



Impact Report

What We're About

At Spur Community Foundation, we believe impactful philanthropy helps ensure that the Wood River Valley is a robust, compassionate, and thriving community. It is our mission to inspire effective philanthropy by helping people to give purposefully and local nonprofits to achieve maximum impact.

We want all members of the community to wholeheartedly acknowledge that an ecosystem of generosity enables their quality of life in the Wood River Valley, and to actively engage in giving back with their time, talent, or resources. When this happens the special character of this community will remain intact for generations to come.

Our Team

(As of January 2024)

Board of Directors

Mary Wilson, President

Erik Boe, Treasurer

Lisa Stelck, Secretary

Lyndsay Lyle

Jonathan Neeley

Carol Nie

Britt Palmedo

Tim Wolff

Spur Staff

Sally Gillespie, Executive Director

Alison Van Hook, Nonprofit Services Director

Anna Parker, Donor Services Manager

Cathy Tyson, Finance and Operations Associate

Advisors

Peggy Baker

Leslie Benz

Bob Disbrow

John Dondero

Andy Jones

Julie Meyer

Peter Palmedo

John Perenchio

Trina Peters

Joy Prudek

Steve Rivera

Steve Shafran

Dave Tedesco

Beverly Tiffany

Sheila Walker

Willy Walker

Gabriela Murgatroyd Wehner

A Message From Carol and Sally



Dear Friends of Spur,

We are delighted to present Spur's 2023 Impact Report, marking a year of significant growth and strategic evolution. Our focus was on transitioning from the startup phase to strategic, responsible growth that aligns with our commitment to community service.

A highlight of the year was developing a comprehensive strategic plan that will guide us through 2026. More information about that is provided in the "Looking Ahead" section on page 7.

Other Noteworthy achievements include the expansion of our nonprofit services, detailed on pages 2-3, and increasing the number of Donor Advised Funds we hold by 50%, mentioned on page 6. This growth was made possible by adding dedicated positions for nonprofit services and donor services and by the generosity of our valued donors.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the 21 donors, including six new supporters, who gave to Spur's programs and operations in 2023, enabling us to continue our pro-bono services and grow our community impact.

We invite you to join us on the exciting journey ahead.

Most gratefully,

Carol Nie,
Board President

Sally Gillespie,
Executive Director

2023 marked the end of Carol Nie's term as Board President. Under her leadership, Spur matured and grew significantly. We are extremely grateful for her service. Mary Wilson has taken the helm as her successor, ensuring a seamless continuation of Spur's momentum.

Nonprofit Services

Advisory Services



Spur empowers local nonprofits by providing them with the essential tools, knowledge, and support needed to achieve their highest potential. In 2023, Spur staff dedicated over 200 hours to its nonprofit services and advised or trained members of 44 different organizations.



"SPUR IS AN INVALUABLE RESOURCE AND HAS PROVIDED THE SUPPORT WE NEEDED FOR ALL STAGES OF OUR DEVELOPMENT. THE TEAM AT SPUR IS ALWAYS AVAILABLE TO ANSWER QUESTIONS AND PROVIDE ADVICE AND TRAINING TO HELP US CONTINUE GROWING AND BECOMING THE ORGANIZATION WE STRIVE TO BE. THANKS TO SPUR, WE FULFILL OUR MISSION WITH A SOLID ORGANIZATIONAL PLAN, STRONG LEADERSHIP, AND A DEDICATED BOARD."

Aaron Bronson, Executive Director, The Space

Executive Director Leadership Coaching Program



Following a competitive application process, participants receive private coaching for six months from a top-notch, Bay Area executive coach. In the six years since Spur started this program, we have invested \$196,000 to support 19 local leaders on the journey to become top performing Executive Directors.

2023 Participants:

- **Brooke Pace McKenna and Naomi Spence**
Co-Executive Directors, The Hunger Coalition
- **Jennifer Wells Green**
Executive Director, Sun Valley Museum of Art
- **Kelli Quinlan**
Executive Director, Ballet Sun Valley



"NAOMI SPENCE AND I WERE IN THE UNIQUE POSITION OF ASSUMING A CO-LEADERSHIP ARRANGEMENT; THE FIRST FOR OUR ORGANIZATION. SPUR'S ED LEADERSHIP PROGRAM CAME ALONG AT THE PERFECT TIME TO HELP US AND OUR BOARD WORK THROUGH THE TRANSITION. OUR COACH IS A MAGICIAN AT RECOGNIZING PERSONAL STRENGTHS AND ZEROING IN ON OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH. OUR REGULAR MEETINGS WITH HER WERE SO IMPACTFUL... WE LOOKED FORWARD TO EVERY ONE!"

Brooke Pace McKenna, The Hunger Coalition

200+

pro-bono hours

44

nonprofits helped

Board Leadership Program



Using a cohort format, Spur provides training to Board Chairs about the many facets of this important role. After 3 years, this program has served 20 board chairs.

2023 Participants:

- Delvin Ash - St. Luke's Wood River Foundation
- Keith Perry - Blaine County Housing Authority
- Mike Pfau & Michael Praggastis - The Sage School
- Lara Stone - Blaine County School District Board
- Mike Wade - The Spot and incoming Chair at The Community Library
- John Zook - Pioneer Montessori



"THE SPUR COMMUNITY FOUNDATION'S BOARD CHAIR PROGRAM WAS INCREDIBLY HELPFUL AND ENJOYABLE FOR ME. I LOOKED FORWARD TO EVERY ONE OF OUR GATHERINGS AND WAS NEVER DISAPPOINTED... I'M ALREADY REAPING BENEFITS FROM THE EXPERIENCE AS I REGULARLY GO BACK TO THOSE MATERIALS AND MY NOTES WHEN PREPARING FOR BOARD MEETINGS AT THE COMMUNITY LIBRARY AND THE SPOT SUN VALLEY. THE OPPORTUNITY FOR BOARD CHAIRS TO SHARE AND LEARN FROM ONE ANOTHER MAKES THIS A SPECIAL EXPERIENCE - AND FUN! I WAS SO HONORED TO BE A PART OF THIS PROGRAM."

Mike Wade, Board Chair, The Community Library & The Spot

Executive Director Fundamentals Program



Spur helps first time executive directors learn the basics of nonprofit operations – from finance and fundraising to governance and strategic planning.

2023 Participants:

- Amanda Bauman - Project Big Wood
- Aaron Bronson - The Space
- Kelli Quinlan - Ballet Sun Valley
- Deborah Van Law - Blaine County Education Foundation
- Sonya Wilander - Men's Second Chance Living

This year, Spur introduced a new program designed for first-time Executive Directors, offering comprehensive training in nonprofit management. Led by Spur staff, the program fosters a supportive environment for navigating the distinct challenges of nonprofit leadership. Six Executive Directors will complete this eight month program in April 2024.



Granting

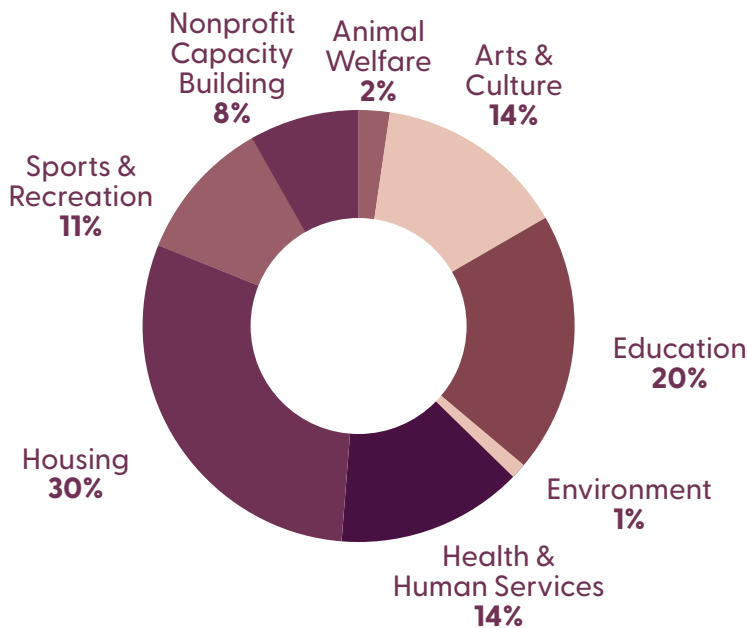
Spur Grants



Far + Wise

Twice a year, Spur offers a competitive grant opportunity for organizations serving Blaine County. Successful grant applicants address important community needs effectively and measure their impact. Grants are evaluated and recommended by a Grants Committee comprised of Spur Advisors and Board members. The Board of Directors makes the final decisions. Additionally, Spur makes grants to underwrite professional development programs described on the preceding pages.

By the Numbers: Spur Grants



Nonprofits That Received Grants From Spur In 2023*

- ARCH Community Housing Trust
- Blaine County Housing Foundation
- Blaine County Recreation District
- Body Traffic
- City of Ketchum
- Far and Wise
- Flourish Foundation
- Girls on the Run of Southern Idaho
- Hospice & Palliative Care of the Wood River Valley
- Idaho BaseCamp
- Lee Pesky Learning Center
- Men's Second Chance Living
- Mountain Humane
- Pulaski Users Group
- Rotarun Ski Club
- Sun Valley Museum of Art
- Sun Valley Playwright's Residency
- The Alliance of Idaho
- The Community Library
- The Crisis Hotline Idaho
- Trailing of the Sheep Festival
- Wood River Community YMCA
- Wood River Land Trust
- Wood River Trails Coalition



“OUR LEE PESKY LITERACY PODS PROGRAM IS DESIGNED TO CLOSE THE EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY GAP FACED BY STUDENTS LEARNING ENGLISH AS A NEW LANGUAGE. WE ARE GRATEFUL TO THE SPUR COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR CHAMPIONING EDUCATION THROUGH ITS SUPPORT OF THIS PROGRAM. SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN 2020, THIS PROGRAM HAS SERVED CLOSE TO 200 ELEMENTARY-AGED STUDENTS WHO HAVE MASTERED THE FOUNDATIONAL LITERACY SKILLS NEEDED FOR SUCCESS IN SCHOOL, AND IN LIFE.”

Dr. Lindy Crawford, Lee Pesky Learning Center

*includes Professional Development Grants

\$4.2M+
distributed

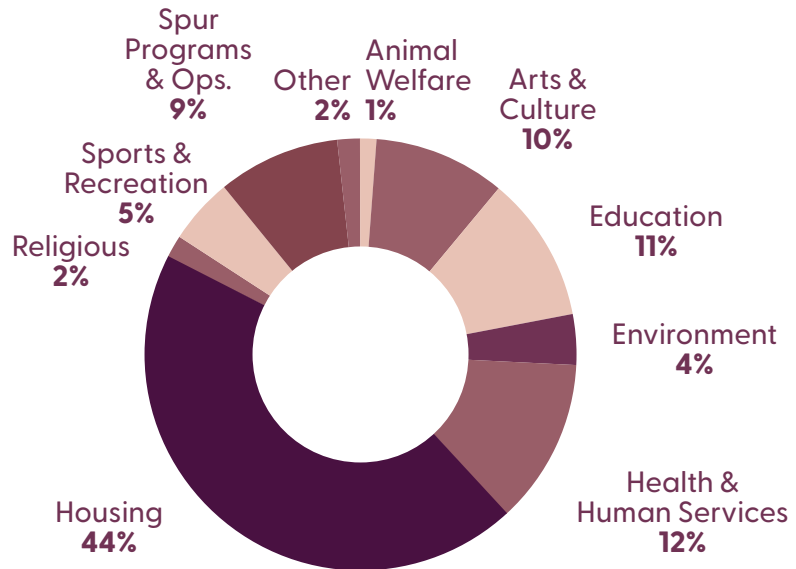
259
grants

111
grantees

Donor Advised Grants

In addition to the grants that Spur awards independently, we also facilitate giving for families and individuals by holding donor advised funds and being a conduit for donation to local nonprofits. In 2024, the numbers for this donor advised granting were impressive.

By the Numbers: Donor Advised Funds



Custodial Grants



For special community projects with a specific timeline for completion, Spur can serve as the repository for donations until it is time to grant them to the project. This past year, Spur played this role for the North Blaine County Fire District with its campaign to create eight, single-family housing units at Greenhorn Fire Station.

In 2023, Spur distributed **\$1,114,953** to the Greenhorn Fire Station Housing project.

This campaign is still underway, and additional donations are needed before the final houses are ready for occupancy.

Donor Services

In 2023, Spur continued to help people give with clarity, convenience, and confidence. The guidance, ideas, and introductions Spur provides lead donors to make more intentional gifts and to deepen their commitment to local philanthropy.

New Donor Advised Funds



Donor Advised Funds provide valuable benefits, such as administrative support for distributing donations, consolidated tracking and reporting of activity, and simplicity achieving the tax advantages of charitable giving. The number of DAF's held by Spur increased by 50% in 2023.



“WE OPENED A DAF WITH SPUR BECAUSE WE LOVE OUR COMMUNITY AND WANTED TO GIVE BACK LOCALLY. SPUR IS IN THE UNIQUE POSITION OF HAVING A HUGE KNOWLEDGE BASE AND RELATIONSHIPS WITH ALL OF OUR LOCAL NONPROFITS. THEY MAKE DONATING SEAMLESS. SPUR WORKS WITH US TO UNDERSTAND OUR VISION AND HELP US DECIDE WHICH ORGANIZATIONS ARE ALIGNED WITH OUR VALUES, EFFECTIVE AT WHAT THEY DO, AND HAVE THE GREATEST NEED FOR RESOURCES.”

Dave & Karine Kashen, new Donor Advised Fund holders at Spur

Donations

For the period January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023.

Includes payments made on 2022 pledges

\$288,791 To Spur's Grantmaking Funds	\$3,942,889 To Donor Advised Funds	\$378,906 To Custodial Funds	\$281,997 To Spur's Programs & Operations	\$4,892,583 Total
# of Gifts 32	# of Gifts 39	# of Gifts 76	# of Gifts 34	# of Gifts 181



Spur does not charge fees on donor advised funds. We are extremely proud to report that money flows out of our donor advised funds at rates many times higher than industry averages. To date, **70% of the money** received into donor advised funds has been granted.



The dollars we are currently holding were contributed **within the past 18 months.**

100%

of Spur donors
give to new causes

\$404K+

amount of local giving
inspired by Spur in 2023

Gifts Made in Memory



Making a gift in a loved one's memory is a wonderful way to transform a loss into something positive and to extend a person's legacy. This past year, Spur was proud to support Ranney Draper in his quest to find fitting ways to honor his late wife, Priscilla.



Ranney Draper and his daughter Kristin Grimm

Priscilla cared deeply about the Wood River Valley and gave back generously. After her passing, Ranney asked Spur to research opportunities for giving that aligned with Priscilla's interests and could have significant impact. After reviewing multiple ideas, Ranney and his family chose seven organizations:

- Mountain Humane
- Sawtooth Botanical Gardens
- St. Luke's Wood River Foundation
- St. Thomas Church
- The Hunger Coalition
- The Senior Connection
- Wood River Community YMCA

Some Special Thanks

Spur is grateful to the people and organizations who helped us in 2023 with in-kind contributions ranging from professional expertise to free space for our programs and meetings.

- Lindsay Boeger
- Reed Boeger
- Ranney Draper
- John Lee
- Ali Long
- Lyndsay and Christopher Lyle

- Rebecca Neeley
- Courtney Noble
- Katherine Rixon
- Sandy and Jodi Sanders
- The Community Library

- The Space
- Carol Waller
- Robin and Tim Wolff
- Wood River Community YMCA
- Zions Bank

We are equally grateful to the organizations who graciously shared photographs for use on our new website.

- ARCH Community Housing Program
- Blaine County Charitable Fund
- Blaine County Recreation District
- Camp Rainbow Gold
- Community Library
- Environmental Resource Center
- Flourish Foundation
- Girls on the Run
- Higher Ground
- Idaho BaseCamp
- KMVT
- Laughing Stock Theater

- Lee Pesky Learning Center
- Living with Wolves
- Mountain Humane
- Pioneer Montessori
- Project Big Wood
- Rotarun Ski Area
- Senior Connection
- St. Luke's Center for Community Health
- Sun Valley Institute for Resilience
- Sun Valley Museum of Art
- Sun Valley Music Festival
- Sun Valley Opera & Broadway

- Syringa Mountain School
- The Advocates
- The Alliance
- The Hunger Coalition
- The Nature Conservancy
- The Sage School
- The Space
- Trailing of the Sheep
- Wood River Land Trust
- Wood River Trails Coalition
- Wood River Community YMCA

2023 Finances

Balance Sheet

as of 12/31/2023, unaudited

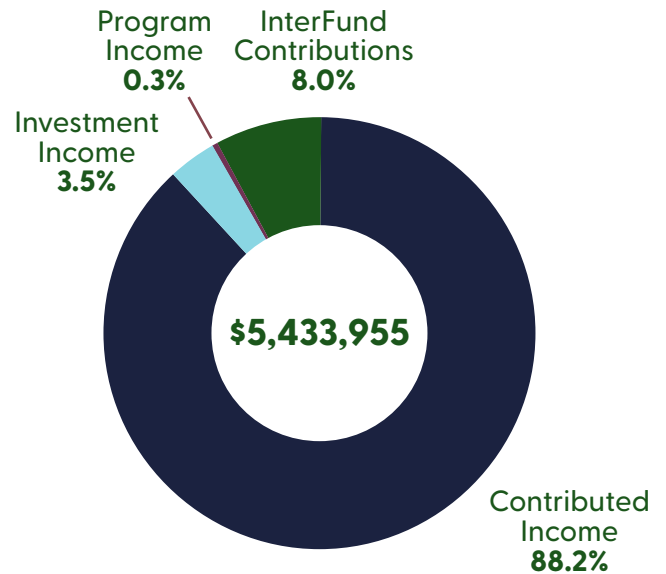
Assets		Total
Bank Accounts		
Checking Accounts	\$	201,657
Credit Card Accounts	\$	97
Investment Accounts	\$	4,397,999
	\$	4,599,753
Other Current Asset	\$	6,278
Total Assets	\$	4,606,031

Liabilities \$ -

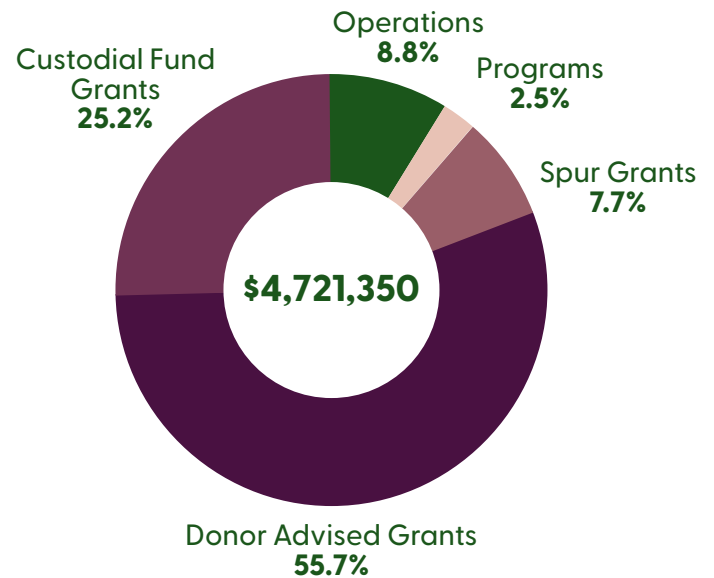
Net Assets

Unrestricted		
Spur Operating Funds	\$	153,880
Temporarily Restricted		
Spur Program Funds	\$	151,926
Spur Granting Funds	\$	231,861
Donor Advised Funds	\$	4,030,335
Custodial Funds	\$	38,029
	\$	4,452,151
Total Liabilities + Net Assets	\$	4,606,031

Income



Expenses



Net Income

\$712,604

Looking Ahead

2023 was Spur's seventh year in existence. Because our evolution has outpaced our original expectations, we took time last year to review our mission and vision, and to consider the best ways we can serve the community. The result was a strategic plan that will guide our efforts for the next three years. Below are highlights from the plan.

Increasing Total Contributions in the Valley

Increase local charitable giving **by 15%** from all sources, not just Spur.

Generosity Initiative

New

Launch a multi-year effort to celebrate, elevate, and accelerate a “give-back” ethos that will enable our community to meet challenges, and thrive into the future. We have obtained special funding for this initiative from a donor.

Offering Consolidated “Back Office” Services

Study

Determine if Spur could/should become a hub for “back-office” services in areas that challenge mid- to small-sized nonprofits such as smart bookkeeping or strong personnel policies.

Spur's Grantmaking Program

Evolve

Evolve our two annual grant application cycles to make them more strategic and impactful for both the nonprofits and the people who contribute to Spur's various grant funds. Increase transparency about our decision-making criteria and process.

Grant Application Assistance Pilot Program

New

Expand the ability of local nonprofits to identify, apply for, and receive large grants from foundations and government agencies outside of our community by underwriting access to professional grant researchers and writers. This new program has been underwritten by one of Spur's Board members.

Donor Education Events & Forums

New

Create opportunities for donors to learn more about purposeful philanthropy, our community's needs, how to evaluate giving opportunities, and other related topics.

Matchmaking for Contributions of Expertise

New

Explore how Spur might create a clearing house that connects people who have time and expertise to give with the nonprofits who need that expertise on either a project or board/committee member basis.

Nonprofit Services

Donor Services



Live Generously.

Find us on:



PO Box 6184, Ketchum, ID 83340 | spurfoundation.org | (208) 450-2600

Spur is an Idaho Nonprofit, 501(C)(3) tax-exempt charitable organization, EIN 81-2375057