

2020 ANNUAL REPORT





Dear Loppet Community,

Our 2019-2020 fiscal year started with the frenzy of activity and excitement leading up to the 2020 World Cup. So many volunteers and staff poured thousands of hours of work into hosting the first World Cup on American snow in over two decades. As we all know, the event slated for mid-March had to be cancelled as COVID-19 took its hold on almost every aspect of life.

Programming and events were halted, and like every household, organization and business we had to learn and adapt to the "new normal". With the creativity and determination of an amazing crew of staff and volunteers, we were one of the few organizations to still hold adapted events throughout the year and many programs and clinics safely at Wirth Park.

In July, John Munger stepped down as the Loppet's Executive Director after 17 years of service to the organization. Ray Aponte, Loppet Adventures Director, stepped in at a critical time as Interim Executive Director and helped us finish the year strong.

I want to thank everyone who made this year happen - from our coaches, to our donors and volunteers and everyone in between. We couldn't have done it without you!

Jon Van Horn
Board President



After being the first paid employee running youth programs back in 2003, I am thrilled to be back years later to now serve as the Loppet's new Executive Director. The 2019-20 year was certainly a hard one for the Loppet, but I am proud of the way the community came together (at a distance of course) in the spirit of outdoor adventure and continues to thrive.

There are a lot of new faces around the Loppet (mine included!) that I hope you have the opportunity to meet at the Trailhead or out on the trails. We are more committed than ever to our mission to create a shared passion for year-round outdoor adventure in Minneapolis for all, and we'd love to hear what that means to you.

I look forward to reporting the Foundation's successes and resiliency in our next annual report!

Claire Wilson
Executive Director

TALES FROM THE TRAIL

2020 was a year of many hardships, and the Loppet Foundation was proud to be able to provide meaningful respite in a time void of social and recreational opportunities. Here's a story of one of the many families we served:

'I am so grateful for the programming that the Loppet has provided for my child. 2020 has been very difficult for my son. He does not have anyone close to his age living at home with him and with distance learning, he became very bored and lonely.

The Loppet gave Gilbert the opportunity to socialize with other children his age, get exercise and fresh air, all while practicing social distancing. Gilbert's favorite activity is definitely mountain biking. He especially loves the Area 36 trail because it feels like it could go on forever. It has been nice to get to know the other families and develop deeper relationships with them.



Through the Loppet, my son taught me how to mountain bike, and now I look forward to riding the trails on the days I don't have to work. Now I can't even imagine life without the amazing trails right in our own neighborhood! "

Gilbert and his mother's story are not unique – we heard similar feedback from many of our families all year and we know that so many of the parents are grateful to have the park, trails and the Loppet to give their children a healthy outlet when they are at home for so many hours of the day. We saw so many families getting outside together, an added consequence and benefit of the pandemic.



Pictured right: Gilbert and his family out on a bike ride

ADVENTURES



MINNE LOPPET

With the 2019-2020 ski season, the Minne-Loppet Ski program completed its 15th year of teaching cross-country skiing to Minneapolis Area elementary school children. Over 600 students in eight schools learned to ski through the 10-12 week program skis, boots and coaches provided for each school. Schools also made trips to Theodore Wirth Park to ski on our trails. The program culminated in a "race" during the City of Lakes Loppet – with medals and cookies for all!



JUNIOR LOPPET

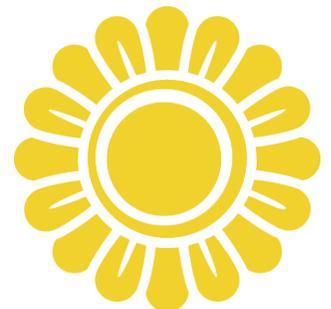
The Junior Loppet program uses outdoor activities like cross country skiing, mountain biking and trail running to empower 75-100 underserved youth annually from Minneapolis' Northeast and Anwatin middle schools. During a pause in programming from March through May, youth participated in virtual team-challenges and incentives to get outside, move, and stay social. At the beginning of June, they were very excited to get back together while following CDC recommended precautions. As usual, the kids got to run, mountain bike, orienteer, canoe, and participate in our mountain bike race series hosted at the Trailhead building - all outdoors.



New in 2020, the Northside Adventures program is a part of the Junior Loppet program, but instead of participants being from a specific middle school, the Northside Adventures team is open to any youth that live in North Minneapolis and want to get involved in programming.

ADVENTURE CAMPS

The Loppet Foundation was proud to host COVID-safe sessions of Adventure Camp all summer and even added more week-long sessions in the fall due to the overwhelming demand. Youth at Adventure Camps spend all day mountain biking, paddling, orienteering, playing outdoor games and learning about the nature surrounding them – all in Theodore Wirth Park.



SPORT

LOPET RUN 365

This new program, run by Olympian Abdi Bile, supports a wide variety of athletes, from beginners to elite runners, in getting outdoors, setting goals and running. The program serves youth, teens and adults, including a Somali language adult running group and a Cedar Riverside senior women's fitness group. Recently the Somali language adult running group completed the 10:10:10 - a goal of the entire group to complete a 10K or 10 mile run by October 10th. Many of the members of this group were not runners when they began, and we are proud to say they are all runners now.



LNR

LNR Junior athletes had a busy summer and fall training season, which included training camps in Wisconsin, Michigan, Minnesota and Colorado during the summer, and a 10 day early snow camp in Wyoming. LNR juniors dominate racing in the Midwest, qualifying 30 out of 50 athletes for competition at the Junior Nationals in California. Unfortunately, the Junior Nationals were interrupted by the pandemic and competition ended after 2 days of competition.

On the Adult side of LNR, it was a banner year for our racing programs, with over 300 athletes training with LNR programs ranging from spring strength training to winter race preparation. It was also a strong year for our Summer Collegiate Program, the YAMS (Young Adult Master Skiers) and the LEMONS (age 40+ race team) with great representation at Midwest marathons.

LCW

The LCW training season started in November with regular strength and indoor trainer sessions. In April, athletes travelled to Sedona, Arizona for a 9 day training camp. Competition began in May with Wisconsin and Minnesota Series races in preparation for the US Nationals. LCW athletes then travelled to compete at the US National Mountain Bike Championships in Winter Park, Colorado. Nine athletes travelled with coach Bruce Martens to race in the XC, Short Track and Enduro competitions. Other highlights for LCW included development of a comprehensive Coaches Education curriculum that was put to work in conjunction with Trail Kids to prepare 75 coaches for programming in LCW and Trail Kids.

TRAIL KIDS

Summer and fall were a very busy time for our TRAIL KIDS programs – registration was up over 20% and sessions filled incredibly fast. The first ever run and orienteering sessions were held this summer, headed by coach Laura Cattaneo. Laura was born in Switzerland where orienteering is very popular and grew up competing in the sport.

EVENTS



CITY OF LAKES LOPPET WINTER FESTIVAL

Thankfully prior to the 2020 World Cup That Almost Was, the City of Lakes Winter Festival and Luminary Loppet were able to take place in full force. Thousands came out for a beautiful weekend full of skiing, snowshoeing, skijoring, fat tire biking and more.



The rest of the Loppet Foundation's events took place in the shadow of COVID-19; in an environment in which a traditionally facilitated race would be inappropriate but when healthy outdoor activity was more important than ever.



As such we redesigned the events from start to finish to create a challenging, fun, and (virtual) community-centric race experience that kept participants and our community safe.

SITKA SALMON SHARES CITYTRAIL LOPPET

Over 450 folks registered, and many took advantage of the opportunity to run the course multiple times. The record holder ran 11 loops! All ages came out to run the challenging 10K- from 9 to 71 years old, including 25 men and women 60 and over. We were thrilled to (virtually) host family groups, providing a fun family outing and outlet from Covid-19.

TRI- AND DU- LOPPET

Over 150 folks registered, and many took advantage of the new Du Loppet (bike + run) option. Relay teams were made up of extended family members, training buddies, and co-bubblers. We were thrilled to (virtually) host all of these groups, providing an adventurous summer outing and outlet from Covid-19.



SURLY TRAIL LOPPET

Over 400 folks registered for the event this year, and we were thrilled to treat them to some of the most beautiful single track and ski trails in the south section of Theodore Wirth Park. This keystone Loppet event provided friends and families an adventurous and safe fall outing and outlet from Covid-19.

TRAILS & TRAILHEAD

Trail use in Wirth Park **doubled or even TRIPLED** on many trails during 2019-20

Almost **7,700 ski passes** were sold – most ever to date

The mountain bike skills course was completed and operational with three tracks available

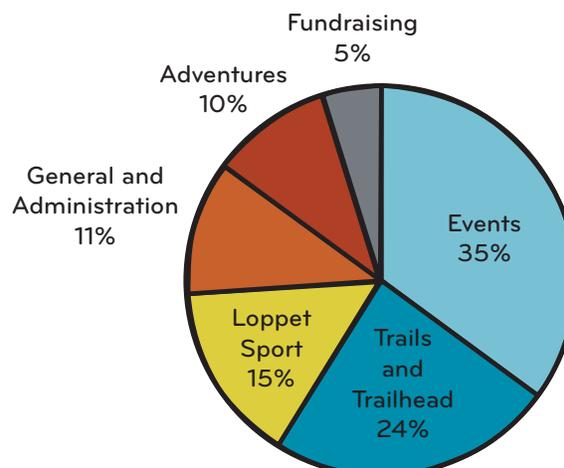
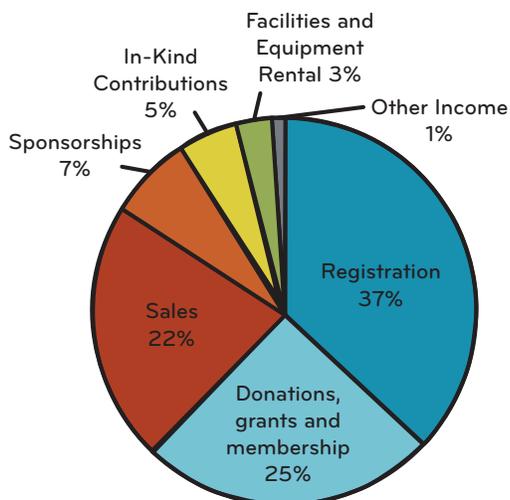
We continued our commitment to specific **outreach to Northside youth** and to consistently providing inclusive experiences at the This included for the first time ever hosting multiple school field trips at the Trailhead. **Over 450 youth experienced a day long field trip experience** in the Trailhead and at Wirth Park. This included transport to the park, ski lessons, lunch, and tubing experiences.

Mill Valley Market opened in The Trailhead in June, offering fresh and healthy food and beverage options and fun live music events to the park

The Trailhead was **closed to the public** during the COVID-19 pandemic with the exception of winter rentals and limited indoor dining when allowed by state and local officials



FINANCIAL REPORT



INCOME STATEMENT

Operating Income

Donations grants and membership:	\$1,111,413
In-Kind Contributions	\$206,162
Sponsorships	\$302,250
Registration	\$1,615,494
Sales (food, merchandise, etc)	\$983,906
Facilities and equipment rental	\$153,599
Other income	\$54,784
Total:	\$4,427,608

Operating Expenses

Program Services	\$3,684,209
General and Administration:	\$466,327
Fundraising	\$233,926
Total	\$4,384,462

Other changes in net assets

Loss on uncollected pledge	(\$123,777)
Change in net assets	(\$80,631)

Net assets, beginning of year	\$766,891
Net assets, end of year	\$686,260

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Assets

Current Assets	\$1,572,888
Loan Receivable	\$2,759,400
Trailhead Building Lease	\$1,546,371
Property and Equipment	\$909,688
Other Assets	\$118,893
Total Assets	\$6,907,220

Liabilities

Current Liabilities	\$450,833
Long-term debt, less current portion	\$5,770,127
Total Liabilities	\$6,220,960

Net Assets

Without donor restrictions	(\$1,108,361)
With donor restrictions	(\$1,794,621)
Total net assets	\$686,260

Total liabilities and net assets	\$6,907,220
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DONORS

This list contains all individual or organizations that donated \$100 or more from October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020.

If you are reading this, you are probably one of the many wonderful people who helped keep the Loppet Foundation running this past year. That includes so many volunteers, sponsors, members and donors. We could not provide our programs and services without YOU so THANK YOU!!

\$25,000 +

Allina Health
 Anonymous
 David Dayton and Mary Bolla
 Eric and Cory Dayton
 Explore Minnesota
 Fastenal
 George Family Foundation
 Huelsmann Foundation
 Minneapolis Foundation
 Mortenson Construction
 Natureworks
 Ed and Jenni Ryan
 Salomon USA
 Share Winter Foundation
 The Estee Lauder Companies
 The Jacket Foundation
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\$10,000 - \$24,999

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 Edward R. Bazinet Charitable
 Foundation
 Scott and Sabrina Ellis
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 Glen Helgeson Family Foundation
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 Minnesota Vikings
 Noble Family Foundation
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 Sitka Salmon Shares
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 D. Andrew Hall and Natalie Olsen
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 Monson
 Kevin and Sara Ousdigian
 Patagonia
 REI
 John Sumner
 Jon and Gail Van Horn
 Visit Duluth

\$1,000 - \$4,999

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 Thomas Ajax
 American Center for
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 Adam and Carolyn Bock
 Anthony and Carolyn Bramante
 Mike Bono and Kathie
 Constantine
 Captain Ken's Foods
 Caribou Coffee
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 John Clement
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 Kevin and Raquel Counihan
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 Leroy Leftwich
 Thomas and Barb Leppke-Hennig
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 Eoin O'Hara and Heidi Meyer
 Minneapolis Kiwanis Foundation
 Minnesota State Arts Board
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 John and Diana Munger
 Pit Viper
 Joe and Sara Pohlad
 Stephen Regenold
 Muffy Ritz
 Riverway Foundation
 Win and Binky Rockwell
 Joshua Simonson
 Guy and Candice Stearns
 Ron Sternal and Nancy Gibson
 Stuart & Nancy Friedell Family
 Foundation
 The Head Family Foundation
 The Louis and Mary Kay Smith
 Family Foundation

Family Foundation
 Andy and Meg Ubel
 Van Iwaarden Associates
 Weis Builders, Inc.
 Peter Welles
 Bob and Barb Woodruff Eoin
 O'Hara and Heidi Meyer
 Minneapolis Kiwanis Foundation
 Minnesota State Arts Board
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 John and Diana Munger
 John and Jean O'Connell
 Pit Viper
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 Guy and Candice Stearns
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 The Louis and Mary Kay Smith
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 Weis Builders, Inc.
 Peter Welles
 Bob and Barb Woodruff

\$500 - \$999

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 Ray and Marilyn Anderson
 Kelsey Arneson
 Suzanne Bamonto
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 Chidambaram
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 James and Patricia Doheny
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 Kenton Johnson
 Eric and Laura Kehrberg
 Sarah Kesler
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 Warren Klibbe
 Susan Knutson
 Gary and Barbara Krupp
 Mark Borman and Laurie Laner
 Lucas Malm
 Robert McKlveen and Ellen Jones
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 Ave Nelson and Cathy Polasky
 Cynthia Osterling
 Bill and Sarah Oyler
 REDFIN
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 Nicholas Rogers
 Jesse Cook and Martina Sailer
 Jon Schwartz and Marcee Harris
 Schwartz
 Penelope Scialla
 Audrey Sheffield
 Steve Yore and Janine Sieja
 Damon and Angeliqe Struyk
 Derek Svoren
 Tom and Sheila Trachtman
 Alex Turner
 UGH
 Costa Voulgaropoulos and Yianna
 Apostolidou
 Andrew Weiner
 John Wolff

\$100 - \$499

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 Bruce and Margaret Adelsman
 James Agre and Brenda Gauvin-
 Chadwick
 Lynn Allar
 Ameriprise Financial
 Jon Anderson
 Anonymous
 Paul Arbisi and Donna Wiese Arbisi
 Arc'teryx
 Jim Aspholm
 Dilek Aydinalp-Mathews
 Ulf-Eiel and Ulf-Eiel Bach
 Pete and Leslie Bacig
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 Torrey and Juli Bergman
 Leonard and Rhoda Bernstein
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Kent and Cindy York
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Charles and Julie Zelle
Andrea Zimmerman
Sandy Zinn
Michael Zwank

LOPET BOARD & STAFF

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Tom Trachtman – Treasurer
Mindy Benton
Mia Como
Penelope Pate Greene
Evelena Hillman
Bill McKinney
RT Rybak (honorary)

Loppet Adventures Board

Jon Van Horn – President
Tom Trachtman – Treasurer
James Archer
Tricia Conroy
Bill Blazar
Leroy Leftwich
Ed Ryan

Staff Leadership

Claire Wilson - Executive Director*
Ray Aponte - Loppet Adventures
Piotr Bednarski - Loppet Sport Director
Mike Berkopec - Chief Financial Officer
Paul Johnson – Events Director
Anne Olson – Development Director*
Pablo Urriche – Finance and Administration Director

*Denotes staff hired after the 19-20 fiscal year.



MISSION We create a shared passion for year-round outdoor adventure in the Minneapolis area, focusing on underserved youth and families.

VISION The Minneapolis area leads the world in year-round outdoor activities. Ethnically and economically diverse individuals and families come together around a shared passion for the outdoors – a passion that is universal.

VALUES

Adventure. We believe that living an inspired life requires taking paths with uncertain outcomes. We focus on the journey.

Excellence. We set the highest standards and strive for continuous improvement in everything we do.

Integrity. We value honesty and high moral standards, but our definition of integrity also includes holding each other accountable for living the outdoor active life that we promote.

Stewardship. We are committed to nurturing the resources – like youth, natural resources, and financial assets – entrusted to our care.

Inclusiveness. We believe that an outdoor active life is part of all cultures and we strive to share our passion for outdoor activity across individuals with differing abilities, as well as ethnic and economic lines.



Loppet Foundation Main Office
1301 Theodore Wirth Parkway
Minneapolis MN 55422
Phone: 612-604-5330
info@loppet.org

Loppet Adventures Main Office
1420 Dowling Avenue North
Minneapolis MN 55412

The Trailhead
1221 Theodore Wirth Parkway
Minneapolis MN 55422
Phone: 612-355-7757

On the web at www.loppet.org
Twitter: @loppet
Instagram: @loppetfoundation
Facebook: @loppet