



ALLIANCE *for the*
GREAT LAKES

2021 Annual Report

Looking Ahead





Looking Ahead

2021 was a refreshing year for the protection of our region's most precious resource. Thanks to your support, it was also revitalizing for the Alliance for the Great Lakes. The passion, enthusiasm, joy, and dedication I feel from our donors and supporters energizes our board of directors and staff every day.

Last year, the Alliance secured a critical state partnership for protections to stop invasive carp. We rallied for the dramatic growth of the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative, ensuring more on-the-ground restoration and cleanup projects around the lakes. We helped secure more resources for repairing drinking and wastewater infrastructure. Locally, we combatted unfair pollution burdens, and brought our skills and expertise to partners who are changing their communities. On the heels of the Alliance's own 50th anniversary, we celebrated the 30th anniversary of our renowned Adopt-a-Beach volunteer program.

I was also privileged to work with our board and staff to create the Alliance's plan for the next three years. Our Great Lakes, and the fresh water they provide, have been here for more than 10,000 years, and should remain healthy for all in perpetuity. While many of the long-standing challenges we work on remain the same, how we work to protect the lakes can make our successes more lasting, and our Great Lakes better for all.

I'm listening to the great diversity of ways people experience the lakes, and I hear that healthy Great Lakes and healthy communities must go hand in hand. We are making more and deeper local commitments to communities facing some of the biggest water challenges. And we are strengthening our long-standing influence as a big-picture policy leader, advocating for less pollution, safer drinking water, and healthy places for people and wildlife.

Playing on a beach. Enjoying our natural waters. Filling a glass without worry. Innumerable other ways. All people and wildlife should be able to rely on the lakes. I'm grateful to you for hearing that call and offering your support to the Alliance.

Thank you.

Joel Brammeier
President & CEO

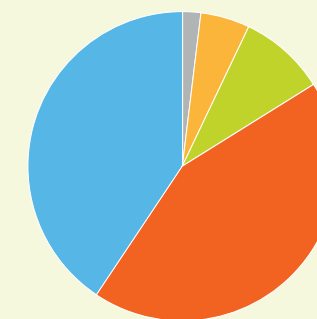
2021 Treasurer's Report

The Alliance for the Great Lakes experienced significant growth in our assets thanks to the many donors who gave generously in 2021, including a substantial estate gift. With their support, we maintained our strong financial health and supported new program growth to increase our impact on the critical issues facing the Great Lakes.

I would like to recognize my fellow board members on the 2021 Finance Committee for their continued dedication. I would also like to thank Joel Brammeier, president and CEO, and Kelly Farley, our Finance & Operations director, for their guidance. We're committed to ensuring that your support receives the highest standard of financial stewardship.

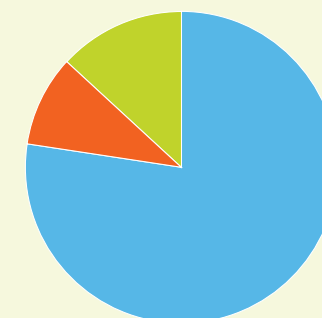
We are truly grateful for the growing number of supporters who have entrusted us to carry out our critical work. The Alliance's fiscal strength means we can use the organization's resources strategically to continue leading on Great Lakes protection and restoration for generations to come.

Susan McDermott
Treasurer



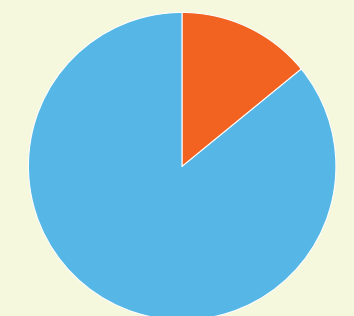
Funding Sources

41%	GRANTS	\$1,387,809
43%	INDIVIDUALS	1,477,105
9%	BUSINESSES/ORGANIZATIONS	\$309,354
5%	GOVERNMENT	\$175,991
2%	OTHER	\$67,769



Expenses

77%	PROGRAMS	\$2,604,263
9%	FUNDRAISING	\$317,969
13%	ADMINISTRATIVE	\$442,326



Assets and Liabilities

ASSETS	\$7,150,103	LIABILITIES	\$1,173,204
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2021 Accomplishments

We've made important progress on protecting the lakes so they can be enjoyed by you and everyone who calls this region home. Here is just a snapshot of what you helped us accomplish this year:

Advocacy & Leadership



We secured a **critical funding partnership between Michigan and Illinois**, enabling progress on new protections in Illinois to prevent invasive carp from reaching Lake Michigan.

We successfully advocated for **congressional funding for the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative** at \$375 million per year, increasing to \$475 million per year by 2026, ensuring more on-the-ground restoration and cleanup projects around the lakes.



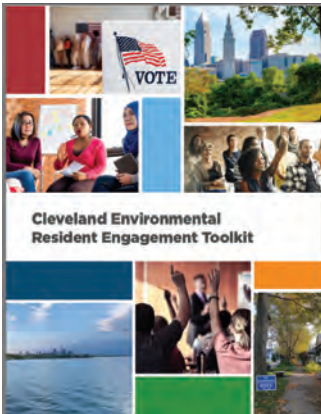
We partnered with environmentalists of color in Ohio to develop a first-of-its-kind **statewide environmental justice policy platform**, coalescing recommendations covering water, land, air, and energy into a road map to address Ohio's environmental justice issues.

Education & Action



We marked the **30th anniversary of the** Adopt-a-Beach program. Today, more than 15,000 volunteers participate annually across all five lakes and all eight Great Lakes states.

We launched the nonpartisan **Cleveland Environmental Resident Engagement Toolkit**, developed in partnership with more than a dozen community groups, to help Cleveland residents learn about environmental issues at stake in the mayoral and city council elections, and get involved.



Research & Analysis



We released policy recommendations, along with partners, to **overhaul zoning rules for Chicago's Calumet River and Lake Michigan industrial corridor**, which faces unjust siting of polluting industries.

We issued our first **Cost to Comply report, detailing the investment and accountability needed to dramatically reduce farm runoff to Green Bay and the Lower Fox River**. We're now applying this method to stop the agricultural pollution that feeds algal blooms in Lake Erie.

We educated Detroiters about the causes of the disastrous June floods that damaged thousands of homes and businesses and caused massive sewage overflows – and showed opportunities to use nature-based infrastructure to help alleviate the problems.

Every Dollar Matters

Our supporters make it possible for the Alliance for the Great Lakes to lead on clean water protection at the local, state, and regional levels. We would like to extend our sincere thanks to all the donors who supported our work in our 2021 fiscal year (September 1, 2020 - August 31, 2021). Listed below are donors who contributed \$1,000 or more, but **every gift is appreciated and makes a difference in protecting the Great Lakes.**

CORPORATE/FOUNDATION/ ORGANIZATIONAL DONORS

\$100,000 +

Charles Stewart Mott Foundation *
Crown Family Philanthropies *
The George Gund Foundation *
The Joyce Foundation *
McDougal Family Foundation *

\$50,000-\$99,999

Anonymous
The Brookby Foundation
The Brunswick Foundation
The Chicago Community Trust *
The Cleveland Foundation *
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Grand Victoria Foundation *
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The JPB Foundation through the Funders Network
Pisces Foundation
The Scotts Miracle-Gro Foundation *
Solberg Manufacturing, Inc.
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency *
Walder Foundation

\$25,000-\$49,999

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The Comer Foundation Fund
Great Lakes Integrated Science and Assessment Center *

HSBC

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YOT Full Circle Foundation

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The Marshall and Jamee Field Family Fund
Mystery Tackle Box Inc.
Red Oak Foundation
The Siragusa Family Foundation
Speaker Family Foundation

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Illinois Tool Works, Inc.
John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
LeasePlan Cares
Novi Community School District
Salon Aura of Neenah
Swanson Family Foundation

\$1,000 - \$2,499

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EarthShare Illinois
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The Esperance Family Foundation
The Fisher Family Fund

G. William Walker Trust

Headquarters Design Studio, Inc.
Jocarno Fund
Lubetkin Family Foundation
MEB Charitable Foundation
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Moosejaw

Robert and Julia Currier Family Fund of Grand Rapids Community Foundation
Salon Aura
West Bend Community Foundation's Rick and Julie Vandermause Fund
Winnetka Garden Club

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

\$100,000 +

The Estate of Gayle B. Causey
Elizabeth Crown and Bill Wallace
John G. Searle – Family Trust

\$25,000-\$49,999

Anonymous
Kay Hoida Dawson

\$10,000-\$24,999

H. Carol Berstein-Eckstein and Martin R. Eckstein Family Fund
Stephen and Alisoun Brewster
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Greater Milwaukee Foundation's Enroth Family Fund
Jeff and Susan Pearsall Fund at The Chicago Community Foundation
Morrison Rogers Fund at The Chicago Community Foundation
Joan M. Rothenberg
Joyce and Charles Solberg

\$5,000-\$9,999

Anonymous (4)
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Christine Banaszak
Alison Brown

Madelon Gay Dolan
Judith Engelberg
Jessen Family in memory of Howard E. Jessen and Susanne C. Jessen
John Dykema and Michelle Maly-Dykema Family Foundation
Jeri Mulder
Denis Pierce
Justin and Ashley Ziemba

\$2,500-\$4,999

Andrea Billhardt Charitable Fund
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Sue Conatser and Thomas Terry
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Crabb Family Fund
Whitney and Aaron Fershee
Jannotta Family Fund
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Barbara and John Kowalczyk
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Meredith Miller
Jo-Elle Mogerman
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Aaron Vangetson
Washelesky Family Fund

\$1,000-\$2,499

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CDM Foundation
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David Reinisch and Julie Kiefer Fund at The Chicago Community Foundation
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Eugenia Elliott
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Lael Goodman and Vikram Shankar
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Thomas P. Healy, Jr. and Gia Interlandi
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The Jenny Giving Fund
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Pete Ruest
Curtis Ruppall
S&S Fund
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Daniel Schreiber
Adele Simmons
Christina Swanson
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Sue and Thomas Van Dam
Richard Vance
Michael Walker
Ward-Young Charitable Fund
James Warner and Judith Wells Warner
Jennifer and Allen Weaver
Barbara Weiner
Mary Winburn
Christopher and Mary Wolf and Family
Judith Wright
Emily Zeisler

MATCHING GIFT COMPANIES

Anonymous
Chubb Charitable Foundation
Illinois Tool Works Foundation
John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation
TEGNA Foundation

* multi-year pledge/payment

Thank You from the Alliance Board and Staff

The Alliance for the Great Lakes would like to recognize and thank the following term-limited members of the Board of Directors for their years of service: **Stephen Brewster**, **Kathryn Bryk Friedman**, and **Laura Rubin**. We also extend a warm welcome to our new board members, **Nicole Chavas**, **Daniel Guzman King**, **Katherine Jones**, and **Christopher Winters**.

In addition, we welcome new officers, including **Jo-Elle Mogerman** as Chair, **Bill Henry** as Secretary, and **Laura Payne** as Vice Chair – Development. We thank **Sue Conatser** for her three years of service as Chair, and **David Schmahl** and **Stephen Brewster** for their service on the Executive Committee.

Thank you to all of our board members – past and present – for their dedication and leadership.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Kimberly Hill Knott
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150 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 700, Chicago, IL 60601

312-939-0838 alliance@greatlakes.org

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