

# 1000 Friends of Wisconsin

## 2018 Annual Report

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Since 1996, 1000 Friends of Wisconsin has been advancing healthy communities, positive economic outcomes and environmental benefits across Wisconsin.

We do things differently. We are focused on connections and making the link between good community design and protection of the natural environment. We know that when we make substantial improvements to our communities, we are having a bigger impact on the world we live in. Everything that we do on the land touches something else. We address policies in communities that are too frequently underestimated in their importance to protecting the natural environment. We have never strayed from our objective to curb sprawl through better use of our lands, but we have taken steps that many others tend to overlook – achieving benefits that go far beyond any one community’s borders.

Our natural landscape has been transformed by our highways. Hills flattened, farms removed and wetlands drained are direct results of the highway construction that has extended the reach of the modern commute. Consequently, new housing developments and shopping malls have been created atop former farm fields dismantling many existing communities.

1000 Friends is working to rebuild communities. By focusing on the relationship between community design and transportation, we can help build better places to live. Our plans help residents build neighborhoods that foster economic development that builds great places. With an emphasis on developing transit connections, we can also help residents save money by reducing their dependence on cars and gasoline. A walkable/bikeable neighborhood supports local retail and improves the quality of life. It also means reduced emissions from cars that increase air pollution and contribute to climate change.

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## 2018 Program Highlights

### Transportation

1000 Friends and our partners wrote a report to identify how states in the Midwest—Wisconsin, Minnesota, Ohio, Michigan, South and North Dakota, Indiana and Iowa - could build a low carbon transportation future that works for everyone. The report - *The Road to Clean Transportation: A Bold, Broad Strategy to Cut Pollution and Reduce Carbon Emissions in the Midwest* - details the key strategies and benchmarks communities must target to reduce transportation emissions. In the Midwest, smart transportation and smart growth strategies could reduce transportation energy demand and lead to emissions reductions of at least 20 percent by 2050, with greater reductions possible if those strategies are adopted together.

Along with our partners, we organized a day-long summit of community leaders working for a more equitable transportation system in Wisconsin. The goal of the summit was to build a stronger network of transit advocates and highlight a common message—the need for greater state investment in public transportation. There were many small group discussions, where



participants split up by geographic area and worked together to envision what a robust transportation system in their community would look like. The day closed with the development of a coherent message and strategies that attendees could use to garner support from the general public and elected officials for a 21st century transportation system in Wisconsin.

We released a first-of-its kind report called “Arrive Together: Transportation Access and Equity in Wisconsin”. This report provides a profile of nine cities in Wisconsin that have public transit systems, the challenges that are faced by users of these systems and offers solutions on how we can get better.

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### **Green Tier Legacy Communities (GTLC)**

We helped create the Green Tier Legacy Communities Charter program over 10 years ago to assist communities in developing and implementing sustainability measures leading to an improvement in the economy, environment and quality of life in the charter communities.

When communities sign the Green Tier Legacy Communities Charter, they agree to take actions and share information to move continuously toward a sustainable future through initiatives that promote environmental stewardship, economic growth, public health, and social equity. There are 24 Green Tier Legacy Communities and counties across the state!

Our involvement in the Health in All Policy component of the GTLC Charter continues. Through the project, the Legacy Communities Alliance for Health (LCAH), we aim to improve health and health equity through local government policymaking and programming. The goal is to help communities achieve gains in at least one of four policy areas of interest: clean water, active transportation, safe and affordable housing, and healthy and affordable local food systems.

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### **Green Schoolyards**



We are leading a community project at Aldo Leopold Elementary School - the largest elementary school in the Madison Metropolitan School District and one of four Community Schools – using green infrastructure to address flooding issues and helping the school develop spaces for outdoor environmental education and creative play.

Research shows that when kids are exposed to nature and green schoolyards they have improved academic and health outcomes.

This project will also address watershed protection issues in the area since Leopold School sits in two watersheds - Lake Wingra and Lake Monona. 1000 Friends hopes to build a green schoolyard initiative to positively influence both the health of kids and the health of the environment across the state.

## 2017 Income and Expenses

<b>Unrestricted Revenues and Support</b>	
Contributions & Grants	134,317
Fees for Services	12,788
Special Events	18,498
Other	45,564
Net assets released from restrictions	55,351
<b>Total</b>	<b>266,518</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Personnel	146,330
Conferences/Events	16,485
Subgrantees	600
Postage	794
Printing	2,128
Occupancy	23,384
Professional	13,576
Insurance	1,656
Other	5,165
<b>Total</b>	<b>210,118</b>
Change in Unrestricted Net Assets	56,400
<b>Temporarily Restricted Net Assets</b>	
Contributions	54,000
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	(55,351)
Change in Temporarily Restricted Net Assets	(1,351)
Total Change in Net Assets	55,049
Net Assets Beginning of Year	72,576
<b>Net Assets End of Year</b>	<b>127,625</b>

<b>Program Services</b>	
Sustainability	76,153
Transportation	84,266
Management/General	24,130
Fundraising	25,570
<b>Total</b>	<b>210,118</b>



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This Annual Report is available to the public at: <https://www.1kfriends.org/annual-reports>