





Letter from the CEO

As I look back on 2021, I'm more grateful than ever that I get to live in this beautiful state and fight to move it forward every day. Last year, with your support, we passed nationally leading policies to fight climate change, clean up our air and water, and protect public lands. And it couldn't have come at a better time.

Colorado is in a unique position. We are both confronting the impacts of climate change and — thanks to your partnership and support — providing a model of success for nationally-leading conservation, climate, and environmental justice policy.

Last year, an unprecedented coalition of over one hundred environmental, environmental justice, youth, outdoor, business, social justice, and other groups came together to push forward a climate bill that would put Governor Polis' Climate Roadmap into action. That coalition was instrumental in ensuring that we were able to pass policies that will make progress in reaching science-based pollution reduction targets to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. We also secured historic state and stimulus investments to support the health of our parks, waterways, and public lands now and for future generations.

The crises we face are unparalleled, but so is our combined strength. I'm thrilled to share the results of that power in the following pages.

For Colorado,

Kelly Nordini
Chief Executive Officer



OUR MISSION

Conservation Colorado Education Fund works to protect Colorado's climate, air, land, water, and communities through organizing, advocacy, and education.

Conservation Colorado works to protect Colorado's climate, air, land, water, and communities through organizing, advocacy, and elections.

OUR VISION

We're working with *you*—our champions, partners, activists, and supporters—to achieve our shared vision of a better future for Colorado.

As we look forward to that future, we see Colorado as a national leader on track to achieve **net-zero carbon emissions by 2050**, and a clean energy economy that promises a **just and equitable transition for all Coloradans**.

We have established the foundation for **conserving and restoring at least one-third of Colorado's lands by 2030**, and ensuring that **sufficient clean water is available for both people and ecosystems**.

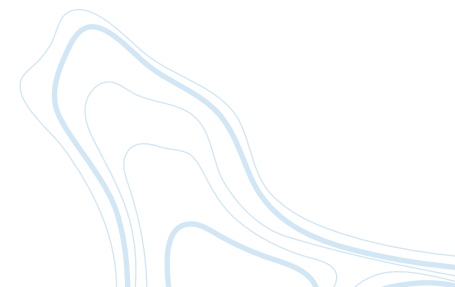




HOW WE DO IT

Our goals are bold and ambitious, but with your partnership, we can make them happen. **We do it by working at the intersection of people, policy, and politics to advocate for solutions to environmental problems.**

- We **organize and mobilize leaders**, like you, in communities across the state who believe that together we can build power and create great change.
- We **advocate for change** by persuading decision-makers to pass equitable laws and policies to protect our communities, climate, air, lands and water
- And we **work to elect decision-makers and representatives** who will lead us toward solutions to environmental problems.



WHO WE ARE

Conservation Colorado and its five sibling organizations all bring different tools to the work, allowing us to move our state forward in different ways.



Conservation Colorado Education Fund

Our 501(c)(3) tax-deductible entity works to organize communities and educate the public, media, and decision-makers about our issues and the importance of bold policy solutions.

Conservation Colorado

Our 501(c)(4) entity advocates for policies at the state legislature and other decision-making venues, and works to elect climate and conservation champions.

Conservation Colorado Small Donor Committee and Conservation Colorado Action Fund

Directly collaborate with and support pro-conservation candidates running for office.

Conservation Colorado Victory Fund

Supports independent efforts to elect pro-conservation champions and defeat candidates who stand in the way of environmental progress.

Conservation Colorado Grassroots Action Fund

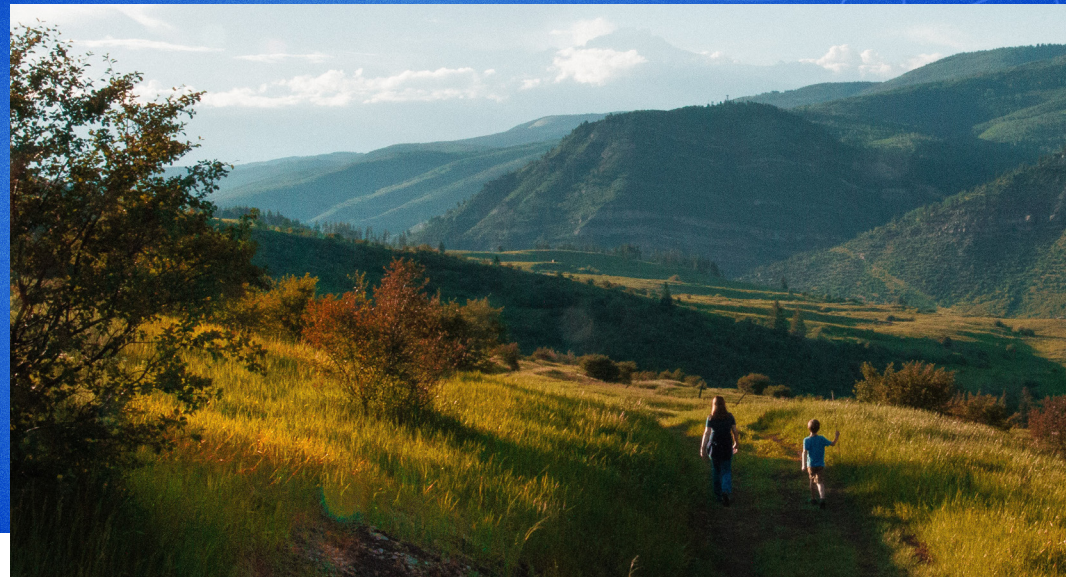
Supports candidates for local office.

2021 ACHIEVEMENTS

Conservation Colorado & Conservation Colorado Education Fund

Climate & Clean Air Victories

- Worked to pass legislation to make progress on and hold the state accountable to many of the carbon pollution reduction targets in the governor's Climate Roadmap. These included strong, ambitious requirements to cut greenhouse gas pollution from four of Colorado's top five polluting sectors: electricity, oil and gas, industrial, and buildings.
- Established a strong foundation for environmental justice in Colorado with nationally significant policies to improve community input into decision-making and create staff positions to work on advancing environmental justice.
- Helped hold oil and gas operators accountable to looking for and repairing leaks on a regular basis, and passed robust clean air protections for disproportionately impacted communities.
- Won all three November ballot initiatives where we took a position. These victories were a reminder that Coloradans support investing in Colorado values including climate action and conservation.



Lands & Water Victories

- Secured more than \$130M — a historic amount — in state and stimulus funding to support the health of our parks, waterways, and public lands.
- Supported creation of the Keep Colorado Wild Pass, which will generate significant and sustainable revenues for state parks, wildlife conservation, and outdoor recreation programs to keep up with the rising demand for the outdoors in Colorado.
- Successfully convinced the state's Water Quality Control Commission to revisit a decision not to provide enhanced environmental protections for Clear Creek and the South Platte River. Commission staff said this was the first time in history that advocates have successfully forced a reversal like this one and that new environmental justice laws we worked to pass paved the way.

Communities & Justice Victories

- Fought to pass legislation to hold corporate polluters accountable and improve protections for Colorado communities exposed to dangerous toxic pollutants.
- Helped secure millions of dollars to create a state Outdoor Equity Fund. The fund will combat systemic barriers for lower income youth, youth with disabilities, LGBTQ+ populations, and racially diverse Coloradans to improve equitable access to the outdoors.



Conservation Colorado Grassroots Action Fund

Historic Election Victories

- Secured a pro-conservation city council in Grand Junction for the first time in recent memory. Thanks to your support, we enacted the strong conservation values of our Western Slope communities!
- Endorsed our most racially diverse slate of candidates ever in the November municipal elections and notched wins in every community where we endorsed.



Conservation Colorado Board

Helen Gemmill Chair

Consultant and Farmer

Maria Handley Vice Chair

Community Leader

J.W. Postal Secretary/Treasurer

CEO and Founder of Nikola Power

Sue Anderson

Community Leader

Katherine Archuleta

Co-Founder of Latina Initiative 2020

Dana Bryson

Senior Vice President, Social Impact at Study.com

Tamra DeBrady

President of Colorado Black Women for Political Action

Jay Fetcher

Rancher

Angela Giron

President and CEO of Boys and Girls Club of Pueblo County

Steve Kaplan

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Heidi McIntosh

Managing Attorney at Earthjustice Rocky Mountain

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Partner at Berg Hill Greenleaf Ruscitti LLP

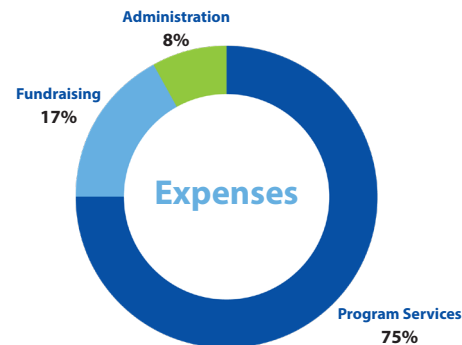
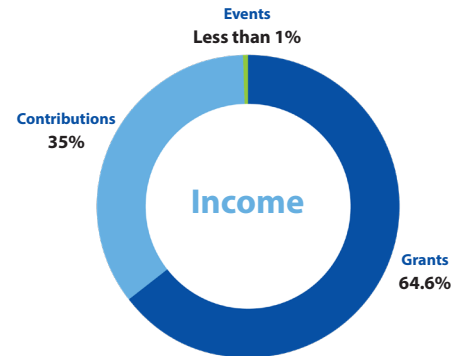
Patti Wells

Former General Counsel, Denver Water



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Below are the unaudited financials for Conservation Colorado Education Fund in the year ending December 31, 2021:



INCOME

Grants	\$2,561,753
Contributions	\$1,394,253
Events	\$6,500
TOTAL INCOME	\$3,962,506

EXPENSES

Program Services

Climate Change	\$1,024,053
Public Lands	\$464,704
Water	\$256,655
Other	\$119,622
Total Program Services	\$1,865,034

Supporting Services

Fundraising	\$423,980
Administration	\$212,496
Total Supporting Services	\$636,476

TOTAL EXPENSES	\$2,501,510
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Note: The balance of income over expenses is due to multiyear restricted grants that carried over into 2022 and 2023.

****Financials presented are specifically for Conservation Colorado Education Fund, our 501(c)(3) tax-deductible entity. We also fundraise separately for our other five entities, and in the year ending December 31, 2021 we raised a total of \$1,825,889 for Conservation Colorado; \$36,750 for Conservation Colorado Small Donor Committee; \$6,875 for Conservation Colorado Action Fund; \$103,500 for Conservation Colorado Victory Fund, and \$46,500 for Conservation Colorado Grassroots Action Fund.**

GIVING

All of the work we do is supported by individuals, foundations, and businesses that believe in fighting for the future of Colorado. We are proud to have staff on the ground across the state, including Denver, Durango, Fort Collins, Glenwood Springs, Grand Junction, and Pueblo, and to have activists and supporters from every corner of Colorado.

Our fundraising strategy aims to build a base of support that reflects the racial diversity and geographic breadth of the state of Colorado. We are working hard to engage communities of color, rural and urban communities, and small business owners across the state, as well as our thousands of long-time supporters and institutional donors.

As a family of organizations, we have six different entities that are supported by donors like you, and each offers its own benefits and ways of engaging with our work.

Note: Our six entities are legally separate, and any gifts made to one of our organizations are expended strictly in compliance with that organization's IRS status and any additional restrictions associated with the gift.

Conservation Colorado Education Fund

The Education Fund is a 501(c)3 organization that conducts public education and community organizing. Donations to it are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

Conservation Colorado

Conservation Colorado is a 501(c)4 organization that works on advocacy and elections. Each year, the first \$50 of all eligible donations made to Conservation Colorado will be transferred to the [Conservation Colorado Small Donor Committee](#) to support pro-conservation candidates.

Conservation Colorado Action Fund

The Action Fund is a state political committee that makes direct contributions to pro-conservation candidates. Each individual can give up to \$625 in an election cycle to the Action Fund.

Conservation Colorado Victory Fund

The Victory Fund is a state independent expenditure committee that supports independent efforts to help elect pro-conservation champions and defeat candidates who stand in the way of environmental progress. Donors can give any amount to the Victory Fund. Donations to this fund are not tax-deductible.

Conservation Colorado Grassroots Action Fund

The Grassroots Action Fund works either in coordination or independently of candidates for local office depending on local election laws. Donors can give directly to local committees where we work.

Note: Contributions to Conservation Colorado, Conservation Colorado Action Fund, Conservation Colorado Victory Fund, and Conservation Colorado Grassroots Action Fund are not tax-deductible because they are used to support our lobbying and election efforts.

Ways to Give

There are a variety of ways that you can make a gift to support our work, meet your giving goals, and join our fight for the future of Colorado.

Below are some options for giving to Conservation Colorado or Conservation Colorado Education Fund. Please let us know what questions you have about your giving options. We'd be very happy to talk about which might work best for your giving goals.

1 Make a gift today

Visit us at conservationco.org/giving or send a check to 303 E. 17th Avenue, Suite 400, Denver, CO 80203.

2 Join our monthly donor program, The Seeds~Las Semillas

When you sign up at conservationco.org/monthly-donation, every monthly gift you make is a seed planted for Colorado's future.

3 Become part of our Impact Partners community

Impact Partners~Socios de Impacto are our trusted partners who support Conservation Colorado at the level of \$500 or more each year, and gain direct opportunities to connect with our work and each other.

4 Make a gift of stock

Gifts of appreciated securities (stocks) are a popular alternative to making a cash gift and they may offer you additional tax advantages.

5 Explore matching gifts

You can double your support with an employer matching gift. Find out if your employer participates and take advantage of this easy way to increase your contribution.

6 Remember Conservation Colorado in your will

This is a way to leave a legacy for future generations of Coloradans.

You can call us at 303-333-7846 and ask for the Fundraising Team. You can also email us at development@conservationco.org.

Thank you for all of your support!