

Ijams Nature Center 2017 Annual Report



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A Note from the Executive Director, Amber Parker

It's been an exciting time at Ijams Nature Center! In 2017, Ijams transitioned to a calendar fiscal year. The activities in this report occurred between July 1, 2016, and December 31, 2017. The past 18 months have been filled with growth and change, all to forward this nonprofit nature center's mission of encouraging stewardship of the natural world. From adding new land and increasing education programs to creating new partnerships, Ijams is on a quest to help more people connect with nature. Thank you for joining Ijams on this journey. I'm pleased to share a few highlights of what we have accomplished together.



Amber Parker, Executive Director



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Education Program Highlights

By the Numbers (July 2016 – December 2017)



60

Ijams tripled its goal for the first year of Homeschool Ed-Ventures. 60 kids attended three sessions.



400

Almost 400 Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts participated in badge workshops and naturalist-led hikes.



Photo courtesy of Knoxville News Sentinel

700

During the 28th annual Ijams River Rescue, 700 volunteers met at 30 sites along waterways to clean up 11 tons of trash.



4,781

Ijams field trips served 4,781 students, 2,560 parent chaperones and 261 teachers.



347

Ijams Nature Adventure Camp welcomed 347 campers, including 157 children who received full scholarships.



1,602

More than 1,600 volunteers contributed 10,294 hours of work, removing invasive species, restoring ecosystems and maintaining trails.

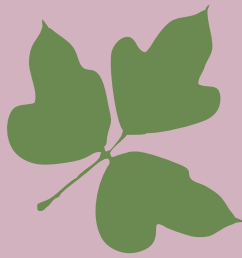
Land Accomplishments.....

Ijams Nature Center continues to serve at the forefront of conserving natural ecosystems in East Tennessee, and in 2017 added 15.4 acres to its protected lands thanks to the generosity of donors. The new properties will become important program areas. Grayson Subaru donated 14.4 acres of land located between McClure and Harold Lanes. The new property, to be named the Grayson Subaru Preserve, will be the site of a new free-play nature area for children. A gift from Pete and Linda Claussen procured an acre of land that includes a house. This former inholding is now protected and the house will become an outdoor classroom that will be a resource for generations to come. Other accomplishments that helped make Ijams Nature Center an educational, functional and inspiring space include:

Ijams hosted an NCCC AmeriCorps team that assisted in the construction of a 150-foot stone wall along the banks of Mead's Quarry Lake to enhance the visitor experience and removed more than an acre of nonnative, invasive species.



Along with interns, scouts and other volunteers, Ijams staff removed about four acres of nonnative, invasive plants.



Removed invasive species

Thanks to a grant from the Wildlife Preservation Fund of East Tennessee Foundation, Ijams staff restored H.P. Ijams' rock garden and planted native wildflowers at the Ijams Homesite.



Restored meadows



The Ijams Water Quality team spent 2,599 hours on the river from Forks of the River WMA to Fort Loudoun Lake.



Removed 430 bags of garbage



Removed 1,052 logs



Built wattle fences



Installed barred owl nest boxes



Installed bluebird nest boxes

Eagle Scouts continued their legacy of work here at Ijams by removing invasive species, planting native flora and assisting with erosion control.

Community and Philanthropy.....



Ijams partnered with and supported more than 150 local and regional artisans through gallery shows, the gift shop, marketplace events and other partnerships such as the 32nd annual Ijams Symphony in the Park.



The nature center sought and received \$394,204 in corporate and grant funding for efforts including the startup of the new Nature Preschool at Ijams Nature Center, scholarships for at-risk and underserved children to attend summer camps and field trips, the 7th Wonder of Hummingbirds Festival, land management, program supplies and much more.



Ijams was the location for myriad community events, including nine weddings, seven races, two reunions, a Tennessee School for the Deaf Prom, and Questival, an adventure race held in multiple cities nationwide.

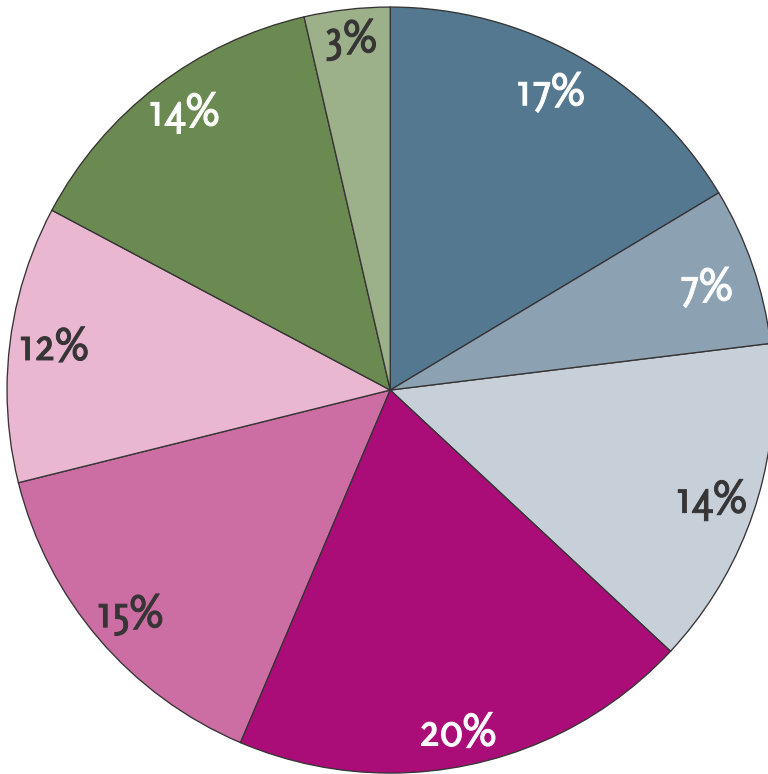
.....Ijams Nature Center Staff

Executive Director	Amber Parker
Office and Finance Manager	Cassandra Smith
Education Director	Jennifer Roder
Senior Naturalist	Stephen Lyn Bales
Lead Naturalist	Christie Collins
Naturalist	Ashlind Bray
Volunteer Coordinator.....	Lauren Bird
Development Director.....	Cindy Hassil
Development Assistant	Elizabeth Newman
Visitor Services Manager.....	Sarah Brobst
Rentals Coordinator	Jill Sublett
Grounds Manager	Ben Nanny
Assistant Grounds Manager	Jack Gress
Facilities Manager.....	Brenda Rayfield
Facilities Assistant	Anna Emory
Staff Veterinarian.....	Louise Conrad
River Captain.....	Jake Hudson



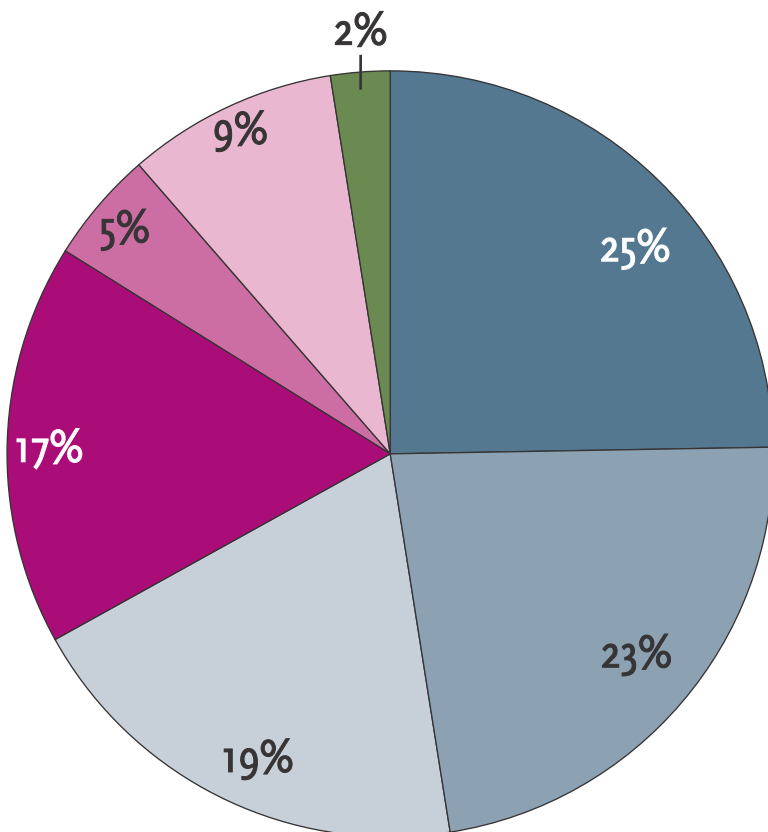
FY 2017 Financials

FY17 Revenue



- Memberships/Donations
- Corporate/Foundations/Grants
- Special Events
- Education Programs
- City of Knoxville Management Fee
- Rentals/Fee for Service
- Gift Shop/Concessions
- Concessionaires

FY17 Expenses



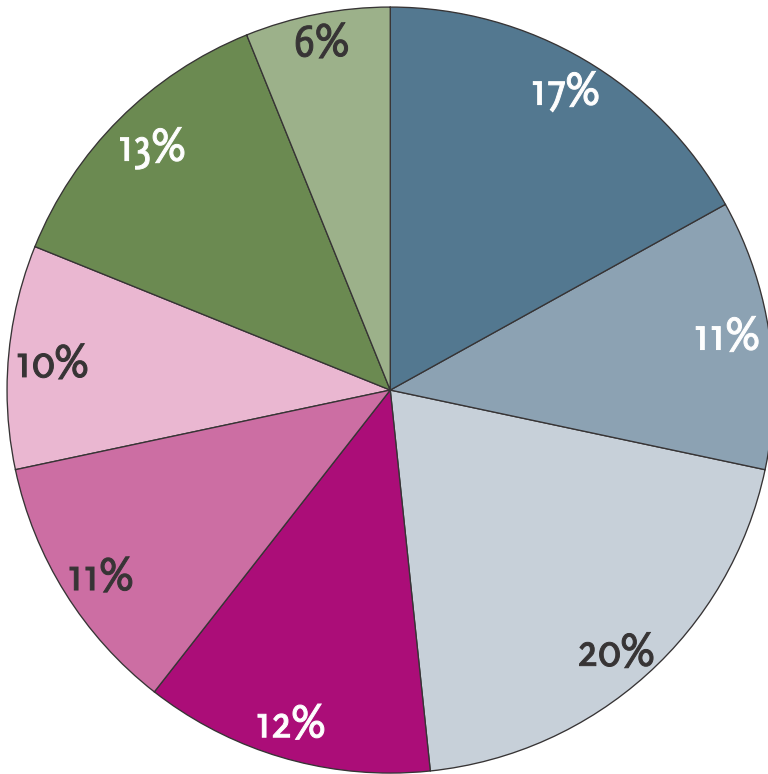
- Program Activities
- Administration
- Facilities/Grounds
- Development
- Special Events
- Gift Shop/Concessions
- Rentals/Fee for Service

FY17 encompasses July 1, 2016, to June 30, 2017.

FY 2017 Short Financials.....

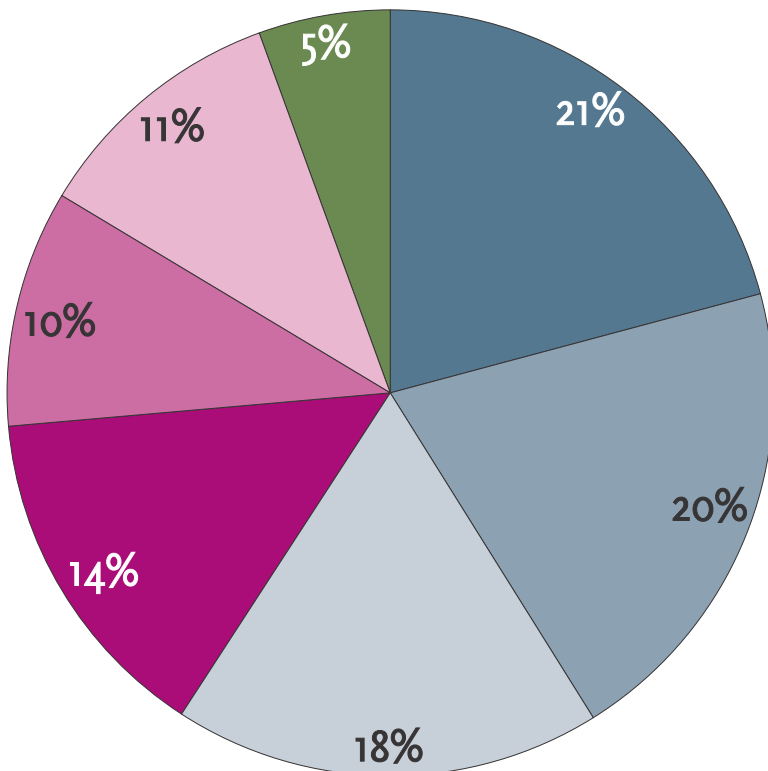
FY17 Short Revenue

- Memberships/Donations
- Corporate/Foundations/Grants
- Special Events
- Education Program Fees
- City of Knoxville Management Fee
- Rentals/Fee for Service
- Gift Shop/Concessions
- Concessionaires



FY17 Short Expenses

- Program Activities
- Administration
- Facilities/Grounds
- Development
- Special Events
- Gift Shop/Concessions
- Rentals/Fee for Service



FY17 Short encompasses July 1, 2017, to December 31, 2017.

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