



# The Mountain

Retreat & Learning Center

🍁 2021 🍁

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## ANNUAL REPORT

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As the sun rises over Chinquapin Mountain, with assurances of a new day, The Mountain is launching into a new era with enhanced prospects for making a difference in the world.

# About The Mountain

The Mountain was founded by Unitarian Universalists in 1979 as a nonprofit camp and conference center. This is an ecologically conscious retreat and learning center serving congregations, businesses, schools, and other Unitarian Universalist and community groups.

Located on 4,200 foot-high granite cliffs of the Southern Blue Ridge Mountains, we offer a unique opportunity - come refresh your spirit in the natural beauty of this magical place we call The Mountain.

## Unitarian Universalist Principles CORE VALUES

The Inherent Worth and Dignity of Every Individual

Justice, Equity and Compassion in Human Relations

Acceptance of One Another and Encouragement to Spiritual Growth

A Free and Responsible Search for Truth and Meaning

The Right of Conscience and the Use of Democratic Process

The Goal of World Community with Peace, Liberty, and Justice for All

Respect for the Interdependent Web of All Existence of Which We Are a Part

## VISION

An exemplary retreat, camp, and learning center that celebrates Unitarian Universalist principles, inspires people of all ages, transforms lives, and builds a more compassionate world.

## MISSION

The Mountain enriches lives, fosters an appreciation of the natural world, honors the interconnectedness of all things, and inspires people to build inclusive, meaningful, sustainable communities throughout their lives.

## What you can do to help make a difference for the Mountain?

**There is much enthusiasm about the direction of Mountain programming, staffing and facilities. To build on current strengths, your support will help us accomplish even more!**



**Join Mountain programs** – there are many choices – connections with other UUs, creativity in music or visual arts, social or environmental justice, youth camps, farm camps for youth or adults, adventure, connections with people with similar interests, personal growth, and holiday gatherings.

**Share your experience** - in communications with others, share the story of your Mountain experience and how this place enriches lives. Share with us your photos, testimonials and stories of your times here for us to highlight.



**Represent The Mountain** - wear or use something with The Mountain logo. These are great conversation starters and provide an opportunity to tell your Mountain story and share this special place with others.

**Grow our reach** - support The Mountain financially for the annual campaign, special projects, and the Endowment Fund. Purchase items in the gift shop or online, there is a variety of farm produce, clothing, books, and greeting cards. Consider also donating to our Lee Knight Campership fund to send kids to MountainCamps.



**Volunteering** - share your skills as a volunteer, Application is on the website.

**Consider how you shop** - if you shop with Amazon, on Amazon Smile please list The Mountain as a benefactor to receive a small percentage of your purchase price.

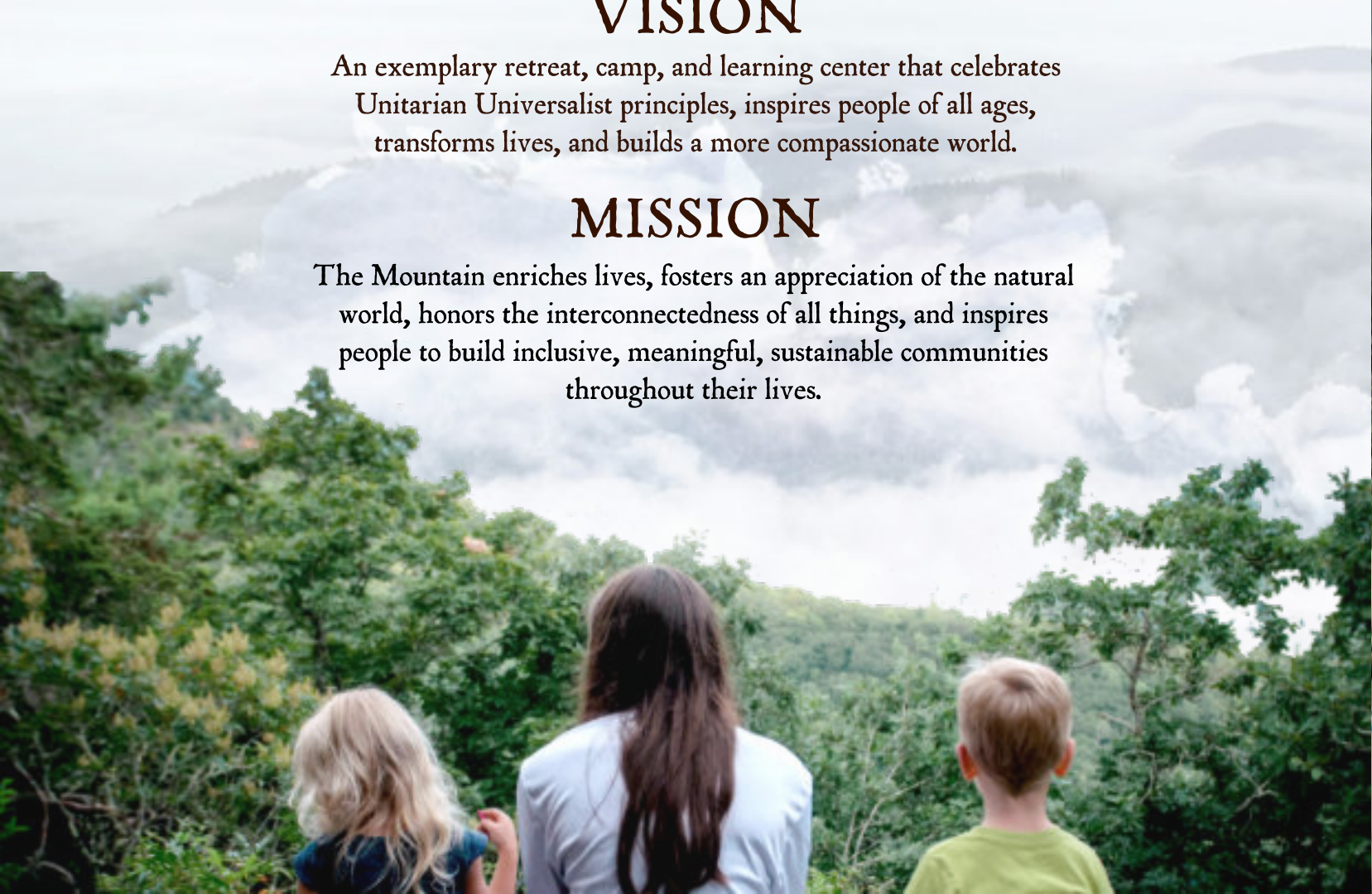
**For more information about many ways to financially support The Mountain, see:**

<https://www.themountainrlc.org/giving>

**Help plan for the future** - The Mountain's Endowment contributions grow over the years to support the long-term viability of The Mountain's finances.

**Encourage others** - to do these things – it will make a significant difference in what we can accomplish in the work of our mission.

SEND KIDS TO  
**MOUNTAIN  
WITH CAMP  
CAMPERSHIPS**



# A Word from KC - Board Chair

Last year, I ended my report by saying that “the world needs The Mountain more than ever.” While the challenges we face as a society – social injustice, climate change, and unsustainable ways of living – continue to animate the truth behind this statement, 2021 demonstrated just how much The Mountain means to our community.

As COVID vaccines became widely available and we learned more about how to live with the virus, our retreat business rebounded nearly threefold from 2020 levels. We also welcomed youth back to Mountaincamp, with their voices energizing our summer atmosphere. We’ve continued to grow Mountain design programs, including the first-ever Grateful Gathering which held space for a meaningful dialogue around how we can participate in reshaping handed down traditions, decolonization and living true to our values. Overall these programs are not only highly mission-aligned, but also made 2021 the most-successful year financially in The Mountain’s history.

Over the course of 2021, Mountain staff, volunteers, and contractors continued to make meaningful progress on upgrading our facilities to provide more comfortable accommodations for guests and better spaces for programs. In addition to renovations of several duplex cabins, work was started – and should nearly be finished by the time you read this – on renovating the Craft Barn to provide upgraded weatherized housing for staff and guests. We also began the process of significantly improving staff housing by removing two run-down trailers to make space for two new duplex units at the base of The Mountain.

Last, but certainly not least, the Executive Director Search Committee spent much of 2021 on a comprehensive nationwide search process, culminating in Steph Anderson joining The Mountain as Executive Director in early 2022. Steph is a wonderful person who has experience in many of the things that make The Mountain “go” – hospitality and youth programming, among other things. If you haven’t yet, I hope you’ll reach out to Steph to get to know her and to share your Mountain story. We’re thrilled to have her here.

When I think of this past year, I’m overcome with gratitude. Gratitude for Beverly Cree, who stepped in to serve as Acting Executive Director and served with fierce commitment and grace. Gratitude for our staff and long-term volunteers who make The Mountain’s magic happen with joy and dedication. And gratitude for you, our Mountain members, who have supported and engaged with The Mountain to make it a place where we collectively learn how to live life in deeper, more meaningful ways.



# Beverly Cree, Acting Executive Director

In 1978, our Mountain Founders stood on Meditation Rock and made the decision to purchase this extraordinary piece of property. The intention was to serve youth, value community, and appreciate the natural environment. We continue to honor these intentions, which are integrated with our core values, the Unitarian Universalist (UU) principles.

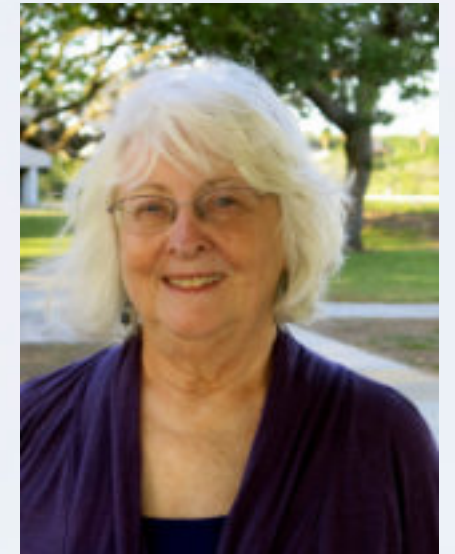
While this is, without question, a worthy venture, it can also be a challenging venture. Belief in The Mountain’s foundational principles and core values is what inspires each of us to do what is required every day. This commitment moves us closer to our Vision, to inspire people, transform lives, and build a more compassionate world.

As Steve Jobs stated, “If you are working on something exciting that you really care about, you don’t have to be pushed. The vision pulls you.” As a Mission and Vision driven person, It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as Acting Executive Director, to work with others who care about The Mountain and are dedicated to working to achieve the greatest potential for this special place.

This Annual Report shares the highlights of 2021. We are especially encouraged by progress in programming, facilities upgrades, Endowment Fund of \$600,000, and strong fiscal foundation. Please explore the website or contact us for more information about current happenings as well as plans for the future. Join us in The Mountain community, as we go forward together.

These accomplishments are pieces of the tapestry woven together to provide the foundation for more progress. Much has been achieved and there is enthusiasm for the next steps, including working with our incoming Executive Director, Steph Anderson. We are making a difference for The Mountain, which in turn, can make a difference for the world.

-Beverly Cree



## Mountain Governance - The Mountain’s Board 2021

### Board Chair

K.C. Boyce

### Planning & Finance

Kerry Keys

### Non-Voting Members

Beverly Cree      Chris Breivogel

### Leadership Development

Maggie Lovins

Megan Eckert

DeAnn Perterson

Ayanna Stringer

### Institutional Performance

Phil Sterner

Lee Reading

Steven Reines

Nancy Wylie

Joy Irwin

Zoe Hansen-Burnet

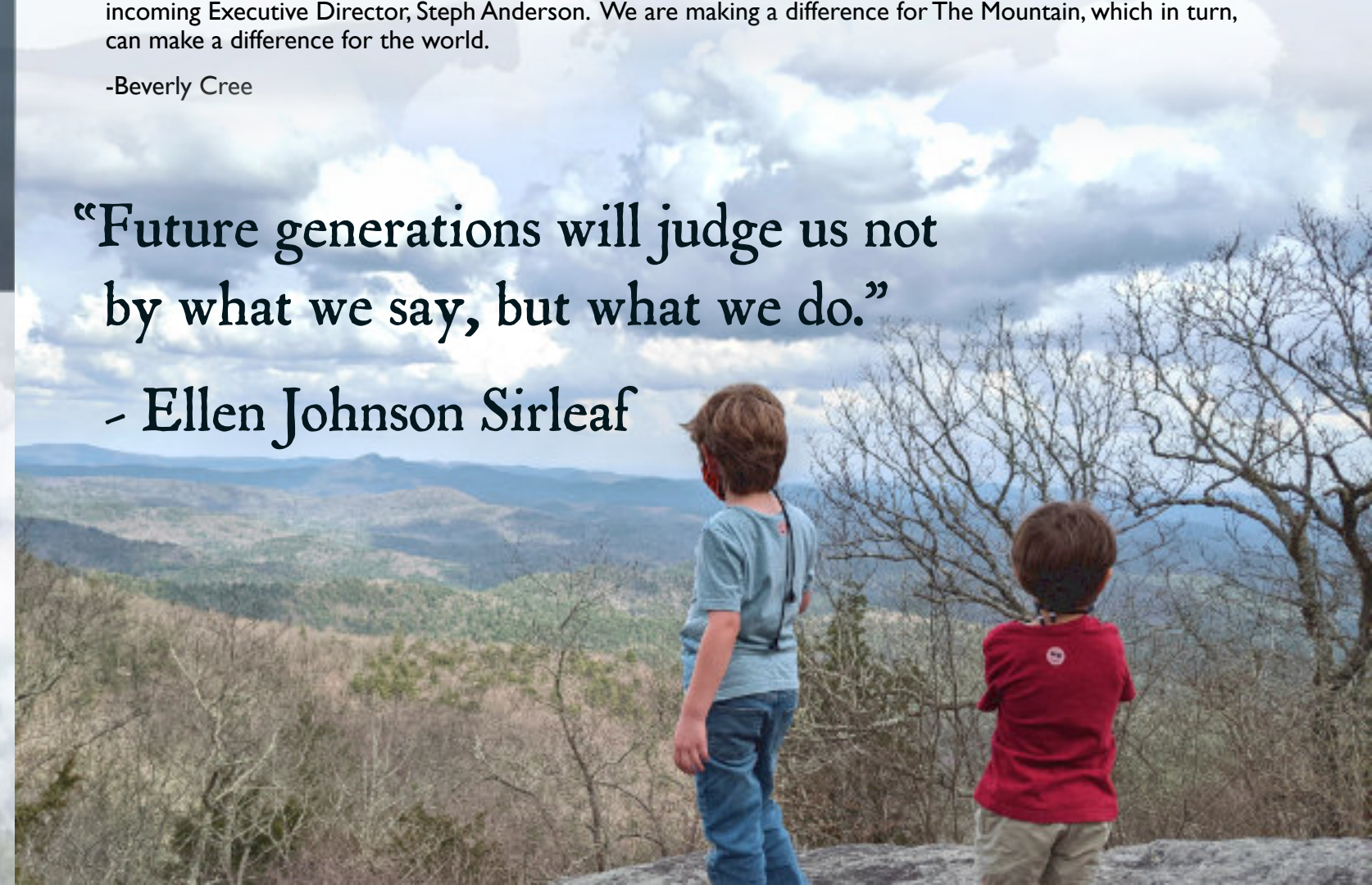
### Institutional Advancement

David Messner

Taryn Bledsoe

“Future generations will judge us not by what we say, but what we do.”

- Ellen Johnson Sirleaf



# 2021 Mountain Programming

The Mountain Retreat & Learning Center has provided diverse programs over the past 42 years. The intention from the beginning has been to provide programming for youth and adults, to build community, and honor our natural environment. As we continue to honor the original intention, we have considered ways to focus more on the "learning" potential of The Mountain. This transition is being implemented in multiple ways.

Our traditional Thanksgiving weekend event was transformed into the Grateful Gathering, as several UU institutions have done. This honors the inherent worth and dignity of every individual, including those who may not be comfortable with Thanksgiving traditions. Sessions included colonization, de-colonization, and our individual and societal roles historically and currently. The youth program was an immersion in our natural environment – learning how to make different kinds of shelters in the forest, and learning how to build a fire to prepare hot chocolate. Fire building can be a challenge in a temperate rainforest!



"The program felt very big to me personally, how much material was covered, and how much material was covered that differs substantially from the content of our usual Mountain programs."

"The Grateful Gathering program was an incredible opportunity for us as participants to listen, ask questions, and engage with the material that was shared on colonialism, indigenous history, and sustainability."

- Kerry K.

**Ancient Oak Grove** - In May, The Mountain was inducted into the National Old Growth Forest Network. This is in recognition of the care we give to our ancient oaks, which are 400 - 600 years old, among the oldest in the world. We are one of only two recognized forests in North Carolina. Not only is this recognition an honor for The Mountain, being listed on this national website positions us to engage more people in learning about the importance of old-growth forests.

## UU Programs

**SUUF** (Southern Unitarian Universalist Fall Institute) Tenth annual six-day program of keynote speakers and a variety of workshops.

### Congregational Retreats

Several returning congregations, as well as ones new to Mountain retreats, have been engaged in community building, spiritual gatherings, and immersion in nature.

## Creative Arts

### Music

Grammy-nominated folk musician and songwriter John McCutcheon led a five-day songwriting Master Class. He is returning for multiple sessions in 2022.

### Visual Arts

The first annual event featuring plein air landscape painting and found-object sculpture.



# MountainCamp

After the COVID hiatus in 2020, the youth, parents and staff were enthusiastic about MountainCamp 2021, led by Hannah Leeper.

Although registration numbers were reduced as we negotiated COVID precautions, 105 youth participated in this opportunity to discover strengths, engage in challenges and build lifelong friendships.



SHLANDER  
P.O. C. 28761  
4,200 ft. l.  
Viewing Blue Valley in the  
Nantahala National Forest

**MOUNTAIN CAMP** PLACE STAMP HERE 28942

*Post Card*

### Camper Count

Elementary	23
Intermediate	30
Senior High	32
Outdoor Skills & Adventure	4
Farm Camp	4
Counselors in Training	6
ASCENDER (All Summer Campers Exploring Nature's Delights and Experiencing Recreation)	6

FROM:

### Intergenerational Camp

During the summer, 82 people from three-to ninety-one years of age participated in a week of music, field games, outdoor adventures, crafts, making connections, and enjoying The Mountain.

Three extended generations of the Watterson family enjoyed a week of fun and memories. Jonathan and Benjie, now in their 40s and 50s reunited with old camp buddies.

### Youth Program Director

A full-time, year-round position was developed for Youth Program Director, to start in 2022. This staff member will provide enriching experiences for children and youth through Mountain Camps, CONs, youth leadership events, and intergenerational activities throughout the year.



# The Many Hands Peace Farm

## 2021 Farm Achievements

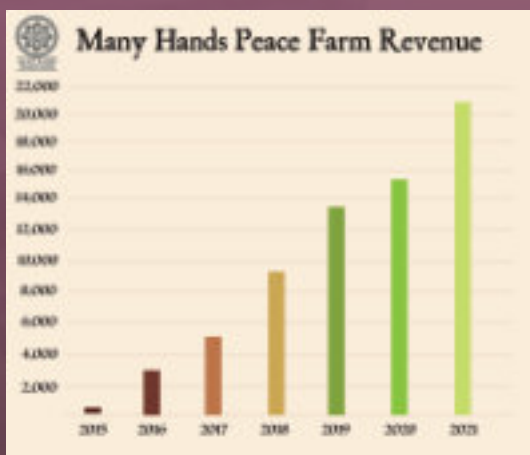


### Nourishment

### Community

### Education

- We planted 100% of our vegetable field for the first time since the farm was established in 2011.
- Our entire farm staff of three became certified wild mushroom foragers.
- We generated over \$20,000 in sales at farmers markets and in our gift shop, as well as event tickets.
- We held more farm to table dinners and workshops than any previous year.
- We hosted the entire 2nd grade class from Summit Charter School and developed a relationship for future educational events.
- Through grant funding we acquired two large event tents that increases our potential to host larger groups.
- We hosted a Fall Farm Fest with educational stations and farm fresh food, attracting over 80 guests.
- Joey Kyle, farm manager, published *Intro to Wild Mushrooms of Western North Carolina*.



Above - Proceeds come from workshops, classes, dinners, and farm product sales. You can support the farm and purchase products through our online store: [www.themountainrlc.org/farm-products](http://www.themountainrlc.org/farm-products)

Join us on the farm and schedule a class: [www.themountainrlc.org/farm-events](http://www.themountainrlc.org/farm-events)

Left - Farm Campers participating in the great farm olympics, in the art of flower arranging.

**Community Support** – the farm received grants from Mountain Findings, Laurel Garden Club, and Wild Azalea Garden Club. These grants and individual donations supported the Farm Fest, the purchase of equipment and supplies, as well as scholarships for youth farm camps. In addition, extensive beekeeping equipment, and gardening equipment were donated by Mountain supporters.

The first annual Farm Fest included participants from the local community and wider geographic area. For some guests, this was their first exposure to The Mountain, and a great introduction to the work we do. Learning stations included educators from The Highlands Biological Station and The Highlands-Cashiers Land Trust, sharing their organizations' missions in elevating awareness around our land relations and conservation for current and future generations. Guests caught and identified insects in the nearby meadow to learn about the interconnection between plants and animals, including the importance of the pollinators for garden success. The farm tours offered information about the poultry (chickens and ducks), hoop house, food forest, garden, apiary, and the mountain meadow. Guest were invited to pick wild edibles of clover and plantain to feed the bunnies and ducklings.

A blacksmith demonstrated how to use fire to mold metals in the creation of hand tools. In turn, these tools are used to shape the land, plant seeds, and coax food from the healthy microorganisms in the soil. This outreach and connections are a powerful way to grow local community bonds and to honor the interconnectedness of life. The seeds we planted at this inaugural event are an extension of the many programs The Mountain is providing the community. We look forward to continuing to celebrate nature and form harmonious connections.

# Mountain Facilities

## New Mountain Workshop

Early in 2021, the workshop was completed. This was an unusual building process in that the old shipping container, which had been the workshop, was removed; we only kept the roof and built the new structure up to it. Many materials were repurposed – the long windows along the side had been in the deteriorated sliding glass doors from Cliff Haven, the other windows were from another building being removed, and the outside skirting has been the leaky metal roof on a duplex cabin.

This workshop has made a major difference in other facilities projects – it is a very professional workshop, with all the tools and supplies organized in one place. It includes work spaces, a garage door to bring larger equipment in to be worked on, good supply of power tools, and a new 3-D printer, which was donated. It even has heat, ventilation, lighting, and electricity.

Not only does this facility support us in being more productive, but importantly demonstrates respect for the inherent worth and dignity of our maintenance staff. Previously, they had to spend time searching for tools, and working at an outside table, even in inclement weather.



## Solar Panels

The Mountain Energy Team completed several projects of insulation and window replacement in 2019 and 2020, as plans were made to install solar panels for the lodge, administrative offices, and Cliff Haven. The panels started generating energy in late May 2021. Between then and the end of December, our solar energy system produced 15.8 MWh of power and 9.6 tonnes of carbon offset. A carbon offset is a reduction of emissions of carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gases



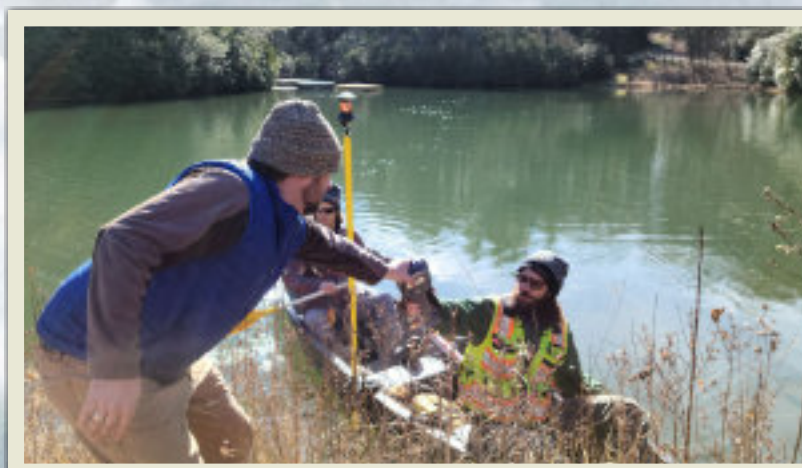
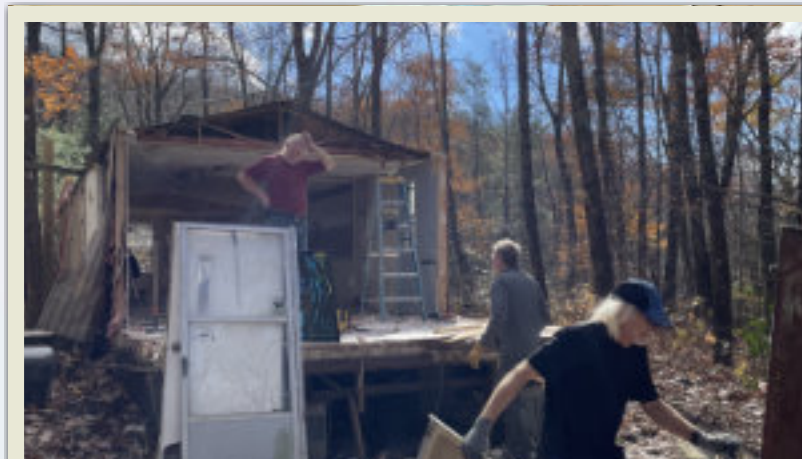
## Hammock Station

For his Eagle Scout project, Sawyer Gaunt created a hammock station to fit nine hammocks at the edge of the game field. He chose this project because he was concerned about campers damaging the trees when attaching and lying in the hammocks. Sawyer is the third generation in his family to be engaged at The Mountain, all three generations were part of installing this project. The hammock station will be greatly appreciated by Mountain program participants, as well as the trees.



## Cabin 12

The UU Congregation of Columbia adopted Cabin 12 for upgrading. Their financial and volunteer work contributions were supplemented by The Mountain for a major renovation. This cabin will have insulated floors and walls, soundproof divider wall, mini-split unit to provide heat and humidity control, larger shower, flooring, handmade curtains, and nature photography. In addition, the siding and decking were repaired or replaced as necessary.



## Riley

This cabin near the Commons deck had a major renovation begun in late Fall, and is intended for staff or guest housing.

## Trailer Removal

The two staff housing trailers in the worst condition were removed in anticipation of building high-quality staff housing. Several volunteers helped with the demolition. Other have contributed financially toward new staff housing, \$260,000 toward our goal of \$1.2 million for this initiative.

## Crafts Barn

As part of the plan to increase and upgrade staff housing, the housing section of the Craft Barn was gutted. The plan for this building is to have five bedrooms, two bathrooms (one accessible), kitchen, laundry, dining area, heat and humidity control, and sprinkler system. The goal is to have this building ready for occupancy by mid-summer.

## Cliff Haven

The previous director's home was renovated and is now Cliff Haven, a larger housing option for small groups. It sleeps about ten, has a full kitchen, living area, table with seats 12, laundry, and a deck with an amazing view of Blue Valley. It is a great facility for programs or personal retreats.

## The Mountain Dam

For a couple of years, we have been addressing State concerns about our dam. In 2021, the County installed the large drainage pipe, and working with Brushy Fork Environmental Consulting Company, the Emergency Action Plan has been submitted for State approval. Stay tuned for more progress in 2022.

# Report of the Financial Advisor

## Overview of Financial Position

As the Board's Financial Advisor, I'm pleased to once again report The Mountain's financial health remains strong. Net assets increased \$433,196 to \$2,131,223 and other than usual operating payables we remain debt free!

Our balance sheet continues to be strong with total assets of \$2,199,919 comprised primarily of Cash and Property & Equipment, well exceeding total liabilities of just \$68,393. Total revenue of \$1,382,094 was 65% higher than the previous year of \$837,545 and exceeded expense by \$433,196.

## Summary of Revenue and Expense

Total revenue of \$1,382,094 increased \$544,549 from the prior year, which is a result of The Mountain staff and members returning to The Mountain as COVID-19 retreated. Total revenue exceeded pre-pandemic levels (2019) by \$152,674. This was a 12% increase over 2019.

Program revenue of \$638,860 was up \$370,796 from the program revenue of \$268,064 in the prior year. The increases were primarily from retreats and conferences along with our youth programs being able to deliver a reduced summer camp program. Another contributor was the second PPP loan in the amount of \$90,300.

Contribution revenue of \$743,234 was up \$173,753 above the prior year. The support from our community during this year continued to be strong. The Mountain was able to utilize these contributions to invest in much needed facility and infrastructure repairs. A remodeled maintenance building and delayed repairs to the septic system are just a few examples.

Total expenses of \$948,898 was \$230,578 above the prior year. Payroll expenses associated to the return of programs delivered was the major contributor to the increase in expenses during 2021.

## Overall Observations

The Mountain's 2021 financial results continue to remain strong. The return of smiles, music and jovial humans to The Mountain was welcome to our corner of the world. Net income has now been positive for the 10th consecutive year and Total Net Assets have continued to grow.

- Robin Canady

# Statement of Activities

Dec 31, 2021 & 2020

	Audited 2020			Unaudited 2021		
	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total	Without Donor Restrictions	With Donor Restrictions	Total
<b>Revenues and Support</b>						
Retreats and conferences	87,579		87,579	265,430		265,430
Youth programs	475		475	140,787		140,787
Mountain Design programs	19,879		19,879	89,783		89,783
Personal retreat guest	40,797		40,797	33,134		33,134
Store revenue, net of expenses	2,586		2,586	6,470		6,470
Contributions	361,285	13,468	374,753	302,917	201,984	504,901
Contributed Stock	17,387	163,553	180,940	-	199,683	199,683
PPP funding	83,000		83,000	90,300		90,300
Membership	4,760		4,760	3,642		3,642
Rental income	14,876		14,876	7,883		7,883
Interest income	4,834		4,834	447		447
Other	14,038		14,038	4,626		4,626
Gains on investments	-		-	19,724		19,724
Gifts in kind	9,028		9,028	15,284		15,284
Net assets released from restrictions	32,608	(32,608)	-	193,811	(193,811)	-
<b>Total Revenues and support</b>	<b>\$693,132</b>	<b>\$114,413</b>	<b>\$837,545</b>	<b>\$1,174,238</b>	<b>\$207,856</b>	<b>\$1,382,094</b>
<b>Expenses</b>						
Program and services	487,451		487,451	743,361		743,361
Management and general	157,141		157,141	197,087		197,087
Fundraising	73,728		73,728	8,450		8,450
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$718,320</b>		<b>\$718,320</b>	<b>\$948,898</b>		<b>\$948,898</b>
Change in Net Assets	(25,188)	144,413	119,225	225,340	207,856	433,196
<b>Net assets, beginning of the year, as restated</b>	<b>\$1,364,686</b>	<b>\$214,116</b>	<b>\$1,578,802</b>	<b>\$1,339,498</b>	<b>\$358,529</b>	<b>\$1,698,027</b>
<b>Net asset, end of year, as restated</b>	<b>\$1,339,498</b>	<b>\$358,529</b>	<b>\$1,698,027</b>	<b>\$1,564,838</b>	<b>\$566,385</b>	<b>\$2,131,223</b>

# Statement of Financial Position

Dec 31, 2021 & 2020

## Assets

### Current Assets

	Audited 2020	Unaudited 2021
Cash and cash equivalents	728,682	673,889
Accounts receivable	8,725	1,000
Sales tax receivable	1,630	4,700
Inventory, net	3,940	7,978
Prepays	2,952	4,958

**Total Current Assets** **\$745,929** **\$692,525**

### Other Assets

Certificates of deposit	175,000	400,000
Investments	-	200,362
Property and equipment, net	819,620	903,729
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>994,620</b>	<b>1,507,091</b>

**Total Assets** **\$1,740,549** **\$2,199,616**

## Liabilities and Net Assets

### Current Liabilities

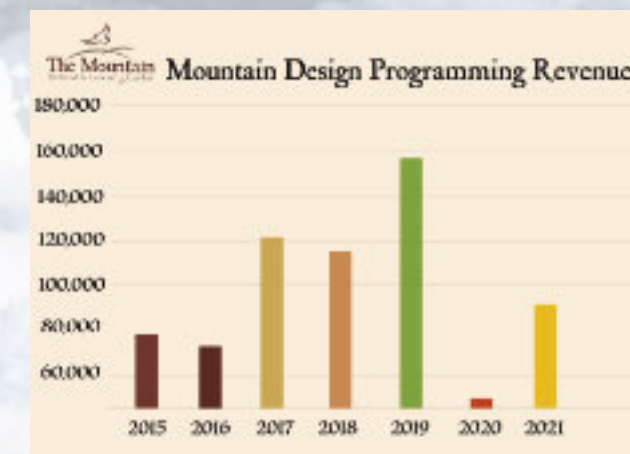
Current portion of long term gift annuities		
Accounts payable	6,273	1,376
Accrued expenses	7,833	22,415
Deferred revenues	18,732	9,585
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>8,308</b>	<b>35,017</b>
Long-term gift annotates, less current portion	41,146	68,393
	1,376	-

### Total liabilities

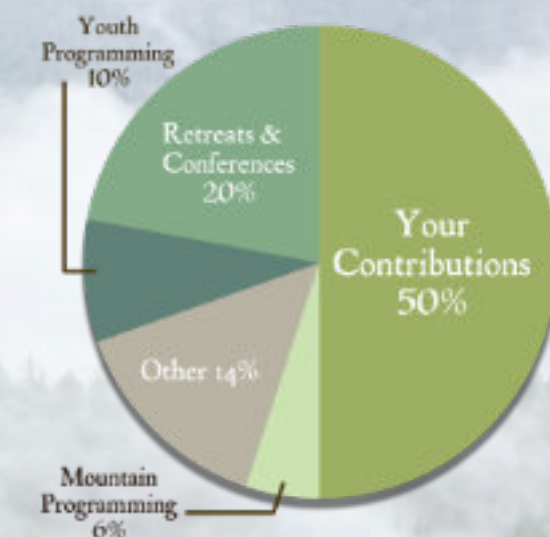
**Net Assets** **\$42,522** **\$68,393**

Without donor restrictions		
With donor restrictions	1,339,498	1,564,838
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>358,529</b>	<b>566,385</b>
	1,698,027	2,131,223

**Total Liabilities and Net Assets** **\$1,740,549** **\$2,199,616**



The 2020 Mountain Designed Revenue was \$89,783



# How Your Gifts of Time, Treasure and Talent Make a Difference

During the 2021 Annual Meeting, the folk duo, Friction Farm performed the original song (lyrics below) about The Mountain. Do these lyrics resonate with your values and your belief in The Mountain to make a difference in the world? Thank you everyone for your contributions.

## We Can (Mountain lyrics) by Friction Farm

There is wisdom on the mountain top  
and stillness of Meditation Rock.  
See how nature thrives in adversity.  
In the twisted beauty of ancient oak,  
I'll let this sacred place evoke  
the spirit of possibility.

It's not much, but it's something I can do.  
Just a little thing, but if you do it too....  
We can, we can, make a difference if we try.  
We can, we can, change the world you and I.

Every person has a story, their tragedy, their time of glory.  
Our histories have colored what we see.  
If I share the things I know,  
and listen deeply so I can grow,  
bridge the distance between you and I.

It's not much, but it's something I can do.  
Just a little thing, but if you do it too....  
We can, we can, make a difference if we try.  
We can, we can, change the world you and I.

Bumper stickers say, "Be the change,"  
but its hard work to rearrange our hearts and minds,  
but that's where we must begin.  
I honed the skills so I can choose, to walk the walk with my values,  
to hold the world a little from within.

It's not much, but it something I can do  
Just a little thing, but if you do it too....  
We can, we can, make a difference if we try.  
We can, we can, change the world you and I.

It's the cash and volunteering, re-purposed staff and engineering,  
these all help The Mountain make it through.  
You live your values, walk the walk, it's so much more than just talk the talk.  
For everything you do, we say, "thank you."  
It's not much, but it's something we can do.  
Just a little thing, but really, we thank you.

We can, we can, make a difference if we try.  
We can, we can, change the world you and I.  
We will change the world, you and I.

View the full performance at: [www.themountainrlc.org/post/we-can](http://www.themountainrlc.org/post/we-can)

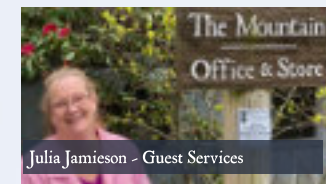
# 2021 Mountain Staff & Long Term Volunteers



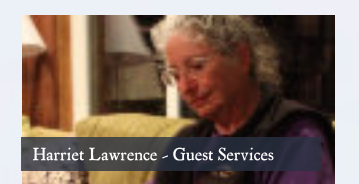
Beverly Cree - Acting Executive Director



Robin Canady - Finance Director



Julia Jamieson - Guest Services



Harriet Lawrence - Guest Services



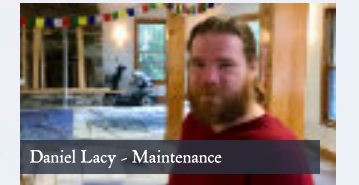
Andy Harris - Facilities Director



Kerry Kennedy - Maintenance



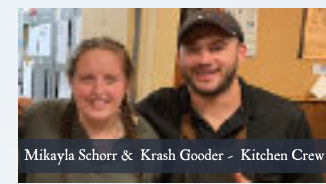
Bob Fox - Maintenance



Daniel Lacy - Maintenance



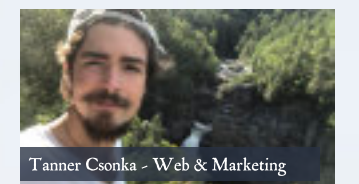
Jenn Tuft - Kitchen Manager



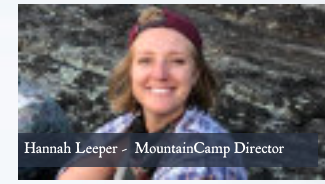
Mikayla Schorr & Krash Gooder - Kitchen Crew



Mark Gramlich - Tech Support



Tanner Csonka - Web & Marketing



Hannah Leeper - MountainCamp Director



Joseph Kyle - Farm Manager

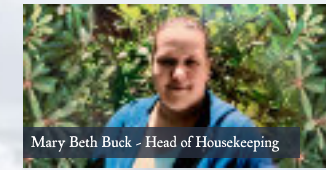


Cole Phelps - Farm & Maintenance

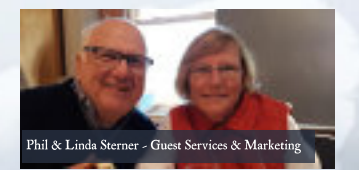


Sky Bowling & Tolvin Stiles - Kitchen & Farm

Supporting the work of The Mountain Mission, many volunteers contributed to The Mountain's flourishing. Kitchen and farm staff were supported by several seasonal staff members. Apply to volunteer online.



Mary Beth Buck - Head of Housekeeping



Phil & Linda Sterner - Guest Services & Marketing

### Endowment Directors

#### 2020-2021

Linda Sterner  
President

Lem Arnold  
Vice President

Rob Marcy  
Treasurer

Deborah Holden  
Secretary

#### Directors

Kim Breivogel

Bill Cherry

Lois Lee

Margi Milburn

Erin Thompson

Anna Martin

Megan Eckart

MRLC Trustee Liaison

#### Ex-Officio Members

Beverly Cree

MRLC Acting Director

Ex-Officio Member

(Oct-Dec)

# Endowment Fund Report

Thank you to all our Endowment Fund members! 2021 was another great year, increasing 28% over the prior year end. Total assets on December 31, 2021, were \$623,897 vs. \$486,648 at year end 2020. The increase is attributed to donations of \$110,622 and investment returns of \$45,659 (approximately 8% annualized).

The goal of the Endowment is to ensure the long-term financial viability of The Mountain by investing donated funds and growing the principal while using a portion of the gains to support current activities. The Mountain Endowment Fund is both a 501 (c)3 organization and a 509 (a)3 supporting organization. Gifts to the fund are tax deductible. You are invited to join the fund by including it in your estate plan and/or contributing directly. To learn more about The Mountain Endowment and how you can support it go to [TheMountainRLC.org/the-mountain-endowment-fund](http://TheMountainRLC.org/the-mountain-endowment-fund)

Every year the Mountain Endowment Fund board (with input from the staff) selects a project to fund that is aligned with The Mountain Strategic Plan. We donated \$13,784 to The Mountain in 2021 based on 2020 financial results. This gift was used to purchase sound absorbing tiles for the Dining Hall ceiling. The gift in 2022 is expected to be close to \$25,000 and that amount will continue to grow as the fund increases in value. Please direct any questions you have to one of the Directors listed.

- Linda Sterner, Endowment President

# 2021 Contributions to The Mountain Mission

Your Volunteering!



Volunteers Contributed over 5,890 Hours

Your Donations!



Contributions reached \$504,901

The extensive list of donors may be viewed at:  
[TheMountainRLC.org/giving](http://TheMountainRLC.org/giving)



Thank You!





*“Every great dream begins with a dreamer.  
Always remember, you have within you the  
strength, the patience, and the passion to reach  
for the stars to change the world.”*

*~Harriet Tubman.*

*TheMountainRLC.org*

*Gsoffice@TheMountainRLC.org*

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*PO Box 1299, (mail); 3872 Dillard Rd, Highlands, 28741 NC*