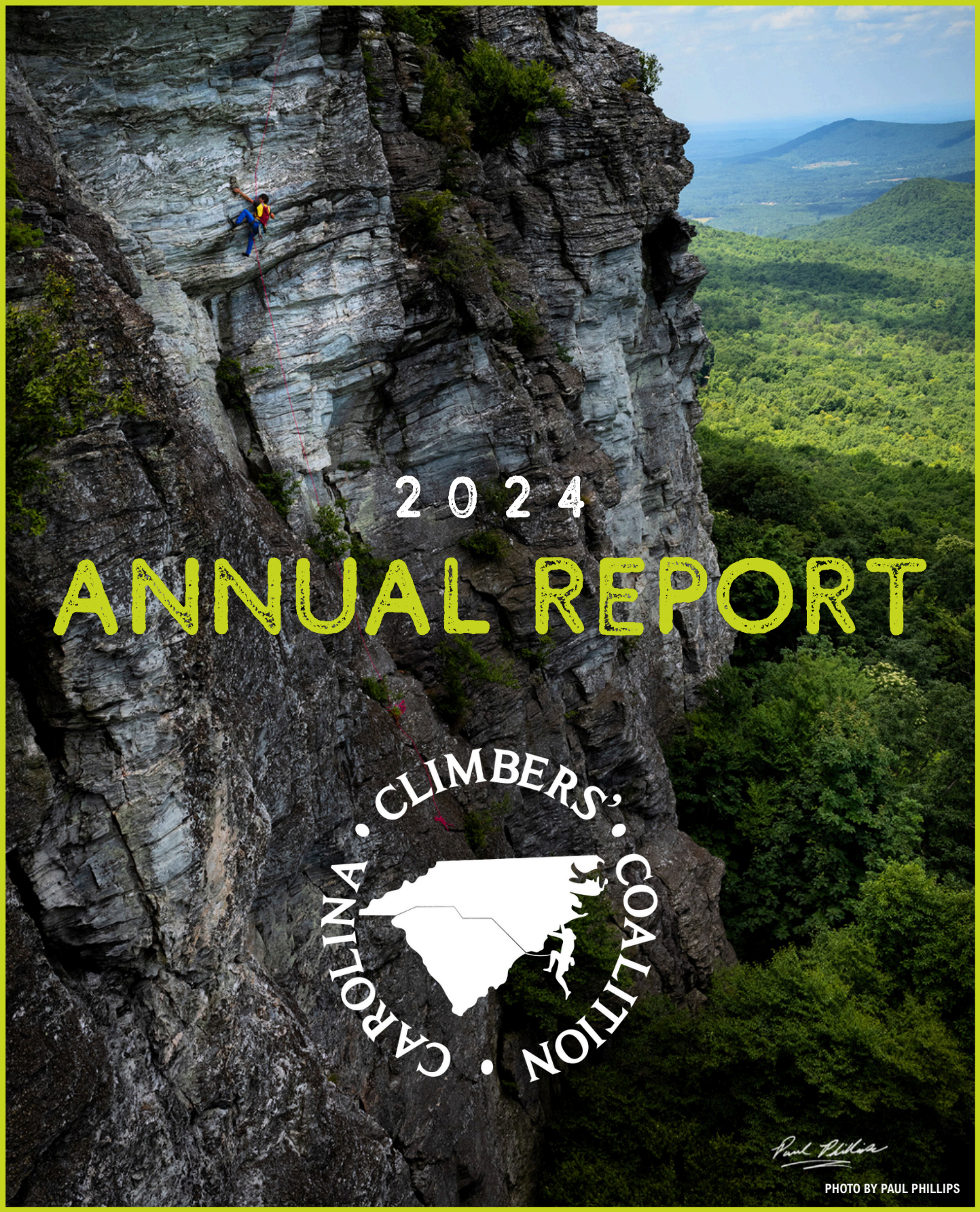
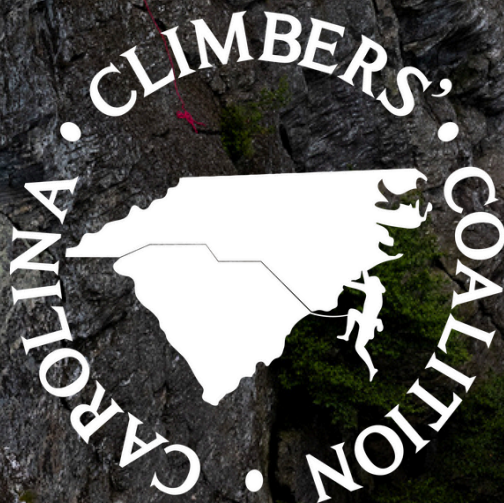




2024

ANNUAL REPORT



Paul Phillips

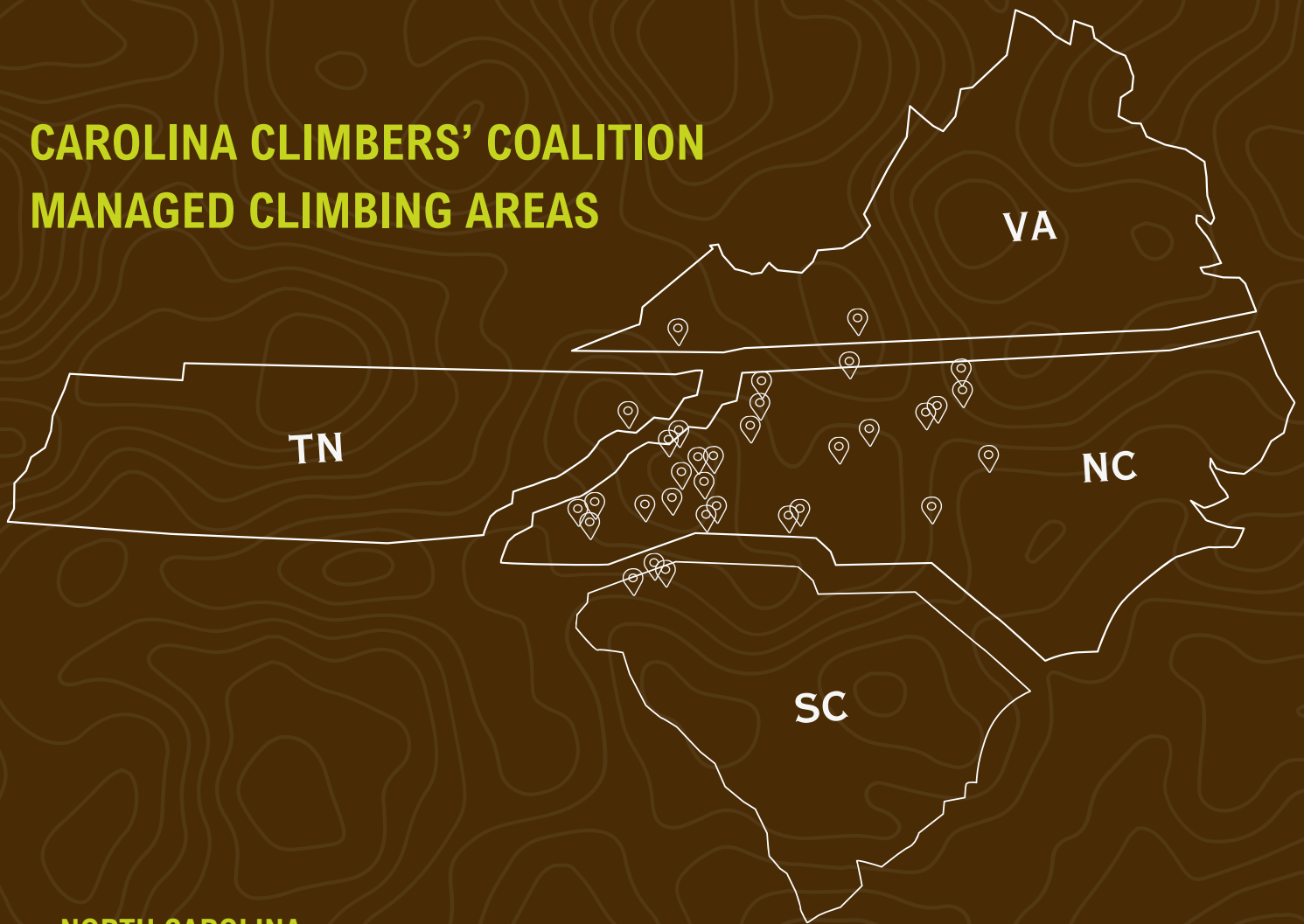
PHOTO BY PAUL PHILLIPS



The Carolina Climber's Coalition (CCC) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, established January 16, 1995 with the purposes of preserving the natural environment, promoting safe climbing practices, and protecting climbers' access to climbing areas in North and South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

The CCC owns, co-manages, or manages climbing access for over 30 climbing destinations. Our community is made up of 1,000+ climber stewards, whose support makes our work possible.

CAROLINA CLIMBERS' COALITION MANAGED CLIMBING AREAS



NORTH CAROLINA

Asheboro Boulders	Looking Glass	Pisgah National Forest
Big Rock NC	McKinney Gap Boulders	Raven Rock
Buffalo Creek	Melrose	Rumbling Bald
Chimney Rock Village IBoulders	Moore's Wall	Sauratown
Crowders MT State Park	Nantahala National Forest	Stone MT State park
Hickory Creek Boulders	Pace Cliffs	Stony MT Vineyards
Laurel Knob	Pilot Mountain State Park	Table Rock NC
Little Bearwallow Falls	Pumpkintown NC	Weaver Knob Boulders

SOUTH CAROLINA

Big Rock SC
Pumpkintown SC
Table Rock SC

TENNESSEE

Rocky Fork State Park

VIRGINIA

Hidden Valley
Grayson County Rec Park

A NOTE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Currently celebrating our 30th year, the Carolina Climbers Coalition continues to stand as one of the largest and most successful local climbing organizations in the country. What began as a grassroots effort in 1995 has grown into a coordinated institution dedicated to the expansion and protection of climbing resources across a four-state region. Thanks to your support, we've built a legacy of success by establishing partnerships, building relationships, and fostering community involvement for the benefit of all.

2024: A Noteworthy Year

This past year brought significant milestones. The North Carolina Zoo became the permanent land manager of Ridges Mountain (AKA the Asheboro Boulders), securing the future of this resource with over 200 boulder problems. After decades of shifting ownership that threatened access, this marks a monumental achievement in climbing conservation.

Additionally, the CCC expanded access to the 100-foot Black Stacks cliff within Rocky Fork State Park, underscoring the power of healthy partnerships to create lasting positive outcomes. Our community also came together to complete several key trail projects: the Hidden Cliffs Trail at Sauratown, the new Table Rock climbers access trail, and the access trail to Black Stacks. These efforts were largely supported by our C4 trail crew, whose expertise and availability have significantly enhanced volunteer opportunities. A memorandum of understanding was also signed in 2024 to establish a new access trail to Pace Cliffs.

Disaster Strengthens Community: Hurricane Helene

Hurricane Helene brought unprecedented challenges, with nearly all CCC supported climbing areas west of Interstate 77 closed for months. Yet, the climbing community rose to the occasion. Gyms across our region became donation hubs, cash contributions poured in, and climbers volunteered to help distribute supplies to affected mountain areas during the critical early days of recovery. Eventually, we were able to shift our focus to reopening climbing areas and revitalizing the outdoor economy that supports our local mountain areas. Your generosity, time, and unwavering support were instrumental in helping these resilient communities recover. It's heartwarming to be able to support the towns that have always been supportive of our mission.

Looking Ahead

We are so grateful for the indispensable role our climbing community plays in all we do. Your dedication and support have been the cornerstone of our success and we look forward to many more years of community impact.



Thank you for being part of this journey!

ANDREW "AJ" JACKSON

CCC LEADERSHIP

Board of Directors



President
AJ JACKSON



Vice President
TOM CALDWELL



Secretary
KATIE ELLIOTT



Treasurer
FROST WALKER



At-Large
CURTIS BAIRD



Jedi Rep
JAMAR WOODS



Membership Coordinator
SAM COMPTON



N. Mountains Rep
ANDY THORSELL



N. Piedmont Rep
PAUL KLEM



South Carolina Rep
FRANCES SCHUEREN



S. Mountains Rep
MATT CHRESTMAN



S. Mountains Rep
SHANNON MILLSAPS



S. Piedmont Rep
MICHAEL ATLAS

Staff



Executive Director
MIKE REARDON



C4 Team Leader
DAN VANBROCKLIN



C4 Team Leader
DAIN CANTER



C4 Team
FELICITY SEKELA



C4 Team
SOPHIA STROUSE



Marketing & Events Director
ALYCIA ANDRADE

CCC COMMUNITY

2024 Kayah Gaydish Stewardship Award Winners

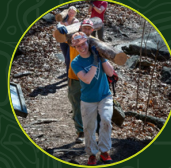
ADAM JOHNSON



WILL ROGER



FRANCES SCHUEREN



MYLES KISH



ROBERT SEEVERS



2024 Gym Ambassadors

ALYCIA ANDRADE

ALLISON NORMAN

BILL BARHAM

BLAKE FOSTER

BRAD JOHNSON

CAROLINE BRITT

CARRIE MCCLURE

CHRIS MATHIS

DEIDRE BAKER

EILIANA WRIGHT

FRANCES SCHUEREN

IGNACIO MARDONES

JAMIE BRODAY

JENNA LESONICK

JEREMY DOBLIN

KENNY BAXTER

KEV HOLLO

MATTHEW BELL

ROBERT SEEVERS

RODNEY BIDDLE

STEPHEN MCKINNEY

ZACH MORROW

ZACHARY MORRIS

2024 Crag Stewards

BEN GREENE

BRIAN FRITZ

BRYAN TOWNSEND

CHARLIE RITTER

CHRIS PITTS

CHRISTIAN MURPHY

CURTIS BAIRD

DAIN CANTER

ARAM ATTARIAN

DAN VANBROCKLIN

DAVE FITZGERALD

EMILIO TAIVEAHO

ERIC DUDLEY

FORREST STAVISH

JIM HORTON

JOHNNY O'CONNELL

JONATHAN GERST

LEXI DE SEZE

LUCAS DIETRICH

MATT BIELEJESKI

MATTHEW BAKER

PETER DICKSON

PETER STYLE

TOM CALDWELL

WES CALKINS

WILL RODGER

SASHA TIMKOVICH

STEWARDSHIP



CCC 2024 STATS

Thanks to supporters like you, 2024 was a record breaking year for stewardship accomplishments. Together, we are making an impact.

1200 Volunteer Stewards

7700+ Volunteer Stewardship Hours

170 Bad Bolts Replaced

49 Graffiti Tags Removed

276 Pounds of Trash Removed

2000+ Hurricane Helene Volunteer Hours

STEWARDSHIP

Table Rock NC • Climber's Access Trail



The CCC has been instrumental in building the Climbers' Access Trail at Table Rock in Linville Gorge, North Carolina. Recognizing the need for a sustainable and environmentally conscious approach, the CCC collaborated with partners such as the Access Fund, Wild South, and Pisgah National Forest to go through the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) process to begin work on the trail. This initiative was supported by significant funding, including a grant from the North Carolina Recreational Trails Program, Access Fund, the National Forest Foundation, and the American Alpine Club.

The trail's redesign aimed to replace the previously informal and erosion-prone paths with a single, well-constructed route that minimizes environmental impact and enhances safety. Special care was taken to avoid disturbing rare plant species like Heller's Blazing Star and Mountain Golden Heather. The project also improved emergency access and overall trail user experience.

In recognition of these efforts, the CCC received an Impact Award from the Great Trails State Coalition, highlighting their commitment to sustainable trail development and conservation.

Through these initiatives, the CCC has not only improved access for climbers but also set a precedent for responsible stewardship and collaboration in outdoor recreation areas.



STEWARDSHIP

Big Rock SC



In 2024, the CCC continued its dedicated stewardship of Big Rock near Pickens, South Carolina, with a strong focus on trail restoration and sustainable climbing access. The CCC's Helene C4 Crew, alongside volunteers and local partners, tackled erosion mitigation, safety improvements, and long-term sustainability.

Work included clearing downed trees, constructing locust steps, building retaining walls, leveling trail tread, and completing a major staircase on the right-side reroute with the help of EcoForesters. These efforts were made possible by critical grant support from Pickens County Parks and Recreation. Our post-Hurricane Helene South Carolina Climbers Festival also helped bring over 100 stewards and climbing advocates together to celebrate Big Rock!

Another highlight of 2024 was the deepening partnership with the Clemson Climbing Club. During a trail day at Big Rock, the club presented CCC with proceeds from their Rock Ness Monster climbing competition, which they hosted in October 2024. The funds directly supported the CCC's Helene Relief efforts at Big Rock, reinforcing the vital connection between the climbing community and conservation work. The Clemson Climbing Club are truly rock stars for their generosity and ongoing support.



STEWARDSHIP

Bolt Replacement Efforts



Bolts are a critical safety tool for climbers, but what happens when poor materials are used and the bolts begin to rust? Climbers trust their lives to bolts, and at the CCC, we have made it a priority to work on bolt replacement policy with land managers, while helping volunteers replace aging hardware on the many cliffs we serve. This year alone, volunteers supported by CCC replaced 170 bad bolts!

A notable 2024 achievement was securing a grant from the Access Fund's Anchor Replacement Fund, enabling the CCC to procure long-lasting stainless-steel hardware for replacing outdated bolts at prominent climbing sites like Cedar Rock and Big Green in North Carolina's Nantahala-Pisgah National Forest as well as CCC's Hidden Valley. To support these efforts, the CCC launched a successful fundraising campaign, bolstered by a \$1,000 matching pledge from projectROCK Easley. This initiative raised a total of \$5000 for rebolting efforts.

The CCC is passionate about sharing responsible bolt replacement techniques with our community. In 2024, we hosted 2 bolt replacement clinics at Rally in the Valley and SC Climbers Festival in partnership with Appalachian Climbing School.

The CCC's bolt replacement standards emphasizes a 1:1 replacement approach, ensuring that old bolts are removed and replaced with stainless steel hardware suitable for the specific rock type. Volunteers are trained to camouflage new bolts to blend with the natural rock, preserving the aesthetic and environmental integrity of climbing areas.



STEWARDSHIP

Peregrine Updates • Successful Eyrie



In 2024, the CCC continued its vital work in protecting peregrine falcons across North and South Carolina, collaborating closely with the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC), U.S. Forest Service (USFS), and South Carolina State Parks. This enduring partnership has been instrumental in balancing climbing access with the conservation needs of these threatened birds.

The CCC's efforts contributed to a successful breeding season, with fledglings observed at several key sites:

- Looking Glass Rock: 2 fledglings
- Laurel Knob: 2 fledglings
- Panthertail: 2 fledglings
- Buzzard's Roost: 2 fledglings
- Whitesides: 2 fledglings
- Grandfather Mountain: 3 fledglings

Notably, the CCC installed game cameras at the historically significant eyrie on Looking Glass Rock, which had not seen successful nesting in two years. The cameras provided valuable insights, and the eyrie produced two fledglings in 2024.

These achievements underscore the effectiveness of collaborative conservation efforts and highlight the CCC's commitment to preserving both climbing opportunities and the natural habitats of peregrine falcons.



STEWARDSHIP

Chimney Rock Village Boulders Extension, Buffalo Creek & Continued Ghost Town Land Acquisition Efforts

The Carolina Climbers Coalition is expanding access in the heart of Chimney Rock. In 2024, the CCC extended the Village Boulders Trail and improved the trailhead, all prior to Hurricane Helene. This extension builds on our long-term vision to make Chimney Rock a premier, community-supported climbing destination. The Chimney Rock Village Boulders Trail was also designated as a segment of the Hickory Nut Gorge State Trail.

Meanwhile, we're continuing land acquisition efforts in the Ghost Town Tract, a bold initiative to conserve climbing access across a historically rich and geologically unique area. If we are able to secure Ghost Town, many historic climbs will be made legal for the first time, and we will be able to extend the State-supported Hickory Nut Gorge State Trail! These efforts not only protect climbing opportunities but also contribute to regional conservation and sustainable recreation.

Stay tuned—your support is helping shape the future of climbing in Chimney Rock and beyond. Hurricane Helene's effects on Chimney Rock Village were significant. We have been honored to be a small part of that rebuilding process, and hope that our work contributes to the region's renewal.



In the summer of 2024, the CCC deepened its partnership with YouthWorks, engaging young volunteers in stewardship projects across North Carolina. Over an eight-week period, groups of 10–15 youth participants, accompanied by adult leaders, dedicated multiple days each week to challenging trail work at sites like Buffalo Creek Park and Chimney Rock Village Boulders. Despite sweltering temperatures and demanding hikes to remote worksites, these volunteers showcased remarkable resilience and enthusiasm.

At Buffalo Creek Park, YouthWorks teams contributed to the construction of the Upper Boulders Trail, a 1.4-mile extension that opened access to over 200 boulder problems and 30 new roped routes.

In Chimney Rock Village, YouthWorks volunteers played a pivotal role in expanding the Village Boulders Trail.

The CCC's collaboration with YouthWorks in 2024 exemplifies the power of youth engagement in conservation efforts, fostering a new generation of environmental stewards committed to protecting and enhancing climbing areas for all.



STEWARDSHIP & ACCESS

Helene Recovery • Helene C4



In the critical days following Hurricane Helene, the CCC jumped into action to support hard-hit mountain communities across Western North Carolina (WNC). With roads blocked, power down, and access limited, the CCC worked swiftly to meet immediate needs and provide aid where it was needed most.

Thanks to your generous contributions to the Helene Relief Fund, the CCC was able to:

- Deliver essential supplies—including gas for emergency vehicles, chainsaw fluid, food, and water—to rescue operations in Lake Lure, Gerton, Marshall, and Chimney Rock.
- Coordinate with a network of climbing gym partners who collected critical donations. In just one week, CCC delivered 12+ truckloads of supplies to affected communities, including Black Mountain, Henderson County, Marshall, Asheville, West Jefferson, and more.

This massive effort was only possible thanks to the climbing community rallying together. A huge thank-you goes out to our gym partners, volunteers, and donors to the Helene Relief Fund for their incredible support.

Thank you for standing with our mountain communities.



STEWARDSHIP & ACCESS

Helene Recovery • Helene C4



Formation of the Helene C4 Team

In the immediate aftermath of Hurricane Helene, the CCC recognized the dual challenge facing the climbing community: significant damage to beloved climbing areas and the sudden unemployment of many outdoor industry workers. To address both issues, CCC launched the Hurricane Helene C4 Program—a two-month initiative aimed at rehabilitating affected climbing areas while providing employment opportunities to community members impacted by the storm.

The C4 team, comprising members Felicity, Laszlo, Sophia, Dain, and Dan, were tasked with restoring trails and climbing areas in the most severely affected regions. Their efforts not only facilitated the reopening of these areas but also played a crucial role in the broader recovery of the outdoor recreation sector.

In late 2024, the Helene C4 Crew—alongside hundreds of dedicated volunteers—worked tirelessly to reopen and restore damaged climbing areas across the Southeast. From storm-wrecked trails and toppled trees to eroded slopes and buried boulders, this crew has tackled enormous challenges with skill and tenacity. These efforts were made possible through the Helene Relief Fund and support from partners like The Community Foundation of Western North Carolina, Triple Crown Bouldering, Ground Up Sales, the Southeastern Climbers Coalition, and the Hickory Nut Gorge Foundation.

The following pages include a recap on what's been accomplished so far for climbing area restoration since the formation of C4 in October 2024.



STEWARDSHIP & ACCESS

Helene Recovery • Helene C4

Rumbling Bald, NC

Rumbling Bald was hit especially hard, but it's coming back to life thanks to Helene C4 and volunteer grit. Here's what we've done:

- Cleared storm debris from key areas including the Family Wall, Trailside Boulder, Classic Overhang, and Obscure Area.
- Rebuilt the Comatose Trail approach, including locust step installation and trail rerouting where erosion had compromised the path.
- Stabilized the base of Cereal Buttress, particularly around the left side from Mennonite Surf Party to A La Mode.
- Cleared critical connector trails including the one between Cave Boulder and Screamer, and reopened East Side Boulders access to Politician and Driver.
- Removed trees blocking access or sitting directly atop classic boulder problems—dozens of climbs are once again safely reachable.
- Completed a major trail rebuild through the Obscure and Flakeview areas.



Table Rock and Pumpkintown, SC

Thanks to incredible volunteer turnout, especially during the 2024 South Carolina Climbers Festival:

- Cleared over 100 downed trees and a massive volume of debris.
- Regraded severely eroded slopes and hardened trail sections.
- Fully reopened climbing at Table Rock and Pumpkintown.
- Completed a trail reroute and base clearing at the Main Wall just in time for the spring season.



Buffalo Creek, NC (Lake Lure)

- Not yet reopened to the public, but our crew is laying the groundwork for a major comeback.
- Partnered with Conserving Carolina, Rutherford Outdoor Coalition, French Broad River Academy, and Paul Smith's College to bench cut new trail, widen corridors, build berms, and clear over 30 downed trees.



Table Rock, NC

Between December 2024 and March 2025, the Helene C4 Crew:

- Cleared all downed trees on the climber access trail.
- Filled dangerous rootball holes and assessed erosion-prone segments.
- Hauled out cached trail-building tools in preparation for spring improvements.
- Built dozens of new steps and a new retaining wall to curb the effects of erosion.



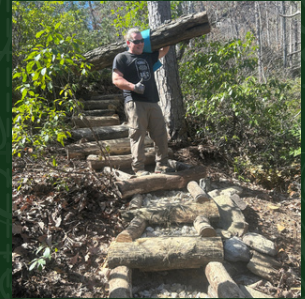
STEWARDSHIP & ACCESS

Helene Recovery • Helene C4

Big Rock, SC

A major focus area this winter, Big Rock has seen continuous upgrades thanks to support from Pickens County Parks and Recreation:

- Cleared multiple downed trees and reopened access across the slope.
- Constructed a major locust staircase on the right-side trail reroute with help from EcoForesters.
- Installed new retaining walls and stone steps to stabilize steep trail segments and reduce erosion.



Buckeye Knob, NC

One of the most remote and rugged efforts to date:

- Cleared over 50 trees in collaboration with youth from Forest Wild.
- Reopened access all the way to CCC-owned land and the V9 Boulder.
- More work remains, including clearing another ¼ mile of trail, carving in steps across steep sections, and addressing several large rootball holes.
- Stay tuned for future Buckeye trail days this summer!

Other Key Areas

Palmetto Conservancy Projects: Contracted trail restoration across SC in areas like Sassafras Mountain, Rock Mountain, Jocassee Gorges, Caesars Head, and Jones Gap State Park.

Pisgah National Forest: Cleared debris en route to Fate Osteen, assessed Looking Glass and John Rock approaches.

McKinney Gap & Weaver Knob: Cleared storm debris and repaired washed-out sections.

Raven Rock: Rebuilt degraded steps and cleared large fallen trees.

Chimney Rock Village Boulders: Trail revitalization underway.

Crowders & Stone Mountain State Parks: Conducted storm damage assessments with park rangers.

Blue Ridge Parkway & Linville Gorge: Continued communications and trail assessments, including MST to Shortoff.

Advocacy in Action

In addition to hands-on work, the CCC continues advocating at the state and federal level, urging NC Senators and House representatives to include outdoor recreation infrastructure in disaster relief legislation. These policies directly support long-term resilience and access for climbing communities.

These massive stewardship and advocacy efforts wouldn't happen without YOU, and our major Helene C4 donors:

- The Community Foundation of Western North Carolina
- Hickory Nut Gorge Foundation
- Outdoor Research
- Triple Crown Bouldering, Ground Up Sales, Southeastern Climbers Coalition via the Soddy Daisy International Bouldering Comp & Chili Cook-Off
- And hundreds of individual donors to the Helene Relief Fund

THANK YOU to every single one of you.

STEWARDSHIP



TRAIL TALES • Sophia's Helene C4 Story



Around mid October, life in Western North Carolina was chaotic to say the least. My job as a backpacking guide had come to an abrupt end after Hurricane Helene devastated the area and put the entire tourism industry on pause. The beautiful weather and fall foliage normally makes October the busiest month of the year for Asheville, so missing out on the backpacking trips I was supposed to lead was a pretty big blow. Then, in my instagram messages, two different friends forwarded me a post from Carolina Climbers' Coalition, knowing I am a climber and work in the outdoor industry. They were hiring three more trail stewards, targeted at folks who were out of work as a result of the storm. Trailwork experience? Chainsaw certification? Work disrupted by Helene? The description felt like it was written just for me, so I applied without hesitation, and soon got the great news that I was on the crew.

The C4 team leaders, Dain and Dan, welcomed Laszlo, Felicity and I with open arms. We were quickly on a roll clearing trees from approach trails all over the region, including Buffalo Creek, Table Rock, Pumpkintown, Big Rock, Buckeye Knob, and Fate Osteen. With that done, we could move on to repairing washed out tread and continuing projects where they had been left off before Helene. We all bring different backgrounds and expertise to the crew. Laszlo and I both have solid chainsaw experience, and Felicity brings knowledge of trails from multiple seasons on different trail crews. Dain and Dan are at the helm of the ship with their knowledge of all of our project sites and years of experience with the CCC. With the C4 crew more than doubled in numbers, we were able to combine our skills and make a ton of progress.

I have been a climber for a long time but my outdoor climbing experience was limited, so C4 for me has been not only a job but a new group of climbing buddies and mentors. One of my favorite things about the C4 crew is that we always know when to end the work day a little early to go climb some rocks. Following some long sweaty days running a saw or filling in rootball holes, I have bushwacked a mile with AJ to climb a secret slab at Pumpkintown, followed Laszlo up six pitches at Table Rock, NC, and hopped on some classic cracks at Rumbling Bald like Comatose and Fruit Loops with Dain and Mike. I have gotten to explore new crags with some of the people who know them best, often because they are the ones who put up those routes in the first place, which can feel pretty unreal at times.

The culture of C4, which extends beyond this trail crew to every person who has ever showed up at a trail day or donated to the CCC to make our work possible, centers reciprocity with the natural world. This community revolves around not just a passion for climbing, but a passion for giving back, to each other and to the places we climb. Being part of the C4 crew has offered a beautiful equilibrium for me. Through C4 I have been able to apply my skills and experience with chainsaws and trails, help the region recover after a devastating natural disaster, and put in hard work at many climbing areas. From it I have gained a community of climbers who love to be outside, generously share skills, gear, and beta, and care about the conservation of wild places. This culture of care is what defines C4, and makes us a powerful force for conserving climbing areas through the strength of community.

— SOPHIA STOUSE, HELENE C4 CREW MEMBER

STEWARDSHIP AND ACCESS PARTNERS

Access Fund
American Alpine Club
American Conservation Experience
American Safe Climbing Association
Appalachian Climbing School
Asheboro Zoo
B.R.A.G.
Burntshirt Vineyards
Blue Ridge Parkway
Central Appalachian Climbers Coalition
Christ School
Clemson Climbing Club
Climb@ Blue Ridge
Climbers for Christ
Chimney Rock Village
Christ School
Conservation Fund
Conserving Carolina
Cultivate Climbing Guides
Destination By Design
EcoForesters
Fixed Line Media
Fox Mountain Guides
Friends of Big Ivy
Friends of Stone Mountain State Park
French Broad River Academy
Guillard Climbing Guides
Inner Peaks
James Madison University
Millsaps Creative
NC Outward Bound
NC State Gamelands
NC State Parks

NC Wildlife Resource Commission
NC Zoo
Naturaland Trust
Outdoor Alliance
Parker Sign Solutions
Paul Phillips Photography
Pisgah Conservancy
Pisgah Climbing
REI Asheville
Rocky Fork State Park, TN
Rutherford Outdoor Coalition
Southeastern Trust for Parks and Land
Southeastern Climbers Coalition
Stony Mountain Vineyards
Table Rock State Park, SC
TAASC
Tangled Bank Conservancy
Timbersong Academy
Town of Lake Lure
Town of Tryon
Triangle Rock Club
Triple Crown Bouldering Series
Tryon Fire and Rescue
United States Forest Service
UNC Climbing Club
Western Carolina University
Wild South
Wiles County Rescue
WFU Campus Rec
Yadkin Valley Adventures
Youth Works
YMCA Camp Hanes

MAJOR SUPPORTERS

\$20,000+

Trango
Pickens County Parks, Recreation, and
Tourism
North Carolina Recreational Trails Program



\$10,000+

Triangle Rock Club
Rutherford County TDA
National Forest Foundation



\$5,000+

Outdoor Research
Inner Peaks
Dr. Dave
YMCA Camp Hanes
Hickory Nut Gorge Foundation



\$500+

Acorn-Alcinda Foundation
In memory of Danny McCracken
Appalachian Mountain Brewery
Mast General Store
ReGear Outdoors
Progression Climbing Gym
Hickory Nut Fall Campground
Mountain Dog Tees



\$1000+

Apotheca
Burlaep Print and Press
Duke Climbing Club
First Hand Climbing
Coastal Climbing
Ground Up Publishing
Cultivate Climbing
Black Dome Mountain Sports
Southeastern Climbers Coalition
Fox Mountain Guides
projectROCK
The Riveter
Triple Crown Bouldering Series
Clemson Climbing Club
In memory of Fred Hutchinson
La Sportiva
Ground Up Sales

MAJOR SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT

TRANGO



Trango: Elevating Access and Stewardship

Trango, a leading innovator in climbing gear and holds, has been a steadfast supporter of the CCC from 2019 through 2025. Their generous contributions in 2024 were instrumental in several key initiatives:

Helene C4 Access: Trango's funding was pivotal in making the Helene C4 stewardship program a reality, aiding in the recovery of climbing and hiking lands impacted by Hurricane Helene.

Stewardship Van: With their assistance, we acquired a dedicated van for our stewardship team, enhancing our capacity to maintain and protect climbing areas.

Trango's commitment extends beyond equipment; they are deeply invested in the climbing community's growth and sustainability. Their support underscores the importance of collaboration in preserving and enhancing climbing experiences for all.

Explore Trango's offerings: www.trango.com



MAJOR SUPPORTER SPOTLIGHT

TRIANGLE ROCK CLUB



Triangle Rock Club: Building Community and Advocacy

Triangle Rock Club (TRC), with locations across North Carolina and in Richmond, VA, has been a vital partner to the CCC from 2022 through 2025. Their support has fueled significant initiatives:

Mosaic Program: TRC's backing was critical in launching Mosaic, our program aimed at expanding equitable access to climbing.

Advocacy and Access: Their contributions provided essential administrative support, enabling us to engage in important meetings and advocacy efforts to address access issues and promote climbing.

TRC's dedication to community building and advocacy has been instrumental in advancing our mission. Their partnership exemplifies how local businesses can make a profound impact on regional climbing conservation initiatives.

Discover more about Triangle Rock Club: trianglerockclub.com



ACCESS AND PROJECT UPDATES

Asheboro and North Carolina Zoo

Asheboro Boulders Permanently Protected

In December 2023, the Asheboro Boulders at Ridges Mountain were permanently conserved, and public climbing access was secured. This major win was made possible through collaboration between the Carolina Climbers Coalition, Access Fund, The Conservation Fund, the North Carolina Department of Natural and Cultural Resources (NCDNCR), and the North Carolina Zoo—now the official steward of the 134-acre property.

For over two decades, climbing access at Asheboro was maintained through temporary lease agreements, with no long-term guarantees. In the early 2000s, the site was even threatened by potential mining. Thanks to enduring relationships with multiple landowners and the leadership of The Conservation Fund, the land is now protected in perpetuity and managed by the Zoo for recreation, conservation, and education.

This marks the first known instance of a state zoo managing a climbing area. The North Carolina Zoo now oversees over 400 acres at Ridges Mountain and recognizes rock climbing as a valuable tool for conservation engagement. Over 200 classic granite boulder problems—from Lightning Crack to Asheboro's Steepest—now have secure access for generations to come.

As of January 2024, climbers must reserve access online. Reservation details and gate codes are provided through the CCC website at carolinaclimbers.org/asheboro-boulders

This project highlights the power of collaboration in protecting wild places for climbing and conservation alike.



ACCESS AND PROJECT UPDATES

New Climbing Access Now Open at Rocky Fork State Park's Black Stacks Cliffs

In 2024, new public climbing access opened at the Black Stacks cliffs in Rocky Fork State Park, TN!

This long-anticipated access milestone expands climbing opportunities in the region with over 25 moderate traditional routes (5.6–5.11) on beautiful 120-foot cliff faces, nestled in a shaded, riverside setting. The Black Stacks join the White House Cliffs, which opened in 2020, as another premier climbing destination within Rocky Fork.

Our work with Rocky Fork State Park began in 2015 and has grown through years of collaboration between the Carolina Climbers Coalition, Access Fund, Trango Climbing, and a dedicated community of climbers, park staff, conservationists, and guides. This successful access effort highlights the strength of partnership in sustainably expanding climbing on public lands.

Just a short drive from Asheville and Johnson City, Rocky Fork is now a must-visit destination for Southeastern climbers.

For route info at both Black Stacks and White House Cliffs, visit: tinyurl.com/RockForkRoutes



ADVOCACY

Advocating for Public Lands and Climbing Access

In 2024, the CCC deepened its commitment to public lands advocacy by supporting landmark federal legislation to protect outdoor recreation and climbing. We proudly worked alongside advocacy leaders like the Access Fund and Outdoor Alliance to help advance the EXPLORE Act (Expanding Public Lands Outdoor Recreation Experiences) and the PARC Act (Protecting America's Rock Climbing). These bills are crucial for preserving access to wilderness climbing areas, ensuring that traditional climbing in designated wilderness continues to be recognized and protected as a legitimate, low-impact use.

As a member of the Grasstops Collective with Outdoor Alliance, the CCC is part of a national network of local and national advocacy groups using collective power to influence conservation and recreation policy. This partnership allows us to elevate the voice of Southeastern climbers in federal decision-making processes and to champion legislation that reflects climbers' deep investment in the stewardship of public lands.

In addition to national efforts, the CCC has advocated at the state level for critical disaster relief. In 2024, we engaged with public officials to push for more Hurricane Helene recovery funding to be directed toward Western North Carolina, supporting both the rebuilding of affected mountain communities and the rehabilitation of damaged climbing areas.

Through strategic advocacy, strong partnerships, and a unified climber voice, being a part of the CCC means that you protect the places we climb—now and for generations to come.



EVENTS AND COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Celebrating Community Through Events



In 2024, the CCC brought people together through over 40 events across the Carolinas—from the high-energy Rumble competition to cozy film nights with our incredible gym partners. Each gathering, big or small, was fueled by the passion and presence of our community.

What makes CCC events truly special is you—sharing your stories, supporting our mission, and showing up to protect the lands where we love to climb. Together, we raised over \$45,000 through events and immeasurable stoke for the future of climbing access and stewardship.

Thank you for making 2024 unforgettable. Let's keep the momentum going in 2025!

- 40+ Community Events
- \$45k Raised to Support Our Mission
- 262 New CCC Members Joined at Events

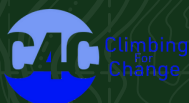
Mosaic Programming Highlight

Introducing Mosaic: Expanding Equitable Access to Climbing

In 2024, the CCC launched the vision for Mosaic—an initiative to break down barriers and create climbing opportunities for underrepresented communities.

With support raised in 2024 from events like the Send of Summer Soirée and partners like Climbing for Change and Triangle Rock Club, the CCC confirmed its pilot Mosaic project in late 2024, aimed at inspiring new climbers, building confidence, and shaping a more inclusive climbing future.

Stay tuned to learn more about the 2025 Mosaic program project with Boys & Girls Clubs and Triangle Rock Club.



MEMBERSHIP

Membership Fuels Our Mission 1,044 Members and Counting!

Being a CCC member is more than just a contribution—it's a commitment to protecting the places we climb. Your membership is the most direct way to support climbing access, conservation, and stewardship across the Carolinas.

In 2024, our growing membership helped power land acquisitions, trail days, fixed anchor replacements, and equitable access initiatives like our equitable access event raffles, Mosaic, and BIPOC clinics at events. Through our Gym Ambassador Program, community events, and strong partnerships with local gyms and climbing groups, we're expanding our reach and building a united climbing community that stands up for our shared spaces.

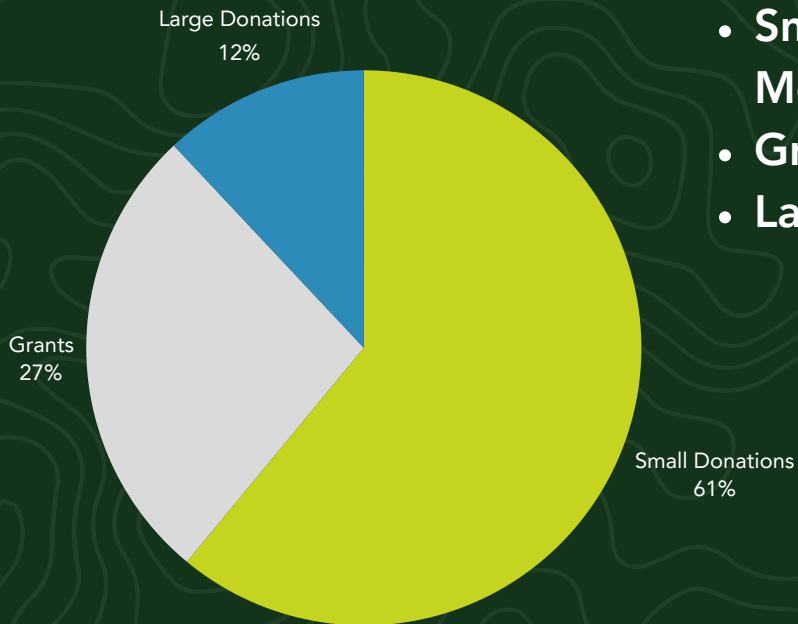
CCC members receive awesome perks—including discounts at local businesses, gear shops, gyms, discounted event access, and the satisfaction of knowing you're helping protect climbing for generations to come.

If you love climbing in the Carolinas, the best way to give back is to become a CCC member. Join or renew at carolinaclimbers.org/join



2024 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

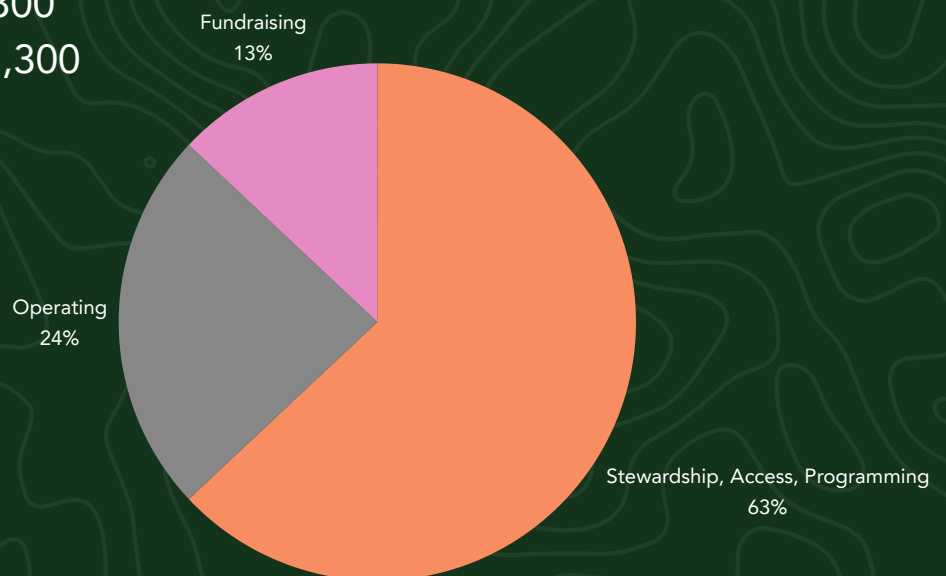
Income Total \$341,300

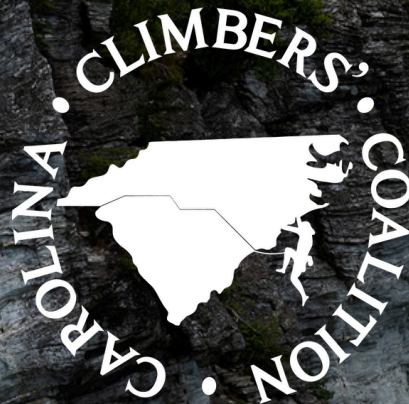


- **Small Donations and Memberships: \$208,000**
- **Grants: \$92,700**
- **Large Donations: \$40,600**

Total Expense: \$332,000

- **Stewardship, Access, Programs Costs: \$209,400**
- **Operating Costs: \$79,300**
- **Fundraising Costs: \$43,300**





Thank you for supporting our 29th year protecting, preserving, and expanding climbing in the Carolinas! Our community is strong because of supporters like you.

Stay connected at CarolinaClimbers.org

VOLUNTEER

BECOME A MEMBER

DONATE

Stay in the loop—follow us on social media:

Facebook • @Carolina Climbers Coalition

Instagram • @carolinaclimberscoalition

YouTube • Carolina Climbers Coalition

Paul Phillips

PHOTO BY PAUL PHILLIPS