



**KEYSTONE  
SCIENCE SCHOOL**

**2023**

# **DONOR IMPACT REPORT**





LETTER FROM  
**HOWARD CARVER**  
BOARD CHAIRMAN

Dear KSS Family,

As we reflect on 2023, it's clear that it was a year of transition and growth for the Keystone Science School. Stepping into the role of Board Chairman, I've been honored to continue the work of our previous leaders who skillfully guided us through the pandemic, brought our programs back to life, and set a solid foundation for our future. Special thanks go to Doug Sims and Jeff Campeau, my immediate predecessors, for their great work.

This past year, we said goodbye to our long-time Executive Director, Ellen Reid, and welcomed Kim Krebs as our new CEO. It's been a period of change, but one that has brought about positive developments, with over 5,000 enrollments of campers and students across our programs thanks to the generosity of donors like you.

Having been involved with Keystone Science School for over a decade, I've witnessed its growth and the impact of our programs on young people. It's been rewarding to see, and as we move into a new year with a new team, we're looking forward to continuing this work.

In an effort to prepare the School to be a sustainable and valuable Summit County resource for many years, we will be undertaking a new strategic planning initiative during 2024 and will be considering, among many other things, how to increase our program and event offerings, what those new offerings might be and how they might help us reach more students and community members. We will also be working on how to engage more directly with our community and hope you'll join us in these efforts.

There's much to do, but with your continued support, we're optimistic about what lies ahead. Thank you for being a part of our journey.

Sincerely,

**Howard Carver**  
Board Chairman, Keystone Science School





LETTER FROM  
**KIM KREBS**  
KSS CEO

Dear KSS Community,

As we reminisce about the past year and look ahead with anticipation, I am humbled and honored to address you for the first time as the CEO of Keystone Science School in the annual Donor Impact Report. It has been a year of profound growth, learning, and, above all, embracing new beginnings. This past year has been a testament to our resilience and adaptability in the face of change, and it is with great optimism that I share our progress and vision for the path ahead.

In my first year at the helm, I have been continually inspired by the dedication and passion of our stakeholders—our staff, students, families, donors, and community partners. Your unwavering support has been instrumental in propelling us forward, even in the most uncertain times.

Despite the transitions we have been through in 2023, we have remained steadfast in our commitment to providing transformative experiences that ignite curiosity, foster critical thinking, and instill a deep appreciation for the natural world. From immersive outdoor programs to innovative STEM initiatives, we have continued to empower the next generation of leaders and changemakers. We served more youth through more programs than ever in our nearly 50-year history.

Looking ahead, we are embarking on an exciting journey of growth and innovation. We recognize the importance of evolving to meet the dynamic needs of our youth and communities. Whether it's expanding our reach or enhancing our on-site facilities, we are dedicated to ensuring that KSS remains at the forefront of experiential, outdoor learning and adventure and is a strong, sustainable organization long into the future.

As we chart this new course together, I am filled with optimism and enthusiasm for what the future holds. With your continued support and partnership, I am confident that we will overcome any challenges that lie ahead and emerge stronger than ever before.

In closing, I want to express my deepest gratitude to each and every one of you for your unwavering commitment to our mission. Together, we will continue to inspire a lifelong love of learning and a deep respect for science, the environment, and the world around us.

Here's to new beginnings and the boundless possibilities they bring.

Warm regards,

**Kim Krebs**  
CEO, Keystone Science School





# SUMMER CAMP

We were thrilled to welcome over 1,600 campers this summer, and we wish to express our deepest gratitude to our consistently generous donors and steadfast community partners.

**Without the collective support of all our sponsors, the Summer of Soaring would not have been the soaring success it was!**

**33,520 Total Contact Hours**

Over **\$50,000** in Camp Scholarships due to donor support!

**2,638** enrollments

**56% new** and **44% returning campers**



"My daughter always comes home happy, self assured, having learned a new strength, and making life long friends!" – **Camp parent**

## SUMMIT SCHOOL DISTRICT PARTNERSHIP

### SUMMIT DAY CAMP & PATHFINDERS

Summer 2023 at KSS was a resounding success as we once again collaborated with the Summit School District to host Summit Day Camp for elementary students and Pathfinders Day Camp for middle schoolers.

**Our mission was clear:** to offer a reliable and affordable childcare solution for hardworking parents in the county. KSS offers a sliding fee scale rate to local families and significantly reduces registration fees to those eligible based on income.



"She gains confidence, being independent, socializing and being outdoors all day. It's neat to see her confidence grow outside of school and outside of home." – **Erin, Day Camp parent**

### 3RD GRADE MOUNTAIN ECOLOGY

Summit County elementary schools also joined us for our 3rd Grade Mountain Ecology program, designed to supplement the elementary school curriculum by taking students into their backyards to learn about our unique forest dynamics, climate change, and how to maintain forest health.



"It's been a pleasure to see the kids get outside, be creative, have fun with one another, interact socially, to apply their learning, with touch and feel rather than just sitting in a classroom." – **Melissa, Breckenridge teacher**



# GIRLS IN STEM

KSS's Girls in STEM Program strives to break through gender barriers in STEM fields, inspires girls to be their authentic selves and empowers girls to be confident leaders in their classrooms and beyond.

**We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the participants, experts, and mentors who contributed to the success of our Girls in STEM programs in 2023.**

**104** Girls Served     **2,912** Contact Hours

**\$2,810** Funds subsidized through our sliding fee scale based on income



"It was really cool to inspire another generation of young girls who have an interest in the natural world."  
- **Teal Lehto, program mentor**



"The girls are so incredibly creative, to see how beautifully free and heightened their imaginations are."  
- **Rebecca Knowles, producer**



"Everything about it - meeting all types of people from different areas of film was amazing!"  
- **Reagan, STEM student**



"I think its great for these young women to have role models and understand that there are endless opportunities for them." - **Leslie, SPRI Orthopedic Surgeon**



# H2O OUTDOORS

Our annual water education program for high schoolers, H2O Outdoors is a standards-based, educational program available to all Colorado high school students.

**Thank you to all of our sponsors and visiting experts that make this program a success!**

**22 STUDENTS     576 CONTACT HOURS**



"I learned that communities are working together to refill the Colorado river." - **H2O Outdoors student**

"I learned about how important it is that multiple people contribute to a conversation." - **H2O Outdoors student**



# BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Our annual professional development program for teachers, Beyond the Classroom, equipped educators with the tools and knowledge necessary to bring environmental issues into their classrooms.

"I loved everything, I learned so much about Colorado water and law and policy. The activities were fun!"





# STAFF SPOTLIGHT

## IAN MCCLUSKIE



== 2023 AWARD WINNER ==

# DAVE OLBRIGHT

## OUTSTANDING YOUTH MENTOR

Ian has been an integral part of the amazing KSS staff for over a decade, leading the charge of making our summer camps an unforgettable, welcoming experience for our campers. After beginning his journey here as a summer camper, becoming a camp counselor, then a camp manager, now over 15 years later Ian is our Director of Summer Programs!

Ian reflects on his role and what makes camp at KSS special, *"Camp Magic is the reason I'm here today and the reason I work at Keystone Science School. I started at KSS in 2011 as a dedicated day camp junior counselor and my current role is the summer programs director. **My job is to create camp magic.** Camp Magic is something that can't really be described, it's something that has to be felt."*

His efforts to improve the lives of youth in our community has been felt by countless families, and in 2023 was recognized for these efforts, as the recipient of the Summit Foundation's *Dave Olbright Outstanding Youth Mentor* award. **Congrats, Ian!**

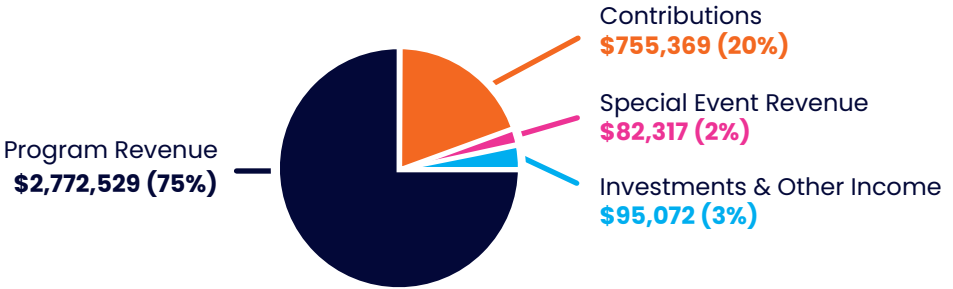


2023

# FINANCIAL REPORT



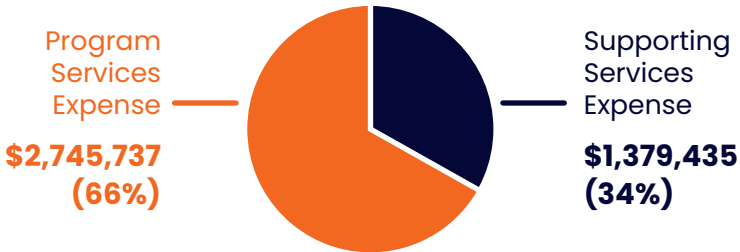
## Revenue, Support & Investments



Total Revenue, Support and Investments **\$3,705,287**

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## Expenses



Total Expenses **\$4,125,172**



**KEYSTONE  
SCIENCE SCHOOL**

**THANK  
YOU!**



Help us continue our mission by donating today at [keystonescienceschool.org](http://keystonescienceschool.org)