We did it! Sierra Nevada Journeys raised $5.5 million to complete the purchase of the Grizzly Creek Ranch camp in August 2020. This three-year undertaking secured an incredible educational asset for children for generations to come.

The once-in-a-lifetime opportunity of purchasing the 515-acre Grizzly Creek Ranch, established a true home for Sierra Nevada Journeys in this majestic setting. As owners of Grizzly Creek Ranch, we will use this asset to expand our ability to inspire and serve the youth of this region. For the past 12 years, our purpose has been to inspire youth to think critically and become stewards of our natural resources. We are deeply grateful to our donors, program partners, volunteers, and outstanding employees for your investment in our mission and the youth we serve. We couldn't do this work without you.

More recently, the Coronavirus pandemic severely impacted programs like ours across the country. Students could no longer gather, ride a bus to field trips, or enjoy the overnight learning experience of attending STEM camps. Sierra Nevada Journeys immediately transitioned our science lessons to virtual learning to support teachers and students. We created dozens of interactive videos, webinars and online science lessons to support distance learning. Additionally, we developed resources for families to help engage children in STEM education during quarantine.

Most recently, we have opened Grizzly Creek Ranch for limited family and community partner programs, developing opportunities for children to safely explore in the camp environment. We’re proud of the tremendous work completed by our whole team during a time of crisis.

Meanwhile, the communities we serve have tragically struggled with racial strife and inequities. Sierra Nevada Journeys stands against systemic racism, and we strive to provide educational equity and inclusion by focusing on underserved youth. As we plan for 2021, we are working to ensure that students from historically marginalized communities have access to valuable science and nature experiences for their future success.

Getting kids into the outdoors, teaching hands-on science, improving their understanding of science and the world around them, is at the heart of what we do.

We look forwarding to sharing a look back at our successes and what’s to come for Sierra Nevada Journeys.

Sincerely,

Eaton Dunkelberger
CEO

Shane Tucker
Board Chair

We did it! A HOME
Donors Share a Common Vision of Empowering Youth

We are so thankful for the supporters of Sierra Nevada Journeys. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, all money raised goes to increasing students’ access to science and nature. One example of our important and meaningful partnerships is with Arata Brothers Trust. Their support of the capital campaign helped secure Grizzly Creek Ranch, a valuable resource that is now protected for its best and highest use — fostering a connection to the natural world for all students, regardless of background.

The purchase of Grizzly Creek Ranch wouldn’t have happened without great partners like Sierra Nevada Conservancy and Sierra Health Foundation.

Sierra Nevada Conservancy’s efforts to improve the environmental, economic and social well-being of the Sierra Nevada region, made it possible to preserve Grizzly Creek Ranch as a vital outdoor classroom for students and visitors. The diverse ecological environment — home to more than 100 bird and animal species, a variety of vegetation types, a watershed system including a ¾-acre pond and stream along the Big Grizzly Creek — makes it the ideal outdoor teaching setting.

Sierra Health Foundation originally built the camp for children with disabilities; we continue to serve this mission through organizations like Muscular Dystrophy Association and The Marshall R. Matley Foundation’s Arts for All program that bring participants to camp for outdoor learning. For the past 12 years, Sierra Health Foundation entrusted us to operate Grizzly Creek Ranch. We are thankful for Sierra Health Foundation’s partnership at camp, their generous financial support, and their unyielding vision to make camp experiences accessible for all.

At this time of tremendous competition for funding dollars, particularly in support of STEM and workforce readiness, Sierra Nevada Journeys stands out as an especially effective, scalable, and impact-driven organization. They’re training the next generation environmental scientists and land stewards, to a whole new level.

— Maston Sewell
Co-Trustee and Grants Manager
Arata Brothers Trust
The Campaign for Grizzly Creek Ranch
Securing the Future

As owner and steward of this beautiful camp, we’ve ensured that our region’s youth will continue to have access to leading-edge STEM education and powerful outdoor experiences regardless of socio-economic status for generations to come.

$1M+
Sierra Health Foundation
Sierra Nevada Conservancy
Anonymous

$500,000+
Marshall R. Matley Foundation

$250,000+
Arata Brothers Trust
The Clarence and Martha Jones Family Foundation
The Nell J. Redfield Foundation

$100,000+
Terry Beaty and Anne Mehringer
Helen Close Charitable Foundation
The Donant Foundation
Thelma & Thomas Hart Foundation

Thank you to our Donors

Gail and Bob Aldrich
Gretchen Kelley Bietz and Forrest Bietz
Greg and Candice Bortolin
Bretzlaff Foundation
Mark and Mona Burrell
Bowen and Michelle Cardoza
CoBank – Western Division
The E.L. Cord Foundation
Courage Sans Peur Foundation

The Dave & Cheryl Duffield Fund
Eaton and Kate Dunkelberger
Farm Credit West
Robert Goldberg
Golden State Farm Credit
David Gordon
Harding-Davis Family
Pat Hill
Mick Hitchcock
Robert S. and Dorothy J. Keyser Foundation

Dan and Denise Klaich
Lakeshore Foundation
Lureland Foundation Fund at the Community Foundation of Western Nevada
Brooks Mancini
Sandra Mansfield
Richard and Claire Mueller
Bob and Carol Petersen
Gail and Jim Pfrommer
Phil & Jennifer Satre Family Fund at the Community Foundation of Western Nevada
Karen Senger
Regina Stanback Stroud and Linda Carol Collins
Shane and Marsha Tucker
Ty and Abbi Whitaker
Carol Whiteside
We’ve positively impacted 194,124 children with our mission to deliver innovative outdoor, science-based education programs to develop critical thinking skills and inspire natural resource stewardship.

**OUR MISSION**

190,000+ STUDENTS

SHANE TUCKER | CHAIR
Principal
STOMA Farms
Food Bank Farmers
Davis, CA

GAIL ALDRICH | VICE CHAIR
Chair
AARP Board of Directors, Ret.
Genoa, NV

GREG BORTOLIN | TREASURER
Director of Communications
Nevada Governor’s Office of Economic Development
Reno, NV

MARK BURRELL | IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR
Founder and Principal
The WestMark Group
Gold River, CA

MARIILUZ GARCIA | TRUSTEE
Director, Dean’s Future Scholars
University of Nevada, Reno
Reno, NV

DAN KLACH | CAPITAL CAMPAIGN CHAIR
Chancellor, Ret.
Nevada System of Higher Education
Reno, NV

BOWEN CARDOZA | TRUSTEE
President, Cardoza Corporation
Vice President, CoSol Commercial Real Estate
Modesto, CA

DAVID GORDON | TRUSTEE
Superintendent
Sacramento County Office of Education
Sacramento, CA

ROBERT PETERSEN | TRUSTEE
Certified Public Accountant
Chair of California Board of Accountancy, Ret.
Saratoga, CA

GAIL PFROMMER | TRUSTEE
Research Associate Biological Sciences, Ret.
University of Nevada, Reno
Reno, NV

REGINA STANBACK STROUD | TRUSTEE
Chancellor
Peralta Community College District
Oakland, CA

CAROL WHITESIDE | TRUSTEE
Former Mayor of Modesto, CA
President, Great Valley Center, Ret.
Modesto, CA
The shift toward adopting a lens of inclusion and equity has resulted in some positive changes:

• Board diversity: One-third of our board is now comprised of people of color;

• Staff education: Attended multiple cultural relevancy trainings including an all-staff training attended by every employee;

• Hiring practices: Updated our job announcements and recruitment strategy to be more inclusive and mitigate implicit bias; and

• Curriculum: Revisions are underway to increase cultural relevancy of our education programs.

Three years ago, we created the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee to expand access to nature and science to reach an increasingly diverse population of future scientists and environmental stewards.

Three key projects include:

• The development of gender inclusivity policies for camp to create a welcoming environment for transgender, non-binary and gender nonconforming summer campers and staff;

• Administration of the second annual staff survey to gather understanding of how team members experience organizational policies and workplace culture; and

• DEI strategic planning with workshops led by BEETLES and Youth Outside to develop a vision statement and three-year action plan for a more inclusive and equitable Sierra Nevada Journeys.

61 percent of our students are people of color
2019 Community Impact
NUMBER OF STUDENTS SERVED

50 percent of children served in 2019 are from low-income households

50%

10 percent increase in students served from 2018 to 2019

10%

15 percent of the children who attend our programs live with a disability

15%

Imagining a Brighter Future for SCIENCE PROGRAMS

How do you teach hands-on science when you have to maintain 6 feet apart for social distancing?
Through creativity and innovative thinking.
In Spring 2020, we created Virtual STEM Classrooms to support teachers as schools shut down due to the Coronavirus. We swiftly transitioned our in-person science lessons to online supporting distance learning with nine different units, 20 videos, 100+ lessons, and five live webinars.

In Spring of 2020, our virtual science lessons were used by:

15,270 students
560 classrooms
425 teachers
The Classrooms Unleashed program is designed using the Next Generation Science Standards and Social Emotional Learning (SEL) competencies for maximum effectiveness with elementary students. It includes prerecorded videos, virtual field trips, interactive slideshow-style presentations, and downloadable self-explanatory science notebook pages. Pre- and post-assessments are also included.

Looking forward to 2021, we will launch Classrooms Unleashed 2.0 for school-based programs. We will continue to evolve and adapt Classrooms Unleashed to the new learning environments at our local schools and with an equity-based approach.

Classrooms Unleashed

Designed and led by credentialed teachers, Classrooms Unleashed is an inquiry-driven, hands-on and highly engaging program. This interactive program was traditionally taught in the classroom and outdoors at local nature areas.

This year, we've created Virtual Classrooms Unleashed to support teachers as they transition to distance learning. Drawing from the best practices of our Classrooms Unleashed program, Virtual Classrooms Unleashed is a valuable science resource for students and teachers, providing hands-on and engaging interactive lessons.

1ST GRADE
Nature’s Transformers

2ND GRADE
Matter Matters

3RD GRADE
Habits and Habitats

4TH GRADE
Our Amazing Earth

5TH AND 6TH GRADE
Hands in the River

2019 Highlights

- Designed and led by credentialed teachers, Classrooms Unleashed is an inquiry-driven, hands-on and highly engaging program.
- Virtual Classrooms Unleashed is a valuable science resource for students and teachers, providing hands-on and engaging interactive lessons.
- The program includes prerecorded videos, virtual field trips, interactive slideshow-style presentations, and downloadable self-explanatory science notebook pages.
- Pre- and post-assessments are also included.
- Looking forward to 2021, we will launch Classrooms Unleashed 2.0 for school-based programs.
- We will continue to evolve and adapt Classrooms Unleashed to the new learning environments at our local schools and with an equity-based approach.
Overnight Outdoor Learning

We hope that Grizzly Creek Ranch will see youth again through Overnight Outdoor Learning in the Spring of 2021. As schools transition to in-person teaching or hybrid models, we look forward to having fifth- and sixth-grade students travel to camp and utilize this once-in-a-lifetime experience.

Overnight Outdoor Learning is an outdoor school program focused on high-impact education experiences for students across Nevada and California. Taught by experiential educators, the three-to-five day programs are held at Grizzly Creek Ranch in Portola, California. All lessons are designed to meet state science standards and build critical thinking and collaboration skills. Programs also include pre- and post-assessments to ensure the highest level of effectiveness.
Community Partner Camps

At Grizzly Creek Ranch, we host a variety of community partners; in 2019, more than 20 different organizations were represented at camp — including teen leadership workshops, youth empowerment retreats and continuing education. In November, 2019, we delivered an innovative environmental science workforce development and career exploration camp program for 50 GEO Academy students from Grant Union High School.

Through a one-of-a-kind collaboration with Tesla, we hosted the second annual Girls in STEM camp for girls ages 10-to-14 from low-income schools. The focus was on energy, sustainability, science and technology, engineering, math, leadership development and problem solving. Additionally, we featured several amazing local women guest speakers from STEM fields.

Looking forward, we’ll expand our partnerships with mission-aligned organizations such as Improve Your Tomorrow which mentors young men of color and helps them prepare for college. Also we’ll host teen leadership programs with Nevada National Guard and Rotary Youth Leadership Awakening.

GRIZZLY CREEK RANCH
Summer Camp

Although Summer Camp 2020 didn’t occur, we successfully transitioned to Family Camp allowing families who’ve been quarantined together, have exclusive use of a cabin to participate in outdoor camp activities for a weekend at Grizzly Creek Ranch.

In 2019, we hosted eight weeks of overnight, week-long summer camps. Children and teens kayaked, swam and tested their skills on our challenge course which includes a zip line, alpine tower and flying squirrel.

With the help of our generous financial partners and individual contributors, we were able to offer disadvantaged children the opportunity to attend camp. This rare opportunity to attend camp for free, often became a pivotal point in campers’ lives, and positively impacted their educational future.
PARTNERS IN EDUCATION
Sierra Nevada Journeys Helps Create Best Practices for Outdoor Schools Across the U.S.

NatureBridge, Sierra Nevada Journeys and 10 of the top outdoor education organizations from around the country, developed a framework and tools for identifying, communicating, teaching and leading SEL through outdoor education. The result of the collaboration was the launch of Grow Outside: A Social Emotional Learning Toolkit for Residential Environmental Learning Centers. This two-year-long partnership created common language and tools for the entire field of environmental education.

Additionally, Sierra Nevada Journeys expanded its Nevada science lessons to include rural areas in Nevada and Southern Nevada. Funding and support for the development of this curriculum was provided by the Nevada Governor’s Office of Science, Innovation and Technology and the Nevada Regional Networks Grant program for rural and Southern Nevada. Lessons for third, fourth and fifth grade levels have been specifically designed featuring the unique land and watersheds of these regions.

Family STEM Nights ARE NOW VIRTUAL EVENTS

A Virtual Family STEM Night is a great way to host an event for schools or community groups. It engages students and families with an evening of fun by using simple, at-home science investigations, helpful videos, and even an engineering design challenge. It’s a fun way for kids and families to learn about science and practice STEM skills from home.
We apply rigorous measurement to capture the success of our programs. In fact, 5 percent more students score at the proficient level on state science exams at schools where our programs are delivered. Additionally, 90 percent of students demonstrate improved mastery of state science standards.

How We Measure Our Success

40 percent average gain score from pre- to post-assessment

90 percent of teachers report our programs improve students’ understanding of state science standards

90 percent of teachers report our programs help students build critical thinking skills

PROGRAM GOALS

- Increase access to science education across the socioeconomic spectrum
- Encourage more students to pursue degrees and careers in STEM or environmental fields
- Create a society with informed decision-makers, who can find solutions to the world’s most pressing problems
- Protect our abundant natural resources
- Inspire community members to feel connected with the environment and become stewards of the natural world
- Build healthier, happier and more sustainable communities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TRACKING METHOD</th>
<th>CLASSROOMS UNLEASHED</th>
<th>OVERNIGHT OUTDOOR LEARNING</th>
<th>REPORTING FREQUENCY</th>
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<td>Parent and chaperone survey</td>
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<td>Semester</td>
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*Low-income students are defined as those eligible for free or reduced lunch.

THE FIVE Pillars OF OUR EDUCATION PROGRAMS
1. Science
2. Critical Thinking
3. Outdoor Stewardship
4. Social Emotional Learning
5. Cultural Relevancy
### Statement of Financial Position

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Net Assets</strong></td>
<td>$1,349,937</td>
<td>$1,339,456</td>
<td>$1,375,916</td>
<td>$974,970</td>
<td>$696,350</td>
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</table>

| TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS | $4,191,090 | $2,817,714 | $1,869,529 | $1,521,070 | $1,034,861 |

### Statement of Activities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
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<td>Contributions &amp; Grants</td>
<td>1,497,324</td>
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<td>Program Fees &amp; Other Revenue</td>
<td>2,102,162</td>
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<td>2,068,457</td>
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<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
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<th>EXPENSES</th>
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<td>Program Services</td>
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<td>1,891,224</td>
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<tr>
<td>Classrooms Unleashed</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&amp; Teacher Training</td>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>Total Program Services</strong></td>
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<td>SUPPORTING SERVICES</td>
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<td>General &amp; Administrative</td>
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<td>158,139</td>
<td>118,073</td>
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<td><strong>Total Supporting Services</strong></td>
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<td>$532,507</td>
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<td><strong>Change in Net Assets</strong></td>
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<td>$103,375</td>
<td>$357,791</td>
<td>$266,964</td>
<td>$330,543</td>
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**Full audit available at** [sierranevadajourneys.org](http://sierranevadajourneys.org)
THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING SIERRA NEVADA JOURNEYS AS WE TRANSFORM LEARNING THROUGH INNOVATION, CREATIVITY AND SCIENCE.