

# GVL T

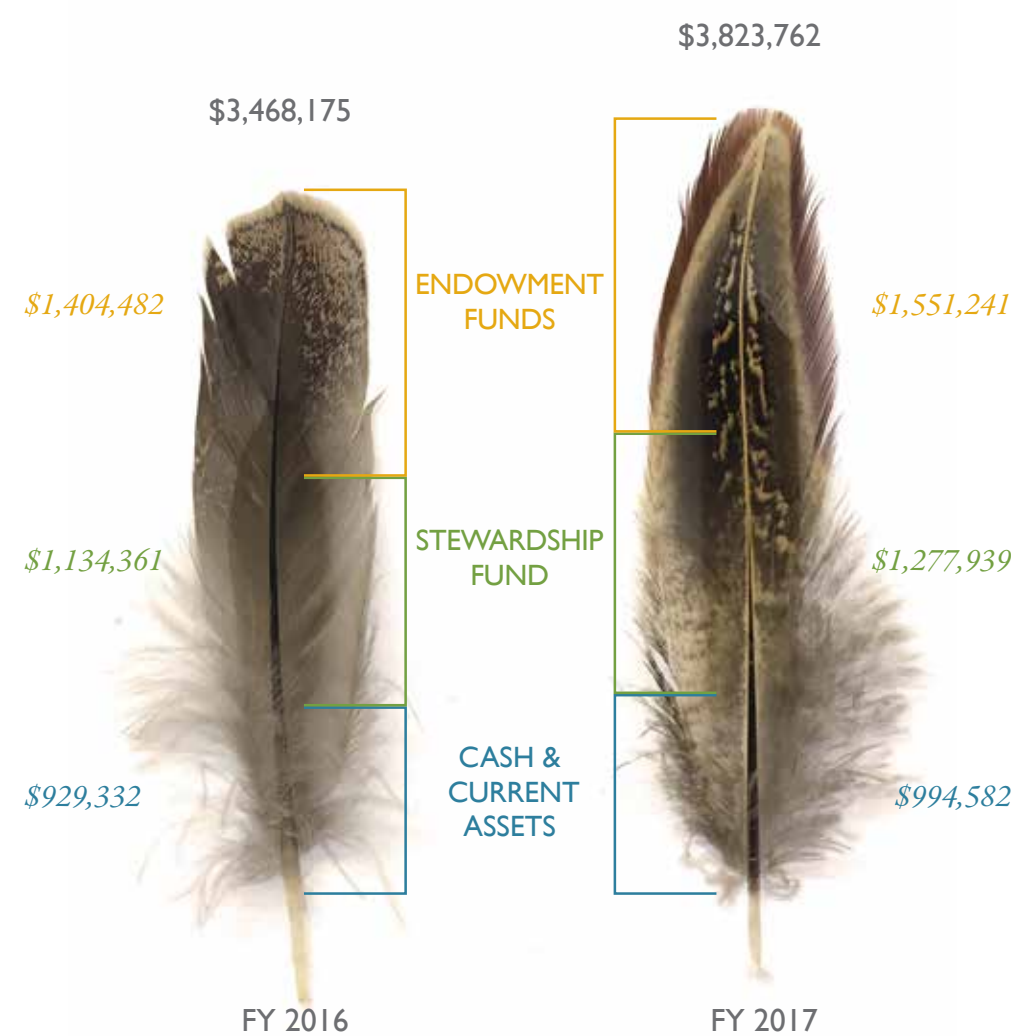


ANNUAL REPORT  
July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017



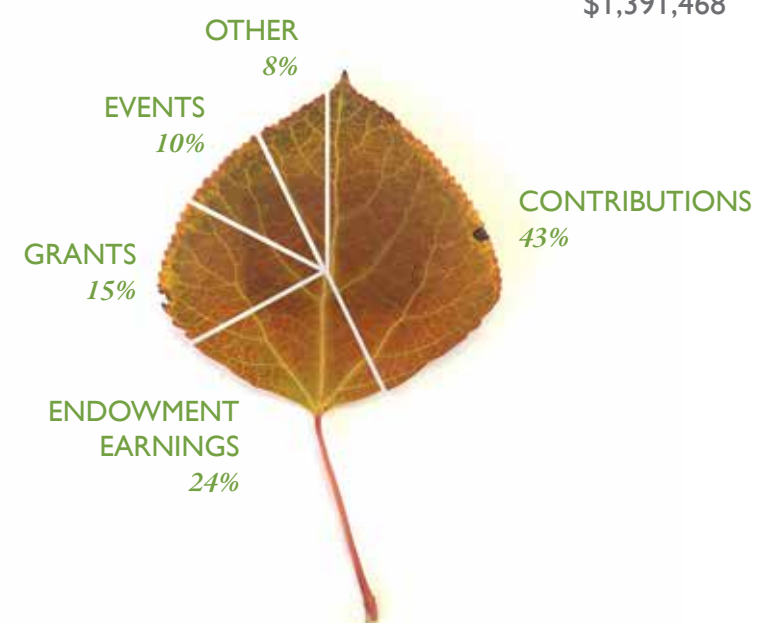
## financial report

### Total Assets



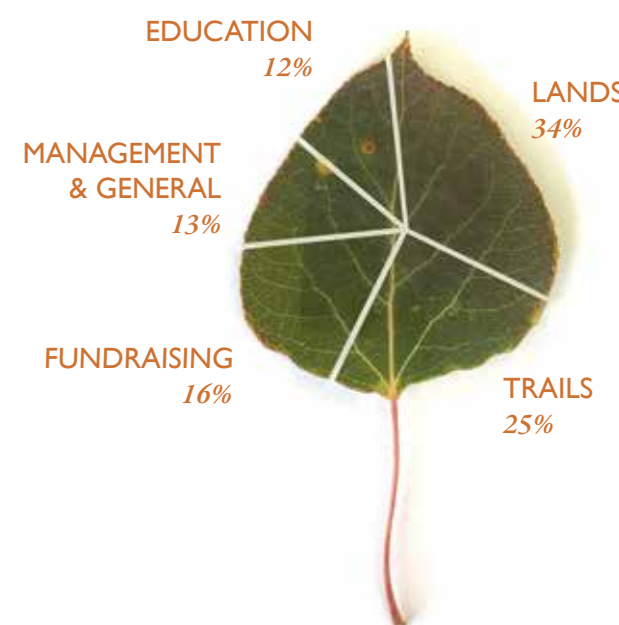
The Montana Community Foundation manages an additional \$162,461 endowment on behalf of GVL T.

### Revenues by Source



TOTAL REVENUE  
\$1,391,468

### Expenses by Program



TOTAL EXPENSES  
\$1,010,651

### Bird Watching Discovery Walk Sourdough Trail



Gallatin Valley Land Trust connects people, communities, and open lands through conservation of working farms and ranches, healthy rivers, and wildlife habitat, and the creation of trails in the Montana headwaters of the Missouri and Upper Yellowstone Rivers.

# thank you for your support

Your investment in the Gallatin Valley Land Trust makes it possible for us to create a lasting legacy of conservation and community trails.

Unfortunately, space limitations prevent us from listing the hundreds of supporters who contributed below \$250 in fiscal year 2017.

**\$25,000+:** Bill Cochran • Keneda Fund • Toohey Family • State of Montana - Recreational Trails Program

**\$10,000 - \$24,999:** Tami & Carl Alberda • Dorothy Ballantyne • Shirley & Robert Bayley • Bozeman Audi • Cinnabar Foundation • Fitz Coker • Catherine Costakis • HomeBase Management LLC • Integrated Weed Control • James Family Charitable Foundation • Bronwyn & Mark Jarvis • Nan & Mark Kehke • Bill Locke • Jeri Lynn & Jerry Miller • Mysun Charitable Foundation • Park County Community Foundation • REI • Joan & James Shapiro Foundation • Schlauch Uhlmann Platimun Properties at Pure West Christie's • Tim Solso • Teel's Marsh Foundation

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# With your help, this year we...

## PROTECTED OUR VALLEY'S OPEN SPACES TOGETHER WITH VISIONARY LANDOWNERS

We completed three new conservation easements, and were granted the last remaining funds from the Gallatin County Open Lands Bond to secure two more.

**Gallatin County Open Lands Bond** helped fund easements with LF Dairy (588 acres) & the Kamps Family (488 acres), scheduled to close in 2018.

Churchill

**103 properties** protected in partnership with GVLТ

**979 acres** conserved this year

**46,182 acres** conserved since 1990

**72 total square miles** conserved since 1990

**321 acres**

Productive agricultural land adjacent to other conserved lands, the 3rd conservation easement with the Leep Family.

Churchill

**209 acres**

Working farm adjacent to other protected lands conserved with the Alberda Family.

Churchill

**449 acres**

Wildlife habitat & future public trail access, the 2nd conservation easement with the Jarvis Family Hudson Creek Ranch, Bozeman Pass

\* Outlined areas show previously conserved parcels adjacent to new easements

We connected people to the land – and their food – when the Local Food & Conservation Bus Tour visited Strike Farms on the Happel Easement, conserved 1997.

## CONNECTED THE COMMUNITY THROUGH TRAILS & PARKS

We secured critical links, big and small, and improved parks and trails through partnerships.

**8 miles** of uninterrupted trail will connect the library to Triple Tree, with the completion of the Painted Hills Gap

**2,023 trail users** counted on the Gallagator Trail's busiest recorded day

In partnership with the City of Bozeman & Western Transportation Institute, installed a trail counter on the Gallagator to analyze usage patterns.

In partnership with MSU Alumni Foundation, installed new signage & maps at Kirk Hill Natural Area.

Partnered with the City of Bozeman and a private landowner to create a small but mighty connection by the stockyard, linking the Story Mill Spur Trail with the soon-to-be-constructed Path to the M.

In partnership with the City of Bozeman, helped improve & enhance Bogert Park.

Partnered with private landowners to secure trail easements to close the Painted Hills Gap, the final link connecting Main Street to the Mountains to the south.

Kids' imaginations can run wild in the newly installed Bozeman Pond Park natural playground, completed 2017.

### Created connections within our community

- Guided 373 individuals and families on 37 exploratory, hands-on, trail walks during our third season of Discovery Walks.
- Engaged and empowered the next generation of conservationists and GVLТ leaders through our NextGen Advisory Board.
- Enlisted the help of over 1,400 individuals and families in the second annual Summer Trails Challenge. Together we logged 53,164 miles to raise over \$45,000 to build trails.
- Introduced our community to conserved open land and agriculture through our first Local Food and Conservation Bus Tour.

### Added capacity to accelerate our work

- Utilized 1,039 volunteers for a total of 2,928 hours of work on trail maintenance, land stewardship, events, and committees.
- Added Matt Parsons and Kristin How to our staff to pursue more grant opportunities and conservation projects.
- Welcomed Susan Dana, Mike Ellig, and Lawrie Lieberman to the Board of Directors to add unique perspectives to our leadership team.
- Leveraged financial donations from 1,028 individuals who believe in and support our work.

### Enhanced conserved lands & relationships with landowners

- Visited each of our 103 conserved properties to ensure compliance and connect landowners with resources.
- Planted 590 pounds of seed and 2,317 plants to improve soil health and water quality on conserved land.
- Partnered with 12 conservation easement landowners, to complete \$32,984 of project work to enhance conservation values.
- Released 3,200 bio-control insects to target and control noxious weeds like St. John's wort, Canada thistle, knapweed, and leafy spurge.

### WITH YOUR HELP, NEXT YEAR WE WILL:

- Complete conservation easements on the east and west sides of the valley, including 7 projects currently in the pipeline.
- Construct the final link connecting the Painted Hills Trail to the Triple Tree Trail, completing the Main Street to the Mountains vision to the south.
- Plan public access and trails on Hudson Creek Ranch, a new conservation easement adjacent to Chestnut Mountain Trail and other GVLТ conserved properties.
- Campaign for voters to approve the continuation of the Gallatin County Open Lands Bond to provide more critical funding to protect open land.

For more information please visit: [WWW.GVLT.ORG](http://WWW.GVLT.ORG)

### Staff

Penelope Pierce, Executive Director  
Peter Brown, Stewardship Director  
Lucas Cain, Stewardship Manager  
Dan Center, Finance Director & Project Manager  
Jeff Hough, Trails Project Manager  
Kristin How, Lands Project Manager  
Matt Parsons, Associate Director  
EJ Porth, Communications and Outreach Director  
Laura Prindiville, Philanthropy Director  
Brendan Weiner, Program Director

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Sue Pederson  
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