

# Water Wanderings Annual Report 2022

*Published on March 1st, 2023*

Water Wanderings strengthened our capacity, community, and organizational systems in our third season as a nonprofit. We ran two successful, age differentiated camps and our first ever family camp during the summer of 2022. Our counseling team volunteered as gear and food managers, completely revamping, and refining our systems and inventory for gear and taking the food coordination work off our Executive Director's plate. We also welcomed new board members and advisory board members and hired our first alumni.



*Our family camp welcomed four families with younger children*

We served 27 Water Wanderings campers this summer among our three camps. Though we had a record number of campers register, nearly 40% of the campers who signed up were not able to attend. As a result, we combined the two 9-12 camps. This worked out well for well for our counselors, giving them a much-deserved break between camps and allowing us to have a full 9-12 session. Our 2022 youth camp counselor team, Stephanie and Stacie Frederick, did an extraordinary job managing the logistics of gear and food for our 2022 camps.

Water Wanderings was blessed to have their full support with camp. Steph and Stacie brought decades of experience in personal expedition planning and excellent organizational skills to the complex task of preparing for camp. In total, the twin sisters donated over 150 hours of time to Water Wanderings through their camp prep work and overhauled our gear and food systems. They also did a great job out in the field and received glowing reviews from campers, including this one:

*"Steph, Stacie, and Isa have been super nice. They're very helpful and down to business. I need teachers like that...I need someone who will mean business, but will have fun while doing it. They're just like that, really great to the kids." - 2022 Camper*

## 2022 Camp Counselors



Stephanie Frederick  
Youth Camp Counselor +  
Volunteer Gear Manager



Stacie Frederick  
Youth Camp Counselor +  
Volunteer Food Manager



Isa Marvin  
Assistant Counselor



Lindsey Carlson  
+ Sonya Buglion-Gluck  
Family Camp Counselors

*Water Wanderings' 2022 Camp Counselor Team. We had all new staff aside from Sonya.*

Lindsey Carlson stepped in to co-lead the family camp with Sonya after a last-minute resignation of our family camp counselor. She brought a positive attitude, immense ecological knowledge, and a fun energy to our first ever family camp. Bringing parents and their young children together on the reservoir created a special group dynamic. In the words of one parent:

*"I feel like this sense of opening or rediscovering this part of myself that really longs for that connection with other moms...It's very nourishing, it's also very tender, because it feels really hard to be a mom right now... I've been loving all the time that our kids have gotten to spend with other kids. We trust you so much in so many different ways. And it's not just that we trust you to keep them safe. We trust your mindset and your philosophy and the way that you talk to them. Which is really hard to find." - WW Parent Camper 2022*



*Photos from the 2022 Camp Season. Youth age 13-15 camp left, Family Camp center, Youth age 9-12 camp right.*

### **Building our Networks**



Water Wanderings also built many important connections in 2022, including a strategic partnership Wildflower Wilderness, a small camp offering two week backpacking trips on the Long Trail. The partnership helps both organizations grow sustainably through barter. Zane, the Founder and Director of Wildflower Wilderness, will be supporting Water Wanderings with bulk food purchasing and coordinating our menu while Sonya, Water Wanderings' Executive Director, is providing marketing, bookkeeping and administrative support to Wildflower. The agreement allows Zane and Sonya to focus on their strengths and reduce each other's workloads. Ellie Kachoria, a Water Wanderings alumni, has been

helping both organizations as a social media consultant. Check out her work by following our [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#)!

Water Wanderings also received a record number of food donations, which our campers loved. We are so grateful for their support and created a little video to highlight the role food plays in Water Wanderings' camps, which you can see [here](#). Our 2022 auction was also a success thanks

to generous community sponsors (see auction sponsor below) and our growing community of donors. Over the course of the year, we raised \$7,177 thanks to 18 generous one-time donors, 4 monthly recurring donors, 11 auction winners, a collaborative grilled cheese fundraiser with UVM FeelGood and Howard Manosh Inc. which gave Water Wanderings \$100 - our first ever corporate donation. Stacie and Steph, our talented counselors, also donated close to \$500 in gear along with their time this summer and we received two canoe donations. The OGE grant will help us purchase \$1,000 of gear at wholesale prices this spring, allowing us to fill in the gaps in our inventory.



Many thanks to our 2022 organizational supporters. Food donations greatly reduced our costs, the grant from Outdoor Gear Exchange will help with gear next year, and the auction brought in \$1,758 for the Scholarship Fund!

### New Board Members

Water Wanderings welcomed four new members to our advisory council and board this year. Luke Buglion-Gluck joined the board and stepped into the Treasurer role. His financial knowledge and willingness to support Water Wanderings with bookkeeping and budgeting made a big difference. Nadège Alexandre also joined in the spring, bringing her extensive experience as an educator and an infectious positive attitude. Abigail and Lindsey also joined our advisory council in the spring through the Rubenstein School Board Fellows Program, which connects PhD students with nonprofits. They have been wonderful partners and it we're honored to be part of the program, alongside The Nature Conservancy, the Green Mountain Club and other well-established nonprofits. The additional support from the Board Fellows staff and getting to connect with other nonprofit leaders has been helpful and inspiring.



Nadège Alexandre



Luke Buglion-Gluck



Abigail Rec

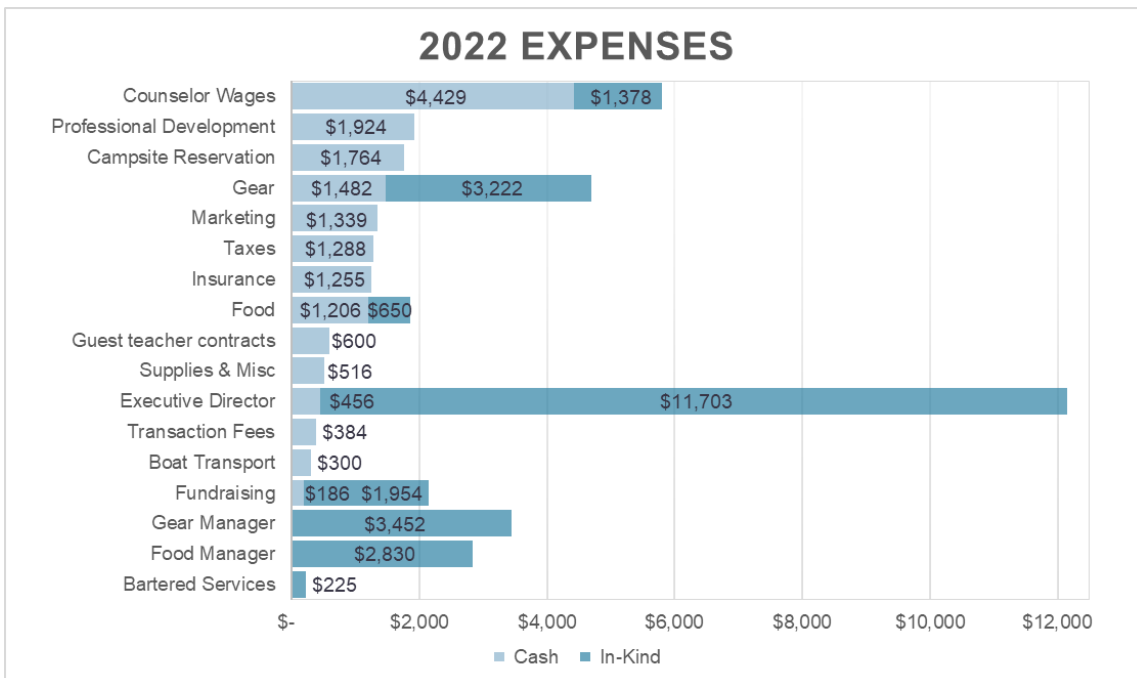
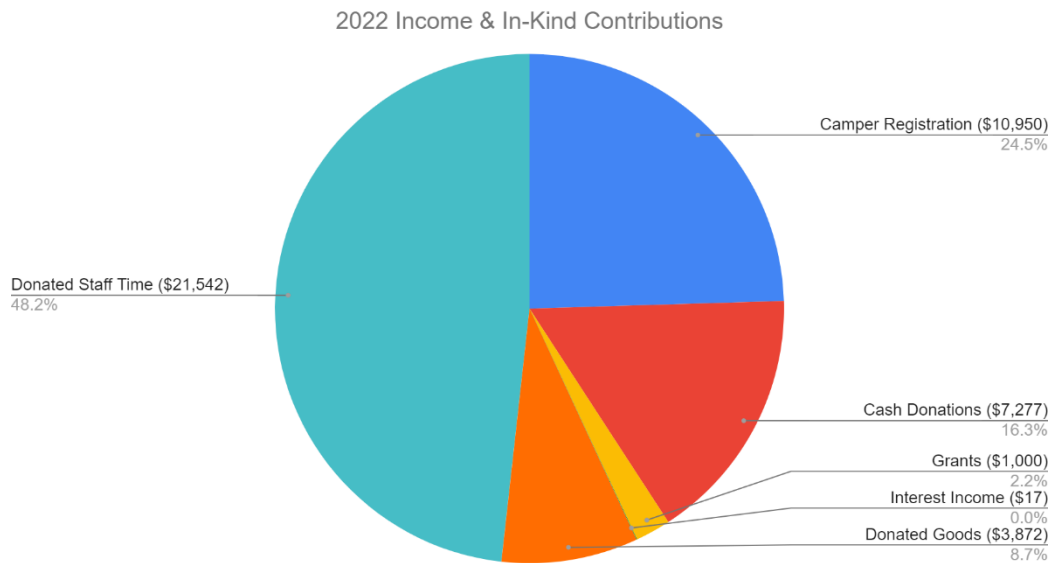


Lindsey Carlson

# Water Wanderings by the Numbers

## Financial Statements and 2022 Budget

The following charts, graphs, and tables outline Water Wanderings' detailed income and expenses for 2022 and our overall financial statement. It is important to note that we include in-kind contributions in our budget, which refers to services or goods that were donated to Water Wanderings, thus reducing our costs. Though no money was exchanged for these services and goods, in-kind contributions play a crucial role in Water Wanderings' operations. We calculate all volunteered time at the rate of \$29.95 per hour based on the [Independent Sector's](#) recommendation for general volunteer hour value in Vermont.



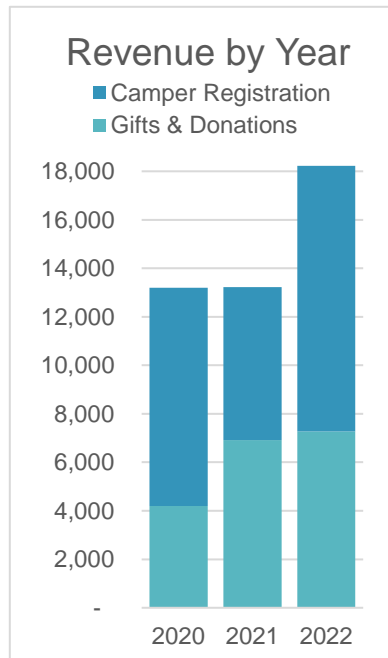
## Financial Statement 2022

Income	Cash	In-Kind
Camper Registration	\$10,950	
Gifts and Donations	\$7,277	
Grants		\$1,000
In-Kind Donations		\$25,414
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$18,227</b>	<b>\$26,414</b>

Expenses	Cash	In-Kind
Program Services	\$9,963	\$10,379
Management & General	\$6,980	\$13,080
Fundraising	\$186	\$1954
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$17,129</b>	<b>\$25,414</b>
<b>Net Profit</b>	<b>\$1,115</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>

Water Wanderings had a successful year financially in 2022. Net profit ended the year at \$1,115, despite increased operating expenses. These added expenses supported Water Wanderings



growth in size and enhanced the overall curriculum and camper experience. 2022 also saw the camp's highest revenue, both in camper registration and donations. Overall balance sheets remain healthy.

In fact, the Scholarship Fund currently has over **\$8,000** thanks to everyone who donated last year, recurring donations, Jayne Allister, who made a generous donation this year, and a \$2,000 gift from the Greenstone Fund in North Carolina. These funds provide crucial resources that enable Water Wanderings to continue to offer scholarships and a sliding scale without compromising our ability to make ends meet.

In 2023, our budget will change significantly because we are offering four camps instead of three. We are hopeful that the increased revenue will help Water Wanderings become more financially sustainable and enable us to move towards a funded Executive Director position.



Thank you for reading this report! Your interest in Water Wanderings means a lot to us and we're grateful for your support.

Visit our website at [waterwanderings.org](https://waterwanderings.org) for more, or visit our new Facebook and Instagram pages, with new content weekly, curated by Ellie Kachoria, a Water Wanderings alumni.

