



Play Team

Play Team



IMPACT REPORT

2021

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# INTRODUCTION

## 2021 IN REVIEW & WHAT'S AHEAD

Dear Friends,

2021 was all about new ways to get outdoors and connect with nature. With Covid affecting daily life, we sought safe ways to make getting outdoors exciting and engaging.

One of the most visible projects was the Heart Your Parks campaign. Throughout the month of February, oversized wooden hearts were on display, each lovingly painted by a local artist to reflect their connection to the outdoors. This campaign quickly became a local sensation, attracting visitors from the Bay Area. Designed to encourage people to get outdoors, draw attention to our local parks and trails, and promote physical activity, it wrapped up with a Heart Your Parks auction to fund future art in parks programs.

Heart Your Parks is just one example of the creative, fun, and unique ways ACCPF brings people and nature together. We also developed the new "Teen Play Team". This inaugural group of 25 high school volunteers helped run Park & Play visits, facilitated on-site play, and supported the Curiosity Kids garden science program. We quickly learned how motivated, engaged, and helpful our teens can be as they develop mentoring skills that will help in future careers.

These creative programs are just the beginning. ACCPF officially launched a new project - the development of a Wetlands Ecology Center. This beautiful site is the future home for environmental education, nature art, and community programs for American Canyon and beyond. As climate change affects our daily lives, the environment and personal stewardship are growing concerns that our work will address. The Wetlands Ecology Center is one way that we empower the community to take action.

We are grateful for your ongoing support and shared enthusiasm for parks, programs, and play. This year we challenge you to help spread the word about our work in the community. Bring a friend to a Wetlands Coffee Morning, share a social media post, or encourage a relative to become an ACCPF member. Help us expand our network of supporters with a shared passion for the outdoors, community, and making a difference.

With Gratitude,



Janelle Sellick, Executive Director



# PARKS, PROGRAMS, & PLAY

## BRINGING COMMUNITY TOGETHER

### OVERVIEW

In 2021 the ACCPF Board and Staff continued serving the community through the ups and downs of COVID19. We were able to safely gather the community for a fun summer kickoff event, which was featured on KTUV TV. StoryWalk was launched to get the community moving and reading at the same time. An Evening At The Ruins was back and the Reindeer Run had a record-breaking 465 participants.

### PARKS IMPROVEMENTS

In just six years ACCPF has **contributed over \$259,000** to make our parks and open space safer, more accessible, and fun. In 2021 we Partnered with the City of American Canyon to beautify the Wetlands Fitness Center with new native plants. At Shenandoah Park, ACCPF installed the county's first-ever StoryWalk! This literacy and wellness project gets families outside, walking, and reading together. We continue to manage the bench and picnic table sponsorship program this year.

### COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Programs such as educational hikes, Watershed Explorers Online, Curiosity Kids Meetup, and the Park and Play Mobile Recreation Van have **served over 3,000 kids, families, and adults** in our community in 2021. ACCPF identified service gaps in the community and has been honing our new programs to fill those needs. We believe that time outdoors can improve community health, children's education, and social opportunities for our residents. New programs are always in the works!

### PLAY FOR ALL

Through scholarships, sponsorships, and creative programming and planning, we strive for every community member to be able to participate in play for all. In 2021, ACCPF donated \$2,500 to recreation scholarships so that no child is turned away from city park & recreation programs. Event sponsorships, Community Giving, and student scholarships totaling over \$9,500 support our community's efforts to keep program costs low and open to all. We work hard so that everyone has access to quality programs and parks.



# OUR IMPACT

2021 BY THE NUMBERS

28

HEART YOUR PARK  
ARTISTS SPREADING  
THE LOVE



465

PEOPLE  
PARTICIPATED IN  
REINDEER RUN

COLLABORATED  
WITH

10

COMMUNITY  
PARTNERS



1426



CURIOSITY KIDS  
ONLINE PARTICIPANTS

\$9,500

DONATED FOR ACHS  
SCHOLARSHIPS &  
COMMUNITY GIVING

350

YOUTH SERVED AT OUR  
STORYWALK KICKOFF  
CELEBRATION



66

CURIOSITY KIDS  
MEET UP  
PARTICIPANTS



1,110

YOUTH SERVED AT  
EIGHT MOBILE  
RECREATION VISITS



570

PEOPLE PARTICIPATED IN  
OUTDOOR, COMMUNITY  
EVENTS



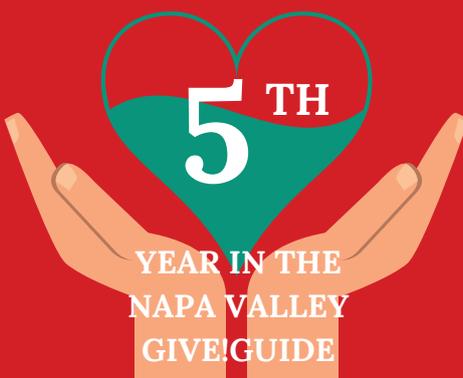
504

VOLUNTEER  
HOURS FROM  
25 TEEN PLAY  
TEAM MEMBERS



5<sup>TH</sup>

YEAR IN THE  
NAPA VALLEY  
GIVE!GUIDE



IN 6 YEARS ACCPF HAS  
OVER PROVIDED

\$200,000

IN DIRECT SUPPORT TO  
OUR COMMUNITY



# CIRCLE OF SUPPORT

## IT TAKES A VILLAGE

### 2021 EXECUTIVE BOARD

Scott Thomason, President  
Sean Hughes, Vice President  
Gladys Milligan, Treasurer  
Crystal Mallare, Secretary

### 2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Raffi Boloyan  
Elizabeth Corey  
Cathy Margolati  
Dr. Jeffrey Nichelini  
Patricia Oro  
Charlie Plummer

Ex Officio Member  
Leon Garcia

### 2021 STAFF

Janelle Sellick, Executive Director  
Joy Hilton, Education Coordinator  
Andrea Long, Program Coordinator

### LIFETIME FOUNDING MEMBERS

Antonio & Ana Castro  
Christina Chun & Jim Bui  
Vince & Cathy Dacanay  
Leon & Eva Garcia  
Matt Plate & Anne Garner  
Andrew & Elizabeth Goff  
Stephen & Joy Hilton  
Cannon & Henie James  
Mark & Cheryl Joseph  
Kenneth Leary  
Fran Lemos  
Anthony & Crystal Mallare  
Nance Matson & Sande Sutter  
Elizabeth Moulds  
Dr. Jeffrey Nichelini  
David & Patricia Oro  
Deven & Heather Piazza  
Belia Ramos  
Paul Schapiro  
Joseph Schunk  
Mike & Janelle Sellick  
Paul & Dana Shigley  
Alan Tran & Saeko Sugo



## 2021 MEMBERS

Alice Ira  
Allison Nagel  
Andrea E. Long  
Anne Payne  
Ashlie Mendoza  
Barbara Long  
Barry Christian  
Beth Marcus  
Betsy Masterson  
Bill Walton  
Blanca Wright  
Brent Cooper  
Carrie Strohl  
Cassandra Walker  
Catherine Orate-Pott  
Cathy Margolati  
Cecilia Wyant  
Charissa Ramp  
Charlie Plummer  
Charlotte Chiolero  
Christine Barnett  
Christopher James  
Clarence Mamaril  
Danielle & Todd Schofield  
Darrell Doi  
Debra Casper  
Dianne Weyna  
Dolores Benjamin  
Dorothy Blake  
Elaine Boloyan  
Eric Altman  
Fanny Woo  
Fayza Hamid  
Gigi Sapida  
Gina Griggs  
Heather Banks  
Heather Keffer  
Heidi Zipay  
Hugh Marquez  
Jaime Gallegos  
Janene Osborn  
Jeanette Ferrer-Valladares  
Jeannette Goyetche  
Jeff Scott  
Jennifer Kansanback  
Jennifer Lacap  
Jessica Milde  
Jessica Rennie  
Joseph Nabrynski  
Josita Chaparro  
Karen Cahill  
Karen Ritter  
Kasama Lee  
Katherine Robey  
Kevin Kain  
Kimberly McDonald  
Kristin Einberger  
Kristyn Miles  
Lani Ramos  
Lisa Quinn  
Luis Yanez  
Mandy Le  
Maria Ojeda  
Maria P Countouriotis  
Marie Medalle  
Marilyn Abelon  
Mary Ann Martinez  
Mary Shaw  
Matt & Jessi Allmer  
Mayla Argana  
Megan Dameron  
Melissa Ramirez  
Michael Cahill  
Michelle Ryan  
Mike & Ashley Young  
Millie Binz  
Nance Matson & Sande Sutter  
Nancy Nabrynski  
Pamela Phillips  
Penny Bellotti  
Rae Lucero  
Randy Davis  
Renee Ross  
Richard Peterson  
Scott Thomason  
Sean Hughes  
Shanda Neumeier  
Silvia Regalado-Zachlod  
Taifa Gaskins  
Tara McClinton Horner  
Teresa Hamilton  
Terry England  
Valerie Zizak-Morais  
Violeta Leslie  
Wenderella Wade  
Wenona Garside  
Yarissa Martinez  
Zita Latona

## 2021 COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Canyon Oaks Elementary School  
City of American Canyon  
KHOPE International  
Napa County Resource Conservation District  
Napa County Park & Open Space District  
The Napa County Bicycle Coalition  
American Canyon Soroptomist  
American Canyon Arts Foundation  
American Canyon 4H Club  
American Canyon Starbucks

## DONORS

American Canyon Professional Firefighters Association IAFF L1186  
Alice Ira  
Andrea Long  
Anne Garner  
Barbara Long  
Carrie & Curtis Strohl  
Cathy Margolati  
Charlie & Dana Plummer  
Christina Chun  
Clarence Mamaril  
Crystal Mallare  
Darrell Doi  
David & Alan Whippy  
Dimitri Draves  
Elizabeth M Corey  
Elizabeth Munk  
Elizabeth Goff  
Fran Lemos  
Frances Knapczyk  
Gina Margolati  
Gladys Milligan  
Heather Marshall  
Jack Davis  
Jackie Jackson  
Janelle Sellick  
Jeffrey Nichelini  
Jennifer Kansanback  
Joan Foresman  
John & Terri Howell  
Joseph Carrillo, MD  
Joy Hilton  
Lauren Muscatine  
Leon Garcia  
Linda Wargo  
Lisa Kelch  
Lisanne Leask  
Marie Lopez  
Megan Dameron  
Michelle Morgan  
Nance Matson & Sande Sutter  
Nancy Kerson  
Patricia Oro  
Paul Juberg  
Penny Bellotti  
Raffi & Elaine Boloyan  
Randy Davis  
Sarah Minahen  
Scott Thomason  
Sean Hughes  
Teresa Abeyta  
Violeta Leslie  
William Birmingham

## 2021 GRANTORS

The Gasser Foundation  
Napa Valley Community Foundation  
PG&E  
Redwood Credit Union  
Sierra Club Napa Group and Redwood Chapter



*thank you!*

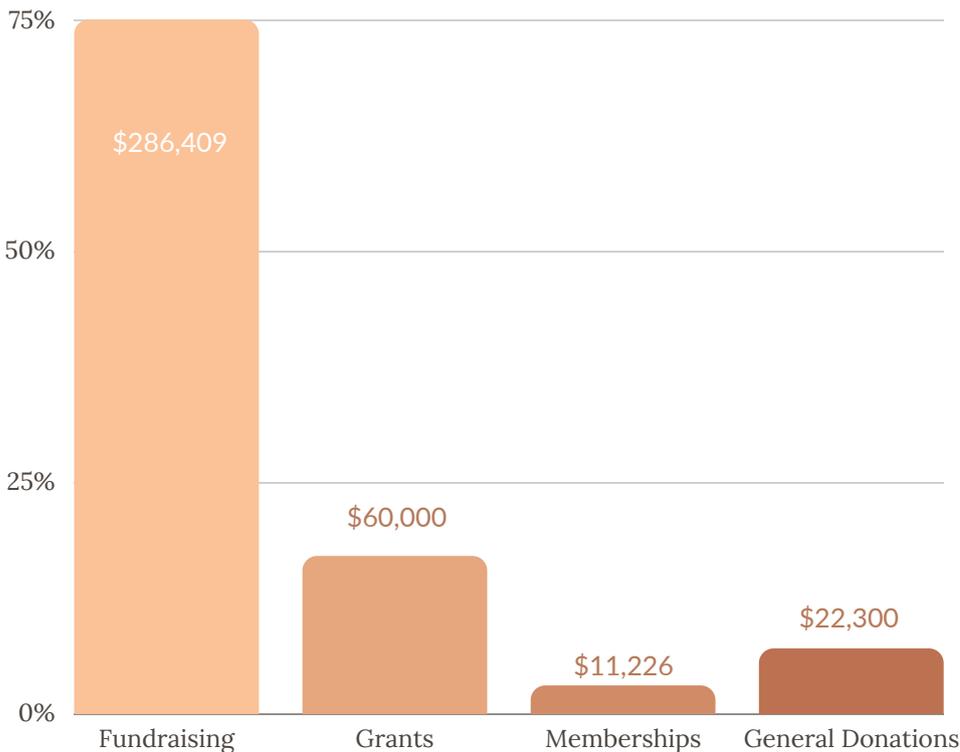
# FINANCES AT A GLANCE

## PREPARING FOR GROWTH

### REVENUE AND FUNDRAISING

With the return of Evening at the Ruins revenue increased to pre-Covid levels. We continued to diversify our revenue sources with the addition of new grants and increase in membership revenue.

We also developed a program for accepting donations of stocks and securities.



### FUNDRAISING HIGHLIGHT

Thanks to successful Evening at the Ruins Fund-A-Need we raised \$90,000 in seed money for the Wetlands Ecology Center. These restricted funds will be used to hire the architects and contractors needed to design the building and surrounding property. These funds will help ensure that the projects is well researched and planned to meet the needs of the community for years to come. Donations to the restricted Eco Center Fund can be made year round at [www.acparks.org](http://www.acparks.org).



OVER

# \$122,500

GIVEN FOR PARK IMPROVEMENTS, PROGRAMS & COMMUNITY SUPPORT IN 2021

# 5TH ANNUAL EVENING AT THE RUINS

## BACK AND BETTER THAN EVER

With incredible art displays, an energized crowd, magical lighting, and unique auction items, the 5th annual Evening at the Ruins was our most successful fundraiser yet! Thank you to everyone who helped make this special fundraiser possible. We raised over \$300,000 for parks, programs, and play in our community and kicked off fundraising for our newest project, the Wetlands Ecology Center. A huge thank you goes to the Sierra Club Napa Group and Redwood Chapter for starting off the fund-a-need with a \$50,000 contribution! More thanks go to Terry McGrath, of McGrath Properties and the Watson Ranch Project, for so generously allowing us to use the Ruins and working so hard alongside us to make the evening as perfect as possible. To our amazing volunteers, we could not have done it without you! To our generous donors, you make all of the hard work worth it, you make our programs possible!

### SPONSORS

Watson Ranch  
American Canyon Orthodontics  
ICC Stravinski  
Recology American Canyon  
Valley Wine Warehouse  
American Canyon Pediatric Dentistry  
American Canyon Dental Care  
Cori Badertscher, Realtor Re/Max Gold  
Elizabeth Goff, Trustee, NVC  
Infinity Bottling  
Kasama Lee, Realtor Re/Max  
Mille & Roo  
McGrath Properties  
Napa Valley Vintners  
Napa Valley Casino  
Council Member David Oro  
PMI Northbay  
Alan Tran - Transtar Accounting  
The Ramirez Family  
Matt Plate and Anne Garner  
32 Dental  
Del Sur Mortgage  
Napa Junction  
Fran Lemos



Over  
**\$300,000**  
Raised



# IN THE COMMUNITY

## A YEAR OF BUILDING PROGRAMS

### TEEN PLAY TEAM

In 2021 ACCPF kicked off our first year of the Teen Play Team! This is a great opportunity for local teens to volunteer in our community and to mentor younger children. Teens helped with the weekly Park & Play events as well as mentoring younger children during our Curiosity Kids Meetups. Lots of good stuff to say about how the kids stepped up, got involved in our community, and helped with An Evening At The Ruins. Over four months 25 teens gave 504 volunteer hours to our community!

**"I wanted to help kids and community over the summer. The experience was even better than anticipated."** Tashanda Corpus, ACHS Student & Play Team Participant

### PARK & PLAY

Park & Play was created in 2020 to offer safe social distancing play opportunities in small group settings during COVID shutdowns. ACCPF revamped Park & Play for its 2021 return, featuring six Friday afternoon in-person play dates facilitated by Teen Play Team volunteers.

Park & Play featured a variety of lightly structured free play activities encouraging kids, families & the community to get outside to play together! Thanks to the financial support of Redwood Credit Union the 2021 Park & Play was a rocking good time featuring the musical talents of community member Clarence Mamaril and the addition of light snacks provided by food truck vendors at each location.

We brought community play to more than 1,000 local children with Park & Play activities in 2021.

**"During the beginning of the pandemic park and play drive-thrus were a big thing my kids looked forward to. They loved all the little crafts and nature activities."** said Christa King **"Then we were able to go back to in-person get together's and the kids absolutely loved all the activities and being able to get outdoors and socialize. Both my kids' favorite thing to do was build with the giant blue blocks. We look forward to these events every year."**



## HEART YOUR PARKS

2021 brought the return of in-person programming & the introduction of art in parks with February's Heart Your Parks celebration. The month-long Heart Your Parks celebration combined the community's love of nature & art with exciting new ways to experience local parks & trails. The multi-faceted program was designed to encourage nature exploration as a means to improve physical and mental well-being. In addition to the 21 hearts and seven frames displayed in local parks & trails, Heart Your Parks included a found nature art hunt and partnerships with the City of American Canyon's Parks & Recreation Department on Search & Solve puzzles at three locations.

**The inaugural Heart Your Parks celebration featured the artwork of 28 local artists ranging in age from seven to 70. The corresponding heart auction raised \$5,000 for future arts in parks programming.**

## STORY WALK

In June, ACCPF brought the first Napa StoryWalk® installation to Shenandoah Park. StoryWalk® American Canyon is an innovative program that supports literacy, outdoor time, family connection, and awareness of our parks. The concept is simple. Deconstruct a beloved children's book, weatherproof it and post it along a popular trail, blending the joys of reading and the outdoors for all to enjoy. The 16-kiosk StoryWalk® American Canyon trail borders the perimeter of the park and features a different, interactive, nature-themed picture book quarterly.

**"We were so excited to see StoryWalk in the park since my girls love books and being outside!"** Kristen Gutierrez mother of two said, **"They are excited to see what the next book will be and hope that it will get more families outdoors."**





## CURIOSITY KIDS MEETUP

COVID brought many changes to ACCPF and our community. We first introduced Curiosity Kids as a free online educational program consisting of short video “bites” for kids and parents.

In the summer of 2021, we were able to offer safe, outdoor, Curiosity Kids Meetups! With the generous help of Liz Corey, third-grade teacher at Canyon Oaks, kids were able to meet up in person, connect with each other and the outdoors in a meaningful way.



**"This program reinforced what we've known all along - children love to discover and learn in the outdoors! During the month of July, we learned how to make scientific observations, slow down and listen to nature, create ways to beautify vacant areas with flowers and plants, and search for the colors of the rainbow in our garden. Students arrived ready to learn, create, and unearth all the fascinating things nature has to offer." - Liz Corey, 3rd Grade teacher and ACCPF Board Member**



## AC BLOOMS

Spring 2021 brought the return of AC Blooms, another COVID response program launched in 2020. The popular social media campaign celebrates all things spring & encourages engagement with nature along our popular trails.

New to AC Blooms in 2021 was the addition of Poetry on the Trail and a Wildflower Hike Pop Up. Poetry on the Trail featured hand painted signs with poetry verses celebrating spring along Wetlands Edge & Newell Open Space trails.



ACCPF welcomed JoeJoe, a Naturalist with Napa Open Space District to join us at the Newell Open Space trailhead for a Wildflower Pop Up Hike. Hikers were greeted at the trailhead and provided wildflower seeds, fun wildflower collection ideas for kids, and lots of wildflower viewing tips for their self-guided wildflower hike.

# LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

## WETLANDS ECOLOGY CENTER

### WHERE NATURE MEETS COMMUNITY

With environmental concerns at an all-time high, ACCPF is leading the way for community conservation efforts. The Wetlands Ecology center will provide a home for environmental education, art, and science programs for students and community members from Napa County and beyond. With an estimated reach of over 12,000 people annually, the Ecology Center will strengthen American Canyon as a leader in environmental leadership, research, and programming. Most importantly, it helps us “root” our families in nature and develop the next generation of nature lovers who will help solve our most complex environmental issues. Special thanks to the Sierra Club Napa Group and Redwood Chapter for seed funding to help kick start the project.

### FOUNDING CIRCLE DONORS

Alan Tran  
Amber Sepulveda  
Andrea Long  
Anne Payne  
Arvind Nischal  
Barry Christian  
Belia-Eugenia Ramos  
Brenda Knight  
Brenda Quirk  
Carolynne Commander  
Caryn Kuykendall  
Cathy Margolati  
Charles Hall  
Charlie Plummer  
Chris Benz  
Christal Guillermo  
Christina Chun  
Crystal Mallare  
David Oro  
Dr. Jeffrey Nichelini  
Elaine Bolyan

Elizabeth Corey  
Elizabeth Goff  
Ellen Sanders - In Honor  
of Otto Sanders  
Eric Altman  
Erica Smithies  
Fanny Woo  
Fary Koh  
Georgene Roberts  
Grant Tokiwa  
Heather Keffer  
Heather Piazza  
Heidi Zipay  
Hugh Marquez  
Janelle Sellick  
Janene Osborn  
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Jeff Morris  
Jennifer Fotherby  
Jessica Tuteur  
Joanna Mittman

Joy A Hilton  
Julia Villa  
Kasama Lee  
Kayla Scott  
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Laurence Kamer  
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Lisa Roque  
Marcia Smith  
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Mark Gardner  
Mark Joseph  
Mathew Plate  
Matthew Thomas  
Melissa Ramirez  
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Millie Binz  
Monica Pingol  
Nate Heydorff

Neel Goundar  
Oscar Ortiz  
Pamela Phillips  
Patricia Lund  
Pil Han  
Robert Minahen  
Robert Weyant  
Roy De los Santos  
Samantha Smith  
Sara Parker  
Sierra Club Napa Group &  
Redwood Chapter  
Steven Anderson  
Tammi Haney  
Tara McClinton Horner  
Terry McGrath  
Todd Schofield  
Tui Toki  
Vince Dacanay  
Von Alitzer  
Wayne Goderum

## FUTURE HOME

- ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION
- NATURE ART
- SCIENCE





# JOIN US TODAY

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[WWW.ACPARKS.ORG](http://WWW.ACPARKS.ORG)