



ALLIANCE *for the*
GREAT LAKES

What It Means To Be A Great Lakes Leader

2018 Annual Report

What It Means To Be A Great Lakes Leader



In my two decades of clean water work, the Great Lakes have never been a more powerful and compelling issue to people in our region than they are today.

From rallying to stop ill-considered policy decisions to bringing people together around clean water solutions, I'm proud of what we in the Great Lakes movement have achieved together.

When federal budget cuts threatened the existence of basic Great Lakes programs, it seemed like every elected official and resident of the region spoke out against what would have been a colossal mistake.

When legislation to unravel protections against invasive species came within a hair's breadth of passing Congress, thousands of Great Lakers answered with a resounding "No!" and dozens of Senators refused to pass the bill.

Leading also means getting real about threats to our water and bringing bold solutions to the table. Earlier this year, Michigan brought together Ohio, Wisconsin, Ontario, and the City of Chicago to get Illinois to finally begin considering new protections against Asian carp in the Des Plaines River. This past summer, former Ohio Governor John Kasich finally put meaningful protections against agricultural runoff pollution in Lake Erie on the table.

The Alliance for the Great Lakes helped make these gains possible, and I'm excited to follow through on them in 2019 and well into the future.

But here's the thing: elected leadership follows local and personal leadership. When our decision makers make the right call, it's a reflection of thousands of people who are making it known that clean and safe water is something we will not give up on.

In 2018, we worked with community residents and partner organizations who are committed to making sure clean and safe water is part of the future of Chicago's southeast side. We convened a local leadership council of businesses, farmers, environmentalists, and elected officials in Green Bay to make measurable commitments that will bring clean water back to northeast Wisconsin. More than 14,000 volunteers removed more than 37,000 pounds of mostly plastic debris from Great Lakes beaches and waters. And, thousands of our supporters spoke out on Great Lakes issues, sending more than 22,500 letters to help secure critical clean water protections.

At the Alliance, we work every day to protect clean water by advancing real Great Lakes leadership — from supporting our amazing volunteers to emboldening our elected officials to do what is right. We can only do this because of your support and the thousands like you who have chosen to invest in our work. Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joel Brammeier". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Joel Brammeier
President & CEO

2018

Treasurer's Report

Thanks to support from you,

our donors, advocates, and champions, the Alliance for the Great Lakes has had another successful year. Over the past year, the Alliance and our many partners saw clean water wins at the local, state, and federal levels. And you are the people making it possible.

Our base of individual donors continues to increase, making up a full 25% of our revenue in fiscal year 2018. This is a testament to the increasing number of people around the region who are making the Great Lakes a priority in their personal investments.

We are honored that so many individuals have entrusted us to carry out the critical work of protecting clean water, and we take your commitment seriously every single day.

I would like to recognize my fellow members of the 2018 Finance Committee for their continued dedication—Lauren Bigelow, Sue Conatser, Paul Culhane, Laura Rubin, David Schmahl, and Joe Koop. In particular, I would like to offer a special recognition of retiring board member Paul Culhane, who received a lifetime service award from the Alliance this fall. I would also like to thank Joel Brammeier, president and CEO, and Janet Hanley, our accountant, for their dedication and guidance. We remain committed to effectively managing the Alliance's finances, and using the organization's resources to continue our leadership on Great Lakes protection and restoration for generations to come.

Frank Washelesky
Treasurer



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 level. We would like to extend our sincerest thanks to all the donors who supported our work in our 2018 fiscal year (September 1, 2017 - August 31, 2018). 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

\$250,000+

Aveda Salons
Charles Stewart Mott Foundation *
Grand Victoria Foundation *
The Joyce Foundation *

\$100,000 - \$249,999

The Brookby Foundation
The Crown Family *
Gaylord & Dorothy Donnelley Foundation*
Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb Family Foundation
The George Gund Foundation
McDougal Family Foundation

\$50,000-\$99,999

Altria Group
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Great Lakes Commission *
Herman Miller Foundation
JPB Foundation through the Funders' Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities
Michigan City Sanitary District *
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality *
MillerCoors *
Pisces Foundation
ScottsMiracle-Gro Company *
Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust
Solberg Manufacturing Inc.
University of Illinois at Chicago

\$10,000-\$49,999

Alphawood Foundation
Anonymous (2)
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The Comer Family Foundation
Conant Family Foundation
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Elizabeth Morse Genius Charitable Trust
Frechette Family Foundation
Freudenberg Help e.V. *
Gino's East *
Grosvenor Capital Management, L.P.
Health Partners
HSBC
Hunter Family Foundation
Indiana Department of Natural Resources *

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration *
ONXRT
Prince Charitable Trusts
Robinson Industries
Sehgal Family Foundation
Barbara Ann Steel Charitable Foundation
Wal-Mart Stores Inc.

\$5,000-\$9,999

Delta Institute
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Marshall and Jamee Field Family Fund
Fund for Lake Michigan *
Green Bay Metropolitan Sewerage District
Johnson Ohana Charitable Foundation
The Robert A. and Shirley J. Jones Foundation
Lee Family Foundation
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Motorola Solutions Foundation
Oppenheimer Family Foundation
Patagonia Chicago
Red Oak Foundation
River Network
RMB Capital Management
The Herbert & Nell Singer Foundation
The Siragusa Family Foundation
Tucker Ellis LLP
The Waterwheel Foundation, Inc.

\$2,500-\$4,999

Accenture LLP
Alexandria Bay Chapter of the Foundation for Community Betterment
AMLI Residential
Anonymous
Clif Bar & Company
Illinois Tool Works Foundation
JP Morgan Chase Employee Giving Program
The Herbert V. Kohler, Jr. & Natalie Black Kohler Foundation for Giving Back
The Libra Foundation
The Longview Foundation
MB Financial Bank, N.A.
Moosejaw
National Wildlife Federation Headquarters
Ocean Conservancy
Sears-Swetland Family Foundation
Speaker Family Foundation
Southeast Michigan Stewardship Coalition
Stratosphere Networks
Wisconsin Coastal Management Program
Wisconsin Maritime Museum

\$1,000-\$2,499

Accuradio LLC
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Busch Systems
Climate Ride
DePorre Family Foundation
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The Donnelley Foundation
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EarthShare Michigan
EarthShare Ohio
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Gold Mine Jewelry
Good Heart Work Smart Foundation
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ITC Inc.
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Lakeshore Foundation
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Mizuho USA Foundation of Mizuho Americas
Nicolet National Bank
Parker Hannifin
Patagonia
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Elizabeth, Allan and Warren Shelden Fund
Carl and Barbara Stanley 1997 Charitable Trust
Uncle Dan's Outdoor Store
Winnetka Garden Club
Yanfeng Automotive Interiors

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

\$50,000+

Searle Family Trust

\$10,000-\$49,999

Anonymous
Stephen and Alisoun Brewster
Conrad Family Fund
Elizabeth Crown and Bill Wallace
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Joan Rothenberg and Kenneth Walchak
Ron and Verna Lou Smith Gift Fund

\$5,000-\$9,999

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Anonymous (2)
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Judith Engelberg
Whitney and Aaron Fershee
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Robert and Linda Lanphier
Jamie and Todd Mayer
Kristina Pierce
Rachel Schneider and Jeffrey Davis
Joyce and Charles Solberg
Janice A. Stull
Justin and Ashley Ziemba

\$2,500-\$4,999

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Paul and Diane Culhane
Janet Fairley
Stephen Fredman and Barbara Black-Fredman
Generation IV Charitable Trust
The Jenny Giving Fund
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Barbara and John Kowalczyk
Annie Mahon
Meredith Miller
Katherine Newhouse
Duncan Stuart
Ronald Sylva
Aaron Vangetson
Frank L. Washelesky

\$1,000-\$2,499

Cynthia M. Ackerman
William and Diane Allen
Anonymous
Neva and Ned Asplundh
Jack and Janis Bails
Lauren Bigelow
John and Laurel Bobrowich
Nancy Boltrick
Matthew C. Brett and Emily Monnelly
Noelle Brock
The Greg and Anna Brown Family Fund
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Rita Buczynska
CDM Foundation
Howard Conant
Brian Crabb and Christine Cucinotta
The Daphne Hoch Cunningham 2011 Charitable Lead Trust
Stephen Curto
Gary and Sandy Fencik
Ferson Creek Fund
Molly Flanagan
Kathryn Bryk Friedman

* multi-year pledge/payment

online

Read the full report online at www.GreatLakes.org/AnnualReport2018

Jerome and Jamie Gilson
 Linda Gordon
 John and Pat Grady
 Katherine Gramann
 Rebecca Guerriero
 Amanda and Raymond Haas
 David Hackett
 Harmann Family - John and Laila Fund of the Greater Cincinnati Foundation
 Thomas P. Healy Jr. and Gia Interlandi
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 Quentin James
 Katherine Kelly-Alberdi
 Deborah Kern
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 William and Kelly Koch
 Joshua Koenig
 Kornblith & Lasser Family Fund of the Jewish Communal Fund
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 Mr. and Mrs. Theodore B. Martin, Jr.
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 Kevin and Linda McSweeney
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 Meredith Oliver
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 Katie Roberts
 Susan Rouse
 Ruebenson Family Fund at The Chicago Community Foundation
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 Shauna Scott and J. Parker Hall IV
 Jeff Shelden
 Sanjiv Sinha and Ana Sirviente
 Tor and Jennifer Solberg
 Anne Sullivan
 Bob and Hope Taft
 David Thomas
 Thomas and Jeannie Tisbo
 Tom and Sue Van Dam
 Kyle and Danielle Volker

Judith Wells Warner and James R. Warner
 Jennifer and Allen Weaver
 Mary Winburn
 Christopher and Mary Wolf
 Cynthia L. Zeltwanger and Robert S. Tomes

DONORS OF GOODS AND SERVICES

Bagel Art
 Bell's Brewery, Inc.
 Beverage Testing Institute, Inc.
 Blind Faith Cafe
 Chicago Latino Film Festival
 Chicago Magazine
 The Chicago Museum of Contemporary Art
 The Chopping Block
 Julia Ciaccio
 Columbia Yacht Club
 CSz Theater Chicago
 Bruce Doblin
 Elsa's on the Park
 Field Museum
 First Ascent Climbing and Fitness
 Gene Siskel Film Center
 Gino's East
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 Hewn Artisan Bread
 Hilton Garden Inn Downtown Milwaukee
 Homestead Meats
 Honey Butter Fried Chicken
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 iO Theatre
 Live Space Music Hall
 Milwaukee Art Museum
 Neroli Salon & Spa
 Patagonia Chicago
 Rhine Hall Distillery
 Shaw's Crab House
 Shedd Aquarium
 Joyce and Charles Solberg
 Wateriders

MATCHING GIFT COMPANIES

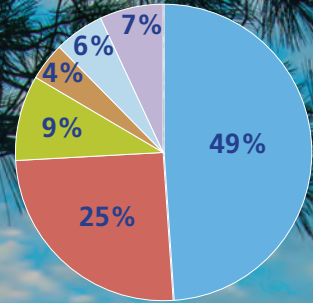
BP Foundation
 Charles Stewart Mott Foundation
 Exelon Foundation Matching Gifts Program
 GE Foundation
 IBM Corporation
 Illinois Tool Works Foundation
 Ingredient Charitable Foundation
 Josiah Macy Jr. Foundation
 Robert R. McCormick Foundation
 Elizabeth, Allan and Warren Shelden Fund
 Starbucks Coffee Company
 The Wege Foundation



This year the Alliance became one of 3% of charities to receive four stars from Charity Navigator, the highest possible rating, for 8 years in a row. The rating is a recognition of our sound fiscal management, commitment to accountability, and transparency.

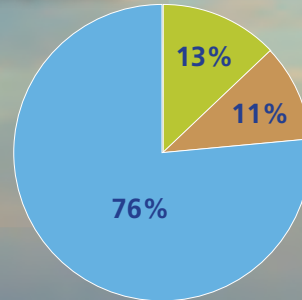
We have set aside and maintained a \$1.1M endowment and our balance sheet remains very strong.

Revenue Sources



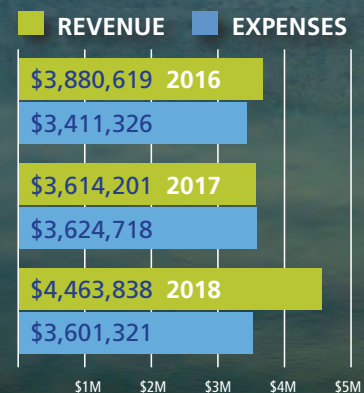
GRANTS	\$2,183,467
INDIVIDUALS	\$1,125,615
BUSINESSES/ ORGANIZATIONS	\$415,774
EVENTS	\$185,122
GOVERNMENT	\$243,295
OTHER	\$310,565

Expenses



PROGRAMS	\$2,754,249
FUNDRAISING	\$465,122
MANAGEMENT & GENERAL	\$381,950

Revenues vs. Expenses



Thank You From the Alliance Board and Staff

The Alliance for the Great Lakes would like to recognize retiring members of our Board of Directors for their years of service: **Sanjiv Sinha, Joy Mulinex, Joan Rothenberg, Lori Colman, and Paul Culhane**. We would also like to extend a warm welcome to our new members, **Thomas E. Langmyer, Jo-Elle Mogerman, and Vanessa Tey Iosue**, who were elected on November 10, 2018. We are continually grateful for the leadership and commitment of our distinguished Board of Directors.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sue Conatser, *Chair*
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Aaron Fershee
Quentin James
Thomas Langmyer
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Buzz Patterson
Jeff Pearsall
Laura Rubin
Vanessa Tey Iosue

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Destinee Henton, *Ohio Outreach Coordinator*
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