

END OF YEAR REPORT 2018

Leading the Way to a More Sustainable Montana

MEMBERSHIP SUPPORT

AERO MEMBERSHIP POLICY:

We respect that any gift to AERO constitutes a commitment to our mission and vision, and that all financial supporters are deserving of inclusion in our community. Therefore, any donor who has given in the past twelve months is considered to be an active member.

MEMBER BENEFITS:

- *Print copy of the quarterly Sun Times
- *Discounts for Expo/Events
- *Monthly e-newsletter
- *Voting privileges
- *Written member spotlights
- *Social media showcases
- *Being a part of the amazing & supportive AERO family!



550 ACTIVE MEMBERS

17% ARE
SUSTAINING
MEMBERS

WHAT IS A SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP?

Your contribution is automatically withdrawn from an account of your choosing. Sustaining memberships can be annual, quarterly, or monthly, and can be set up for as little as \$5/month. We encourage all members to become sustaining members.

AERO'S ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE IS CONDUCTED EVERY JUNE

WE DEEPLY APPRECIATE THE GENEROSITY OF OUR MEMBERS AND FINANCIAL SUPPORTERS. THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS FUND THE MAJORITY OF OUR WORK, AND AERO'S IMPACT ON SUSTAINABILITY IS DIRECTLY INFLUENCED BY THEIR GIFTS.

OVER **60**%
OF AERO'S
2018 BUDGET
WAS MEMBER & DONOR
SUPPORT

END OF YEAR CAMPAIGN 2017-2018

\$94,000 RAISED*

END OF YEAR CAMPAIGN 2018-2019

\$16,000 RAISED*

*INCLUDES ONE DONOR GIFT OF \$67K

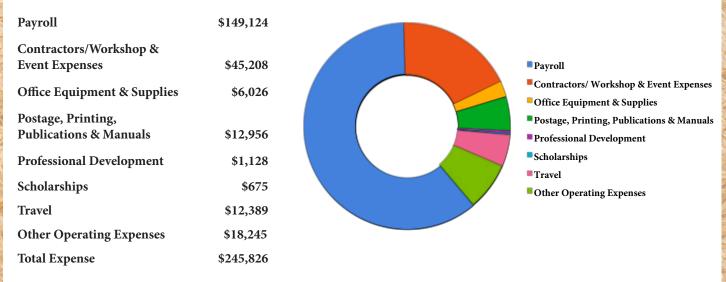
*AERO IS WORKING TO INCREASE 2019 DONATIONS TO MEET 60% DONOR SUPPORT



2018 INCOME

Donations	\$141,837
Membership & Business Sponsors	\$26,504
Expo, Events, & Workshops	\$13,545
License Plates	\$6,060
Grants	\$55,673
Other	\$354
Total Income	\$244,143

2018 EXPENSES



THE FOLLOWING FOLKS JOINED AERO AS INDIVIDUAL & BUSINESS MEMBERS IN 2018 THANKS FOR BOARDING THE AEROSHIP!

A-T Ranch Birds & Beasleys* Brown's Meadow Farm Charlyn Scheffelman* Columbus Farmers Market Cooper Creek Ranch Deer Lodge Community Garden & Farmer's Market Dodie Andersen* Farmented Foods Flathead Lake Cheese Company Freedom Gardens Grotopo Jim Williams John Colledge* John Osgood Karen Stears* Kelly Ware Kendra Proue* **KT-Farms**

Lincoln Farmer's Market Littlebird's Marketplace Seeley Lake Farmers' Market Lois Huffman* Lori Byron* Lynne Carlisle* Malcolm Gilbert Marianne Spitzform Mario Mateo* East Helena Food & Culture Hub Michele Webster* Missoula Federal Credit Union Murrys Restaurant* Naked Acres **NW Energy Coalition** OnSite Energy Inc Oxbow Cattle Company Products of the Prairie Market

Raging Grannies-Portland Chapter Rebecca Meyers Shelby Market & Music Shelter Designs Shields Valley Farmers Market Skye Borden* Soil Cycle Sun Hands Farm* The O'Hara Commons & Sustainability Center* Third Street Market Travis Buckelew* Waste Less Works* Western Montana Specialty Foods

(* Indicates Sustaining Members)



THE FOLLOWING FOUNDATIONS AND GRANTING ORGANIZATIONS SUPPORTED AERO'S MISSION IN 2018 THANK YOU



Fanwood Foundation











PROGRAM AND PROJECT OUTCOMES

EXPO:

Showcasing excellent examples of sustainability in practice around the state and in our host town, Missoula.

Our biggest event of the year!
200+ participants
14 participatory workshops & discussions
4 off site tours with over 12 locations
32 student presenters from UM & MSU
Meals highlighting Montana farms & ranches
Keynote Speaker: Renowned agroecologist Dr. Miguel Altieri



GROWING FOOD BUSINESSES WORKSHOPS:

Assisting producers with understanding the Food Safety Modernization Act and growing their cottage food business in Montana.

6 workshops across the state
Over 100 attendees
Direct contact with county sanitarians
Workshop feedback used to improve DPHHS trainings
Showcased 10 stories of success and impact, highlighting Montana food
businesses & shared these stories widely



ABUNDANT MONTANA DIRECTORY:

The "go-to" guide for local food information in Montana.

Over 400 listings
Includes all 73 Montana Farmers Markets
Collected feedback from users on improving its functionality
Coordinated an Abundant Holiday Harvest showcasing
farms and ranches with holiday specials



MONTANA FOOD ECONOMY INITIATIVE:

Providing direct support for communities to identify their most important needs to improve their local food economy and develop a plan to address those needs.

MONTANA FOOD ECONOMY INITIATIVE

4 communities across the state: Helena, Flathead Valley, Bozeman, & Malta
62 participants in 2018
21 regional discussions in 2018
742 staff hours dedicated to advancing these project outcomes

PROGRAM AND PROJECT OUTCOMES

WILD DINNER:

Taking time to appreciate good company and celebrate the harvest provided by Montana's bounty. Highlighted our common interest in a compassionate land ethic, a commitment to wise stewardship, and a desire to protect Montana's rich environmental resources.

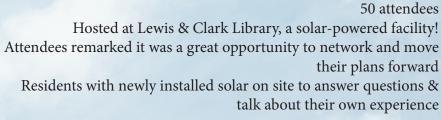
70 guests Collaboration with Helena Hunters & Anglers along with the Montana Wildlife Federation Attendee feedback was so positive, AERO expanded this program in 2019



Feast goers enjoyed mule deer mushroom pie, rabbit, kale, & brown rice salad, sauerkraut and antelope Brats, smoked Missouri River trout, fresh honeycomb, sourdough bread, curried lentils, chocolate beet cake, and much more!

SOLAR EASE WORKSHOP:

In collaboration with MREA and partners, workshop provided attendees with practical information outlining the pathway to residential solar installation, from beginning to end, and offered a generous Q&A session.





MONTANA'S AGRITOURISM MANUAL:

The first educational resource of it's kind, designed to help Montana agricultural professionals decide whether or not to include agritourism as an additional part of their operation.

Partnership with: USDA, Montana Department of Agriculture, Department of Commerce, MSU Extensions, Governor's Office of Economic Development, Food and Ag Development Center Network, and the Montana's Farmer Union.



ENERGY IN AGRICULTURE SURVEY:

Assessing the current energy makeup of farms and ranches in Montana and gauging the interests, challenges, and opportunities for improving energy efficiency and renewable energy options for producers.

This project was initiated with support from the High Stakes Foundation



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AERO STAFF

Jenn Battles
Executive Director
Jackie Heinert
Local Food Systems Coordinator
Kate McLean
Office Manager/
Member Services Coordinator
Brian Moody
Outreach Coordinator

AERO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dodie Andersen Grace Brogan Theresa Cox Janet Hess-Herbert Mark Juedeman Robin Kelson Amelia Liberatore Rebecca Meyers Kendra Proue

2019 AERO EVENTS

MAY 20: JANE KILE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PERIOD OPENS
JUNE 1: ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE KICK-OFF
AUGUST 6: BUNKHOUSE BREWERY PINT NIGHT IN BOZEMAN
SEPTEMBER 9: BLACKFOOT RIVER BREWING CO. PINT NIGHT IN HELENA
OCTOBER 25-27:AERO EXPO AND ANNUAL MEETING IN BOZEMAN



AERO Board and Staff (Not pictured: Kate, Grace, & Theresa)