon skiing at Lake Tahoe.

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Goals for 2023

Entering our 30th year of service, we're motivated more than ever to forge ahead collaboratively and address the unique challenges facing the region - wildfire, climate change, and overuse of land and water. Together, we can save the Sierra. Here's how:



Lead as a true Alliance by providing high-quality training, regional coordination, enhanced collaboration, and strong community presence throughout the Sierra.



Elevate the quality and effectiveness of external communications and public resources to create a greater community of stewards that help us take



Restore, protect, and connect crucial landscape habitats in innovative and creative ways by actively engaging our partners and building the next generation of conservation leaders.



Advance conservation and equality as part of the Sierra by building the capacity of Indigenous organizations, environmental and social justice advocates, land



Create climate adaptation and mitigation by providing technical assistance to



Promote sustainable recreation and natural resource protection across

Financials

Revenue & Expenses

for the year ending June 30, 2022

REVENUE

Total	\$1,341,594
Sales and miscellaneous income	\$330
Member Group fees	\$6,030
In-Kind	\$41,104
Grants	\$1,014,585
IDEL & PPP Government loans	\$103,522
Foundations	\$92,758
Conference and events	\$14,638
Contributions	\$68,627

EXPENSES

EXI ENGLS	
Personnel and benefits	\$471,708
Conference, events and facilities	\$8,210
Consultants and subcontractors	\$121,027
In-Kind	\$41,104
Operating	\$62,617
Sierra Nevada AmeriCorps	\$612,752
Travel and training	\$21,354
Total	\$1,338,772



Revenue

83%	Grants & foundations
8%	PPP & IDEL Loans
E0/	Danations

Donations Other



Expenses

44% SNAP

42% Personnel & consultants

Other 5% Operating Travel & training

The information presented above is drawn from Sierra Nevada Allliance's financial statements audited by Schettler Macy & Associates. They are available at sierranevadaalliance.org/financials

from Jodi Schmitz, Director



The Alliance is pleased to share these financial reports to provide an honest and transparent picture of our financial health. To manage funds responsibly and effectively, short- and long-term revenue goals were set and expenses are closely monitored. Programs are fully funded, have an adequate cash reserve, and can provide competitive salaries for the valued team. This is possible thanks to generous supporters like you.

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All of these accomplishments were made possible because of generous givers like you. Your contributions support crucial operating expenses, provide livable wages for our dedicated staff, keep the lights on and our office warm, and provide matching dollars for government grant funding. We graciously thank the foundations, sponsors, and donors who contributed to our critical mission to protect and preserve the Sierra Nevada in 2021-2022.

To join our Alliance of like-minded people dedicated to building a resilient Sierra Nevada in the face of mega-fires and climate change, please visit sierranevadaalliance.org/donate today.

Carol Manning

Clifford Ramos Ir.

Coleen Shade

Daniel Martin

Christina Witsberger

Corwin Denney Foundation

Foundations

Latrobe Foundation
Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation
Artnz Family Foundation
Rose Foundation
El Dorado Community Foundation
Lake Tahoe Conservation Fund
Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority
Tahoe Womens Fund
United States Energy Foundation
North Lake Tahoe Resort Association

Sponsors

Mount Ritter - \$1,000 - \$4,999

Shute, Mihaly & Weinberger LLp Sierra Nevada Conservancy Chatten-Brown, Carstens & Minteer Ritual Coffee Roasters Tahoe Oral Surgery

Freel Peak - \$500 - \$999 A to Z Insurance

League to Save Lake Tahoe

Donors

Sierra Keepers (\$500+) All Hand & Hearts

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Pika Protectors (\$1 - \$499)

Adam Blond Adam Safir Adrienne Shepard Agata Kleszcz Alaina Henry Alan Powelson Amanda Cardosi Amanda Henry Amazon Smile Anders Bjella Andy Rosenberg Ann Klinefelter Anna Chaconas Anne Davidson Arthur Castro Barbara Tidball Benevity Benjamin Schifrin Bob Fulkerson **Bonnie Clark** Brendan Mooney Brian Hudgens Brian Smiley Brooks Martin **Bruce Carswell** Bruce & Shanon Mohagen Carol Lehnert Carol Rutter Caroline Hickson Carolyn Cole Carolyn Pretzer Catherine O'Riley Celia Barry Cesiley Reves Chad Laurence Chandler Bertoli Charles Brown Charles Schwab Charles Seidler Christopher Pederson Christopher Shuford Christopher Siano Clifford E. Anderson Cole Hawkins Craig Hinkley Craig Ritchev Crystal Waters Cynthia Archer Dallas Burns Dan Alex David Lan David Lewis David McNulty David Pagni

Dennis & Dianne De Cuir

Dennis Ghiglieri

Diane Baerwald

Diana Hall

Don Stevens Donald Malberg Dottie Lee **Drew Roberts** Duncan R. & Ellen B. King Dylan Finelli Eben Swain **Edward Galantowicz Edward Horton** Edwards Munyak Eileen Bruce Goff Elayne Damron Elizabeth Marshall **Emily Walton** Eric de la Riva Erica Byrne Erika Glastetter Erika Hanson Erika Mathews Eva Hicks Evan Ruderman Faith & Piers Strailev Fay Bradford Fidelity Charitable France Carreau GA & MA Tabor Gavle Denney Geoffrey McQuilkin Gerald Bachecki Gerald Koch Gerald Meral Goggle Match Gordon Polon Grace Anderson Greg Sanborn Gretchen Howard Heidi Dovle Heidi McCafferty Helen Hobart Hillary Hecht Hillary Messer I Breidenbach lack Landy lack Ruderman Jackson Realo lake Hudson James Mcwilliams James Turnin Janet & K Baumgartner Janet Chuang Janet Feil Janet Wren Janna Mcdonald lason Irvine leanne Wilson Jeffrey & Brenda Erdoes Jennifer Cryan Ugalde

Jennifer Marshall

Jenny Hatch Jessé Bregman Jillian Ratinaud lim & Angie Hager loan Intrator Joanna Howes Joe & Yolanda Ochoa Joel Masser John & Joan Phillips John & Kathy Schmitz John and Maureen Forney John Beaton John Dickinson John Moore John Sorensen John Starling John Trinkl Jordan Crittenden Jorge Taillant Joshua Switzky Judith Abeles Judith Hildinger Judith Leipold Julia Russell Julie Ashley lustin Ameleh Karen Barrow Karen Martin Karen Miller Karen Miner Karin Johnston Kate Finn Katherine Sauve Kathleen Castro Kathryn Kundrot Kathryn Whitaker Kavla Glastetter Kelley Carroll & Paige Derdowski Kelly Lafaye Kelly Powers Kelsey Glastetter Ken Burrows Kenneth Ryerson Khoi Le Kim Long Kim Morimoto Kirk Hanson Kristine Corliss Lance Williams Larry Marvet Laura Hinrichs Laurel Prevetti Lauren Gundy Laurie Scribe Leah Glastetter Leah Hamos

Louis Costanzo Lydia Dotzer Lynch Creek Farms Lynette W. Lytthans Lynn Baumgartner Lynne Paulson Maggie Matthews Maggie Ziols Malcolm Talcott Mandolin Alvarado Marcus A. Libkind Margaret Banner Marilyn S. Miller Marilyn Ward Marion Amparan Mark Bolach Mark Ginsburg Mark Jones Mark Ouinlan Matt Johnson Matthew Binder Matthew Sennett Megan Reynolds Meghan Walsh Melinda Gratteau Meredith Anderson Michael & Andrea Cassidy Michael & Valerie Cohen Michael Grace Micheal & Deanna Diggles Michelle Flores Michelle Laurence Morgan Family Trust Nancyann Leeder Natalie Stroud Nicholas Hager Nicole Erdrich Nicole Lutkemuller Nonprofits Insurance Alliance Norine Hegy Oscar Balaguer Paige Wagner Pam Evans Pam Nelson Pamela Flick Pamela Payen Parker Wood Patricia Martens Patricia Rowe Patricia Sussman Paul & Diane Petersen

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Linda Shute

Lisa Scoralle

Liz Lawton

Lois Harter

Lou lenard

Lou Leonard

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William Joyce

William R. Nico & Diane P. Nico William Riker
William Whiteside

In-Kind
Blue Granite Climbing Gym
BlueZone Sports

Boom Day Spas LLC Botanical Arts Company California Burger Drink Tahoe Tap **Edgewood Tahoe** Enchanted Florist Lake Tahoe Gaialicious Botique GraceArts Grass Roots Natural Foods Lake Tahoe Community College League to Save Lake Tahoe Loving Lake Tahoe Marcus Ashley Galleries Framing On Tahoe Time Patagonia Heavenly Village Rise Designs Sierra Ski and Cycle Works South of North Brewing South Shore Bikes Summit to Shore Chiropractic Tahoe Rising Yoga and Meditation Center Tahoe Tot Spot The Engravery The North Face The Warp Zone Watta Bike Shop Wildwood Makers Market

14 15

Leigh Mintz

Lilly Reid



Sierra Nevada Alliance PO Box 7989 South Lake Tahoe, CA 96158

(530) 542 - 4546 info@sierranevadaalliance.org sierranevadaalliance.org To learn more about the issues impacting the Sierra Nevada, Alliance programs to protect this magnificent region, and how to get involved, visit sierranevadaalliance.org.

This Annual Report is property of the Sierra Nevada Alliance.

Photos are provided by Sierra Nevada Alliance staff, Luis Vidal, Jim Delso and Steve Smallcombe. Designed by Marilee Movius, Movius Design.