

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

















### A LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

#### Hello WMBC Members!

In September, I celebrated my 10 year anniversary as the first-ever WMBC employee and couldn't be more proud to be a part of this organization and our community! Our team continues to forge strong relationships with our land managers and partner organizations, while our volunteers have shown how a fiercely determined group positively impacts our community!

On Galbraith, we received our County permits that provided us the opportunity to embark on a longlist of projects. Some of those include:

- A blue flow line being built by Nico Vink with support from Transition Bikes.
- A highly anticipated dual slalom built by Cody Wilkins supported by Kona, Maxx G foundation and R.A.D. Trails.
- A full Cedar Dust Pro Line rebuild thanks to Cody Wilkins and Talus Turk and supported by Tenet Components and R.A.D. Trails.
- The much-needed Cedar Dust Drop Zone was completed by Shire Built.

Working with the DNR on Stewart Mountain, we built the first 2.75 miles of an up-route for bikes (dual-direction for hikers and horses) in the Olsen Creek area. The work will continue in earnest next June along with a descending route. We're stoked to announce that two beloved user-built trails on Blanchard, The Horn and Rick Rolled, were sanctioned by the DNR this Spring and provide a needed black and double black option!

Closer to town, the Tile Tank jump lines at the waterfront have been a massive hit (pun intended) and the Birchwood pump track is providing families in the Birchwood neighborhood a great new riding option. The Civic crew continued with a ton of maintenance and revisions on the dirt jumps. Our staff and volunteers once again elevated our programming and stepped up to get kids and adults out riding bikes, digging in the dirt, and having a blast out in the woods.

Looking towards 2024, we are hiring another fulltime trail builder - which will greatly increase our capacity throughout Whatcom County. We were recently awarded an exciting new grant through WSDOT and the Cascadia Bicycle Club that allows us to expand our partnership with Vamos Outdoors Project to get more Latine Youth out on bikes! See you on the trails!

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Eric Brown, Executive Director

### WORDS FROM OUR PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Thanks to our dedicated community volunteers, WMBC's programs were very successful in 2023! Our youth programs continue to foster students' love of mountain biking in Bellingham.

After School Bike Clubs and Flying Squirrels served elementary and middle school students and descended upon Galbraith every weekday afternoon during the spring and fall. Youth Trail Corps provided a place for middle schoolers to rebuild and maintain trails then enjoy group rides every weekend and our partnership with Vamos Outdoors Project continues to grow and has big plans for 2024! JoyRiders, our women's bike club, offered numerous rides May through September and in 2023, we launched our new Trail Ambassadors program. Nearly 40 volunteers are now available at various locations to help trail users navigate the trails. Thank you all for your support!

#### Shannon Flory, Program Director

#### **EVENTS & FUNDRAISERS**

Dream Build	\$78K raised   Fanatik built Transition Spur
Whatcom World Cup	\$18K raised   10 races   566 total racers   51 volunteers
NW Tune-Up	\$54K raised   175 volunteers at the Beer Garden 3 races   682 racers over weekend
Shoot The Trails Awards	\$40K raised   1100+ attendees   20 videos & 42 photos   72 volunteers

#### **TRAIL ADVOCACY & STEWARDSHIP**

Lummi Bike Program	\$20K Bronco Wild Fund Awarded   13 bikes & gear purchased   Lummi bike park coming 2024
Birchwood Pump Track	Built in May 2023   16K sq ft
Waterfront Pump Track	Tile Tank Jump Lines   Beginner track rebuilt
Galbraith Trail Updates	39+ miles of trail brushed   19 trail days   Drop Zone, blue flow trail, dual slalom track

#### **EDUCATION**

After School Bike Clubs	331 students   20 clubs   83 volunteer ride leaders
Flying Squirrels	82 girls   32 rides   23 volunteer ride leaders
Youth Trail Corps	37 students   13 trail days   2 summer camps
Vamos Outdoors Project	208 students   13 ride leaders   2 Community Bike Days   10+ students taught to ride a bike
JoyRiders	191 women-identifying riders   21 group rides
Ride Leaders	90 leaders trained in-house
Ambassador Program	40 volunteer ambassadors   Covering 6 Whatcom County regions

## 2023 PROGRAMS & EVENTS IN REVIEW



1,625+ MEMBERS

TRAIL ADOPTION SPONSORS

> **7.6K** FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS

7,274

EMAIL SUBSCRIBERS

1.3K

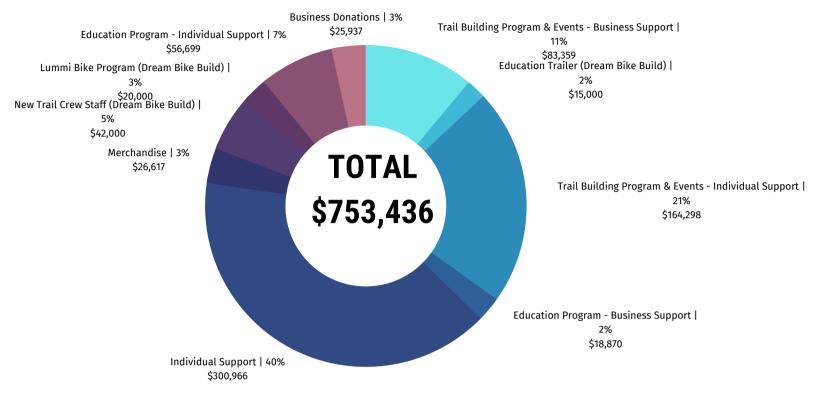
INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS

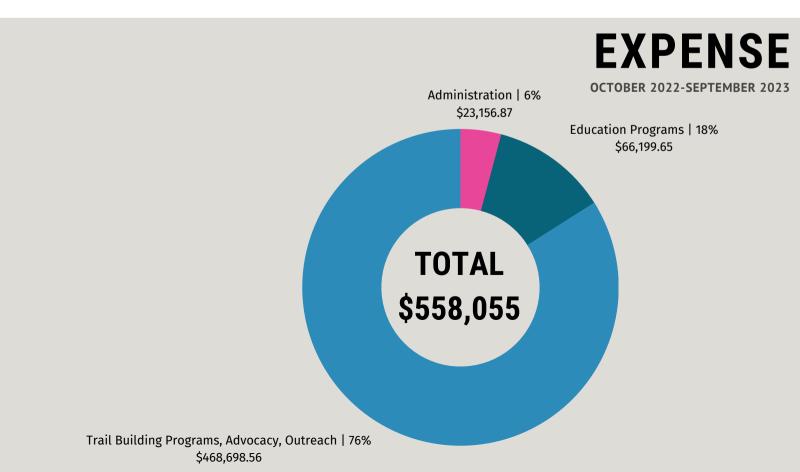
Heather Carter Photography

# **2023 BY THE NUMBERS**

# INCOME

OCTOBER 2022-SEPTEMBER 2023





# THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE 109 LOCAL BUSINESSES WHO SUPPORTED WMBC, OUR PROGRAMS, AND OUR LOCAL TRAILS THIS YEAR!

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT WE COULD NOT DO IT WITHOUT YOU!

### **2023 Major Business Donors**

