

SLIDE RANCH

Annual Report 2015



**SLIDE
RANCH**



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2015 marked the 45th year of Slide Ranch and my fourth year as Executive Director. For us, it was a year of embracing our traditions of connecting kids to nature and for welcoming the promise of the new as we planned our major new building, the Farm-to-Table Teaching Center. On behalf of all us at Slide Ranch, I thank you for your support in helping us continue this amazing legacy of education, community, and stewardship.

We Taught. In 2015, we taught more kids and families than ever, gave out more financial aid to be sure our programs were accessible to the kids who need them the most, and reached more teachers and students through our online curriculum so that even those who couldn't make the trip to Slide Ranch could learn.

We Farmed. We grow a lot to feed a lot! Each week 200+ youth and adults are at Slide Ranch harvesting, tasting, and cooking from our garden, milking our goats, and collecting eggs from our chickens. Behind the scenes, our farming and program staff and Teacher-in-Residence interns, who all live at the ranch, are sustaining themselves from the food we grow. Big thanks to our amazing farming staff who grow all this incredible food. Hats off to Amber, Dottie, Gala, and the other Slide Ranch goats, who patiently let hundreds of hands each day try milking and welcome lots of hugs. And cheers to our flock of chickens and ducks who amaze us with the process and bounty of laying eggs.

We Watched. Slide Ranch never ceases to astound us all with her gifts. On one Friday of summer camp, kids, parents, and staff watched in awe as whales frolicked and fed just past the surf line with a display of jumps, fluke splashes, and surfacings. And then there are the dolphins that play in the waves regularly for all to witness. Our beehives continued to thrive—away from any pesticides or pollutants—and we shared our healthy colonies with other local beekeepers to help replenish hives lost. We are all so grateful for the beauty and bounty of nature that is on display daily at Slide Ranch.

We Planned. We worked with our amazing team of architects from Mark Cavagnero Associates, our construction team from Temescal Design Build, and our partners at the GGNRA to get all necessary approvals for the construction of our new Farm-to-Table Teaching Center. Featuring indoor and outdoor teaching kitchens and group spaces, indoor classroom space, a green roof, and a gracious deck with amazing views, construction is set to begin in Summer 2016.

The work of Slide Ranch could not happen without the incredible support of our partners, donors, and friends, who join us daily in our mission to connect people to nature. Thank you for all you do to help create future generations of happy, healthy environmental stewards.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marika Bergsund".

Marika Bergsund
Executive Director

OUR MISSION



SLIDE RANCH IS DEDICATED TO
PLANTING KIDS IN NATURE.

The mission of Slide Ranch is to connect children to nature. We cultivate healthy bodies and minds and foster future generations of environmental stewards. By farming, cooking, caring for animals and exploring wilderness and coast, we teach people of all ages to see the connection between their own health, a healthy food system and a healthy environment.

- In 2015 Slide Ranch welcomed 10,259 visitors.
- 65% of our School and Community Group programs served from children low-income communities.
- We served 85 different Bay Area school and community groups.
- 6,000 visitors milked the Slide Ranch goats.
- Our 134 acres of pristine California coastline are available to everyone.
- Our nature educators include 11 humans, 7 goats, 6 sheep, 30 chicken, 10 ducks, and 1 cat.
- More than 500 volunteers donated almost \$45,000 in work hours to support our mission.



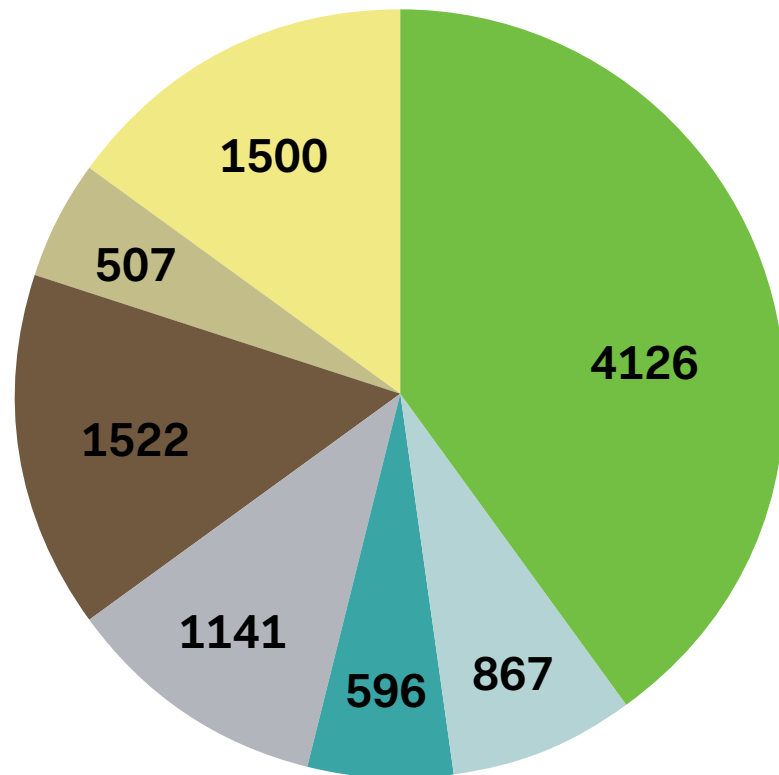


“I don’t know where you find such strong teachers. I would consider myself lucky to have them as colleagues. I have been teaching for a long time and always learn new ideas from your amazing staff.”

—3rd grade teacher, Saint Anselm School

SLIDE RANCH PROVIDES FOUR MAIN AREAS OF PROGRAMMING:

- Educational day and overnight field trips for schools and community youth groups
- Special events and programs aimed at engaging the whole family
- Summer day camps for children ages 5–14
- Teacher-in-Residence internship program for environmental educators



Who Visited Slide Ranch in 2015?

	<i>Participants</i>	
● School and Community Programs	4,126	40%
● Family Programs	867	8%
● Summer Camp	596	6%
● Community Programs	1,141	11%
● Events	1,522	15%
● Volunteers	507	5%
● Drop-In Visitors	1,500	15%
Total	10,259	100%



School and Community Group Programming

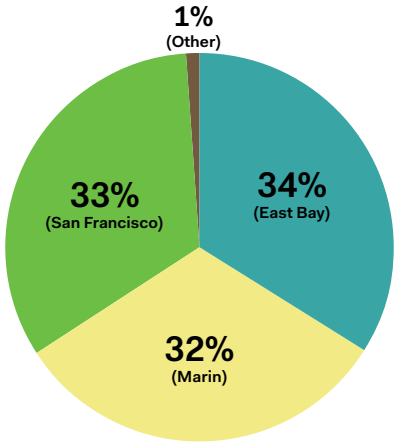
The School and Community Group Program is Slide Ranch's largest and most important program, providing day and overnight field trips to 4,100 kids in 2015, with over 60% of youth served coming from low-income, urban communities.

School & Community Programs 2015

Number of organizations and schools served	85
Total number of participants	4,126
Total number of school and community group field trips	116
Number of groups who received financial aid	65% of groups
Number of participants who received financial aid	63% of program participants

Participants

San Francisco	1,348	33%
Marin	1,313	32%
East Bay	1,412	34%
Other	53	1%
TOTALS	4,126	100%



School and Community Groups Slide Ranch Served in 2015

Community Groups

Aim High
American Indian
Child Resource Center
Audubon Youth Leaders
Boys and Girls Club of SF
Canal Welcome Center/
Presente Program
Casa Allegra Community Services
City of Dreams
Crissy Field Center—Project Wise
Environmental Traveling
Companions
Girls Inc.
Hamilton Family Center
Huckleberry Youth Programs
International Rescue Committee—
New Roots Summer Camp
Makor Marin at Rodef Sholom
Marin Access Seniors
Marin YMCA Adventure Guides
Mission Neighborhood Center
Novato Youth Center
Outdoor Afro
Project Avary
Seneca Center Camp
SFRPD Youth
Stewardship program
Soccer Without Borders



School Groups

Alice Fong Yu Alternative School
Alvarado Elementary School
Appleseed Montessori
Bayside/MLK Academy
Berkeley High School
Brandeis Day School
Brightworks
Buen Dia Family School
Coleman Elementary
Concordia School
Cornell School
Cragmont Elementary
Creative Arts Charter School

East Bay Waldorf School
Emerson Elementary
EnCompass Academy
Fairmount Elementary
Franklin Elementary School
Glenwood Elementary
Greenwood School
Hamilton Elementary School
Junipero Serra Elementary
KIPP Bridge Charter School
Learning Without Limits
Lovonya DeJean Middle School
ESCAPE Club
Lycee Francais
Making Waves Academy
Marin Primary–Middle School
Marin School of Environmental
Leadership
Marin Waldorf School
Marshall Elementary
Montalvin Manor
Montessori de Terra Linda
Mt Tamalpais School
Northern Light School
Oakland International High School
Pivot Charter School
Realm Charter School
Redwood High School

Rocky Mountain Preschool
Ross School
Saint Joseph Notre Dame
High School
Saklan School
San Francisco Day School
San Francisco Expeditionary
School
San Francisco Friends School
Seneca Center/
Mt Eden High School
St Vincent de Paul School
St. Anselm
St. Hilary School
Tahoe Expedition Academy
Tehiyah Day School
Tenderloin Community School
The Academy of Alameda
Elementary School
The Little School
The New Village School
Town School for Boys
Treehouse Nursery
Twin Cities Cooperative Preschool
Washington Elementary
West Marin School
Willow Creek Academy

Teachers-in-Residence

Slide Ranch's Teacher-in-Residence (TIR) Program develops and inspires environmental educators and prepares them for meaningful careers in the fields of education, sustainable agriculture and environmental service. Each year we select emerging educators from all over the country to participate in a 10-and-a-half month residential teaching internship, with four additional TIRs selected for summer. Thank you to all the teachers for their dedication and enthusiasm.



2015 Yearlong Teachers-in-Residence

Jeremy "Peartree" Aines

Gabrielle "Goat Kid" Baird

Reesha "Rainbow" Katcher

Jordan "Acorn" Mills

Silas "Coyote" Scheer

Eileen "Banana Slug" Shanahan

Head Teacher: Dana "Purple Potato"
Biederman

2015 Summer Teachers-in-Residence

Ali "Algae" Boochever

Noelle "Moss" Hiam

Eliza "Fog" Kingsley Ma

Anna "Hummingbird" Schneider

Learning Without Limits

For two years, Slide Ranch has collaborated with Learning Without Limits (LWL), a school in Oakland's Fruitvale neighborhood, tailoring programming for LWL kindergarteners both in their classrooms and at Slide Ranch.

LWL's first field trip to Slide Ranch in December 2014 was cancelled because of torrential rain and a bus break-down. Without hesitation, Slide Ranch's intrepid Teachers-in-Residence adapted a multi-sensory, hands-on program and brought it to the students' classroom that very day. Everyone was inspired and the collaboration has continued to grow.

“Slide came to us, and led a pretty phenomenal program with very little notice. Our kids loved making the lamb's wool bracelets, seeing the play about mother earth, learning about different herbs and using them to make tea, and more. The content and activities were excellent, and so were the ways the teachers interacted with our young (and active!) students.”

In 2015, Slide Ranch helped arrange two field trips for LWL kindergarteners. “Slide truly bent over backwards to . . . make this happen,” one teacher wrote, “I was blown



away by their generosity and diligence in helping us to coordinate a bus, and cover the entire cost of our visit. [I was] deeply impressed by the questions and documents I received from Slide beforehand.” 70 students who had been part of the offsite program now got the chance to come to Slide Ranch. The students, their teachers, and chaperones took the winding bus ride out along the coast. Their excitement was tangible as they stepped off the bus for a day of high energy, hands-on exploration. The day held challenges for the young students: “I had a number of students who were nervous about milking the goat, but they pushed through their fears and gave it a try. They were so proud of themselves afterwards!”

According to LWL's teachers, adventuring in Slide Ranch's garden had a real impact on students: ***“We have a growing garden at our school that I try to take my students to experience as much as possible. Students are already drawing parallels between what we saw and experienced at Slide Ranch, our school garden, and for some of them, their home gardens. We're also starting a new unit about community where we'll learn about community helpers, mapping, and teamwork. This field trip was a great unit opener.”***

Slide Ranch works with schools to make sure that what students learn at the ranch is relevant to their daily life and their classrooms. Our programs inspire students to share their experiences at home and in their communities. We hope to continue collaborating with schools like Learning Without Limits, cultivating a future generation of environmental stewards.





“When I got back to school I was talking with a parent about our garden experience and how her student ate some garlic and kale stir-fry from the garden and the parent couldn't believe what I was telling her. She was telling me her son never tried new things, and the only thing he'd ever eat were grilled cheese, mac-n-cheese, etc.”

—2nd Grade Teacher, EnCompass Academy



Tenderloin Community School

On March 26th, 5th graders from San Francisco's Tenderloin Community School camped out over night at Slide Ranch. They spent their day milking goats, feeding chickens, gardening, baking bread and exploring tide pools. In the evening, they climbed exhausted into tents beneath the stars and above the Pacific, with only the sounds of the nocturnal birds and crashing waves to lull them to sleep.

These kids come from a school where more than 80% of the children qualify for reduced and free lunch. That means a family of four is living on \$43,000 or less per year. Awaking with the sun, the children discovered something had arrived at Slide to greet them: a brand new goat kid, just born that very morning. ***What a wonder for them to experience the farm at the very moment that life begins.***





Bain & Company's Community Impact Day

Each year, Bain & Company holds a Community Impact Day, when the entire firm pauses for the day and spans out across the world to donate a day of service. Slide Ranch is one of the most popular opportunities in the Bay Area, and we were lucky to have thirty Bain employees come to spend the day here and focus their full attention on Slide Ranch this year. We are always blown away by all that they get done and the great attitude they bring, whether they are weeding, mulching paths or creating new planting beds.

In 2015, Bain brought an additional team through their partnership with **Inspire** (inspire-inc.org), a volunteer organization that provides management consulting advice to nonprofit organizations with a youth-oriented, education focus. Ten people took over our offices and wifi for the day to do a data-driven review of the ranch's finances and program results from our strategic plan over the previous five years. A separate group led by two senior managers held a workshop for Slide Ranch's Strategic Planning Committee to kickoff our planning process for the next three to five year plan. This work was in addition to two four-month case teams that Bain provided through Inspire to research and present data on Slide Ranch's financial model and opportunities for revenue growth.

Both out in the fields and in the “weeds” of data, Bain has provided amazing support that has advanced our work and effectiveness in myriad ways.

"Being able to get our hands dirty and work together on projects we can see develop tangibly in front of us really allows us to build camaraderie. We get to share our joy of being productive together in the moment at the same time we're helping Slide Ranch with its mission."

– Hana Kajimura,
Community Impact Day
Team Organizer, Bain & Company

It's such a great opportunity to be able to take our expertise and use it to benefit Bay Area children. Helping Slide Ranch with its planning process is an investment in Slide's future; we're investing in tomorrow's future environmental stewards.

– Eric Maltiel, Bain & Company/Inspire



2015 Volunteers

A big thanks to the more than 500 Slide Ranch volunteers who helped us care for our animals, tend the garden, and maintain the trails and program areas. They brought boundless enthusiasm to the Ranch, and we are so grateful for their contributions and support. Schools, nonprofits and corporations were among the 14 organizations that volunteered at Slide Ranch in 2015.

Gonzaga University

Novogradic

Sonoma State University

Sequoia Equities

Clif Bar

Bain and Co.

University of Oregon-Rotaract Club

Oracle

Coyuchi

Anthesis

American Eagle

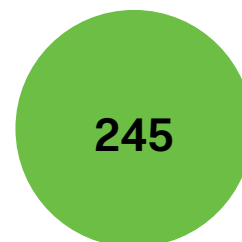
Google Adwords

Goldman Sachs

DaVita Rx

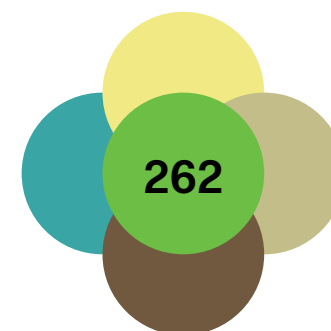
Slide Volunteer Data

Individual



967 hours

Group



932.5 hours

Total Value of Donated Time = \$44,638.25





Silver Trowel 2015

Every year Slide Ranch honors individuals who best embody the spirit and mission of Slide Ranch at our **Silver Trowel Award & Fundraising Dinner**. At this year's dinner, which was held on November 12, 2015 at San Francisco's iconic Ferry Building, we presented the Silver Trowel Award to *Kit Crawford and Gary Erickson, owners and Co-Chief Visionary Officers of Clif Bar & Company*. Through their leadership, Clif Bar & Company has demonstrated tremendous environmental consciousness and devoted many company volunteer hours to Slide Ranch.

Hundreds of Slide Ranch supporters gathered for dinner, a dynamic auction, and a performance by Grammy-Award-winning producer and musician David Pack. With the support of corporate sponsors Deutsche Bank, Marin Luxury Cars–Volvo Cars Marin, Sensato, Goldman Sachs, RESO, and UBS and the generous support of many individual sponsors, the event raised \$377,525, more than 47% over last year's event.

Thank you to all of our generous guests and sponsors, our supportive board and event committee, and everyone who volunteered to make this year's event a success.



In-Kind Donors

Acqua Hotel

Bolinas Bay Hardware
and Mercantile
Karen Dibblee

Kara Bratcher

Bravium
Derek Rohlf

Bruliam Wines LLC
Kerith Overstreet

Cafe Canale
Sandra Miller

James Cavera

Suzette and Jeff Clarke

Roy Clemes

Coyuchi
Kim Tercero

Donna's Tomales
Donna Eichhorn

EO Products
Katheryn Jones

Equator Coffees & Teas
Jenifer Jones

David and Julie Flaherty

Goodman Building Supply

Hanson Spirits
Brandon Hanso

Lynn Huntsinger

Lagunitas Brewing Company
Michelle Novosel

Shelley and Greg Lindgren

Lola
Whitney Andreae

Laura Maniec

Marin Luxury Cars
Nick Price

Nima Oberoi

Redwood Engineering
Friends at Redwood
Engineering

REI San Francisco
Amber Miksza

Susan and Dale Roush

Sloat Garden Center
Cindy Amaral

SPQR Restaurant
Shelley Lindgren

Standard 5 & 10 Ace #3097
Eric McCracken

State Bird Provisions
Nicole Krasinski

Tam Bikes
Daren Satake and Quoc Phan

Trader Joe's Company
Marco Leen

Twenty Five Lusk
Chad Bourdon

Whole Foods Market
Mill Valley

Brownlie Raffaini

Wilson Sonsini Goodrich
& Rosati

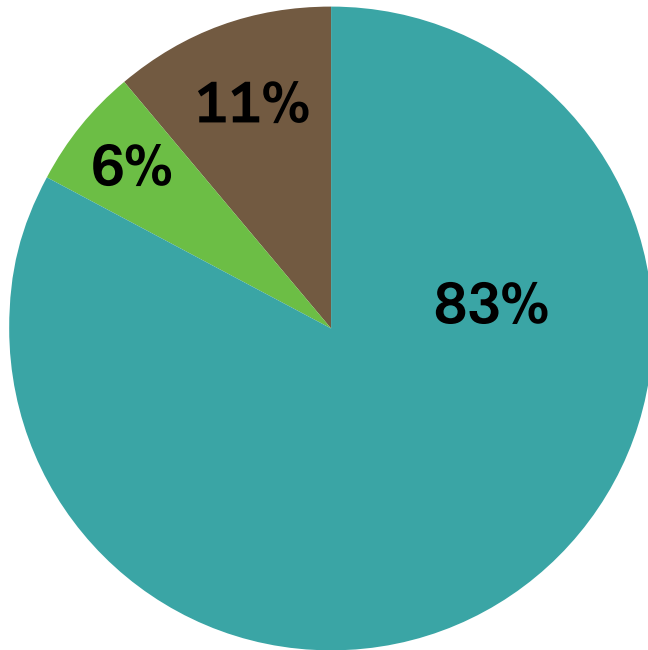
Rebecca Stuart

Sandy Zeichner

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

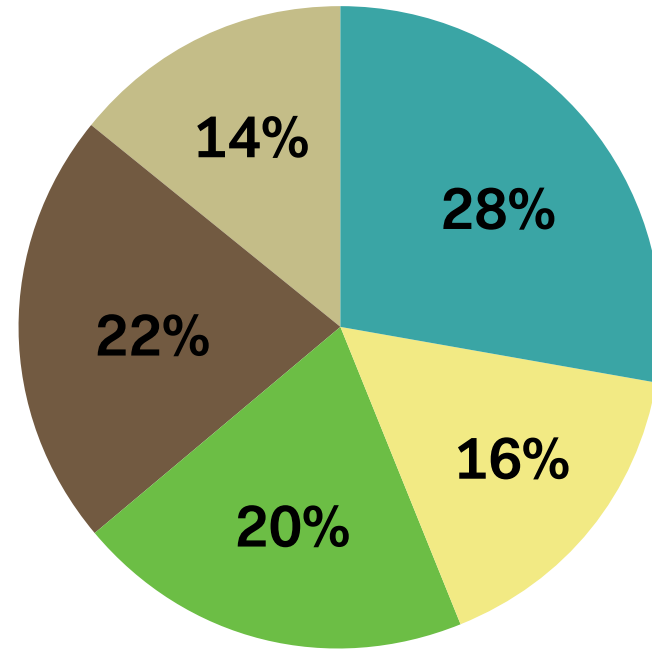
for the year that ended December 31, 2015

Total Expenses = \$1,360,102



- Program Services
- General & Administrative
- Fundraising

Total Revenues = \$1,519,677



- Program Fees
- Individual Donations
- Fundraising Events
- Grant & Corporate Support
- In-kind & Other Income

Statement of Financial Position

as of December 31, 2015

	2015	2014
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$705,707	\$470,112
Accounts and Pledges Receivable	\$74,836	\$83,756
Inventory	\$4,318	\$5,529
Prepaid Expense and Other Current Assets	\$12,591	\$7,539
Property and Equipment	\$1,348,382	\$1,391,687
Total Assets:	\$2,145,834	\$1,958,623
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	\$44,257	\$50,219
Accrued Expenses	\$46,055	\$22,913
Total Liabilities:	\$90,312	\$73,132
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	\$1,709,535	\$1,635,186
Temporarily Restricted	\$345,987	\$250,305
Total Net Assets:	\$2,055,522	\$1,885,491
Total Liabilities and Net Assets:	\$2,145,834	\$1,958,623



Board of Directors 2015

Suzette Clarke
Leighton Hills
Peter Scherr
Caroline Loewy
Corey Block
Allison Bloom
Claire Hudson
Robert Lawrence

Shelley Lindgren
Cynthia Lohr
Luke Maura
Laura McDonnell
Debra Nelson
Diane Poslosky
Kate Stoia
Joseph Sweeney

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Suzanne Felson
Doug Ferguson
David Flaherty
Jennifer Caldwell
Jessica Parish Galloway
April Gargiulo
Mary Ellen Hannibal
Laura Maniec

Jillian Manus
Leigh Sherwood Matthes
Michele Meany
Victoria Raiser



Staff

Marika Bergsund
Executive Director

Jeremy Aines
Garden Manager

Dana Biederman
Program Coordinator

Andrew Chambers
Animal Care Manager

Emily Cohen
Program Director

Dida Goudreau
Office Manager

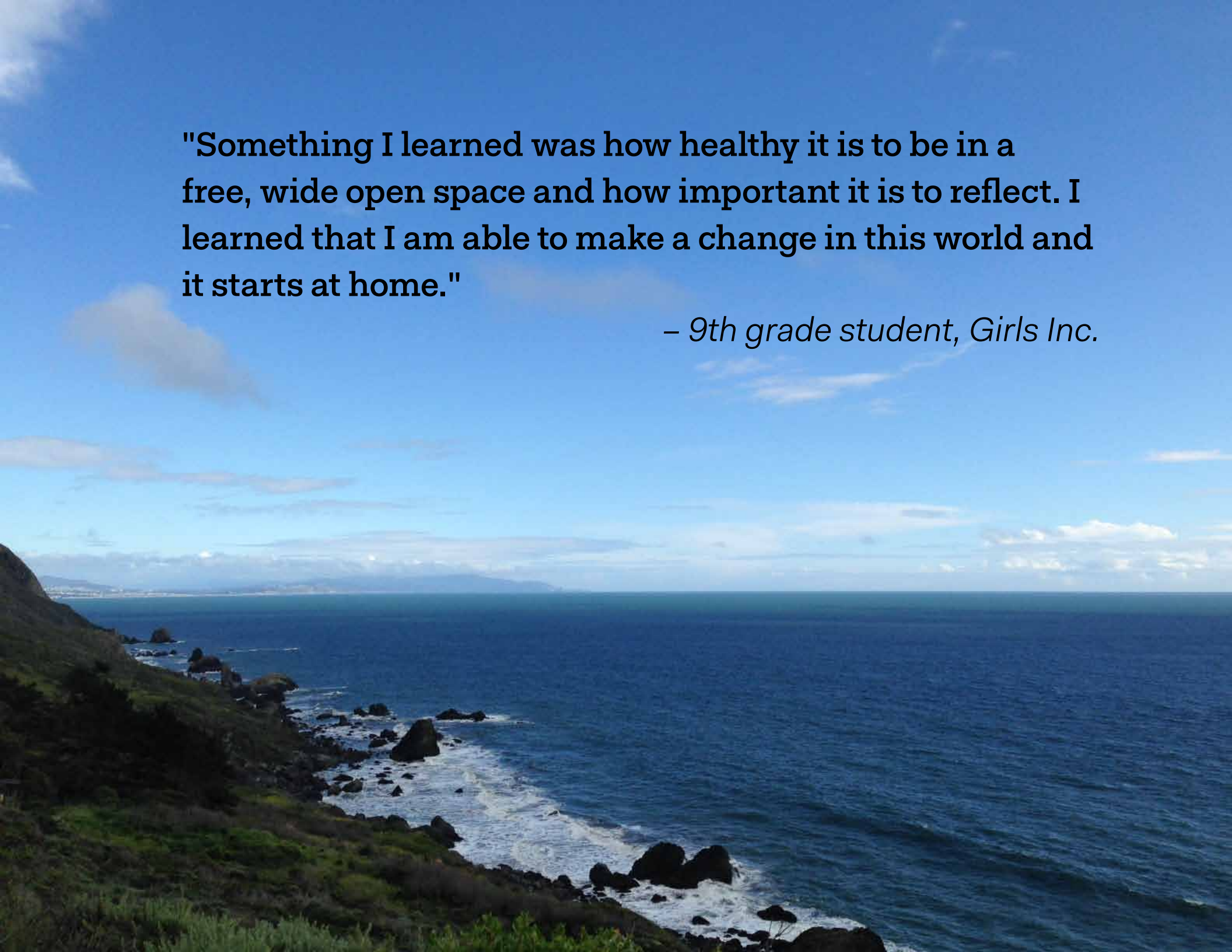
Emily Haber
Development Associate

Julie Hartman
Program Manager

Kyle Hartman
Ranch Hand

Corrine Levy
Director of Development

Jim Rogers
Director of Operations



"Something I learned was how healthy it is to be in a free, wide open space and how important it is to reflect. I learned that I am able to make a change in this world and it starts at home."

– 9th grade student, Girls Inc.

