

CLIMATE SMART MISSOULA

Climate
Smart
Staff



Amy Cilimburg



Abby Huseeth



Caroline Lauer



Mason Dow

A message from our Executive Director:

Dear Friends,

Just over five years ago a group of community members realized the time was right to launch Climate Smart Missoula. It was *past* time to accelerate local climate efforts, and with our *Climate Action Plan* hot off the press, we needed an entity to lead implementation. So we dove right in. As one of the founders and the director of Climate Smart since our inception, I'm amazed to look back and see how far we have come, together. A truly collaborative effort, the "we" is everyone who's contributed to our climate efforts – colleagues, partners, volunteers, staff, interns, family, friends, supporters and donors.

At Climate Smart, we've believed from the beginning that all of us have a role in solving the climate crisis. To borrow a metaphor from our friend Dr. Rob Davies, this work sometimes feels like climbing a mountain. We may not be able to see the top, but we can see where we're headed. The path ahead may be daunting at times, but we muster all our resolve and take the next step. And the next. As we climb, we are beacons for others also on the mountain – helping to light the way for those behind us and showing those in front of us that they are not alone.

As 2021 has us eyeing both the tail of the mighty pandemic and new opportunities for climate solutions, the time was right to share our first five years of accomplishments. Here's the result! Please peruse the next handful of pages, and be in touch if you'd like to partner and support our efforts.

With gratitude, Amy Cilimburg

Five Year Report

March 2021



CLIMATE SMART
MISSOULA

A message from our Board Chair:

Climate Smart Missoula is the right organization at the right time. Our [evolution](#) is an interesting story! From a 2011 Climate Wise assessment, to the creation of a Leadership Team, the birth of Climate Smart as an initiative of the Missoula Community Foundation, to...drumroll please...in 2020 the formation of a 501(c)3, with its own staff, board and fundraising demands.

As this report reflects, CSM is both smart and hard-working. Staff have done much - from measuring climate impacts, planning for resiliency, to mitigation of greenhouse gases through education, policy, and programs. CSM has been a north star for our area, with vision and strategy, working toward goals like 100% clean electricity by 2030, or Climate Ready Missoula planning, or the innovative Footprint Fund. Climate Smart is a networker, committed to nudging the many individuals and groups working on climate concerns toward being aligned and connected. Sometimes when I hear from other communities about challenges with coordination or focus, I realize how important CSM has been to progress in Missoula, Montana, and the region.

I've had the privilege of being involved for a decade now, through all our organizational stages. I couldn't be prouder to be the Chair of a marvelous Board that has helped the fabulous staff to cross this maturity threshold.

Thank you to all who have supported our crucial work at this critical time. We invite all to be fans and supporters too – as we work very hard (and smart) to help ensure a healthy, just, economically viable, ecologically stable, flourishing climate future in Missoula and beyond.

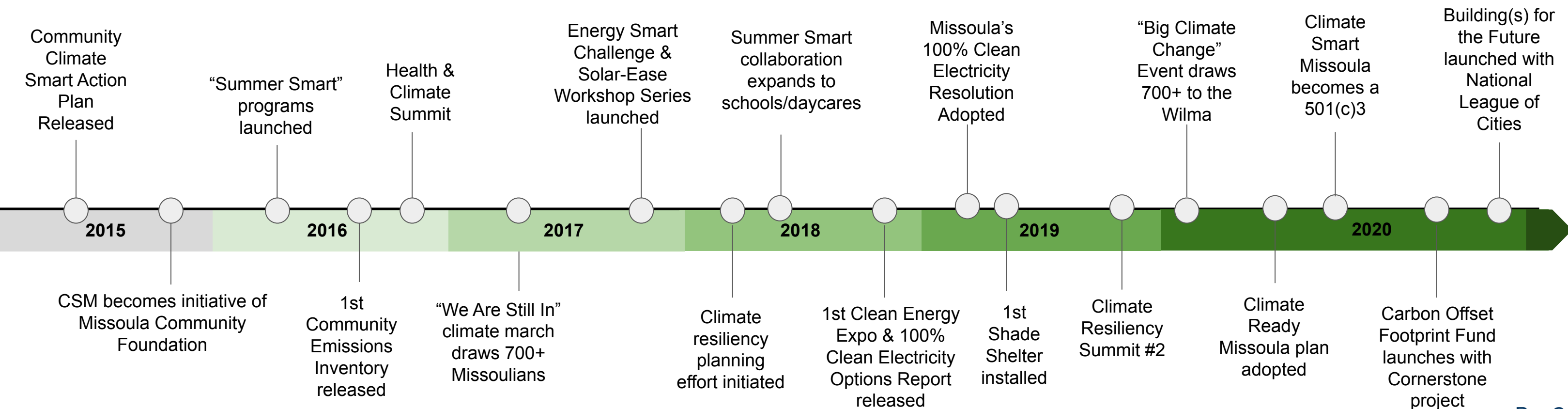
Beth Schenk



Five Years of community engagement & climate action

Our mission is to engage our community in climate actions, catalyzing efforts to reduce our carbon footprint and build a resilient Missoula. **We envision** a low-carbon, resilient community that has the networks, knowledge, and capacity to address the climate crisis equitably and sustain a vibrant Missoula that works for everyone.

A record of leadership in our community



5 years of Climate Smart Missoula... by the (rounded) numbers

Over 200 HEPA Portable Air Cleaners donated to vulnerable Missoulians



175 Community Events, including 2 Energy Expos



200 + Volunteers Engaged



20 + Energy Corps, Students & Interns Mentored



15 Solar Events resulting in (we think!) over 100 new Solar Installations



Thousands (!) of People attended events & workshops



(almost) 4 Shade Shelters



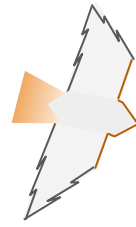
37K Website Views





A Bird's Eye View of 2020

Summer Smart continues to help people access cool, clean air during hot, smoky summers



Arrowleaf Balsamroot Volunteers collect > 13 pounds of seeds on Mt. Jumbo for seed “wealth redistribution” in June 2020

1st Annual Running Up for Air on Mt. Sentinel raises \$12,000 for Summer Smart in February 2020

Missoula selected for National League of Cities' Leadership in Community Resilience for **Building(s) for the Future**, a program to decarbonize our building stock

100% Clean Electricity Roadmap plots path forward for 100% Clean Electricity by 2030

Missoula Footprint Fund launches with Cornerstone Apartment project and lays foundation for low-income residential weatherization projects

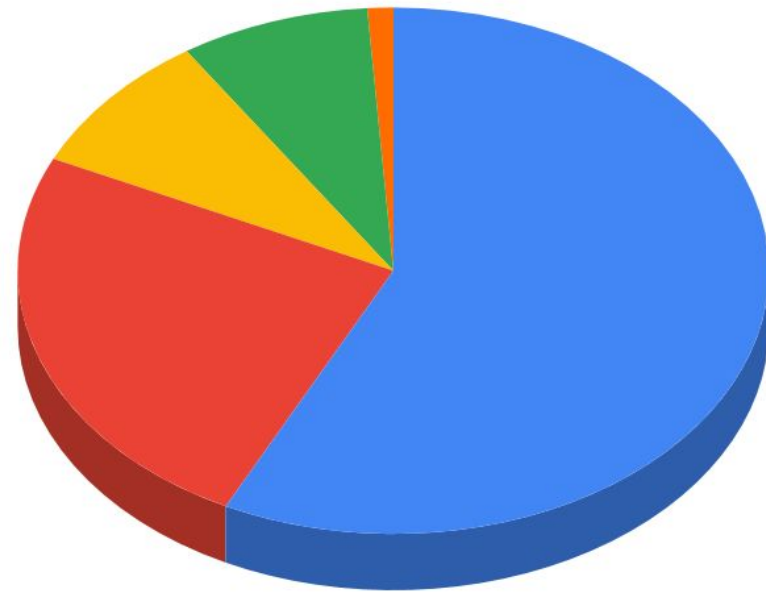
Big Climate Change Event draws 700+ to the Wilma in February 2020

Climate Ready Missoula: Building Resilience in Missoula County adopted in May 2020 to prepare natural and built environment for the impacts of climate change. And it's on to implementation.

Restoration activities encourage people to give back while safely social distancing outside

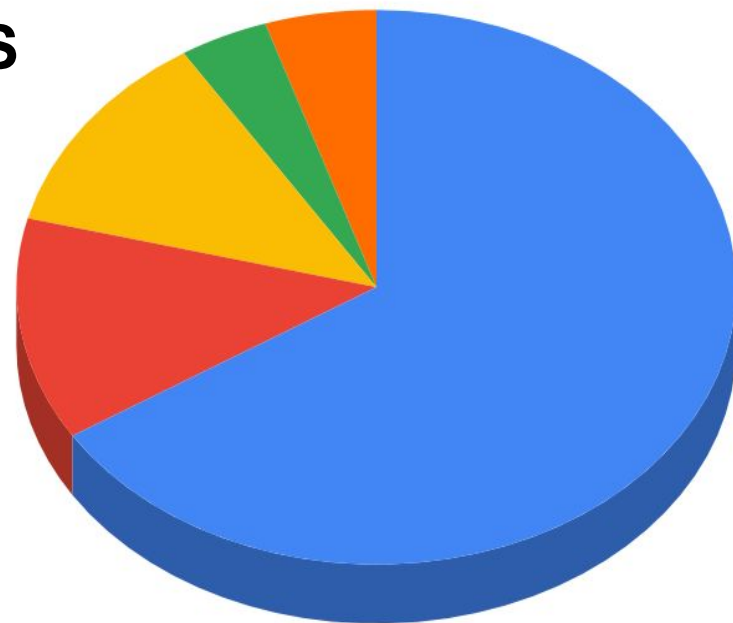
Finances 2015-2020

INCOME



● Foundations + Grants
 ● Individual Donations
 ● Businesses + Non Profits
 ● Government
 ● Other

EXPENSES



● People: staff, Energy Corps, consultants, interns
 ● Office + what makes it work
 ● Program expenses
 ● HEPA Filters
 ● Administration

Funders & Major Donors

We have been supported by over 600 individual donors - from \$5 to \$5000! We're so grateful to all!

FOUNDATIONS:

BlueGreen Alliance Foundation
 Cinnabar Foundation
 Charles Engelhard Foundation
 Dorsey & Whitney Foundation
 Elizabeth Wakeman Henderson Charitable Foundation
 Funders' Network for Smart Growth & Livable Communities
 Judy Family Foundation
 High Stakes Foundation
 L.E.A.W. Family Foundation
 Merlin Foundation
 Montana Community Foundation
 Patagonia
 St. Patrick Hospital Foundation
 The Llewellyn Foundation
 Tides Foundation (Martha Newell & Mike Kadas)
 Voice Foundation

GOVERNMENT

City of Missoula	State of Montana
Missoula County	US Department of Energy

KEY BUSINESS & NONPROFIT FINANCIAL SUPPORTERS

Clearwater Credit Union
 MMW Architects
 NeighborWorks Montana
 Runner's Edge
 Providence St Patrick Hospital
 Simbiotic Software
 Sunburst Sensors, LLC
 United Way Missoula County



From 2015 until June 2020 we were fiscally sponsored by the **Missoula Community Foundation**.
 We are so appreciative of their support. We are now our own 501(c)3 nonprofit organization.

Activities Over Time

We've been busy.
Thanks for joining!

SCALE
OF
IMPACT

of
participants



Community Collaboration

- 350 Montana
- AERO
- American Lung Association
- Citizens Climate Lobby
- City of Missoula Office of Community Planning, Development, & Innovation
- City of Missoula Energy & Climate Team
- City of Missoula Parks & Recreation
- Clark Fork Coalition
- Clearwater Credit Union
- Common Good Missoula
- Community Food & Agricultural Coalition
- Environment Montana
- Faith & Climate Action Montana
- Families for a Livable Climate
- Fifth House Consulting
- Forward Montana
- Free Cycles

- Homeword INC
- Home ReSource
- Imagine Nation Brewing Co
- Jordan Solar
- Jeannette Rankin Peace Center
- KettleHouse Brewery Co
- Missoula Aging Services
- Missoula City-County Health Department
- Missoula Compost Collection
- Missoula County Community & Planning Services
- Missoula Downtown Partnership
- Missoula Housing Authority
- Missoula in Motion and MPO
- Missoula Invest Health
- MMW Architects
- Montana Conservation Voters

- Montana Environmental Information Center
- Montana Renewable Energy Association
- MontPIRG
- Mountain Line/ MUTD
- MT Department of Environmental Quality
- MUD - Missoula Urban Demonstration Project
- National Center for Appropriate Technology
- National Wildlife Federation
- NeighborWorks Montana
- NorthWest Energy Coalition
- Northern Plains Resource Council
- Oasis Montana
- OnSite Energy

- Providence St Patrick Hospital
- Runner's Edge
- SAVE - Hellgate High School
- Sierra Club
- Simbiotic Software
- Six Pony Hitch
- Soft Landing Missoula
- Tomis
- Trees for Missoula
- United Way of Missoula County
- University of Montana
- WGM Group

Thanks,
partners!

Our Board of Directors, Supporters & Partners

We appreciate our Board of Directors:

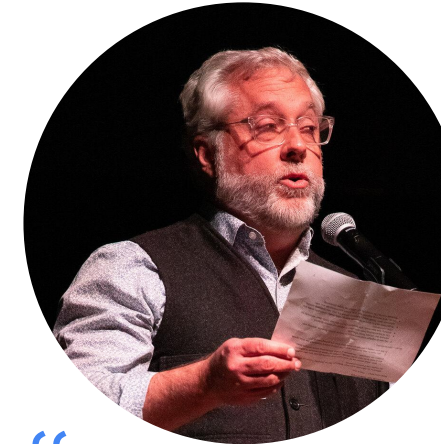
Beth Schenk - Chair
Melissa Matassa-Stone - Treasurer
Chris Brick - Secretary
Karen Knudsen
Paul Herendeen
Gwen Lankford
Peter McDonough



Winona Bateman
Families for a
Livable Climate

“

As a fledgling climate group, we depend on Climate Smart Missoula for guidance and shared opportunities. We'd have been much less effective in our first year had they not affirmed our efforts, partnered with us, and supported our vision. With their help we reached ~500 families last year. I'm happy to be a supporter.



Bryan von Lossberg
Missoula City Council
President

“

I've worked with Climate Smart since *before* its inception, and their community efforts are increasingly impactful, bolstering the work of local government and partners. I'm proud of what we've collectively accomplished, look forward to the years ahead, and hope others can join in and generously support!

“

I support local efforts to bend the arc of our community to sustainable living. Climate Smart provides the leadership to make this happen in Missoula. I've used my skills to help Climate Smart where needed and the results, amazingly, have spread to help people live safely in fire adapted landscapes literally across the globe. The work of this small non-profit has been referenced in national publications, demonstrating the power of working locally for climate change awareness. To keep making progress requires money, I help with that as well. Please join me.



Tom Javins
Retired
Mechanical
Engineer and
Volunteer



Dave Strohmaier
Missoula County Commissioner

“

Climate change is a global emergency that demands local action. Climate Smart Missoula is a catalyzing force in Missoula County to do just that, and I'm proud to count them a partner in helping mitigate and adapt to the climate crisis that is upon us.



**Martha Newell &
Mike Kadas**
Community members

“

We were excited to support Climate Smart Missoula from the beginning. International and national efforts are important but on the ground local strategic work is essential for working on climate change.



Where we're headed...

The Future. What will it bring? What can I bring to it? What will we bring to it?

At Climate Smart Missoula we ponder these questions. How can we hold onto our resolve, continue to meet the moment, and accelerate climate action?

We know that we can only make progress when science and truth are respected and democratic norms hold. We continue to work to understand the big picture: the policies and systems that got us to where we are as a country, state and community today, and how we can move forward with justice and equity firmly at the center. Our work relies on evidence, accountability, and intersectionality. We're both anxious and hopeful for our future and changes to come. Likely you are too.

Our climate efforts will continue in ways that do meet this moment. We will grow our Footprint Fund to support energy savings in low income housing; accelerate Building(s) For the Future to rethink a climate-safe built environment that works for everyone; craft a collaborative roadmap to 100% clean electricity and make progress toward that goal -- and more.

Internally, our work is never static. Our Program Director, Caroline Lauer, is moving on to become the Climate Resiliency Coordinator with Missoula County -- a new and needed position we advocated for as part of our Climate Ready Missoula plan. We're lucky to continue to work with her in this new position and grow our team.

With all of you, we hope to spark the change we need via new and enduring climate and justice conversations, bringing creativity, art, and even in-person gatherings to grow the movement. Please join us!

Contact us: 406.926.2847 director@climatesmartmissoula.org
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