



Green Works

in Kansas City

ANNUAL REPORT September 2022 – August 2023

Mission

Empowering Our Future Leaders

to care for the environment, contribute to our economy, and create healthy communities.

Green Works in Kansas City develops Kansas City's future leaders through hands-on environmental science, outdoor experiences, service projects, and career exploration.

Key Principles

- We serve students living in the Kansas City, Missouri Public School District.
- We incorporate project-based learning in a social setting with other students and caring adults.
- We follow national best practices including quality staff, small class size, and long-term involvement.
- We offer holistic experiences including field trips and service projects to appeal to all types of learners.
- We involve volunteer professionals to help students build self-confidence and strengthen their social networks.
- We incorporate respect for the environment into every aspect of our programming and administration.

Another Successful Career Camp



We exposed a group of middle schoolers (over 50% minority) to more than 20 environmental and STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) experts during our 2023 camp. The campers loaded boats and used scientific equipment to test water quality at the KU Field Station, investigated green infrastructure at the KC Water campus, saw recycling in action as yard waste turned to mulch at MO Organic Recycling, and much more.

Thank you to our partners, including The MO Dept. of Conservation, Johnson County Community College, MO Organic Recycling, KU Biological Field Station & Museum of Natural History Collections Dept., Baker Wetlands, KC Water, Vireo Landscape Architecture, Lakeside Nature Center, and Honeywell Engineering. Our 2023 camp was funded by Catalent, Spire, Camps for Kids, Church of the Resurrection, and many individual donors.

IMPACT:

200+
Students served
annually

16k
Hours of internships
funded

100%
Student high school
graduation rate

4k+
Native plants planted
in urban KCMO

Board Members

Jensen Adams, Sustainability Manager, City of KCMO

Scott Bingham, Treasurer, Principle Landscape Architect at BBN Architects, Inc.

Ryan Bresette, Chairman Emeritus, President of Live Like Luke Foundation

Laurie Brown, Conservation Ecologist at Vireo

Kate Corwin, President of Green Works in Kansas City

Mark Eisemann, Attorney with Lewis Rice, LLC

Calvin Girard, Board Chair, Director IT Planning and Operations at Evergy

Liam Porter, William Porter Insurance Agency, Inc. - State Farm

Neila Seda, Design Engineer at CFS Engineers

Queen Wilkes, Secretary, Green Works alum, and Founder of Forethought Media LLC

Shane Wilson, Design Leader at Olivus Design



During the summer, long-time board member Neila Seda (left) moved back to Puerto Rico to be closer to family. Over her nine years of involvement, Neila helped teach nature programs, volunteered in our store and as an Excelebrate mentor, and hosted a very successful fundraising event. Neila will be missed!

Program Highlights

Developing youth leaders for a sustainable future

ECOS Nature Programming

Our Saturday ECOS Nature Club is for 4th-7th graders and includes hikes, bird watching, identification of native trees and plants, nature art projects, music, and much more, all within a framework that incorporates SEL (Social and Emotional Learning). ECOS is held during the fall and spring, and unless it is raining, we are outside! This year we offered Saturday programs at the Discovery Center at 47th and Troost with field trips to Lakeside Nature Center in Swope Park.

SEL skills are an integral part of our sessions, and students learn about SEL with examples from the natural world. Students learn patience from the example of a butterfly, learn about empathy for opossums, and write about listening using bird songs. These skills are discussed as a group and supported by journals for written reflection.

Along with the Saturday Nature Club format, we also provided custom ECOS programs to a number of organizations including Guadalupe Centers, KCMO Parks & Rec, and the Ryogoku Soccer Academy.



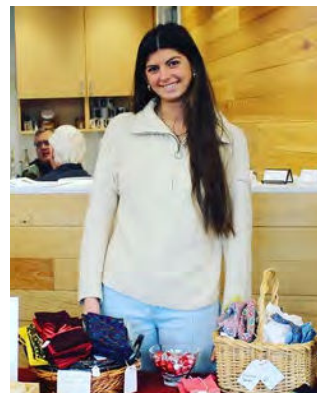
Sustainable Business Interns



We hosted a year-long Sustainable Internship this year for six young adults. The internship focused on learning sustainable business practices while gaining direct experience in the operation of a retail business, The Perennial Bee.

Our interns designed, manufactured, repurposed, and priced products. They calculated production costs and assisted with marketing, window displays, and social media. Interns worked in our store engaging with customers, fulfilling online orders, pricing donated items, and assisted with planning special events and selling products at the Brookside Farmer's Market.

Interns had numerous opportunities to learn from other sustainable businesses in our neighborhood including Cliff's Taphouse, The Organic Salon, and Urban Mining. In the spring, interns had the additional opportunity to attend training and assist as facilitators with our Saturday ECOS Nature Club.



Program Outcomes

Working towards our mission to empower Kansas City's future leaders to care for our environment, contribute to our economy, and create healthy communities, we measure our success using the following program outcomes:

1. Increased science literacy
2. Changed behaviors towards the environment
3. Improvement in Social and Emotional Learning and Resilience
4. Hours of work experience through paid internships
5. Increased social capital connections

Space Consolidation

Early in the summer we made the decision to consolidate our two classroom spaces back into one. We spent the summer cleaning, organizing, and responsibly re-homing our extra materials and furnishings. Our newly consolidated space is now ready and has worktables for staff, storage for supplies and files, a kitchen, a lounge area, and a smaller version of the Perennial Bee.

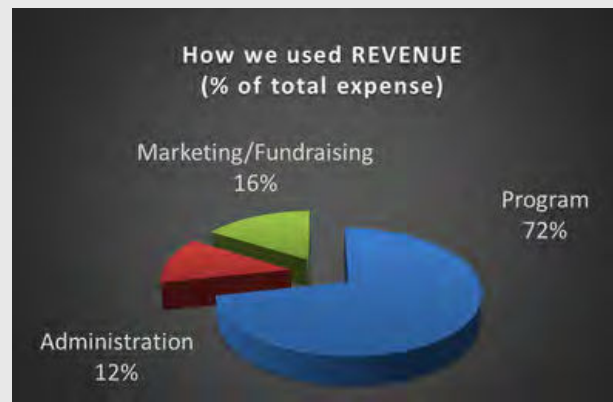
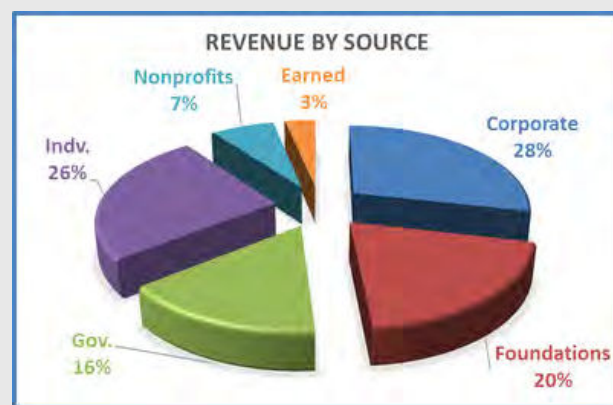


Meet Angie

Angie Golubovich began working for Green Works in December 2020 and currently serves as our Fund Development Director and also manages the ECO Career Camp. Angie credits family road trips to national parks, time spent at her grandfather's property in the Ozarks, and her childhood surroundings in what was once rural Jackson County with allowing her to build a strong connection to nature.

Angie has over 20 years combined experience in environmental education and in science and marine conservation realms. During her tenure at the Florida Department of Environmental Protection, she helped lead the EPA-funded LIFE (Learning in Florida's Environment) program which earned her the John Beakley Marine Science Educator of the Year award. Angie also helped run a small nonprofit focusing on litter prevention and sea turtle conservation, which led her to become a Zone Captain for the Ocean Conservancy's International Coastal Cleanup program. Angie's passion lies in people understanding that our lives, including our health and prosperity, are inextricably linked to the well-being of our planet. In her free time, Angie enjoys the outdoors with her son, daughter, and husband, along with reading and writing.

Revenue



2022-2023 Funders \$5k and above

BlueScope Foundation
Catalent
Central Presbyterian Church
Children's Service Fund of Jackson County
Crestwood Equity Partners
Evergy
Genesis Steel
Hamilton-Boyle Charitable Trust
Live Like Luke
Mariner Foundation
Alma E. Morelock Fund
R.A. Long Foundation
Sherman Family Foundation
Shumaker Family Foundation
Spire



History and Contact Info

Green Works in Kansas City was founded by Kate Corwin, an IT professional, former business owner, and community leader. Green Works was incorporated in the state of Missouri in February of 2007, and recognized as a nonprofit corporation under section 501(c)3 of the Internal Revenue Code in September 2007.

Contact us: kate@greenworkskc.org, 816-304-8400
607 East 31st Street, Kansas City, MO 64109
greenworkskc.org

How You Can Help



Making new friends at spring ECOS Nature Club

- Give a monetary contribution and consider giving monthly.
- Donate a car, truck, boat, motorcycle, or RV.
- Join others who have designated Green Works for a planned gift through a charitable bequest or beneficiary designation.
- Volunteer as an ECOS assistant - email info@greenworkskc.org.
- Write a review of Green Works on GreatNonprofits - greatnonprofits.org.
- Connect to us on Facebook, Instagram, or LinkedIn.
- Sign up for our newsletter and then share with your friends. (Simple form at the bottom of the website homepage.)

Check the Support page of our website for details.

Looking Ahead to Next Year

The COVID-19 pandemic changed many things in our lives. For 13 years we focused much of our efforts on working with high school students. Currently, this is impossible given that most students are now working after school and don't have time to participate in our programs. While we've increased our recruiting for the ECOS Nature Club, registrations are lower than they were prior to the pandemic, as we are facing increasing competition from coding and technology programs. And while we know that children need nature, not everyone understands this.

In light of these significant changes, our staff is focusing on growing the custom ECOS nature programs we offer community organizations and youth groups. This past year we served students from Ryogoku Soccer Academy, Mattie Rhodes, Guadalupe Center, Operation Breakthrough, and KCMO Parks and Rec. Thankfully these opportunities to serve students in a school or daycare setting are still available. Along with custom ECOS programs, we will continue to offer our Saturday ECOS Nature Club and Career Camp and are planning a winter program to keep our ECOS Nature Club kids connected to one another and Green Works.

