



AMC at Work

Celebrating the Achievements of
the Leadership Giving Initiative





Founded in 1876, the Appalachian Mountain Club promotes the protection, enjoyment, and understanding of the mountains, forests, waters, and trails of America's Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions.

Dear friends,

With AMC's Leadership Giving Initiative now concluded, I find myself often returning to Medawisla, our newest lodging destination in the Maine Woods, as a focus for my thoughts about all that you've helped to make possible. It's a place that testifies to the well-rounded success of this campaign's mission for the outdoors. Big conservation, broader accessibility, a wider reach for our work and programs, and a finer integration of our nearly 150-year-old club with the changing communities all around us—you see it all so clearly with the majestic Maine wilderness as a backdrop.

When I look at how much your leadership and support have done for nature and the way we experience it in a place like Maine, I can only marvel at how important the Initiative has been on a grander scale. Our legacy and future together in the White Mountains may be as sure as it's ever been. All across our region, trails and the lands that embrace them are better protected, better connected, and better able to meet the demands of an ever-growing outdoor economy. And just a little more than a stone's throw from our nation's largest city, The Stephen & Betsy Corman AMC Harriman Outdoor Center today serves a vast new audience of outdoor adventurers. However you slice it, the result is a humbling new kind of strength that we can all be proud of.

Of course the good work borne of your generosity continues on—and at an even higher level than any of us might have imagined prior to 2014, when the Leadership Giving Initiative was launched. Now in the thick of LGI-funded renovations, the new regional trails training center at Camp Dodge will bring together trail pros, volunteers, researchers, and partner organizations like never before. Behind-the-scenes investments in technology and data management are making AMC a more nimble and forward-facing club. Programs designed to introduce young people to the wonders of the outdoors are doing precisely that, and doing it well. And the pillars of recreation, conservation, and outdoor education upon which AMC was founded rank today among the strongest and most peaceful ways to connect the promise of our region's future with the best of its past.

Please know how grateful I am to you for contributing your time, know-how, and generous philanthropy to the Leadership Giving Initiative. I hope you see your dedication reflected in all we are able to do. It's my privilege to represent that in my travels and conversations, which I welcome every day with deep thanks for your partnership

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Judge', with a stylized, flowing script.

John Judge
President & CEO



Maine Woods

With extended accessibility during the winter months and enhancements to a trail network that now covers more than 120 miles between our three Maine lodges, Medawisla attracts an important new audience to the area. The acquisition of two tracts of conservation land, Baker Mountain and Silver Lake, also further the AMC vision for protection and recreation in the 100-Mile Wilderness.



**Cross-country
skiing at
Medawisla**

**Fly fishing on the
Pleasant River
near Silver Lake**



Trails Protection Fund

Continuing our 135-year tradition, the Trails Protection Fund ensures a stable source of funding to support maintenance and stewardship of AMC's very popular and regularly used trails in the White Mountains and elsewhere. The fund's reach also helps to combat federal budget cuts and increased incidences of major weather events that impact these trails.



A trail crew on the Crawford Path, which celebrates its bicentennial this year

Youth Opportunities Program

For more than 50 years, AMC has provided youth workers and teachers with outdoor leadership training. That tradition continues with the LGI's support and vital funding to better equip participants and leaders with the necessary resources, training, and good old-fashioned gear (including additional new gear shed locations) that help them get their kids outdoors.



**An outdoor
leadership training
for YOP partners**

**YOP partners visit
Harold Parker
State Forest in
North Andover,
Massachusetts**

The Stephen & Betsy Corman AMC Harriman Outdoor Center

Located just 40 minutes outside of Manhattan, Harriman offers a welcome and convenient respite from city life. Situated on Breakneck Pond with waterfront access, it's the ideal destination for hiking, paddling, and camping. Since its opening in 2017, it's been a great spot for families to enjoy outdoor adventures and an accessible location for groups of all kinds seeking a rural retreat.

Breakneck Pond
at AMC Harriman
Outdoor Center



Bay Circuit Trail

Leading the Bay Circuit Alliance, AMC is deeply committed to the maintenance, stewardship, and promotion of this recreational trail and greenway. Connecting 230 miles of trails through 37 towns in Eastern Massachusetts, the trail provides an outdoor setting for more than four million people of all abilities to enjoy recreational opportunities closer to home.



Outdoors Rx

This innovative program provides free and fun programs in easy-to-access locations and works with community health centers and other medical partners to promote healthy lifestyles. Funding from LGI helps ensure that both providers and participants meet their objectives.

Mary O'Malley
State Park,
Chelsea, MA



Franklin Park,
Jamaica Plain, MA



Ken Kimball Research Fellowship

AMC's research fellowship program provides a recently graduated MS or PhD student an opportunity to build their professional resume while augmenting AMC's research capacity in a relevant area of expertise, preparing the next generation of conservation scientists to lead.



AMC Lakes of the
Clouds Hut



In December 2017, Karin Bothwell joined AMC as our first research fellow, focusing on the economic impact and opportunities for carbon sequestration on AMC's major forest lands, including evaluating carbon offset projects.



Camp Dodge

Renovations are currently underway to transform Camp Dodge into a regional training headquarters. This project will not only enable AMC to create a new home base for our volunteer and professional trail crews but also allow for the housing of crews from the U.S. Forest Service and other partners. The new facility will support up to 2,000 crew members annually.



A preview of the new Camp Dodge welcome center



Pinkham Notch Visitor Center

Another refresh is in the works! This improvement project's goal is to better serve the nearly 500,000 visitors who frequent the center annually. Upgrades include revamping the public bathrooms and showers, the dining hall, and the interpretative safety information displays.

Thank You

The success of the Leadership Giving Initiative would not be possible without the foresight and leadership of hundreds of members of the AMC community. Our gratitude goes out to the following individuals, foundations, and corporations who, through their participation in the campaign, have made our mission that much stronger.

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Special Thanks

Please join us in honoring the late Clare O'Connell, AMC Vice President of Resource Development, and the late Jim Hamilton, AMC Development Officer. Both passionate advocates for the outdoors and AMC, they were instrumental to the conception of the Leadership Giving Initiative. Their legacies live on through the philanthropy they inspired and the work they have made possible. We remember them gratefully.

A united AMC community also extends its gratitude to the members of the Leadership Giving Initiative Steering Committee, whose wise counsel, positive energy, and passion for our mission propelled this campaign from conception through successful completion.

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