

Dear Friends -

The Nature Connection has had an exciting year with record growth in 2018. With your help, our programming has grown by 25%. Our year-long programs now reach over 300 individuals per year across Greater Boston! In particular, we are reaching more children, at new sites such as Littleton Academy/JRI, a group home for very young children.

With each new partnership, we are on our way to meeting our goal to lead the effort to make animal and nature-assisted therapy widely practiced in Greater Boston. With each visit, a child is empowered by her newly found ability to plant a seed and grow her own food; an elderly man watches a hermit crab emerge from its shell, and is able to recall a lost memory of exploring tidepools in his youth.

We have taken our professional development to the next level too: integrating new best practices into our programs. Our program team has learned from industry leaders including: Justice Resource Institute, The New England Wildflower Society, and The Alzheimer's Association. Our Caregiver Training program, launched in 2015, has also blossomed: this year we trained over 200 professional and family caregivers to bring nature-based interventions to vulnerable individuals in their care.

Thank you for your belief in the healing power of nature, and for your generous support for changing lives in our communities.

With gratitude,

Sophie Wadsworth
Executive Director

Ron Bott
Board President

“When The Nature Connection is here, the behavioral issues go away. I’ve seen it. The program is powerful medicine because it grounds [the children] to nature and to themselves, and connects them to each other through the animals.”

~ Erica Nazzaro
Senior Intensive Care Coordinator
The Home for Little Wanderers

FY18 By The Numbers

2,749	Total number of connections
15	Total number of program sites
325	Total number of individuals served
150	Total number of volunteers
163	Total number of caregiver trainees

OUR MISSION

The Nature Connection is a non-profit organization that brings nature-based programs to people with limited access to the natural world. Founded in 1983, The Nature Connection brings individuals together with nature's capacity to teach and to heal.



The Nature Connection FY18 Financials*

REVENUE

Earned Income (Program Revenue)	\$70,992.00
Individual Contributions	\$95,783.00
Foundation	\$76,099.48
Government	\$3,800.00
Corporate	\$7,098.00

Total Revenue **\$253,772.48**

EXPENSE

Program Services	\$138,765.31
Fundraising and Marketing	\$62,128.89
Management	\$25,050.20

Total Expense **\$225,944.40**

*Preliminary unaudited results



OUR VISION

Our 10-year vision is to lead the effort in making animal and nature-assisted therapeutic programming widely practiced in Greater Boston by year 2027 for those who lack access to the natural world.

OUR STRATEGIC PLAN

From Aug 1, 2017 to July 31, 2020, our strategic goals include doubling the number of program sites we serve, and training 500 caregivers.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Ron Bott
President

Karin Gaffney
Vice President

Dave Witherbee
Treasurer

Jennifer Albanese
Clerk

Andrew Boardman

Marcia Chertok

Susan Frey

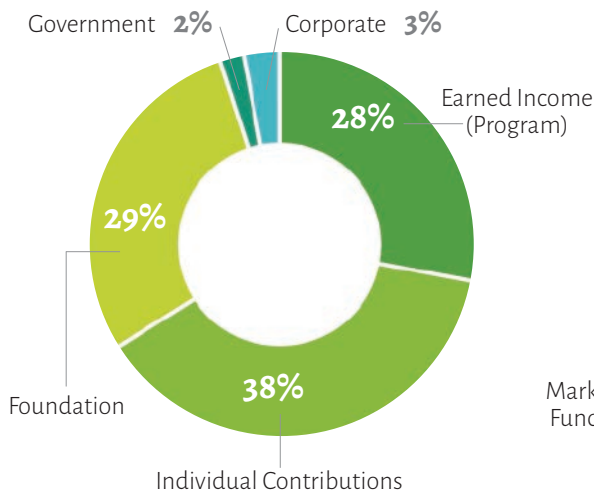
Maria Considine King

Doug Koval

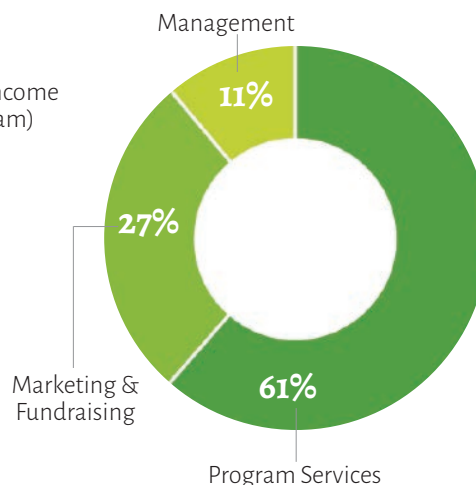
Nicole Pecorelli

Sarah Seabury Ward
Founder, Board Member Emerita

FY18 REVENUE

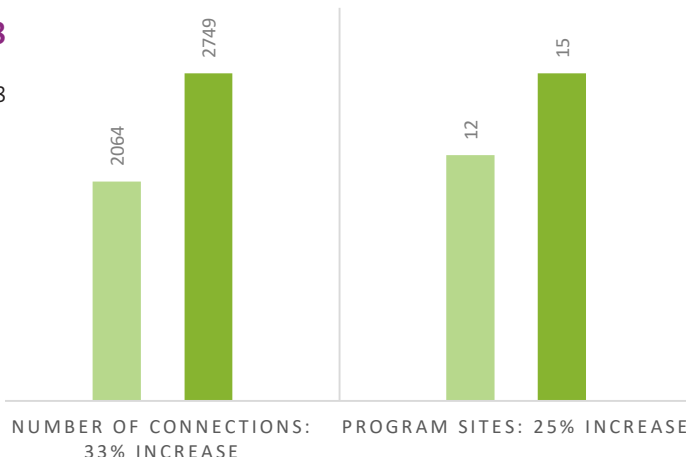


FY18 EXPENSES



FY17 vs FY18

2017 2018



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