

SERVING ALL OF CALIFORNIA

Annual Report 2014



OUTWARD BOUND
CALIFORNIA

Photo courtesy of Zak Klein

A WORD FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

As many of you know, we began a great adventure in 2012. This was when the Outward Bound Urban Center in San Francisco joined forces with the High Sierra wilderness base to create a brand new Outward Bound school.

Our board's vision was to have a unified Outward Bound organization bringing the highest quality outdoor experiential education to youth and adults across California. Thanks to the consistent support and hard work of our donors, alumni and staff, we are bringing this vision more fully to fruition every day.

From 2013 to 2014, we increased the number of students we served annually by 21% and increased the number of student program days offered annually by nearly 5%. We have also added new course areas and piloted new program types such as one-day kayaking excursions in the Bay Area and also "Wilderness to Urban" courses where students hike from the coastal redwoods of Marin County down into the neighborhoods of San Francisco.

As Outward Bound California has grown, we have remained focused on our core values of service and inclusion, which we are pleased to highlight in this annual report. The ethic of service has never been stronger among our staff, students and alumni. In 2014, we launched several initiatives that deepened the service component of our programming, including "The Service Bus," a roving caravan of instructors volunteering their time across the state.

In 2014, we also served more geographically and ethnically diverse students than ever before, adding program partners in Bakersfield, Richmond, Oakland and Los Angeles, and continuing our participation in the Outdoor Educators' Institute, a training program for outdoor educators from diverse and underserved communities.

We thank you for your steadfast support in 2014 and look forward to keeping you apprised of our progress in 2015 and beyond.

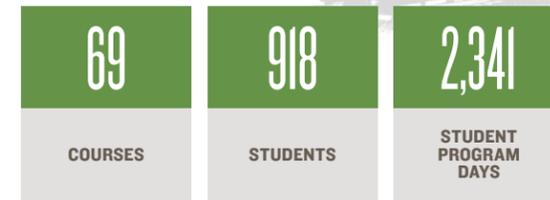
Warm Regards,



Josh Brankman

2014 BY THE NUMBERS

BAY AREA



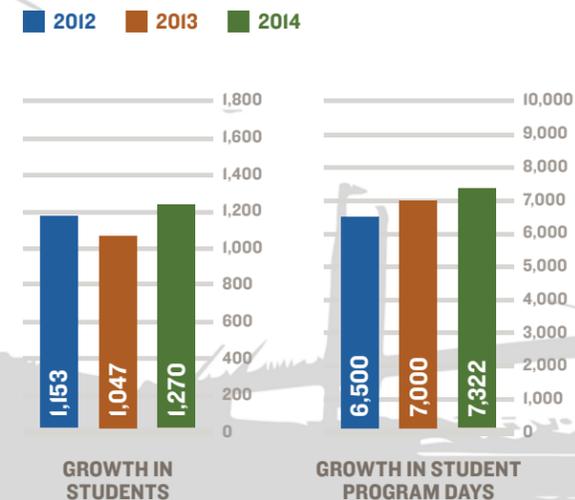
HIGH SIERRA



JOSHUA TREE



2012-2014 GROWTH



AN ETHIC OF SERVICE

ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION IN THE HIGH SIERRA

In 2014, Outward Bound California was honored to receive a grant from the National Forest Foundation to support environmental restoration work in the Sierra National Forest. Every Outward Bound California student on a High Sierra course in summer 2015 will not only have the chance to care for the wilderness areas that challenge and inspire them--they will also have the chance to learn about the Sierra National Forest's stewardship plan and hear back about the cumulative outcome of their work at summer's end.

ALUMNI AND COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

We began an ongoing volunteer program in 2014 with the goal of engaging community members, program partners and Outward Bound alumni of all ages in hands-on service. Volunteer opportunities have included regular service nights at our Bay Area Center, days of service coordinated by our Youth Leadership Corps and, as always, multi-day clean-up and maintenance efforts at the High Sierra base camp to prepare for the summer season.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS REFLECT

"This course has instilled in me integrity and awakesness that will make me a more involved and compassionate member of my community."

- Jennifer C. (17)

"Outward Bound taught me a whole new world that I didn't know of. It taught me to become more of a better person to people, animals, and to the world around me."

- Enrique R. (18)



Learn about upcoming social events and service projects at outwardboundcalifornia.org/events

OREGON

CALIFORNIA

CHANGING LIVES ACROSS CALIFORNIA

Donors like you have enabled Outward Bound California to grow our presence throughout the state since 2012, reaching more students in more locations each year. We would not be where we are today without you!

The map below shows the locations of our bases and course areas, the locations of our partner organizations, and the path our 2014 Service Bus Expedition took.

Pinnacle Partners are schools and nonprofits that nominate students for our merit-based Pinnacle Scholarships for multi-week summer expeditions. Group Course Partners are schools and nonprofits that request customized Outward Bound courses for their students or constituents.

For a full list of our partners, please visit: www.outwardboundcalifornia.org/partners



-  Outward Bound California Base
-  Service Bus Route
-  Course Areas
-  Pinnacle Partner
-  Group Partner

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA



BASE LOCATION: The Presidio of San Francisco

COURSE AREAS: Big Basin, Henry W. Coe and Castle Rock State Parks; Point Reyes National Seashore

PROGRAM PARTNER HIGHLIGHT: Bret Harte Middle School, Oakland

In 2014, we successfully piloted a backpacking program with 60 middle schoolers from one of Oakland's most high-need neighborhoods. Students hiked, camped, splashed, and triumphed together for four days in Henry Coe State Park. With a strong commitment to teaching the whole student, Bret Harte's principal has looked to expand our partnership to serve all grades beginning fall 2015. Check out our Lead Teacher, Phoebe Gilpin-Wright talking about the change she has seen in students over the last two years.

Watch the video at outwardboundcalifornia.org/videos

HIGH SIERRA



BASE LOCATION: Midpines

COURSE AREAS: Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks; Sierra National Forest; Yosemite National Park

INSTRUCTOR HIGHLIGHT: Bryan Morales, graduate of the Outdoor Educators Institute

A California native with a nomadic childhood, Bryan Morales completed a varied and rigorous course with the Outdoor Educator Institute (OEI), a Bay Area scholarship based program aimed at increasing the diversity of skilled outdoor educators. As part of OEI, Bryan spent weeks on an Outward Bound California course in the High Sierras, earning a Wilderness First Responder certificate, looking inward while also providing strength to his group, and honing his technical skills in navigation, rock climbing, and team dynamics. Bryan is now an inspirational part of the Outward Bound California family, and is using those skills learned with OEI in his second year as an instructor in the Bay Area and High Sierra.

Read the article at outwardboundcalifornia.org/blog

JOSHUA TREE



BASE LOCATION: Joshua Tree

COURSE AREA: Joshua Tree National Park

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHT: The Service Bus Expedition

The Service Bus was a ground-breaking initiative designed by field instructors with the goal of putting Outward Bound's ethic of service into action. Last fall, eight instructors clocked more than 700 hours of service on their 45-day road trip. They began in San Francisco, made stops in locations such as Yosemite, Red Rocks, Bakersfield and Los Angeles and ultimately concluded their journey in Joshua Tree National Park. They tackled both wilderness and urban service projects while also taking time to sharpen their outdoor technical skills and reach out to new program partners. This unconventional expedition touched the hearts and minds of many.

To read more visit outwardboundcalifornia.org/service-bus



2014 DONORS AND LEADERSHIP VOLUNTEERS (JANUARY 1, 2014 - DECEMBER 31, 2014)

Outward Bound California extends the deepest gratitude to all our donors and volunteers. We are pleased to recognize contributions of \$1,000 or more below. For a complete listing of supporters, visit www.outwardboundcalifornia.org/supporters.

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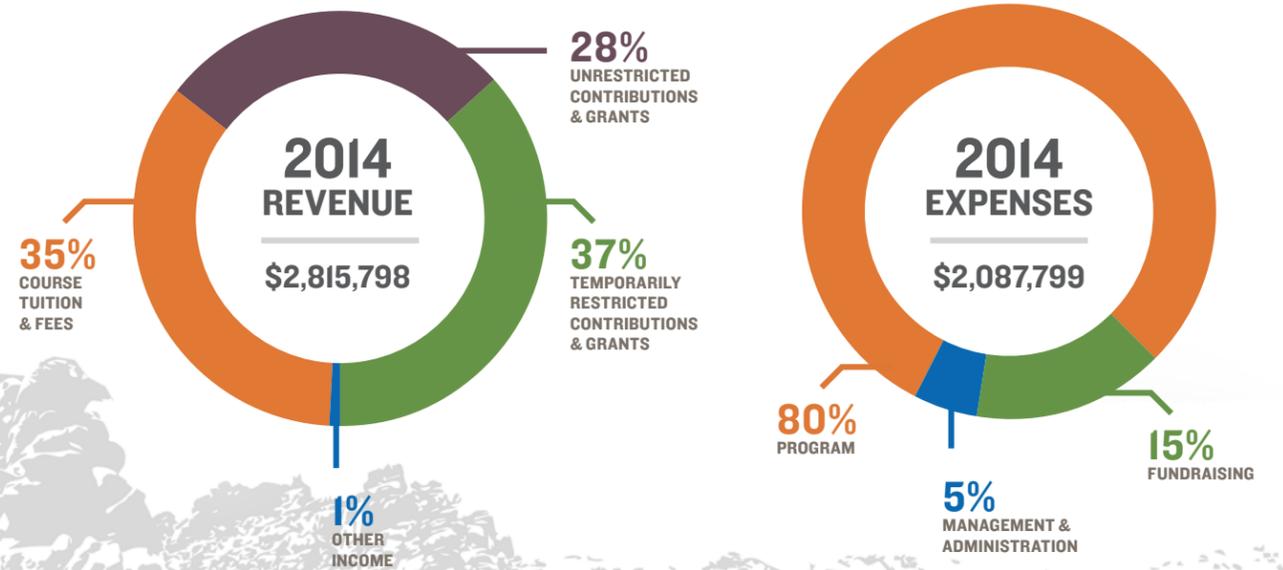
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THANK YOU

2014 FINANCIAL RESULTS

Outward Bound California ended 2014 in a financially strong position. Total revenue climbed to \$2.8 million in 2014 compared to \$1.6 million in 2013. We attribute this increase to our steadily growing course enrollment and fund development work in addition to one generous donor's commitment of \$900,000 to be paid over four years. Meanwhile, total expense climbed to \$2.1 million in 2014 from \$1.7 million in 2013. This reflects both investments in organizational infrastructure and a 21% year over year increase in the number of students served. To view complete 2014 financial statements, please visit: www.outwardboundcalifornia.org/annual-report.



HANGING OUT FOR OUTWARD BOUND

Nearly 100 Outward Bound California supporters took downtown San Francisco by storm when they rappelled 23 stories down the Hyatt Regency as part of our first-annual City Skyline Challenge. Volunteer fundraisers, corporate sponsors and local celebrities like Lou Seal came together to raise more than \$273,000 for Outward Bound California's scholarship-based programming in 2014. (And then again in 2015!) You won't want to miss out when this hair-raising fundraiser comes back around in March 2016!

THANK YOU TO OUR 2014 SPONSORS

SUMMIT-LEVEL SPONSORS



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EXPEDITION-LEVEL SPONSOR



Learn more about City Skyline Challenge
www.cityskylineschallenge.org

Photo courtesy of Rikki Dunn

outwardboundcalifornia.org

