

2023

# ANNUAL REPORT

## PASSIONIST EARTH & SPIRIT CENTER



PASSIONIST  
EARTH & SPIRIT  
CENTER

Dear Friends,

So many exciting things have been happening at the Earth & Spirit Center! In line with our 2022 strategic plan, we're growing our programs, mission impact, staff headcount, and revenue. We've been building up our meditation faculty and offering a broader array of mindfulness courses. We continue to offer free mindfulness instruction through our Mindfulness Mentors program, which served over 1,300 participants last year. And our new Institute for Applied Mindfulness has begun taking mindfulness to other organizations.

We believe mindfulness should foster community health, as well. Our collaborative work with [ListenLearnAct.org](https://listenlearnact.org), Louisville Metro Government, and many local Black-led organizations helped us engage over 4,400 people to promote racial equity in Louisville.

Our Earth Care programs, and the 27-acre campus we help steward, are thriving. We continue to tend organic gardens, remove invasive species, plant trees, and maintain our extensive trail system. Our outdoor gathering and nature-discovery area, the SpiritScape, saw major additions, including an ADA pathway, art cabin, picnic area, and water education features.

We continue to grow our retreat and summer camp programs, which introduce children and youth to all three elements of our mission: mindfulness, compassionate justice, and care for the Earth. Between these and all our other programs, we served almost 8,000 participants this past year.

Thanks to program fees, the generosity of our donors, a successful capital campaign, some Covid-related relief funding, and much-needed support from foundations and Metro Government, we ended FY2022-23 with a very strong balance sheet, enabling us to continue building the SpiritScape and to invest in new staff positions, per our strategic plan.

In all this, I'm grateful for ESC's amazing staff, our engaged board of directors under the leadership of our new board chair, Dr. Haleh Karimi, and the entire Earth & Spirit Center community. Together, we can help bring about Thomas Berry's vision of a sacred Earth community in which all members flourish. Thank you so much for your support!

Kyle Kramer  
Passionist Earth & Spirit Center CEO



# SUCCESSFUL CAMP ODYSSEY TRANSITIONS LEADERSHIP

Begun over 15 years ago by staff member Beth Zangari, Camp Odyssey summer day camps have grown from 20 participants to 377 in 2023, across four Camp weeks. Campers cultivate compassion and awareness of themselves, others, and nature through meditation and yoga, music, gardening, cooking, nature hikes, art, and much more. After her long and successful tenure as Camp Director, Beth has handed Camp Odyssey over to the leadership of Olivia Delano. We're grateful for Beth's amazing leadership and her continued wise counsel, and we wish Olivia all the best as she continues to grow and evolve what parents have called the "best camp in Louisville!"



**"Our nickname for Camp Odyssey is 'How to be a Good Human Camp' because it embodies the values we hope our children will develop and maintain throughout their lives."**

## RETREAT PROGRAMS CONTINUE GROWING



**"We are so thankful for the opportunity the Earth & Spirit Center gives our students to step away from everyday stressors, practice mindfulness, bond with their peers, and quite literally take a breath of fresh air."**

Begun in 2021, the retreat programs served 1,602 participants in 2022-2023, from regional middle and high schools, houses of worship, and other groups. We are on track to host over 2,100 participants in 2023-24. Retreatants experience the core values of mindful self-compassion, compassion for others through activities broadening their awareness of their diversity, and compassion for the Earth, through environmental service activities and spending the entire retreat time outside on our 27-acre nature preserve.

**Passionist Earth & Spirit Center**

[www.earthandspiritcenter.org](http://www.earthandspiritcenter.org)







**"I loved the real application and down-to-earth conversation!"**

## **INSTITUTE FOR APPLIED MINDFULNESS OFFERS MINDFULNESS FOR ORGANIZATIONS**

In March of 2023, the Earth & Spirit Center launched its new Institute for Applied Mindfulness, with a mission to apply the principles and practices of mindfulness in the sphere of organizational leadership and development. The Institute helps non-profit, for-profit, and governmental organizations of all sizes create thriving workplace cultures, fulfill their mission effectively, and contribute to the broader social and environmental good. IAM clients have included Catholic Charities of Louisville, Doe-Anderson, and Louisville Collegiate School.



**"Our field trip exposed students to ways to be better stewards to our Earth. They loved the garbology and erosion simulations!"**

## **ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS EXPANDING**

Olivia Delano joined the Earth & Spirit staff in March of 2023 as the full-time Director of Earth Care and Justice Programs. Olivia and long-time staff member Tim Darst are expanding our current programs and will be developing new ones, like our Art-in-Earth workshop series as well as new field trips. Earth care and environmental education programs served almost 800 participants in 2022-23 through environmental bus tours (407), field trips (127), volunteer service (166), internships (11), classes and presentations (166). Our current YTD participant numbers for 2023-24 are already 662 and counting.

## Board of Directors

Haleh Karimi, PhD – Chair  
 Rada Halaseh – Vice Chair  
 Brian Riendeau – Past Chair  
 Ashley Hicks, PhD – Secretary  
 Dan Davis – Treasurer  
 David M. Feldkamp, JD  
 Margaret Handmaker, JD  
 Sharon Kerrick, PhD  
 Br. John Monzyk, CP, PhD  
 Dave Neumann, PhD  
 Deryl Sweeney  
 Jim Wayne  
 Jerry Weber  
 Ryan Whelan, JD  
 Sr. Caroljean Willie, SC, PhD

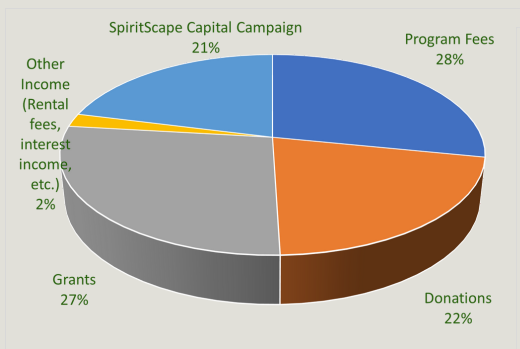
## Foundation and Grant Support in FY 2022-23

Arthur K. Smith Family Foundation  
 Genentech Foundation  
 James Graham Brown Foundation  
 Kentucky Nonprofit Assistance Fund  
 Louisville Metro Government  
 Louisville Water Foundation  
 Owsley Brown II Family Foundation  
 Rodger & Kate Graef Family Foundation  
 Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Ministry Fund  
 Tegna Foundation  
 The Gilbert Foundation  
 The Honorable Order of KY Colonels  
 The Norton Foundation  
 Trust for the Meditation Process  
 Wood & Marie Hannah Foundation

## BALANCE SHEET

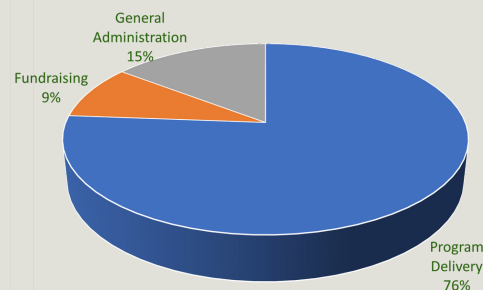
	FY 2022-23	FY 2021-22
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Total Checking/Savings	\$729,203	\$521,856
Accounts Receivable	\$26,460	\$20,575
Other Current Assets	\$362	\$6,326
Fixed Assets	\$121,430	\$41,839
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$877,455</b>	<b>\$590,596</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts Payable	\$15,413	\$32,434
Accrued Expenses	\$12,542	\$0
Accrued Liabilities	\$3,283	\$0
Deferred Revenue	\$15,825	\$29,866
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$31,238</b>	<b>\$62,300</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$532,371	\$523,454
Net Income	\$313,846	\$8,917
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>\$846,217</b>	<b>\$532,371</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>\$877,455</b>	<b>\$594,671</b>

## REVENUE



Program Fees	\$224,907
Donations	\$170,409
Grants	\$218,128
Other Income (Rent, Interest, etc.)	\$17,094
SpiritScape Capital Campaign	\$167,794
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$798,331</b>

## EXPENSES



Program Delivery	\$369,131
Fundraising	\$44,427
General Admin	\$70,927
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$484,485</b>

## Accountability & Transparency

The Earth & Spirit Center is a BBB Accredited Charity, meeting all 20 standards of Charity Accreditation. We have a Gold Star Seal of transparency on Candid (formerly GuideStar), a national non-profit rating database. Our recent financial records are publically available on our website and earlier records are available upon request. We are dedicated to maximizing our resources, maintaining the highest level of fiscal responsibility and transparency, and investing in long-term organizational sustainability.