



# Aloha Foundation

# 2023

## Impact Report



# From the Director's Desk



**Dear Aloha Family,**

This year's Impact Report as a tribute to YOU. Whether you were a donor, a camper, a parent or grandparent, however you participated, we want you to know that the impact of Aloha is possible because of you.

We are excited for the future, and so energized by the next generation. Camp is as relevant as it has ever been, and possibly more important to the mental, physical and developmental health of young people than anything else we could offer them.

And yet, we realize and fully acknowledge the challenges that lie ahead. Childhood has changed, and camp must change to remain the nurturing, meaningful and life affirming experience that has been cherished for generations. We are truly fortunate that our dedicated alumni network, innovative staff and faithful board of directors have stood with us through the first quarter of the 21st century, and we stand committed to continue our mission for generations to come.

Enjoy this report and please, continue to remember the Alohas, renew and increase your support if possible. You are the driving force behind everything we do. In the true spirit of Aloha—the force of love, peace, compassion and good will that holds our community together—we look forward to welcoming you home, wherever you are, until we see you once again on the shores of Lake Morey and Lake Fairlee.

With gratitude,

**Vanessa Mendillo Riegler**  
**Executive Director**  
**Aloha Foundation**

## OUR MISSION:

“To inspire people of all ages to learn, explore, grow, and become their best selves.”



What was most inspiring in  
2023?

Hint:  
It's the same as it was in 1905!



THE  
PEOPLE!





The counselors who brought care, compassion, and fun!

The campers whose laughter and energy made our campuses come alive.



The directors, whose wisdom and dedication were evident in everything.



The multigenerational families, parents, grandparents, and friends who supported us.



in other words: YOU





# Horizons Day Camp

Summer day camp for K-7th grade graduates



At Horizons, every new day brings discovery, learning and fun. With over 150 acres of lakeside woodlands and 11 departments featuring dozens of activities to explore, there is no end to the possibilities for adventure, skills development and just being a kid.

In 2023, 444 young people from K-7th grade got a chance to experience a different activity each day, or hone their skills at their very favorites. Our offerings include sailing, archery, arts & crafts, theater, tennis, and so much more! Your support keeps us able to provide great quality programs, well-trained staff, and top-tier equipment.



*The opportunities provided for children to try new activities, or to excel in current skills, in an environment that is nurturing and "self-positive" is simply life changing.*

**2023 Horizons Parent**





# Hulbert Outdoor Center

Year-round programs for schools, educators,  
professionals, & families

Hulbert had a great year in 2023. We were proud that our programs boast a high return rate, and that 21 new school groups decided to join us. Adding to our numbers, we welcome two new schools to the Success Leadership Program, where young people ages 14-18 learn the skills they will need to effectively take a leadership role as young adults in their community.

Nine of the 21 new schools and 355 students were helped by the Aloha Foundation's School Program Endowment. As a result, Hulbert served a total of 100 school groups and over 2,900 students in 2023.



*There are kids that return from the Hulbert trip, who present as more confident, more positive, and more resilient because of the various experiences during their time at HOC. Likewise, the class as a whole has also become closer, aiding the dynamic between friends and within the group.*

**2023 Hulbert School Teacher**



# A Aloha

Girls overnight camp for 7th-10th grade graduates

In 2023 Aloha enrolled 144 campers. Not one of them brought a cell phone or device. Incredible in this era, to think that teenage girls would volunteer to spend seven weeks out in nature without social media, unless it was a reality TV contest!

“By unplugging from screens and immersing themselves in nature, teenagers can cultivate resilience, self-confidence, and authentic connections with their peers,” observes Aloha director Charlotte Messervy.



*There's clearly something different about Aloha. It's the sudden, comradery that can be both overwhelming and infectious. It's hard not to sway when you sing, or laugh when you fall, or find solace in someone you basically just met.*

**2023 Aloha Counselor**





# Hive

Girls overnight camp for 3rd-6th grade graduates

At Hive, young girls forge friendships that last a lifetime! Our goal for the future is to open our doors to even more girls, helping them grow, fostering imagination, boosting body positivity, and promoting understanding and empathy.

Every year, we dive into a world of fun and challenge, starting each day with a cheerful song. In 2023, attendance at Hive was 153—representing a diverse mix of cultures, backgrounds, and identities, making every day an enriching experience.



*My counselor helped me feel better when I missed home. All of the counselors are really nice, even if they aren't in your unit.*

**2023 Hive Camper**





# Lanakila

Boys overnight camp for 3rd-8th grade graduates

With gratitude for all of you who rose to the challenge and helped us to add a covered porch area to the Lanakila dining hall—we couldn't be happier to start the 2024 camp year with a new outdoor seating area. In the words of the man who personifies Lanakila for over a decade, Camp Director Bryan Partridge, "In a world filled with uncertainty and ambiguity, camp creates the conditions where the concept of choice provides the compass to figuring out how campers want to interact with the world. Within these choices lies the discovery of endless potential." 243 campers joined us at Lanakila in 2023.

*The Aloha Foundation has perfected forming a community where children feel free to be their true selves without fear of judgement. My son felt it during his time at Lanakila and my daughter feels it at Aloha. This type of community is so incredibly rare.*

**2023 Lanakila Parent**





# Ohana

Family camp for ALL ages



In 2023, we welcomed 772 participants to our family camp, including spaces for more than 100 from military families. The return of our Memorial Day weekend session attracted 65 family campers, introducing many families to Ohana for the first time. These programs offer families a chance to escape their daily stresses and digital distractions, fostering adventure and connection in our serene environment. Additionally, Ohana hosted over 1,200 guests for weddings and retreats, providing valuable opportunities for learning, reflection, and celebration.



*Ohana provides a beautiful setting to enjoy quality time with our family. We love the variety of activities, delicious meals, cozy cabins, and family time at the waterfront is our favorite!*

**2023 Ohana Parent**

# Because of YOU

How Your Support  
Helped Children  
and Families in



**10,000+** people impacted  
by our programs and events



**984**  
campers

explored the outdoors, had fun,  
and took on new challenges



**181**  
kids went to camp

thanks to over \$850,000  
in financial aid



**2,525**  
students

became better leaders and  
communicators



**73**  
school communities

were empowered and learned  
teamwork and leadership skills





**411**

**seasonal staff members**

completed in-depth training and  
learned transferable skills



**135**

**spaces**

at family camp for  
military families



**772**

**family campers**

enjoyed nature and experienced  
new outdoor adventures

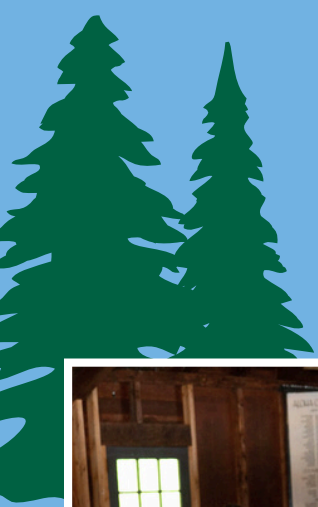


**\$862,725**

**in campership aid**

supported 182 campers with full or  
partial tuition assistance





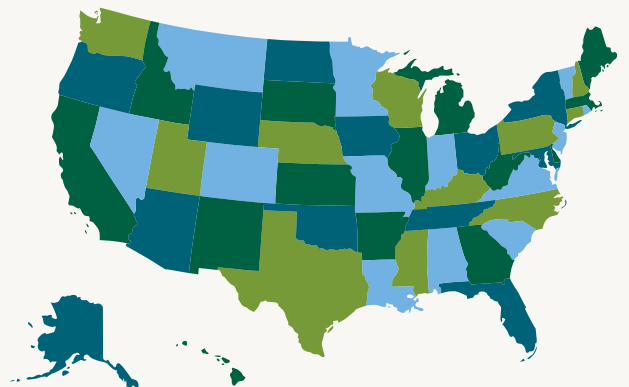
The summer community at Aloha brings together people from many different cultures and backgrounds:



## Campers and counselors came from:

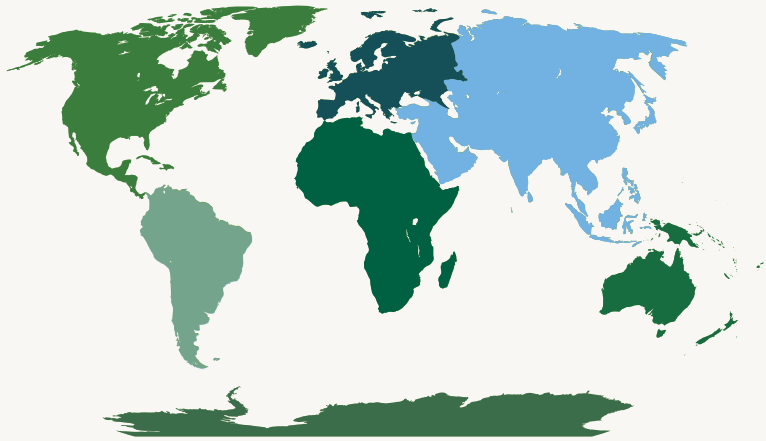
**Oklahoma** Wyoming **New York** Utah  
**New Jersey** **Virginia** **Georgia** **Illinois**  
California Arkansas **Ohio** Connecticut  
**Kentucky** **Texas** North Carolina Vermont  
Washington, D.C. **Iowa** **Florida** **Alaska**  
Arizona New Hampshire **Rhode Island**  
**Wisconsin** Colorado **Massachusetts**  
**Maine** Maryland **Oregon** Pennsylvania  
Michigan **Washington**

## 32 states:



as well as from:

# 22 countries/territories:



Germany **Pakistan** Ireland Jamaica  
**Czech Republic** **China** **United States**  
Ecuador **Spain** Mexico **New Zealand**  
**Hungary** Colombia **United Kingdom**  
**Romania** **Brazil** **France** South Africa  
Australia **Scotland** Poland **Uganda**





# Who gives? **YOU DO**

## EverGreen Sustainers

### **59 Evergreen Sustainers made monthly contributions**

Making a monthly automatic contribution provides an important source of reliable support for the Aloha Foundation. Knowing that your gift renews each month allows for better financial planning and can often make it possible for many of our supporters to give at a higher amount to the Annual Fund.

Stretching your support over the year allows us to budget more effectively. This kind of giving also saves on fundraising costs. Donors who commit to \$25 or more in monthly giving empower the Aloha Foundation to achieve greater impact and stability in our operations.



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The Board of Trustees and Staff of the Aloha Foundation are truly grateful to everyone who contributed in 2023!

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## Endowment and Restricted Gifts

### **\$1.6 million given to support Endowment & Restricted Funds**

The Aloha Foundation Endowment Funds are permanently invested with only the earnings or a small percentage of the principal used annually according to a formula established by the board of trustees.

Our endowment provides a stable, long-term income source, ensuring ongoing support for the Aloha Foundation's mission and programs. Restricted gifts are sometimes given in the form of an endowment—a large sum which is invested with annual distributions from earnings—and sometimes given for a specific purpose, such as a building project or camperships.

# Gulick Legacy Society

## More than 177 Alumni Remembering Aloha in their will or Estate Planning

Remembering the Aloha Foundation in your will or estate plan is a beautiful way to ensure the continuance of camp programs you cared deeply about during your lifetime. This kind of planned giving strengthens the Aloha Foundation long into the future and creates a lasting legacy by which you or a loved one will long be remembered. For details on how to include the Aloha Foundation in your will or estate, or on ways to give using retirement assets or appreciated stock, contact our Advancement Office.



# Giving back



**Thank you**

for the many ways YOU  
supported the Alohas!



## Network

with prospective  
camp families  
and staff



## Contribute

to the  
Annual  
Fund



## Attend

a camp, program,  
Reunion, or local event



## Host

an Open  
House





# Donor spotlight

584

Aloha community members and friends made gifts

97

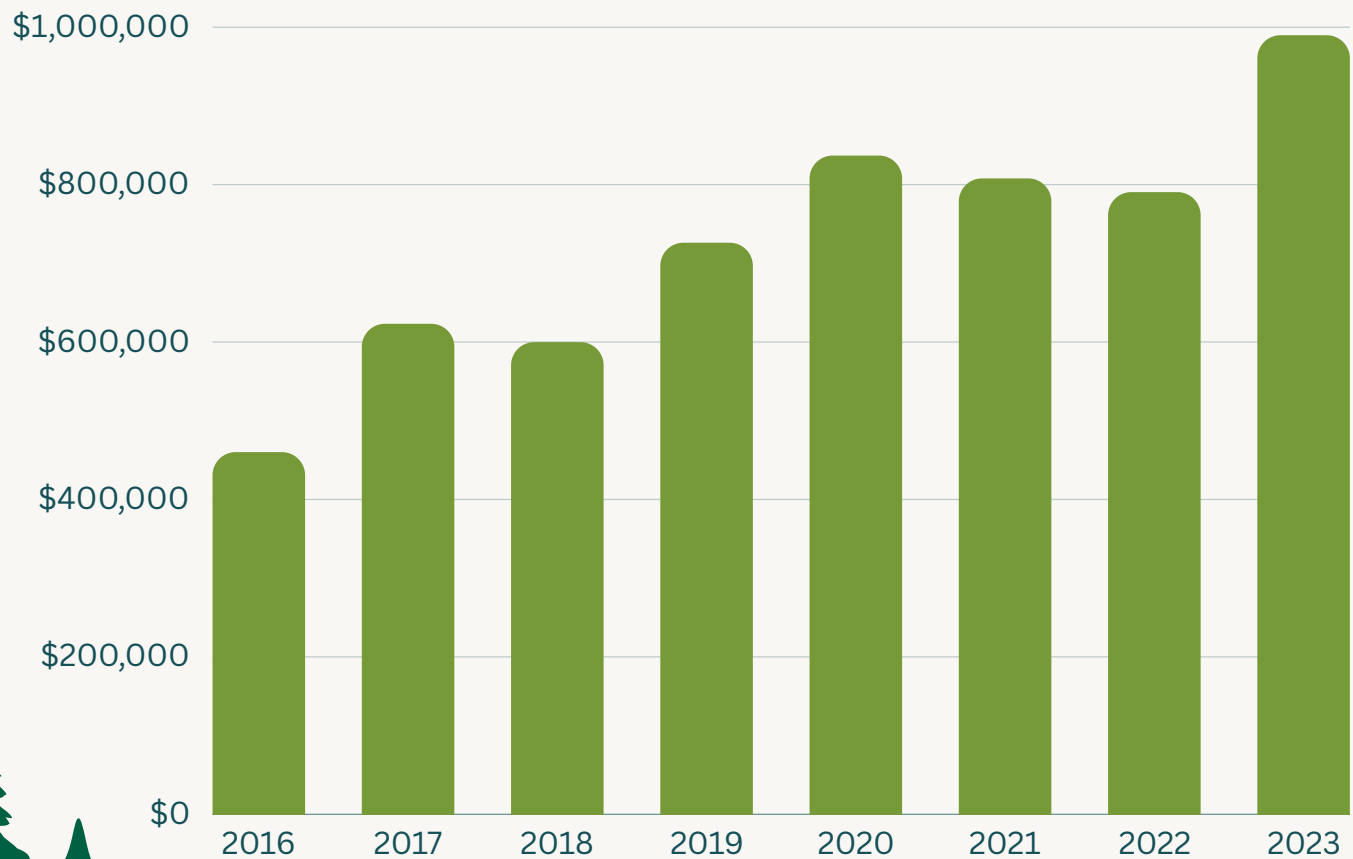
New donors made first-time gifts!

112

People gave to #AlohaGivingTuesday on November 29

## Annual Fund

The Annual Fund supports Aloha's highest priorities, from staff training to camperships to facilities.



\*In 2020, when camp was cancelled due to Covid, some families opted to donate their tuition.

# 2023 Initiatives & Highlights

## → Prioritizing Wellness

Starting in 2023, we hired a Wellness Coordinator to support campers and counselors. The Wellness Coordinator provides trainings during pre-camp, and supports needs that arise at all of our camps throughout the summer.

## → Facilities & Campuses

The Buildings & Grounds team continued to keep our campuses looking beautiful. Some projects in 2023 included New porch extension for Horizon's Arts and Crafts building, new clubhouse for Old Hideaway at Aloha, improvements at Hive's office, and Lanakila's Main House renovation project which included renovating the dining hall with the addition of a large covered porch and refurbishing the counselor space.



## Choosing Curiosity

In 2023, we launched our organization-wide theme: Choosing Curiosity. We talked about actively choosing to be curious when we might otherwise make assumptions and being open to new possibilities. We encouraged campers, counselors, and staff to get curious, dig in, ask questions, try and even fail at new things.

## Staff Training

During pre-camp for our camps this year, we had TQAMP (Formerly Transplaining for Camps) come out and give our staff a comprehensive training session.

The goal was to help staff understand the foundational principles of inclusion and equip them with the tools needed to build and participate in a safe and accepting camp environment where campers of all different identities feel like they belong.





# 2023 Lanakila Reunion

In August, we welcomed over 400 former Lanakila campers, counselors, and their families back to Fairlee to connect and celebrate 100 years of Lanakila. In honor of the reunion, 180 donors contributed over \$230,000 towards the renovation of Lanakila's Main House.



# THANK YOU

We are immensely grateful for your support. Without YOU, our generous community, 2023 would not have been the huge success it was!









# Visit Our Site

For All Info Regarding

- Enrollment
- Event Planning
- Educational Programs
- Employment
- How to Give
- And so much more...

