Strengthen the Institute’s IMPACT and meet the needs of diverse communities by pursuing new opportunities for programs, partners and audiences.

Mountain School, our 28 year-old residential program for 5th graders, is full with a growing waitlist. We decided to prioritize serving whole school districts to make the experience more equitable and work more with schools who are integrating curriculum into the classroom after their field trip. We will bring all of Burlington-Edison School District’s 5th graders (268 of them) for the first time this fall by extending the program season into December.

We revamped our Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee, adding more voices throughout the Institute community. We revised hiring practices and created paid internships and scholarships to broaden our reach. We also budgeted funds to work with the Avarna Group in 2018 on a “culture and climate audit” to explore unconscious bias and help us develop plans to ensure that the Institute and its programs are welcoming, relevant and accessible to everyone.

Facilitate LIFELONG LEARNING and engagement with nature by offering programs for people from early childhood through adulthood.

We piloted a college access program for 14 Skagit Valley high school students. These Youth Ambassadors participated in college prep workshops, outdoor recreation, mentorship, leadership skills and environmental stewardship. This free six-month program is offered in partnership with AmeriCorps College Access Corps and we doubled the number of students we served in Spring 2018.

We expanded our partnership with Bellingham Public Schools to develop a third grade day program at their Gordon Carter Site, which we’ll pilot this fall.

Model CONSERVATION IN PRACTICE by practicing and promoting environmental stewardship, conservation and sustainability.

We worked on environmental stewardship both internally and externally in 2017. An internal sustainability report examined how we use electricity, fossil fuels, materials and supplies, and Seattle City Light conducted an energy audit of the Learning Center campus. We enacted about half of their recommendations to reduce electrical consumption and await funding (or engineering) for the balance.

Additionally, Institute volunteers—with North Cascades National Park and Seattle City Light—improved defensible space around the Learning Center, leading to another year of Firewise certification.

A new part of our strategic plan led us to deepen our civic engagement and advocacy on issues core to our mission, including access to public lands and grizzly bear restoration in the North Cascades.

Achieve sustainable GROWTH AND STABILITY while ensuring the Institute’s ability to respond to opportunity and challenge.

We raised funds in 2017 to provide additional housing for our growing cohort of Graduate M.Ed. students who have deep reach both within and outside of the Institute. Thanks to the support of the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust and many donors, we met our $580,000 goal and began construction this spring on a 5-bedroom detached accessory dwelling unit at our Blue House property. We also purchased an additional house in Marblemount to provide room for more growth.

Thanks so much for partnering with us on this transformative journey.
Statement of Financial Position

Assets
- Cash and cash equivalents: 416,780
- Short-term investments: 247,083
- Receivables, net: 306,691
- Inventory and other: 140,895
- Long-term investments: 5,901,286
- Property and equipment, net: 567,531

Total Assets: $7,580,266

Liabilities
- Accounts payable: 35,133
- Accrued expenses: 121,091
- Deferred revenue and other: 33,249
- *Line of Credit (staff housing purchase): 477,115

Total Liabilities: $666,588

Net Assets
- Operating Reserve: 1,900,000
- Unrestricted/temporarily restricted funds: 2,065,589
- Designated Funds:
  - Conservation Education Fund: 1,865,854
  - Nugent Family Fund: 597,073
  - Darby Foundation Scholarship Fund: 90,605
  - Youth Leadership Fund (Ginny Darvill): 206,518
  - John Miles Graduate Fund: 43,891
  - Weisberg Scholarship Fund: 37,979
  - Cook & Sullivan Fund: 28,296
  - Gary Peterson Memorial Fund: 28,296
  - North Cascades Conservation Council: 49,577
  - Founders Fund: 49,577

Total Designated Funds: $6,913,678

Total Net Assets: $6,913,678

Statement of Activities

Support and Revenues
- Contracts, tuition and fees, net: 1,574,126
- Investment income: 818,510
- Contributions: 411,471
- Government grants: 327,453
- In-kind contributions: 236,191
- Learning Center Fund - Seattle Foundation: 325,000
- Foundation grants: 508,702
- Rental Income: 28,718
- Bookstores (retail/outreach), net: 234,930

Total Support and Revenues: $4,465,101

Expenses
- Programs: 2,851,747
- Management and general: 217,784
- Fundraising: 274,911

Total Expenses: $3,344,442

Change in Net Assets: $1,120,659

Detailed Program Reports can be found online at ncascades.org/support/reports

North Cascades Institute has received FIFTEEN four-star ratings from Charity Navigator
Thank You Donors!

Our sincere thanks over 685 individuals, families, corporations and foundations who gave in 2017. By connecting people of different ages, backgrounds, and experiences to nature—especially young people—you are helping to ensure a bright future for all. Thank you for supporting the environmental stewards of tomorrow!

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—I think it’s invaluable what the kids learned and it was so amazing to see kids who had never hiked/spent time outdoors, enjoying persevering, exploring, and learning.”
— Melisa
“Before this trip I was a shy girl from a small town. Now I know that I shouldn't be afraid to use my voice. I should act on issues that matter to me, like climate change.”

— Lilly
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“...We continue coming back every year because it’s such a magical place. With each visit, I watch my daughters blossom and grow with the encouragement of the naturalists.”

— Rebecka

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— Jose & Lydia
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