



The Climate Initiative



2022

Annual Report



To all the stakeholders and friends of The Climate Initiative I have yet to meet, **Buenas yan Háfa Adai!**

My name is Javan Santos, and I have been working as the Policy Manager for The Climate Initiative since June 2021. As a Pacific Islander born and raised in Guåhan (known as Guam), I grew surrounded by the impacts of climate change, which brought me to professionally working towards using policy as a climate solution. Starting in my home country, I advocated and helped pass laws as a young climate leader. I am excited to continue my journey and bring my passion to a national level with The Climate Initiative.

2022 was an exciting year for our entire organization—especially the policy department. We are thrilled to announce climate policy wins throughout our home-state of Maine. In the 2022 legislative session, The Climate Initiative led the Maine Environmental Priorities Coalition on pushing the Climate Education Bill, leading to the approval of \$2 million of funding for educators to pursue climate education in their classrooms.

Last year was phenomenal for our programs team, with high school teachers in all 50 states adopting Learning Lab climate modules to inform their curriculum. Additionally, the policy department crafted new educational resources and opportunities centered around climate policy for youth aged 13-23. These policy resources, made by young people for young people, help youth get involved in climate policy solutions. We also launched a full suite of national climate policy guides containing five state-specific toolkits, with six more coming in 2023. Our virtual policy training program, Collegiate Climate Policy Institute (CCPI), networked with like minded youth and advocated for climate policy solutions to congressional leaders. In March 2023 CCPI will take place in person in Washington, D.C. bringing youth from across the country even closer to their congressional leaders.

Our organization went from its roots in small coastal Maine to sending a four person delegation to the international stage of the U.N. Climate Conference, COP27, where we spoke on panels, attended U.N. negotiations and made our organization known to the international climate community.

2023 will be the Year of the Youth for TCI, and we're super excited to ensure more young people contribute to climate solutions, both on the national and international stage.

Look out for all TCI has in store this year!

Javan Santos
Policy Manager



Mission

Empower youth voices for climate action

2022 Highlights

4

TCI Representatives attended COP27, the U.N.'s Climate Conference held in Egypt

50

TCI's flagship Learning Lab climate change modules have been implemented by high school teachers in all 50 states, reaching over 38,000 students (including in 15 countries!)

750

TCI's Ambassador Program reached over 750 participants from across the nation and world ~ tripling our growth from 2021!

85,000

high school and college aged youth participated directly with TCI programming; pushing climate action forward in communities across the country

300,000

Over 300,000 youth (13-23) actively engaged with TCI climate action content on social media with over **10M** youth reached with our messaging



TCI Regional Coordinator **Stephanie Rivas** (far right) was honored by The 2022 GreenBiz Emerging Leaders program which aims to elevate, cultivate and support the next generation of people of color and upcoming leaders in sustainable business.

"We have made significant progress in scaling youth education, empowerment, and activation over the past year and have provided the programming and tools for thousands of young people to become leaders and take action in their communities. Youth continue to raise awareness about the urgency of climate action that has resulted in tangible progress towards a more sustainable and equitable future.

We've also hardwired what it looks like to put youth voices into action, by adding three young adults to our governing board. We continue to expand our impact through partnerships with educators, schools, community organizations, and businesses."

- Executive Director, Jono Anzalone



"In just two short years, 300,000 youth have engaged with our programming and content; guiding them through climate anxiety with ways to create action in the places they know and love. This growth is nothing short of amazing. We cannot wait to see where 2023 will lead with empowered young leaders bringing action and hope to their communities, nation, and world."

- Deputy Executive Director and Head of Programs and Partnerships, **Leia Lowery**

Direct to Youth



Regional Coordinators

TCI's three Regional Coordinators (RC) cover the East Coast, Central U.S. and West Coast regions. Through a hands-on engagement approach with local and regional partners, educators and youth, they are spreading the TCI mission and creating a groundswell of localized climate action and hope.



TCI welcomed Assistant Director of Programs & Education Lead Nyla McFadden, who now manages the RC department. The team launched 14 new climate action toolkits for youth implementation in 2022, covering topics such as microfibers to closet revamp plans.

Check out our Climate Action Toolkits here:
TheClimateInitiative.org/ToolKits

Policy

The Policy Team launched five state-specific climate policy toolkits in 2022 and hosted our first-ever Collegiate Climate Policy Institute (CCPI), where 18 students trained virtually on climate policy, networked with like-minded youth, and advocated for climate policy solutions to congressional leaders! For 2023, we are hosting 32 youth in person in the nation's capital for CCPI, building off the success of the inaugural event.

Fellowship Program

We are proud that our initial Climate Career competition from 2020 has evolved into a full-fledged Climate Fellows Program, launching young careers into the climate change and environmental sphere. In 2022, TCI welcomed 10 Fellows among our RCs, Policy, and Communications teams.

Climate Education

The Gulf of Maine Field Studies Class* (which Learning Lab was created from) celebrated its 4th year in 2022, culminating in two community events where students educated adult allies on pressing climate issues. Our direct-to-youth digital "Student Lab" offering saw over 4,500 visits this past year!

*Community partnership between Kennebunk High School (RSU 21), The University of New England, Kennebunkport Conservation Trust and the Gulf of Maine Institute.



Youth Engagement

TCI's Ambassador program grew to over 700 in 2022. Ambassadors utilizing TCI resources held climate action events in their own communities, pushing positive change forward!

Featured Ambassador: TCI Ambassador Siyeon hosted a "seed bomb" workshop in Louisiana promoting native species!

2022 Competitions Call-Out!

Digital Soil and Water Hackathon

Seven high school teams from Maine to California competed and the team with the winning solution received \$7,500 to build floating treatment wetlands to remediate eutrophic pond water and provide habitat for wildlife!

Tidal Shift Award

We partnered with the Portland Museum of Art to launch the Tidal Shift Award, which brought together emerging young artists who are exploring innovative ideas around sustainability through their work.

Stories of Change

Youth climate activists and advocates from around the country and world shared powerful, moving, and inspiring stories of community climate action, our first-ever Changemaker Awards celebrated these stories and their impact!



Direct to Educators

Learning Lab

Learning Lab is now being implemented in

**50 STATES
& 15 COUNTRIES**

Via our modules, we educated over

38,000

high school students in 2022, **5 times** the amount from 2021.

8 modules are now live, covering climate change issues from **coast to coast**.



Did you know?

Three of our eight Learning Labs are available in Spanish, with more on the way!

¿Sabía usted que tres de nuestros seis Laboratorios de Aprendizaje están disponibles en español?



Teacher Testimonial

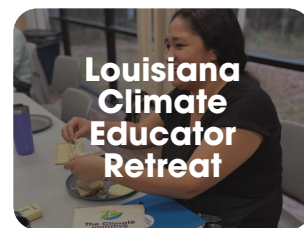
Julie Ackerman, Blue Earth Area Schools, Minnesota

“While doing the (Learning Lab action project) one of the students said, “This is the only reason I come to school now.”

Julie went from attending our National Climate Educator Retreat, to implementing her first Learning Lab to becoming the CREATOR of our newest Learning Lab in 2022 on Agriculture!

Educator Retreats

In 2022, TCI’s Programs Team hosted three wildly successful climate educator retreats in regions across the country, leaving a host of educators ready and excited to complement climate education within their classrooms!



Educator Retreat Testimonial

Lydia Sanders, Marshall Middle School, Plant City, FL

“This has been an AWESOME experience! The amount of networking and ideas gained were enormous. I now feel comfortable going back to my school to initiate TCI’s programming. The TCI team allowed for their knowledge to be transitioned to US (teachers!) to be successful once we return to our schools.”

Policy Win for Education

In the 2022 legislative session, The Climate Initiative led the Maine Environmental Priorities Coalition on pushing the Climate Education Bill. This campaigning and advocacy work in coalition with many partners and legislators led to the approval of \$2 million of funding to educators to go towards teaching climate education in their classrooms. Such a great win is thanks to our partners such as the Nature Based Education Consortium and Maine Youth for Climate Justice, the amazing TCI team members who made this happen, young leaders on the ground in Augusta talking to legislators, and many of the supporters reading this page.

EXPENSES

Admin
11%

Fundraising
15%

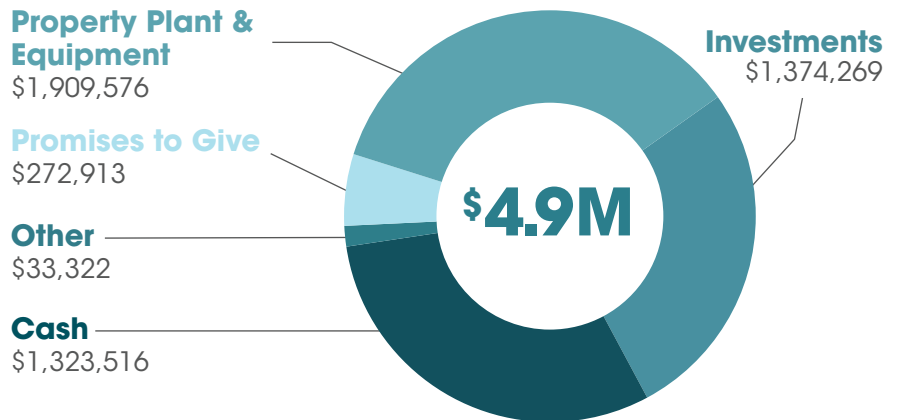
Programs
74%

2022 Financial Breakdown

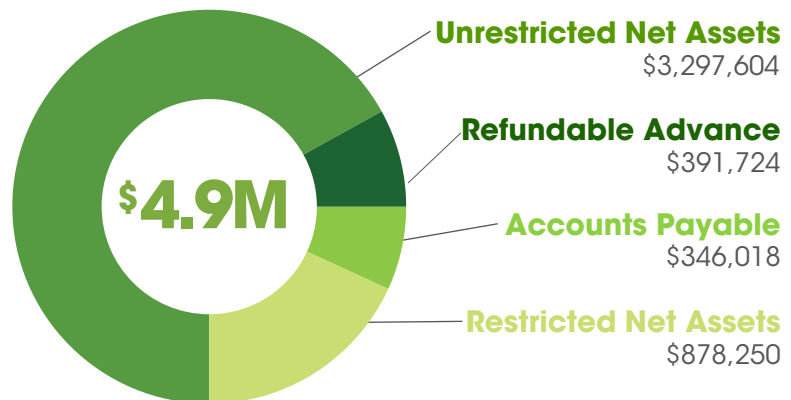
Highlight

TCI experienced 63% growth in our donor base in 2022, with a total of \$3,298,377 raised toward our mission.

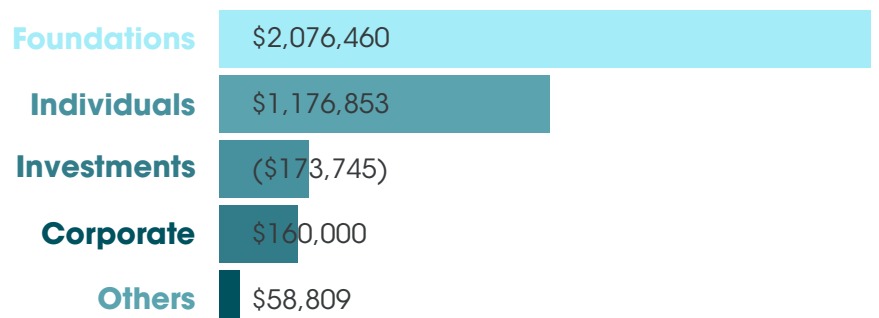
Assets



Liabilities & Net Assets



2022 Revenues by Source - \$3.3M Total



Audited by
Nicholson, Michaud
& Nadeau, CPAs

Leadership

Board of Directors

Tom Bradbury, **Chair**

Chair, Executive Director for the Kennebunkport Conservation Trust

Harold Brooks

Chief Resilience Officer at the Global Community Resilience Institute

Alejandra Carrasco

Dartmouth Student

Monica Hanover, **Treasurer**

Former lawyer

Dr. Pamela Morgan, **Vice-Chair**

Professor, Department of Environmental Sciences at the University of New England

Andreata Muforo

Partner, TLcom Capital

Billy Shore

Founder and executive chair of Share Our Strength, parent-organization for No Kid Hungry

Amy Tchao, **Secretary**

Drummond Woodsum's Practice Group Leader for Municipal Law

Angela Zhong

Harvard Student

Advisory Council

Bruce Burtch

Partnership Advisor and Executive Director and Producer of Social Impact Productions

Dr. Anne Giblin

Sr. Scientist & Interim Director of Ecosystems Center at the Marine Biological Laboratory at Woods Hole

Dr. Katharine Hayhoe

Political Science Endowed Professor in Public Policy & Public Law, co-director of the Climate Center at Texas Tech University

Dr. Somya Joshi

Associate Professor in Governance and Sustainability at Stockholm University

Mike Judge

Environmental Science Teacher

Houston Kraft

Co-founder of CharacterStrong, author and speaker

James Manyika

Senior partner at McKinsey & Company, chairman of the McKinsey Global Institute

Dr. Veerabhadran Ramanathan

Edward A. Frieman Endowed Presidential Chair in Climate Sustainability

Francis Rooney

Former U.S. Representative for Florida's 19th Congressional District

Dr. John D. Sterman

Jay W. Forrester Professor of Management, Professor, System Dynamics and Engineering Systems, Director, MIT System Dynamics Group

Kathryn Wendell

Executive Director, Center for Ethics & Social Responsibility at University of Colorado Boulder - Leeds School of Business

Grant Spotlights

With support from the leadership on these pages and the staggering growth of TCI programs since our 2020 inception, we were proud to receive the following grants in 2022, all towards promoting climate education and climate equity in communities across the country.

\$250k Packard Foundation

\$250k Tom's of Maine

\$50k L.L. Bean

Staff



Executive Staff

Dr. Jono Anzalone

Executive Director

Leia Lowery

TCI Co-Founder, Deputy Director and Head of Programs and Partnerships

Louise Stephens

Director of Policy & Impact

Meagan Cooper

Director of Communications

Kristina Madarang Stahl

Director of Development

Our Team

Julia Anders

Development Associate

Ariel Maldonado

Ambassador and Volunteer Coordinator

Javan Santos

Policy Manager

Luis Borrero

Digital Content Specialist

Nyla McFadden

Assistant Director of Programs and Education Lead

Maria Claudia Schubert-Fontes

Eastern US Regional Coordinator

Toni Del Rosario

Virtual Assistant

Caitlin Neal-Jones

Central US Regional Coordinator

Pooja Tilvawala

Youth Engagement Manager

Emily Ferrick

Digital Communications Coordinator

Stephanie Rivas

Western US Regional Coordinator

2022 Climate Fellows

Megan Birnbaum, Lauren Caffé, Catherine Campbell, Kaylin Datwyler, Anna Lynn Heine, Hunter Holliday, Yerin Kwak, Valeria Cantor Mendez, Amelie Panaccione, Camryn Pittman, Natalie Renteria, Alexa Sabatini, Elizabeth Umanah, Alex Wicks, Len Zalenski

Join the Movement!

TheClimateInitiative.org

[@the_climateinitiative](https://twitter.com/the_climateinitiative)



Platinum
Transparency
2022

Candid.

Interested in supporting The Climate Initiative?

Contact
Kristina@TheClimateInitiative.org