
FRIENDS OF THE RAINFOREST



2016 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 2016 OUR DONORS FUNDED THE FOLLOWING GRANTS



#16 New Signage

Out dated and unattractive signs were redesigned and erected, from billboards and roadside directional signs to office and station identification and portable banners, to increase visibility and draw additional visitors.

#18 Safety

Safety and emergency procedures are the focus of this grant, which covers GPS units, walkie talkies, first aid equipment, and immobilization and extraction equipment.

#20 Monteverde Arenal Bioregion Initiative

The cosorganization and development of the new Monteverde Arenal Bioregion Initiative and conference. It's goal is to create a common mission for the actions and initiatives in the region. This is the third annual MABI Conference

#17 Environmental Education

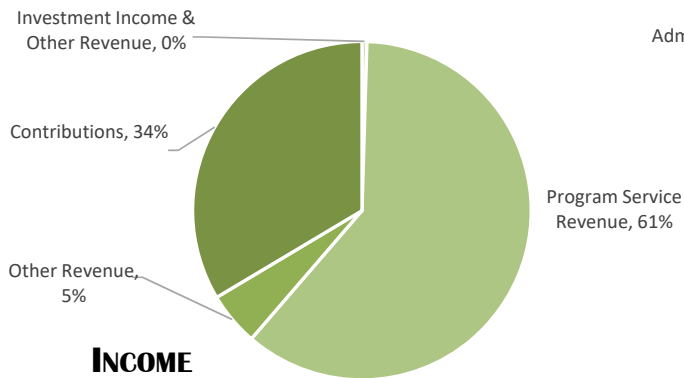
Providing a laptop, digital camera, microscopes and binoculars for local school children to use while on field trips to Pocosal Field Station and Finca Stellar tree nursery enhances the work of the environmental educator and increases local appreciation for the forest.

#19 Viewing Platform

The viewing platform overlooking the gorgeous waterfall at Pocosal was being damaged by moisture and insects. This helped replace that with a galvanized steel structure that is both safe and beautiful.

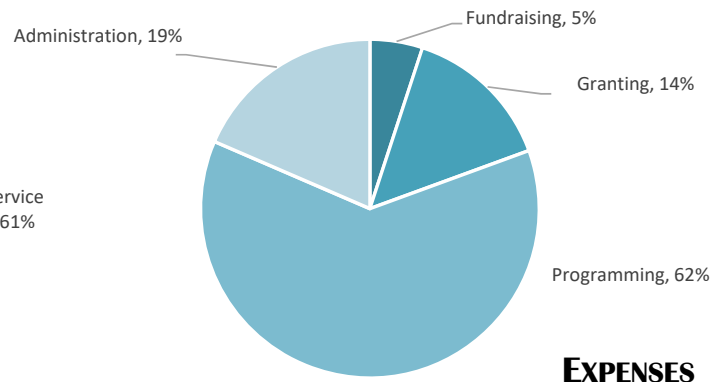


2016 BY THE NUMBERS



TOTAL INCOME: \$187,188

TOTAL ASSETS: \$791,056



TOTAL EXPENSES: \$177,335

TOTAL LIABILITIES: \$791,056

We are grateful for our **FRIENDS**

In 2016 Friends of the Children's Eternal Rainforest continued its mission to protect the rainforests of Costa Rica and beyond. Our Third Annual Trivia Night in St. Louis was an entertaining evening of awareness, raising over \$9,000 for our cause. In 2016 we funded 5 grants, totaling over \$25,000.



Through our outreach programs in environmental education and our granting program, 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



This year we were reminded of the harsh environment of the rainforest.

It is hard to imagine that a place bursting with life can be so unforgiving.

With the loss of Henry Murillo, we are compelled to step back and show our deepest gratitude to the people in the Forest each and every day. They are the ones putting our hopes and plans for a protected Rainforest into action.

Your help not only allowed us to respond to tragedy in a productive way by providing a grant for better emergency response equipment, but gave us the opportunity to increase the visibility of the Forest. We continued our support of the Monteverde-Arenal Bioregion Initiative and educational programming and funded new signage and a mirador for the Pocosol Station.

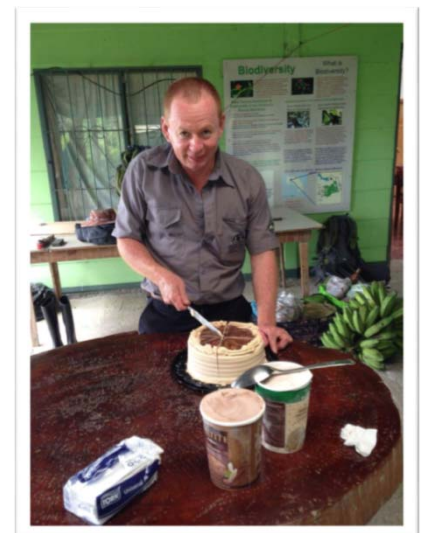
These efforts bring more visitors to the Forest, and providing areas from which they can view its majesty while keeping the visitors, animals, and plants safe.

We encourage everyone to interact with the Forest, as there is no substitute to standing on the forest floor or climbing up through the Strangler Fig. We hope to preserve and expand the forest to provide that opportunity for children in generations to come.

For the Forest -

Chelsea Raiche

**Chelsea Raiche
Executive Director**



Henry Murillo
October 2015, on
his 40th Birthday



Our dedicated Board & Staff

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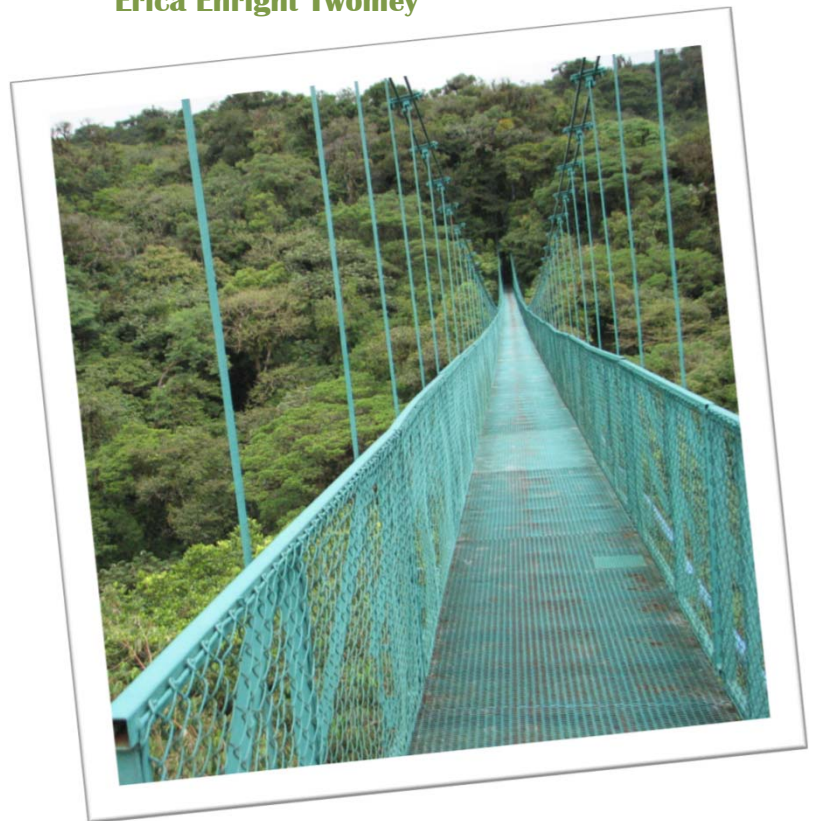
STAFF

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Chelsea Raiche

DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

Erica Enright Twomey



Friends of the Rainforest

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