



# CLIMATE RIDE

2015 Annual Report



## Letter from the Executive Director

Thanks to the generosity and passion of our participants, supporters, and donors, we awarded a record \$875,011.00 in grants in 2015. In 2015, Climate Ride grew from three to seven events across the nation. 435 people biked and hiked an astounding 121,000 miles to support climate, conservation, and active transportation. We are proud of our participants and supporters who have shown unfaltering dedication to the Climate Ride cause. Through our programs, we are driving philanthropic impact for the environment and active transportation, and we are growing a people-powered movement.

The Climate Riders and Hikers commitment to sustainability touches everything that we do, from helping our grant recipients to advocate for sustainable cities and bike lanes, to supporting climate work and conservation in national parks and wild lands. Through the Climate Ride events, we are growing a network of advocates and organizations that are working to build a better future for their communities and the environment. As well, we engaged more young people than ever and encouraged the next generation of citizen philanthropists to care for the planet. This would not be possible without the support of dedicated Climate Ride advocates.

We invite you to share in this dedication to driving philanthropic support for sustainability. I encourage you to introduce your friends and colleagues to Climate Ride and invite them to join a life-changing ride or hike for the cause. This investment in Climate Ride and the future creates a powerful ripple effect.

On behalf of our entire Climate Ride team, I wish to extend our heartfelt thanks to the intrepid riders and hikers who joined us in 2015.

Kindest regards,  
Caeli Quinn  
Co-founder and Executive Director, Climate Ride



**Climate Ride's mission is to inspire and empower citizens to work toward a new energy future. We use sport as a means to change lives and build an effective, citizen-based, sustainability movement.**



**Climate Ride drives philanthropic impact for the environment, active transportation, and sustainability. Our programs focus on education, building community, connecting generations, and empowering the next citizen philanthropists.**



## What We Do:

### Life-changing Events

- Develop multiple Climate Ride events that galvanize a nationwide network of Climate Riders and Hikers.

### Philanthropic Impact

- Raise money for organizations and projects that work on climate change, clean energy, active transportation, sustainable infrastructure, and public health.

### Environmental Education

- Incorporate educational programs and visionary speakers on all events while raising the profile of the sustainability movement among participants, donors, sponsors and the general public.

### Build Community

- Increase awareness and understanding of the inter-connectedness of environmental issues caused by the climate crisis.

### Foster Civic Responsibility

- Foster a sense of civic duty and participation that encourages engagement with members of Congress, elected officials and national leaders.



## Climate Ride at a glance

Below is a snapshot of our work from 2008 to 2015.

#### History

<b>1,968</b>	Participants over history of events.
<b>\$3,797,830</b>	Total funds granted to beneficiary organizations
<b>514,452</b>	Miles biked and hiked over history of events
<b>29</b>	Events in history
<b>385</b>	Total grants given to beneficiary organizations

#### Fundraising and Grants

<b>\$875,011</b>	Total funds granted in 2015
<b>\$30,115</b>	Total funds raised by 1 participant on 1 event
<b>\$3,700</b>	Average funds raised per participant
<b>125</b>	Total grants given in 2015

#### Miles Traveled

<b>301</b>	Average miles pedaled on a biking event
<b>45</b>	Average miles hiked on a hiking event
<b>14</b>	States and <b>3</b> Countries

#### Participants

<b>75</b>	Eldest
<b>12</b>	Youngest
<b>7</b>	Most events by one participant
<b>47</b>	States represented
<b>12</b>	Countries represented

## Life-Changing Events

Through multi-day cycling and hiking charitable events, along with the Independent Challenge program, Climate Ride participants are taking direct action to grow the sustainability and active transportation movements.

Climate Ride provides thousands of participants a unique opportunity to merge environmental passion, love of physical activity and challenge with a philanthropic commitment to protect the planet.

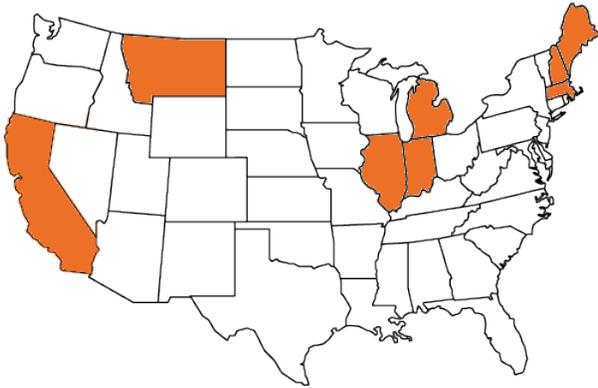
Our events inspire and connect people. Participants meet, learn and network with individuals doing remarkable work to advance sustainability, clean energy, climate change solutions, and active transportation.

Each year, participants return to raise more funds, explore new routes and contribute to changing their communities for the better.



**“I signed up for Climate Ride not knowing how to ride a bike. I have always wanted to do something challenging and crazy, but still help the world. When I found Climate Ride, I knew this was it!”**  
**- Huong Cheng, Climate Rider**

# 2015 Events



## California North Coast Ride

Humboldt to San Francisco

## Climate Hike

Glacier National Park

## Northeast Ride

Bar Harbor to Boston

## Midwest Ride

Grand Rapids to Chicago

## Independent Challenge

Create your own event!

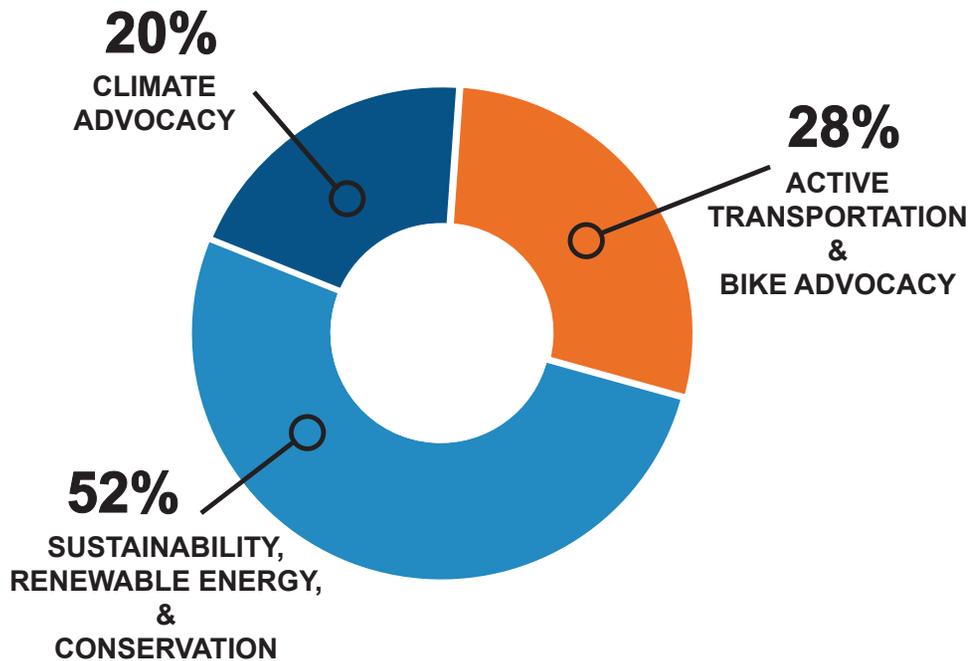


# Philanthropic Impact

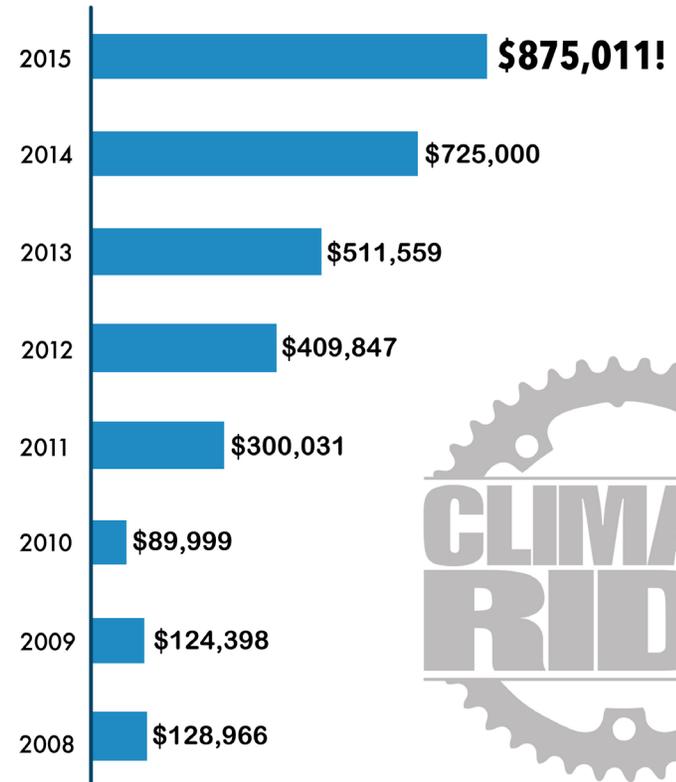
All Climate Ride events are charitable, fundraising events that support over 160 beneficiary organizations. These beneficiaries are selected for their work on environment, conservation, clean energy, sustainability, climate education, and active transportation advocacy. Since 2008, we have granted more than \$3.1 million to beneficiary organizations!

In 2015, we had another record breaking year and granted 20% more than 2014.

## 2015 Grant Distribution



## Total Grants Awarded



# Top 30 Grants

Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition	\$55,961
National Park Conservation Association	\$54,398
Glacier National Park Conservancy	\$33,803
Bike Santa Cruz County	\$20,257
San Francisco Bicycle Coalition	\$17,659
Natural Resources Defense Council	\$16,701
Citizens Climate Lobby	\$16,045
GivePower Foundation	\$15,998
Washington Area Bicyclist Association	\$14,552
350.org	\$12,766
Climate One	\$11,837
B Lab	\$11,399
The Nature Conservancy	\$11,363
Greenbelt Alliance	\$11,187
GRID Alternatives	\$10,902

National Park Foundation	\$10,665
Walk San Francisco	\$10,548
Climate Solutions	\$10,452
Marine Applied Research and Exploration (MARE)	\$10,437
Alliance for the Great Lakes	\$10,010
Rails-to-Trails Conservancy	\$9,387
1% for the Planet	\$9,072
University of Washington School of Public Health	\$8,866
I Challenge Myself	\$8,153
Bike East Bay	\$8,023
Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition	\$7,734
Vote Solar	\$7,399
Boston Cyclists Union	\$7,225
Ceres	\$7,123
Food & Water Watch	\$6,801



## “ Our grant from Climate Ride

effectively doubled each year for three years in a row...to almost \$14,000 [in] 2015. In 2015 our grant from Climate Ride was 10% of our budget!

Not only did participation in Climate Ride help us raise funds, it has helped us grow our organizational capacity. After riding for the Boston Cyclists Union, many former Climate Riders have become some of our biggest advocates and volunteers.

We also repeatedly hear from riders that the experiences have been once in a lifetime, as they're incredibly well-planned, and getting to take a week-long bike trip where all you do is think about biking gives a certain confidence to riders when they get back to the City.

The cross-pollination of issues is also unique. As a bike advocacy organization, we've brought people closer to our organization who saw themselves as environmental advocates before, and now care more about advocating for bike infrastructure, too.

We feel incredibly lucky to have this partnership with Climate Ride, financially and in helping us grow a movement and increase ridership! ”

Becca Wolfson  
Executive Director  
Boston Cyclists Union





## *Education*

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Climate Ride is more than just hiking or pedaling the miles. A variety of educational programs are provided for participants each evening of the event. Participants hike or bike during the day and hear from bright minds at night!

### **Beneficiary Ignite Night**

A fun, fast-paced event where leaders from our beneficiary collection, who are also participating in the event, share their work and innovative ideas with the group in three short minutes.

### **Featured Speakers**

We have an amazing list of speakers join us on all of our events that includes activists, athletes, politicians, business leaders, authors and visionaries in the environmental and sustainability fields.

### **Climate Ride Cafe**

This is an evening of roundtable discussions allowing participants to connect over a variety of active transportation, energy, sustainability and climate topics. Participants switch to new tables and new topics between each of the three rounds. As participants carry key ideas or themes to new tables, they exchange perspectives, greatly enriching the possibility for surprising new insights.

# *Building Community*



**“The community that we formed in 5 short days was unbelievable. And when I think about the communities that we all drew on to support our fundraising for this event, the reach and people power of the climate movement feels seriously formidable.”**

**-Katie Siegner, Climate Hiker**

**“This trip further impressed upon me the importance and power of community, and how vital it is to continue to challenge yourself and to explore the unknown.”  
- Antonia Sohns, Climate Rider**



**“I wanted to showcase that there are alternatives to fossil-fuel based transportation, I wanted to spread the message about climate change, and I have a personal commitment to sustainability that dovetails with AGU’s own mission of science for the benefit of humanity. I found Climate Ride to be a really thrilling and personally rewarding experience.”**  
**- Chris McIntee, CEO, American Geophysical Union**



## *Civic Responsibility*

Since 2008, Climate Ride has supported 1,968 people who have biked and hiked over 641,000 miles. The collective impact of these participants raising funds and spreading awareness to hundreds of thousands of donors while promoting the Climate Ride cause is huge.

# Financial Summary

## Income

Participant Fundraising	\$1,678,690
Registration Fees/Rider Services	\$72,047
Unrestricted Income	\$29,497
Capital Campaign	\$66,071
Merchandise Sales	\$16,268
Sponsorship Income	\$2,400
Other Income	\$28,766
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$1,893,738</b>

## Expenses

Administrative Expenditures	\$105,265
Program Expenditures	
Event Program Expenditures	\$761,297
Grants Program Expenditures	\$919,091
Total Program Expenditures	\$1,680,388
Other Expenses	\$467
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$1,786,120</b>

*Restricted Funds for Next Year's Fundraising*

<b>Net Income/Cash Reserve</b>	<b>\$107,619</b>
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# Thank you, 2015 Supporters!



# Thank you, 2015 Donors!

## Founders Circle: \$10,000

Giant Steps Foundation

## \$2,500 - \$5,000

Quinn Family Foundation

Ron & Eva Sher Family Fund

Sam & Peggy Grossman Family Foundation

Betsy & Jesse Fink Foundation

## \$1,000 +

Patricia Hallstein & Axel Kramer

Rosi Kerr & Dawn Averitt

Roger Schwed

## \$500 +

Charlie & Joyce Solberg

David – NYC DC 2013

Evan O'Neil

Jim Berger

Jim Kuster

Juan Benitez

## \$150 +

Blake Holiday

Catherine Bock

Charlotte Streck

Compassion Fatigue Awareness Project

Cynthia Silverthorn

Dan Leaverton

Jim and Nancy Fleming

Karl Danz

Linda Nyberg

LocalConstruct, Inc.

Louis F. Rosenthal

Phil Geyer

Rick Rickard

Susan Green

## Friend of the Ride

Aaron & Marcia Cohen

Adam Rubinfeld

Adrian Gershom

Alan Adye

Alan Bair

Alan Miller

Alexandra Alderman

Andy Crestodina

Barb

Ben Sander

Beth Tiedemann

Brooks Barron

Bruce Catania

CB Davis

Christine Heinrichs

Clyde Hicks

David Coale

David Marsland

Dirk Rosen

Elaine Hebert

Erica Gulseth

Glenn Fidler

Hanno Lewis

Heather Lussier

Heidi Van Everen

In honor of Carol Hyman

Ingrid DiPaula (DesignInk)

Jana Taylor

Janet Roseff and Robert Lane

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Martha Russo

Michelle O'Connor

Myron Gainforth

Nancy Fleming

Natalie Chwalisz

Pete Gang

Peter Streibig

Rachael Loper

Rachelle

Robert Loper

Rose Chaffee-Cohen

Sandy Emerson

Sara Carnahan

Scott Wasserman

Skya & Devin Livingston Martin

Steve Hoffner

Susan Flakus

Swetha Kannan

Travis Richardson

Trina Peterson

Valerie C.



## Staff

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**Caeli Quinn** Executive Director

**Blake Holiday** National Event Director

**Andrew Valainis** Operations Manager

**Michelle Levitus** Beneficiary &  
Hiker Manager

**Patrick Colleran** Logistics &  
Rider Coordinator

**Russ Mendivil** Rider Representative

**Emily Kern** Administrative Assistant

## Board

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### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Tim Frick President

Trina Peterson Secretary

Roger Schwed Treasurer

### BOARD MEMBERS

Alexandra Alderman

Brendan Gray

John Grossman

Blake Holiday

Rosi Kerr

Kim Larson

Josh Lasky

Evan O'Neil

Caeli Quinn





**Interested in joining us for an event?  
Check out [climateride.org/events](https://climateride.org/events)**

**Provide lasting support for our programs and  
help our community grow by contributing to the  
Climate Ride Annual Fund.**

**Pedal your bike. Power the movement.**