A Letter from the Executive Director

As I reflect on 2015, I am deeply moved by the passion and energy of the thousands of volunteers, donors, and friends who make our work possible. From all of us at Big City Mountaineers – THANK YOU – for what you have done to elevate our organization and advance our mission. Your efforts on our behalf are sincerely appreciated and I look forward to working with you in the future.

2015 was my first year as the Executive Director for BCM and I have certainly learned a lot. I have traveled around the country getting to know our programs, meeting with our partners, and engaging our staff in conversations about our future. I have been to every city where we have operations (and then some) to gain an understanding of the value we bring to the cities we serve. Finally, I have worked with, and gotten to know better, our critically important sponsors from the outdoor industry that support us with financial resources, technical equipment, and volunteers.

I am so proud of our staff and the volunteers who work with our students. Our program provides a safe and supportive environment for youth to develop teamwork, an increased sense of self, understanding of their place in the natural world, a passion for lifelong learning, and a commitment to environmental stewardship. This learning and transformation does not happen without our volunteers and staff leading expeditions and developing our program.

2015 was our 25th anniversary. Over the past 25 years, we have served over 7,300 kids, conducted over 700 expeditions, organized over 5,000 volunteers, led over 75 overnight camps, and provided over 36,000 nights under the stars for kids that would not have had the opportunity without BCM.

We look forward to the next 25 years and 2016 will be the first step in that direction. This summer, BCM will lead 42 week long expeditions and 14 overnight camps in Massachusetts, Colorado, Minnesota, Washington, Oregon, and California. In total, BCM will serve over 800 youth from Boston, Denver, Minneapolis, Seattle, Portland, and the Bay Area.

I hope you will join us in engaging more youth and positively impacting more communities across the country. With your help and the inspiration we draw from our students, I am confident Big City Mountaineers will continue to grow and provide transformational outdoor experiences for those who need them most.

Byan Martin
Executive Director
2015 Accomplishments:

459 under-resourced, urban youth spent

1,737 days in the wilderness along with

168 adult volunteer mentors who logged more than

16,800 mentoring hours in the field, and over

$360,000 dollars were raised by Summit for Someone climbers for BCM kids.
One of the key differentiators between Big City Mountaineers and other wilderness-based youth programs is that BCM combines the educational benefits of the outdoor environment with a 1:1 ratio of youth to adult role models. Unlike programs where a ratio of 10:1 or less is standard, BCM is deliberate in pairing the under-resourced youth we serve on week-long expeditions with caring adult mentors to ensure that our youth receive the maximum support and reinforcement needed to become successful.

Big City Mountaineers partners with community-based youth development agencies to identify under-resourced youth who would benefit from the BCM experience, and these agencies recruit young participants directly from their agencies. We have chosen this partnership model to maximize ongoing youth impact, and work alongside agency staff to reach out, recruit, and properly prepare youth for this catalyst experience. Agency partners are selected based on the profile of the youth served, their relationship with the youth, measurement methodologies, geographical location, and ability to participate in Big City Mountaineers training and programs. Each BCM expedition includes one staff member from the partnering youth agency to ensure that expedition learning is continued and reinforced when youth return home to their communities.
BCM partners annually with our youth agencies to host a reunion for our expedition teens. The kids take this opportunity to tell stories of their adventures in the wilderness: their favorite memory, the challenges they overcame, and the life lessons they brought back home.

As the group went around the circle, Chuy’s comments really stood out. He talked about things like responsibility, perseverance, and leadership. We hear those words a lot in this line of work, but you could tell from the emotion in his voice that these words really meant something.

Later, there was an opportunity for parents to speak up and share their thoughts. At this point, Chuy’s mom stood up and spoke very bravely in Spanish:

“Before my son went on this trip, there was a lot of fighting in our house, he was disrespectful, and he was getting in trouble. I was scared for him – for his future.”  As she continued, tears began to fall from her eyes, “But when he returned, he was the boy I remembered. The boy who loved me, the thoughtful boy, the caring boy, the diligent boy. Thank you! Thank you to everyone who helped me get my boy back!”

At this point they both embraced. It was an incredible moment to witness.

This moment is the distillation of our work. We reconnected a son to his mother. We made a family whole again. Often times, kids need a place and some space to reset their priorities. They need an adult who will listen and be there for them with helpful advice. Big City Mountaineers puts all of these pieces into place and provides truly transformational experiences for kids in need.
In 2015, Big City Mountaineers programs positively impacted under-resourced, urban youth.

BCM youth showed a statistically significant gain in the number of developmental assets they possess, through their week-long mentoring expeditions, as measured by the Search Institute’s 40 Developmental Assets Profile.

Developmental assets protect youth from engaging in high-risk behaviors, including violence, alcohol use, and illicit drug use. Developmental assets also promote thriving behaviors, such as valuing diversity, maintaining good health, and succeeding in school.

BCM youth see significant improvement in these key areas:

- **Personal Characteristics**
  
  *Students have an increased degree of honesty, responsibility, and integrity, as well as higher self-esteem and sense of purpose. BCM youth become more resilient to a range of risk factors, particularly if support is lacking in their family, school, and community.*

- **Social Competencies**
  
  *Students have the support, encouragement, and role models necessary for healthy development.*
Big City Mountaineers has been sending youth to the Boundary Waters since 2003. During that time, we’ve received invaluable help from organizations in storing our gear and equipment vital to the success of our canoe expeditions. After all, storing fifteen Wenonah canoes takes a special amount of space!

This year, BCM will be moving our operations to the new Tower, MN property that was donated in the 2015 season. It has been an exciting transition as we’ve transferred everything over and started the process of making it our base camp for 2016 and beyond. With a bunk-house, gear garage, and main cabin, the Tower property will serve BCM’s growing Minnesota program greatly. With plenty of lakefront and even an island, BCM will be able to run our week-long as well as weekend camp opportunities - a first for the Minnesota region.

The property is on the Pike River Flowage, just a short paddle to Lake Vermillion and the BWCA to the north and includes 120 acres and half a mile of lake front.
I can play four musical instruments,” Kathy said, prompting a chorus of oohs and ahs.

“Gonna be tough to beat that,” I ventured. We were huddled in a hut at about 11,000 feet in the Tetons. Outside, angry gray clouds swirled around the peaks. We planned to climb the 13,775-foot Grand Teton, but first, it was time to get to know our new ropemates. We’d been a dozen strangers when we met at the trailhead in the morning. Now we were sharing standard icebreaker stuff—hometown, climbing experience—as well as a unique personal detail.

“I’m allergic to hot tubs,” Caitlyn ventured.

“No way! I’m allergic to cold water,” replied Bowen, who was squeezed in next to her.

First came protests of disbelief. “No really, it’s call cold urticarial,” he said. Then laughter all around. What were the odds of these two sitting next to each other?

Outside, the wind blew drops of cold rain against the thin hut walls, but inside things were warming up. And it wasn’t just because of the strangely complementary water allergies. Unlike most strangers who come together for a guided trip, this group started with something in common: We’d all joined the SFS climb as a fundraiser for Big City Mountaineers. The effort of raising $4,000 each created a bond we only recognized when we sat down in the hut to get acquainted. The camaraderie was instant, the sharing genuine.

Indeed, Sanjay, next in line, didn’t hesitate: “I can take my eye out,” he said, then did, to a round of raucous applause. Yes, this crew was getting pretty comfortable. The next day, as we learned figure-eight knots, rappelling technique, and rope work, even our instructors from Jackson Hole Mountain Guides noticed something special about the mood.

It wasn’t hard to understand why. For most novice climbers attempting a big peak like the Grand, the ascent is the goal. The months prior to the trip are filled with training and gear selection and trip planning. We had to get ready for the climb as well, but those months were also filled with telling friends and family about BCM, about how the organization literally changes kids’ lives by exposing them to the power of the outdoors. Our goal was to make that possible.

So when an unusual July snowstorm blew in overnight and crushed our chances of summiting, the mood didn’t change. As we descended the icy rocks, we were comforted by this thought: Lots of climbers get turned around by weather. But they’ve rarely accomplished so much on the way up. - Excerpt from Dennis Lewon’s article in Backpacker, October 2015

WWW.SUMMITFORSOMEONE.ORG
Summit For Someone
Top Fundraising Climbers

Summit For Someone climbers challenge themselves while helping BCM kids change their lives. Many thanks for your dedicated service in raising support for our youth.

Climbers raising $7,500+
Ken Dawson
David Andrews
Nicolaas Vanderkloot
Daniel Leep
Robert Spangler
Brandon Kibby

Climbers raising $5,000-$7,499
Casey Westby
Roxanne Fleming
Tracy Schmidt
Kate Dumanian
Michael Souza
Carol Fey
Lory Stabolepsky
Robert Winslow

Climbers raising $2,000-$4,999
Brian Putnam
Curtis Zaun
Brian Karney
Stephen Reynolds
Jim Konopka
Sanjay Tailor
Bowen Reber
William Penglase
Caitlyn Pepper
Michele Smith
Kari Fournier
Con Wright
Justin Fuld
Michelle Carter

Climbers raising $2,000-$4,999
Sean Estep
Natalie Bybee
Kathi O’Neill
Milo Lewon
Jake Milam
Jack Patten, III
Andy Stroman
Philip Palmer
Joe Llewellyn
Jonathan Hudson
Rachel Zurer
Kristi Carlquist
Timothy Koeth
Joshua Stephens
Deborah Beggan
Sonya Koptyev
Brian Zaun

William Edson
Andrew Ryan
Mike Dirks
Yvonne Rivera
Lucas Wynn
Weston Hawley
Elizabeth Granados
Sarah Banfield
Nicole Evans
Margaret Metzger
Esther Gomez
George Araujo
Robert Perlman
Sean Eager
Matt Rodau
Kyle Eager
Brian Churchill
Elizabeth Williams

Ken Dawson
$29,000 Raised on the CDT

BCM started promoting more Challenges in 2015, as an alternative our traditional Summit for Someone climbs. These challenges are meant to engage more novice and intermediate outdoor enthusiasts in the SFS program. Ken was our most successful Challenge participant by far!

After retiring from Michigan State University in the spring, Ken set a lofty goal for himself: to use his trek of the 3,100 mile Continental Divide Trail as a fundraiser for under-resourced urban youth.

Ken hiked all day, every day for five months, putting an average of 20 miles per day behind him, and in the process raised $29,000 for BCM. Thank you Ken!

“I have been blessed in life, and my family has been blessed in life. Now, I want to share the gifts I have been given, and give back to the places that have shaped my own outlook on life by providing the opportunities for transformative experiences in the outdoors for kids that come from an urban background much like my own, and those of my children.”
In addition to youth agencies, collaborative partnership is the lens by which we view all our working relationships. Strong partnerships with outdoor industry companies have been essential to supplying much-needed gear, funding, and promotional support for our youth expeditions and Summit for Someone fundraising climbs.

Through the generosity of our outdoor industry partners, BCM received more than $200,000 of in-kind product support in 2015. Thank you!
Community Shares of Colorado
EWM Realtors
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
Gregory Packs
Hightower Advisors
Johnson Outdoors, LLC
Kelty
Lowa Boots, LLC
Madison Community Foundation
Mercedes-Benz of Coral Gables
Mile High United Way
Oru Kayak
Petzl America
Sasquatch Advertising
Social Entrepreneurial Enterprises, Inc.
Stay Involved, Inc DBA BNI/Miami-Dade
Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP
Sweet Cow
T & S Roofing Systems
TD Gulfstream Partners, LLC
The Nature Conservancy
The Outdoor Foundation
UBS Financial Services Inc
United Data Technologies
Walbridge

B’nai Havurah
Boreas Gear
CoBank
Community First Foundation
Dolby Match Program
Eagle & Badge Foundation
Fembi Mortgage
Gables Insurance Recovery
GE Foundation Matching Gifts Program
Ibex Outdoor Clothing, LLC
JustGive
LPL Financial Foundation
Network For Good
Paulsen Family Foundation
Pfeifer Service LLC
San Quentin State Prison
Somebody Cares Humble for Insperity
Community Involvement Programs
SOS Outreach
Sprig Electric
Thule
Vinas & Deluca, PLLC
Weinstein & Cohen P.A.
XL Construction

In the summer of 2015, The North Face launched the #GivePack campaign, where $1 was donated to BCM for every backpack sold. This campaign resulted in $75,000 raised for BCM during the back-to-school shopping season. Thank you!
Individual Donors

$10,000+
Clifford and Dixie Henderson
Robby and Laura Henderson
Paul Andrews and Ciel Lawrence

$5,000 - $9,999
Casey Westby

$1,000 - $4,999
Adam and Peggy Pena
Alexander Tolger
Alexis Sirulnik
Andrew and Janna Ryan
Andy Stroman
Angela Chen
Ann Daw
Arne Borgnes
Ben Gipson and Olivia Cao
Brad and Melissa McQueen
Brandon Kibby
Brian Barakat
Brian Egan
Brian Firooz
Brian Putnam
Brian Rokaw
Brian Williamson
Brooks and Thomas Barron
Bruce Thrush
Catherine Jzyk
Crystal and Jonathan Hudson
David Keeler
David Kistenbroker
David Royce
Debbie Posewitz
Dennis Kakures
Donna Warton
Esther Dawson
Frank Martin
Fred and Susan Foster
Garth and Bowen Reber
Gary Fey
Gene Carroll
George Araujo
Gregg and Julie Hosfeldt
Gregg Bilson
Heather Giannandrea
Howard Feit
Jack Patten, III
Jake and Evelyn Milam
James Ferguson
James Schwitalla
Janice Spillan
Jeff Hester
Jim Konopka
John and Erin Telford
John Graff
John Bearfoss
Jordan Delp
Joshua Stephens
Justin Nyberg
Kat Jovanputra
Kathi O’Neill
Kelly and Mark Kraus
Lory Stabilepury
Lucas Wynn
Mark Byrd
Mary Barrett
Maude and Skye Keeshin
Michelle Carter
Miles Olson
Natalie Bybee and Matthew Texler
Nathan and Katharine Knarreborg
Nick Ornella
Nicolaas Vanderkloot
Oscar Teunissen
Patrick Gerschel
Perry M. Adair
Peter Cagle
Philip and Kirsten Palmer
Richard Nyberg
Rob Wolford
Robert Warren
Robert Winslow
Roberta Garrison
Samuel Judd
Sarah Hogan
Sarah Misheghri
Scott Marcus
Sean Eager
Sean Estep
Shiyami Sivasubramaniam
Skip Yowell and Winnie Kingsbury
Sonya Koptyev
Ted McGee
Thom Barry
Thomas Sexton
Tyler Stableford
William Aitchison
William and Colleen Penglase
Jeff and Judy Weidman

$500 - $999
Abbigail Lochmandy
Alan and Sarah Goldenberg
Amy Crowe
Andrew Overhiser
Anita Rodau
Barbara Griffiths
Bernard Moens
Bradley Wilmot
Brenda Magnetti Erickson
Brian Churchill
Calum Dewar
Catherine & James Thomsen
Chelsae and Sandra Rollok
Chris Lennert
Cindy and Jim Mcclelland
Corinne Sanchez
Cynthia Kupper
David Clayton
Dennis and Milo Lewon
Dennis H. Kleinman
Derek Brockmeyer
Derek Strader
Doug and Karen Bethune
Draper White
Drew Kern
Edma Dumanian
Elizabeth Billings
Eric Smith
Frederick Stephens
Gabrielle Toledano and Kurt Gantert
Geoffrey E. Bergeron
Gil Alcoser
Gord Daley

Gordon Seabury
Harriet Blume
Jack Koziol
Jack Patten
Jacob and Carole Dom
James A. Kern, Sr.
James Kirstin
Jay Steere
Jeffrey Chung
Jennie and Jennie Curtis
Jerad Seurer
Jill Parker
Joe Llewellyn
John Betts
John Hoskinson
John Varel
Jon Drollinger
Jonathan and Heather Dom
Jonathan Frederick
Joyce Wadsworth
Justin Fuld
Justin Griffin
Justin Harvey
Kari Fournier
Kate and Elizabeth Dumanian
Katherine DeMasie
Kelly Rose
Kerry Shanley
Lance Cottrill
Leah Cieland Jochim
Leisle Rose
Lindsay Bard
Lone Bryan
Mac and Theresa Tillman
Margaret Metzger
Mark Bunde
Mary Reilly
Matthew Clark
Michael Dawson
Michele Cudahy
Montgomery Pollack
Myroslava Pvhnyuk-Gaddy
Neil and Izette Folger
Nicole Evans
Pamela Zurer
Paul Bunce
Regan Shea
Richard and Lyndon Hausler
Robert and Debra Shearer
Robert DeGaudenzi
Roy Notowitz
Ryan LeBlanc
Sarah, Kelsey and Pamela Banfield
Scott Miller
Seema Tailor
ShiChieh Lee
Stephen Reynolds
Steve Franz
Steve Munn
Steve Souza
Susan Bockus
Susan Moser
Ted and Kaitlin German
Thomas Moore
Thomas Mullen
Thomas Niblock
Timothy and Theresa Spiro
Timothy Britt
Every year BCM mentors not only spend one on one time with kids and teens in the outdoors, but they also raise thousands of dollars through BCM’s Change a Life Campaign.

### Volunteering

**Weeklong**

A Kidz Hope
Amber MacPherson
Antoinette Kilton
Lillian Brace

BCM Alumni Trips
Chris Ball
Chris Friederich
Chris Hampton
Jimmy Forbes
Jonathan Gray
Maxmilian Hietpas
Tony Biagrope

Boys and Girls Club Bellevue
Kol Peterson
Masao Yamada
Mike Locke

Canal Welcome Center
Cristin Cronin
Jennifer Cofer
Juan Colonia
Lisa Canin
Mals Calderon
Marian Finch
Mohsin Waqar
Scott Schrierer

College Track/Summit 54
Anna Sime
Jakub Dybala
John Wethey
Justin TenEyck
Liz Rodriguez
Luke Bonucci
Sarah Rushing
Sarah Waterman

Cross Plains Middleton
Stephen Scott

Denver City LAX
Benjamin Allison
Daniel Reilly
Junki Ogawa
Michael Reilly
Phil Mesdag
Zachary Taylor

Denver Kids
Bobby Baca
Erin Beck
Jesse Woodworth
Melissa Hermosillo
Rebecca Borst

East Oakland Boxing Association
Aron Thomas
David Reiss
Francisco Grajales
John Pham

**Family Alternatives**
Colleen Toberman
Julia Hutchinson
Mary Lennick

I Have a Dream Foundation of Boulder County - Phoenix Class
Becky Kivlovitz
Bernie Johnsen
Brittany DeKoch
Heather McGonigle
Jonathan Sosa
Miriam Rosenblum
Tom Mallon
Tom Miller

Jefferson Center for Mental Health
Desiree Duzich
Jamie Burke
Jeff Johnson
Jonathan English
Madison Dale
Madison Dale
Melissa Bartt
Nicholas Buchholtz
Rachel Fukaya

New America School
Andrew Wolff
Brian Steevi
Christopher D’Amico
Jamie Geissler
Janel Martinez
Jose Louis Martinez
MaryAnn Weitzel
Robertta Garrison

Northwest Passage High School
Amber Ortiz
Bogdan Petre
Kimberly Rooyakkers

Red Wing Youth Outreach
Carol Amberg
Chelsea Will
Edwin Berniard
James Hoeben
Lori Nicolai

Sleeping Hearts
Carol Munch
Christine Selby
David Clayton
Gavin Knight
Jeffrey DeBelli
Macy Nedelka
Sara Casey
Taylor Shain
Trina Harris

Waite House
Dave Couch
Kris Shelton
Luis Ortega Castrellon

**Change A Life**

Every year BCM mentors not only spend one on one time with kids and teens in the outdoors, but they also raise thousands of dollars through BCM’s Change a Life Campaign.

$5,000+
Scott Schriefer

$1,000 - $1,999
Chris Hampton
Dave Couch

$500 - $999
Brad Carson
Tom Mallon

**Volunteers Overnight**

Big Brothers Big Sisters Of Colorado Inc
Amy Linares
Brian Jensen
Carol Morris
Christa Bitter
Derek Tellin
Jordan Crozier
Josh Frontera
Katie Starcevich
Lara Doran
Laura Wojtasinski
Maurice Smith
Nathan Lohmeyer
Valerie Albano

Boys & Girls Club of Metro Denver
Elizabeth Bosser
Laysa Shreves
Matt Watts
Seth Adcock

Colorado “I Have a Dream” Foundation
Alyssa Marks
Angela Bakas
Cailltin O’Brien
Patrick Brehm
Riley McIntyre

Denver Kids, Inc.
Anne Duane
Brian Firooz
Carly Morara
Emma Kravitz
Ethan Trujillo
Jessica Avila
Salvador Valdez
Sierra Sherrill
**Instructors**

**Expeditions**
Bethany Gleason
Dane Zehrung
Elise Schiffman
Ellen Post
Ellie Moore
Gregory Wilson
Jake Fields
Michael Wagner
Nathan Ballard
Nicole Blaser
Piper Niehaus
Samson Quaintance
Timothy Owen
Vicki Swedeen

**Overnight Camps**
Adam Pettee
Emma Walker
Colette Matzen
Nicholas Scarborough

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**Celebrating 25 Years**

On a hot spring day in Miami, Jim Kern saw an ad in the Miami Herald with a surprising deal: buy one adult plane ticket and receive a child’s ticket for one dollar. After noticing that Missoula, Montana was one of the locations offered, he purchased two adult tickets – roping his son Drew and friend Gerry into hiking through Glacier National Park. Jim just needed to find another kid to take advantage of that second $1 ticket...

None of Drew’s friends could make the trip. So, not wanting to waste a basically free airline ticket, Jim contacted the director of Teenage Shelter Care, a program benefiting kids from troubled homes in Miami. He asked if they knew of a teenage boy who was deserving and would benefit from a backpacking trip. The director had a great candidate: a 14-year-old boy named Raymond. Within a few weeks the foursome was exploring Glacier National Park, the Mission Mountains, and parts of the Continental Divide Trail.

On that trip, the idea for BCM was born. Once home in Miami, Jim knew he had to act on this idea. On June 26th, 1990 BCM was officially incorporated as a non-profit organization. 25 years later, we have taken over 7,300 underserved kids camping, hiking, and paddling. We have run over 700 expeditions and 75 overnight camps. We have engaged over 5,000 adult volunteer mentors in 12 states.

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**Overnight Volunteers - Continued**

**Denver Parks & Recreation**
Allison Brown
Amanda Madrid
Anthony Egger
Bobby Macias
Brandon Lee
Cindy Smith
Demi Lewis
Kevin Simpson
Matt Watts
Melissa Bartt

**Hope Communities**
Mark Homco
Saieda Syed Yahya
Sarah Fischer

**I Have a Dream Foundation of Boulder County - Griffin Class**
Anita Godfrey
Christian Wigert
Evan Williams
Holly Hocut
James Campbell-Harris
James Seastone
Jessica Beltran
Larry Dansky
Lori Bagley
Marissa Seuc-Hester
Matt Palmer
Michael Mahlin
Scott MacDonald
Shelbi Taylor
Sienna Dellepiane

**I Have a Dream Foundation of Boulder County - Oak Class**
Heather Carlson
Jeannette Rodriguez
Kristina Cummings
Robin Marumoto
Tracy Leffingwell

**I Have a Dream Foundation of Boulder County - Aspen Class**
Anna Gregory
Benjamin Gettinger
Jennifer Erickson
Kate Michalowski
Logan Pesses
Seth Hays

**I Have a Dream Foundation of Boulder County - Phoenix Class**
Ashley Stephens
Becky Kivolovitz
Casey Lawson
Enrique Franco
John Marotta

**I Have a Dream Foundation of Boulder County - Rocky Mountain Class**
C.J. King
Eric Lamb
Jessica Magruder
Maria Herrera
Melissa Santorelli
Olimpia Mejia

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**Jim (center) with his sons Drew (left) & Jim Jr. (right)**

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**Special Thanks**

**Expeditions**

**Overnight Camps**

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**Instructors**

**Expeditions**
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Dane Zehrung
Elise Schiffman
Ellen Post
Ellie Moore
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Michael Wagner
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Jessica Magruder
Maria Herrera
Melissa Santorelli
Olimpia Mejia
The increase in net assets was primarily driven by the Minnesota property donation, an increase in contributions, and a 65% reduction of liabilities. This will allow BCM to provide a 55% increase in the number of expeditions run in 2016 and expand programming to the Boston area.
In Memory of Skip Yowell (1946 - 2015)

BCM would not be where it is today without Skip’s steadfast and unwavering support. In 1997, JanSport, through Skip’s leadership, stepped up and provided BCM with $100,000 in funding. The generous gift allowed us to move our headquarters from Miami to Denver in order to be closer to more backcountry destinations and to hire our first Executive Director. The ripple effect of this action has continued to affect the lives of the teens we serve and their families today. Countless youth have brighter futures because of Skip’s actions.

Skip touched each one of us who had a chance to know him, and he spent many summers on expeditions with BCM youth. To call Skip a legend is an enormous understatement. More importantly, he was always the kind and genuine with everyone he met. We will work hard to honor the legacy Skip has left here at BCM.

“Life is a journey and the path is unknown.” - Skip Yowell

Board of Directors

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Paul Andrews / EverWest Real Estate Partners
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Kat Jobanputra / Specialty Sports Venture
Justin Nyberg / Davis Graham & Stubs LLP
Jay Steere / Timberland
Amy Tam / BCM Alumni
Ed Viesturs / High Altitude Adventurer
Mike Wallenfels/ Hydroflask
Jeff Weidman / Director Emeritus

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Jeff DeBellis / CO Program
Andrew Benda / MN Program
Marty Simpson / CA Program
Bix Firer / Overnight Program
Matt Hart / Staffing
Anna Simle / Summit for Someone
Dave Couch / Chief Financial Officer
Claire Elliott / Office Manager

Big City Mountaineers is an equal opportunity service provider and employer.

Big City Mountaineers operates under special use permit with the USDA Forest Service and the National Park Service.