
FRIENDS OF THE RAINFOREST



2015 ANNUAL REPORT

OUR MISSION

Friends of the Rainforest is dedicated to promoting a sustainable world by educating and inspiring children and adults to take action to protect, support and expand the Rainforest in Costa Rica

AND BEYOND!!

IT ALL STARTED WITH...

A group of Swedish school children started a worldwide effort in 1987 by sending money to Monteverde, Costa Rica to purchase rainforest land in an effort to protect its priceless natural treasures forever. Today, children and adults from over 44 nations have continued this tradition by taking action to protect this precious land.

IN 2015 OUR DONORS FUNDED THE FOLLOWING GRANTS



#11 MABI

The Monteverde Arenal Bioregion Initiative's mission is to **define a common vision, key objectives, and a tractable action plan for conservation, research, and education initiatives in the Monteverde Arenal bioregion.** This grant provides funds for both conference preparation as well as attendance costs for the Monteverde Institute Coordinator.

#13 MCL Executive Director

This grant provides "seed money" to establish a new position to **oversee outreach and improve the quality of stations and trails,** help the board update their strategic plan, and effectively manage day-to-day administration of MCL.

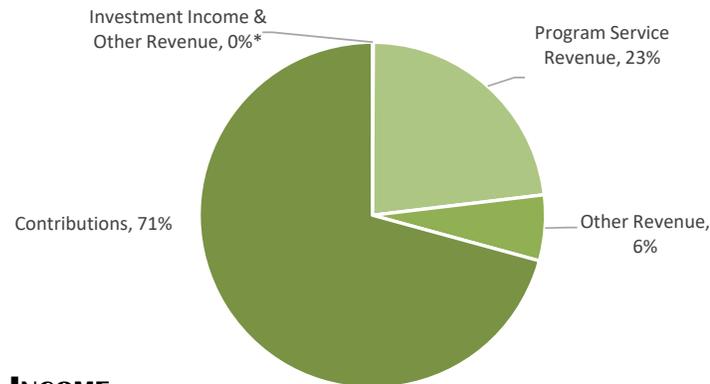
#12 MABI Conference

The purpose of the Monteverde Arenal Bioregion Initiative's conference is to **expand the impact and scope of the collective actions to sufficiently address the developing problems that threaten this region.** The conference will be **bilingual, inter-organizational, and interdisciplinary;** reflecting the diversity of the human and natural communities.

#14 Critical Upgrades

This grant provides funds for critical equipment and infrastructure upgrades at the San Gerardo Station in the Children's Eternal Rainforest with **improvements in radio communication, installation of a battery bank,** and stabilization of power delivery to the station.

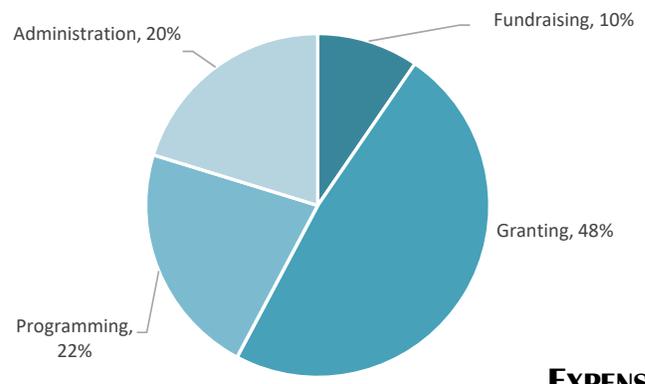
2015 BY THE NUMBERS



INCOME

TOTAL INCOME: \$121,654

TOTAL ASSETS: \$3,168,989



EXPENSES

TOTAL EXPENSES: \$121,642

TOTAL LIABILITIES: \$49,232

We are grateful for our **FRIENDS**

This year's focus was on expanding the teams dedicated to helping the rainforest at home and abroad. With the addition of one new FOTR staff member, fresh board members, as well as the funding of a grant to support the hiring of an Executive Director for the Children's Eternal Rainforest in Costa Rica, we are poised to take advantage of the new energy available to dedicate to our expanded mission. We also continued our support for the MABI conference, which will be integral to the development of inter-organizational communication in the Monteverde region.

Through our outreach programs in environmental education, land purchase and protection, our Board and Staff are dedicated to the preservation of unparalleled biodiversity found in the cloud forests of Costa Rica. **Because of your support of Friends of the Rainforest, we have strengthened our capacity and are now more efficient and effective in carrying out our mission.**

LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



I want to thank all of our supporters and our board for trusting me with the future of this organization by hiring me as the permanent Executive Director.

As with any growing organization, we face challenges, but I am confident in our ability to overcome these challenges and create an organization that will continue to stand up for the protection of the Forest.

This year, Friends of the Rainforest funded several projects that will aid in the preservation of the rainforest for years to come. Our friends on the front lines now have safer, more reliable equipment with which to guard the Forest. This allows them to do their jobs more effectively and make sure the Forest stays safe from illegal poachers and others who would look to profit illegally. This is especially crucial because we also funded the purchase of an adjacent property, thereby expanding the Forest!

We also recognize the need for organizations to have competent and dedicated staff to promote their mission. To this end, we hired Erica Twomey as a part-time staff member to help meet the need for donation and development management. We also provided funding to support the hiring of Lindsay Stallcup, Executive Director of Monteverde Conservation League. I look forward to strengthening our relationship between our two organizations.

Thank you for this opportunity to serve this organization. I truly believe that we can all contribute in some way for the betterment of our planet. I am grateful to all who have given of their time, money, and expertise to make our organization grow stronger.

For the Forest -

Chelsea Raiche

**Chelsea Raiche
Executive Director**



Our dedicated Board & Staff

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

CHAIRMAN

Patrick Osborne

VICE-CHAIRMAN

David Robnak

VICE CHAIR

Gonzalo Fernandez

SECRETARY & SCIENCE/TRAVEL DIRECTOR

Magaret Eisenberger

TREASURER

Matthew Herrington

BOARD MEMBERS

Jeremy Crandell

Teresa Crossland

Robert Govero

Elizabeth Kayser

Dr. Thomas Lovejoy*

Steve Mahfood

Tom Newmark*

Dr. Patrick Osborne

Dr. Peter H. Raven*

Kristofer Loynd

Steve Tomey

STAFF

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Chelsea Raiche



**Advisory Board Members*



Friends of the Rainforest

1324 Clarkson Clayton Center, #312 | Saint Louis | Missouri | 63011
www.friendsoftherainforest.org | 314-941-1257