

Environmental INITIATIVE

Powerful Partnerships, Effective Solutions



2018

Annual Report

Dear Supporters,

At Environmental Initiative, we know our relationships are key to achieving impactful, systemic results. This idea is in the DNA of our organization, drives our decision making, and is foundational to our understanding of ourselves and our community. Being in relationship with one another is infused in our mission, vision and, especially, our values.

Our core values are the bedrock of our organization. Whether we are going about our day-to-day work or planning for our future, they guide us and help us make choices that serve our mission. This has been true during my entire time at Environmental Initiative, and I see it each day.

I often say, when introducing the organization, that what sets us apart is we are more than mission driven. Our mission is to “build partnerships to develop collaborative solutions to Minnesota’s environmental problems.” However, we are also driven by our six core values:

- ▶ Better Together
- ▶ Open Exchange
- ▶ Courageous Innovation
- ▶ Stewardship
- ▶ Accountability
- ▶ Outcomes Focused

Throughout our history, different values have stood out as being more in focus than others. When we were a newer organization, we focused more on outcomes to prove ourselves. Then, we had to show we could be held accountable for the influx of trust and resources we experienced. These things are all still important, but they have had their moment. Now, we want to dedicate ourselves to using our values to give marginalized communities their moment.

Over the past few years, we’ve been telling you about our commitment to equity, and in 2018 we began to see that commitment embodied and embedded in our work. We’ve been doing more to center people in, spending time thinking intentionally about how to include the people and populations who have historically been excluded and marginalized from traditional environmental work.

We have always recognized the value in all voices and understood that including more perspectives leads to stronger solutions. The change you’ve noticed recently is us redefining that, and becoming more explicit about whose voices we want to uplift and how best to do that.

All this comes at a time of great opportunity for the organization—we are growing and expanding in every direction in new and exciting ways. None of our success would be possible without a continued focus on the values we hold to be foundational to our understanding of ourselves as an organization.

We’re excited to share more about our values with you, instead of keeping them to ourselves.

As you read about each of our values, and how our programs exemplify them, I invite you to consider for yourself what your values are: What drives you each day?

Sincerely,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Harley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Mike Harley
Executive Director
Environmental Initiative

OUR VALUES



- ▶ Better Together
- ▶ Open Exchange
- ▶ Courageous Innovation
- ▶ Stewardship
- ▶ Accountability
- ▶ Outcomes Focused

BETTER TOGETHER



By collaborating with partners with diverse perspectives, we can create stronger, more holistic, lasting solutions to environmental issues. Our partnerships are more inclusive of the people and communities that have been historically excluded from decision-making. As a result, the solutions we create can better serve those populations, and everyone benefits.

Our policy work models “better together” by advocating for inclusive decision-making and policy-making. We invite input from those who have historically been excluded from decision-making and disproportionately impacted by environmental injustices, then incorporate their perspectives into our recommendations. Our ongoing work with the Co-Creation Team and the Upper Harbor Terminal concept began in 2018 as we used our position and connections to facilitate relationships between our networks and the community-based organizations advocating for co-creation.

OPEN EXCHANGE

Authentically engaging with partners allows us to hear more perspectives, find common ground between them, and build community. We create spaces where partners can share ideas, best practices, and information. We're able to include all voices in our work, and all ideas have opportunities to be heard.

Our Awards program models "open exchange" by building a space where partners can celebrate existing work, be inspired by others, and build community around a common interest in environmental work. Attendees are encouraged to connect with the others in a way that feels authentic. In 2018, the Awards began to do intentional outreach to partners and communities who have not traditionally attended the event, so they could be in the room, and build new relationships with other Environmental Initiative stakeholders.



COURAGEOUS INNOVATION

We convene cross-sector leaders to innovate and tackle the challenges facing our environment and our state. When these experiences are combined, we are able to create solutions that are ahead of the curve and will have a lasting impact.

The Minnesota Sustainable Growth Coalition embodies “courageous innovation” by building partnerships among nearly 30 member organizations, including businesses and a handful of nonprofits and state agencies. When members come together, they envision and find ways to achieve a circular economy, where nothing is thrown away or wasted. In 2018, the Coalition adopted a Clean Energy Vision that demonstrates leadership and provides avenues on reaching a clean energy future.



STEWARDSHIP



Our work is intentionally created in ways that allow us to foster a healthier environment, while also increasing economic vitality and community vibrancy. This value allows us to responsibly address traditional environmental issues, while also incorporating pressing community concerns about equity and the economy.

Our agriculture program regularly demonstrates “stewardship” in our public-private-nonprofit approach. The Cover Crop Incentive project, which was developed and begun in 2018, and was designed to encourage and incentivize farmers to use specific soil health practices to improve their land. Healthier soil sustains healthier farm ecosystems, so the environment is improved, and farms are more financially stable. By sharing these practices with marginalized farmers, we take a more equitable approach to farm management.

ACCOUNTABILITY

We are committed to using resources responsibly. We are transparent about our actions and how they are supporting us as we realize our mission. We encourage partners to participate in our work, holding us accountable in our planning and execution.

Our clean air work demonstrates accountability to community members and changemakers, like funders and partners. We are accountable to community members who are disproportionately affected by low air quality by including their voices in conversations and addressing their needs. We hold our partners responsible by supporting them in their work and making suggestions for how they can use their resources more impactfully. This alignment came from our 2018 Clean Air Minnesota strategic planning process.



OUTCOME FOCUSED

We tailor our actions to the needs we see. By focusing on outcomes, we can make substantive change to society while working toward a better Minnesota for all. Our programs and projects are designed to achieve meaningful outcomes, which are aligned with our mission, vision, and values.

Our clean air work is an example of a program being “outcome focused.” Each project improves air quality and reduces emissions to improve local air quality and increase air quality awareness for marginalized communities. Project Stove Swap, a Clean Air Minnesota project, replaced 322 wood-burning appliances with newer, cleaner technology, having the emissions reduction equivalent to removing 985,000 cars from the road each year.



OUR MEMBERS



Thank you!

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

\$600+	Nina Axleson	\$200–\$399	Larry Kramka	Meghan Bernard
Paul Aasen	Eric Bohnert	Allison Ahcan	Channon Lemon	Jessica Bingen
Jon Bloomberg	Gail Cederberg	Marian Bender	Julie Mackenzie	Sarah Bonvallet
Andy Brown	David Crisman	Sandra Broekema	Nick Martin	Levi Brown
Eliza Clark	Erica DiScala	Linda Bruemmer	Tim McGraw	Janet Brown
Sheryl Corrigan	Brett Emmons	Alison Bryant	Jeff Muffat	Angie Butterbrodt
Thomas DiPasquale & Rosanne Pera	Margaret George	Candace Campbell	Chris Nelson	Scott Carnahan
Paul Durkee	Eric Halverson	Jason Cole	Rolf Nordstrom	Gina Ciganik
Mike Egelston	Kevin Lawless	Bill Droessler	Kandace Olsen	Doug Connell
Dick Fowler	Bob and Anne Maley	Don Eddy	John Pearson	Glenn Corliss
Debbie Goettel	Brad Moore	Bob Everett	Jina Penn-Tracy	Molly Coskran
Mike Hansel	Drew Moratzka	Nick Franco	Andy Polzin	Greg Downing
Don Hickman	Ron Nargang	Mark Friske	Dave Reichert	Sarah Duniway
Jon Jon	Lee Nelson	Darrell Gerber	Heather Rein	John Dunlop
Peder Larson	Lee Paddock	Sheffield Goodrich	Daniel Schmid	Sara Ethier
Lorrie Louder	Mike Robertson	John Heer	Susan Schmidt	Dennis Fuchs
Bill Poppert	Patty Rusten	Kristin Heutmaker	Shelley Shreffler	Paul Gardner
Raj Rajan	Joe Smentek	John Hofland	Michelle Stockness	Lewis Gilbert
Mary Jo Roth	Pete Swenson & Pam Jewson	Tom Hogan	Bob & Pat Tammen	Bill Grant
Todd Schachtman	Joel Trinkle	Alan Holt	<hr/>	Jeremy Greenhouse
\$400–\$599	Andrew & Caroline Vaaler	Jan Joannides	\$100–\$199	Bill Hannon
Anonymous	Joey Vossen	Bob Karls	Greg Archer	Thomas & Judy Harley
		Marianne Knutson	Paul Austin	Libbie Henderson
		Rao Konidena	Sara Bergan	Barry Hofer

INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

\$100–\$199

Mike Hult
John Jaschke
Kevin Johnson
Susan Johnson
Libby Johnston
Nadia Kashani
Becky Kenow
Julie Ketchum
Michael Krause
Ava Langston-Kenney
Mallory Lindgren
Judy Lissick
Charles Lyon
Don Martin
Darren & Suzanne McGann
Brian McNitt
Tom Miller
Paul Moe
Michael Noble
Mark & Kay Noguci
Eric Oines
John Ostergren
Sara Peterson

Sarah Phillips
Steve Plachinski
Tim & Bonnie Power
Dan Reinke
Eric Sannerud
Chris Schoenherr
Rachelle Schoessler-Lynn
Bart Schultz
Doug Shoemaker
Julie Smendzuik-O'Brien
Jon Smieja
Grey Staples
Scott Strand
Carrie Tripp

\$1–\$99

Hannah Albertus-Benham
Cindy Angerhofer
Richard Axler
Lawrence Baker
John Bale
Emily Balogh
John Berns
Bob & Joan Bierscheid
Julie Blackburn

Rob Bouta
Lynn Broaddus
Elizabeth Carlson
Kimberly Carpenter
Brian Columbus
Isabelle Danforth
Lisa Daniels
Megan Dobratz
Kathleen Doran-Norton
Ted Downey
Amy Dritz
Kristen Eide-Tollefson
Brian Erickson
Robert Lynch and Erin Gordon
Tracie Fagerlie
Molly Flynn
Amy Fredregill
Jan Gersterberg
Kristi Gibson
Emily Green
Clark Gregor
Maddie Hagar
Bill Hefner
Sarah Hellekson

Michaella Holden
Theresa Keaveny
Margert Knowlton
Amie Kolesar
Jeff Ledermann
Charlie Lippert
Danielle Lundquist
June Mathiowitz
Mary McCallum
Diana McKeown
Bob McLean
Gene Merriam
Wade Miller
Katherine Mullen
Miluska Novota
Megan O'Hara
Thaddeus Owen
Joe Pavelko
Craig Poorker
James & Jacqueline Poradek
Carissa Prekker
Chris Radatz
Eric Rehm
Victoria Reinhardt
Todd Rexine

Suzanne Rhees
Gretchen Sabel
Crystal Saric Fashant
Dan Schibel
Laura Scholl
Karen Schultz
Kimberly Scott
Jeff Sepesi
Dale Setterholm
Erin Siewert
Christene Sirois Kron
Curtis Sparks
John Linc Stine
Donna Stephenson
Mark Strohfus
Katie Swor
Harvey Thorleifson
Lyndon Torstenson
Elizabeth Wefel
Elissa Welch
Caleb Werth
Mark Wettlaufer
Shawn Willy
Devin Zeller

ORGANIZATIONS

CONVENER PARTNERSHIP CIRCLE: \$25,000 +

Andersen Corporation
Dorsey & Whitney
Flint Hills Resources
Great River Energy
Wenck Associates, Inc.

SUSTAINER PARTNERSHIP CIRCLE: \$10,000–\$24,999

3M
Antea Group
Atomic Data Centers/The
Foundation/I543AD/U4EA Design
Barr Engineering
Ecolab Foundation
Environmental Law Group
Goff Public
Larkin Hoffman
Minnesota Environmental Fund
Waste Management
Xcel Energy

INNOVATOR PARTNERSHIP CIRCLE: \$5,000–\$9,999

Aveda

Best Buy
CenterPoint Energy
Houston Engineering, Inc.
Minnesota Power
Pictura Graphics
Stoel Rives LLP
Tennant Company
Willdan

ASSOCIATE PARTNERSHIP CIRCLE: \$2,500–\$4,999

Land O'Lakes
Marathon Petroleum Company
Medtronic, Inc.
Rochester Public Utilities
Smith Partners
Upper River Services, LLC
Ziegler, Inc.

STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIP CIRCLE: \$1,000–\$2,499

American Engineering Testing, Inc.
Braun Intertec
Bolton & Menk, Inc.
Covia

Enbridge Inc.
General Mills
Kinect Energy Group
Laborers District Council of MN & ND
LHB, Inc.
Minnesota Chamber of Commerce
Minnesota Environmental Partnership
Minnesota Twins Baseball Club
Otter Tail Power Company
Sappi Cloquet
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community
Stantec
Southern Minnesota Municipal Power Agency
Target
Thomson Reuters
Tiller Corporation
Westwood Professional Services

CORPORATE: \$600–\$999

American Chemistry Council
American Lung Association in MN
Bay West
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of MN
Burns & McDonnell
Central Boiler, Inc.

ORGANIZATIONS

CORPORATE: \$600–\$999 (continued)

Dakota Electric Association

Fresh Energy

Johnson & Johnson

Pinnacle Engineering, Inc.

Pipeline Foods

Quality Bicycle Products

Saint Paul Area Chamber of Commerce

Syngenta Crop Protection, Inc.

Uponor

WSB

GOVERNMENT/NON-PROFIT/SMALL BUSINESS: \$350–\$599

Bremer Bank

Center for Energy and Environment

Citizens League

City of Eden Prairie

City of Minneapolis

Climate Generation: A Will Steger Legacy

Conservation Fund

Ecotone

Environmental Resources Management

Environmental Quality Board

Graco, Inc.

HealthPartners

Hennepin County Environmental Services

Hoglund Bus Company

Iron Mining Association of Minnesota

Kjolhaug Environmental

Landmark Environmental, LLC

Metropolitan Airports Commission

Metropolitan Council

Midwest Renewable Energy Tracking System, Inc. (M-RETS)

Mindsailing

Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

Minnesota Brownfields

Minnesota Center for Environmental Advocacy

Minnesota Department of Agriculture

Minnesota Department of Commerce

Minnesota Department of Health

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Minnesota Department of Transportation

Minnesota Farmers Union

Minnesota Golf Course Superintendents Association

Minnesota Grocers Association

Minnesota Safety Council

Minnesota Technical Assistance Program (MnTAP)

Minnesota Waste Wise

Ramsey County Public Health

Recycling Association of MN

St. Croix Institute LLC

Saint Paul Port Authority

Seven Sundays

Sustainable Farming Association

Sustology LLC

Tech Dump/Tech Discounts

Technology North

The Forward Curve

The Nature Conservancy

University of Minnesota Institute on the Environment

University of Minnesota Regional Sustainable Development Partnership

Washington County Public Health & Environment

Western Lake Superior Sanitary District

OUR FINANCIALS



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

Unrestricted

REVENUE, GAINS AND OTHER SUPPORT

Contributions	\$ 450,059
Membership contributions	216,504
Government and contracts	418,199
Conferences and special projects	39,180
Interest income	15,299
Net assests released from restrictions	1,013,406

Total support \$ **2,152,647**

EXPENSES

Program services	\$ 1,755,228
Management and general	305,683
Fundraising	145,785

Total expenses \$ **2,206,696**

CHANGE IN UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS \$ **(54,049)**

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,725,618
Accounts receivable	14,498
Contributions receivable	106,814
Grants receivable	213,090
Prepaid expenses	22,263
Equipment & leasehold improvements, net	25,128

Total assets \$ **2,107,411**

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Accounts payable	\$ 20,448
Accrued payroll and other expenses	35,236
Deferred revenue	325,565
Unrestricted net assets	726,429
Restricted net assets	999,733

Total liabilities and net assets \$ **2,107,411**

REVENUE BY MAJOR PROGRAM

Clean Air	\$ 954,213
Policy and Systems	123,180
Sustainable Growth Coalition	386,007
Agriculture	291,828

\$ 1,755,228