



GLOBAL  
CLIMBING  
INITIATIVE

# ANNUAL REPORT

2022



# WE BELIEVE CLIMBING CAN CREATE A BETTER WORLD



PHILIPPINES

PHOTO BY NICK AGUILOS

A photograph of a person in a yellow tank top and green shorts climbing a large, dark rock face. Another person in an orange shirt is spotting them from below. The background shows a rocky landscape with green trees under a blue sky.

# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

At The Global Climbing Initiative, we believe that climbing is a microcosm of the greater world, and that by changing ourselves and our communities through climbing, we can change society. This is the core philosophy driving our work to support the growth of self-empowered climbing communities around the globe, equipped with the knowledge and resources to use climbing as a force for positive change.

There is nothing more important than supporting one another, dreaming together, and taking action to build a better future. Seeing the GCI team mentoring community leaders, transporting gear to groups lacking access, organizing technical trainings, shaping best practices, and raising funds to support grassroots projects, I am proud to witness the shift we are creating in the climbing world to catalyze greater access and equity on a worldwide scale.

At just 4 years in, and with even bigger projects and partnerships in the works, our growth and impact are on an exponential trajectory. Our success lies in the extraordinary dedication of our team of volunteers and the support of our donors, who share our vision for the future of climbing and have stepped up to put our goals into action.

Thank you for empowering us with your support. We couldn't do this without you.

**VERONICA BAKER**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
THE GLOBAL CLIMBING INITIATIVE



KENYA

PHOTO BY DANNY SKILTON/  
CLIMBING LIFE KENYA



## OUR MISSION

**We equip climbing communities worldwide with the knowledge and resources to thrive**

We are the bridge connecting emerging climbing communities to the funds, gear, and skills they need to implement their visions for the future of our sport



MALAWI

PHOTO BY CLIMB MALAWI

# WE INVEST IN LOCAL CLIMBING LEADERS THROUGH

**GEAR**

**TRAINING**

**BEST  
PRACTICES**

**FUNDING**



INDIA

PHOTO BY GAYATRI JUVEKAR/  
CLIMB LIKE A WOMAN

# IN 2022,

we were powered by



14

volunteer staff

who gave over



8,060

volunteer hours

and raised



\$65,158

to support our mission

## AS A RESULT, WE ACHIEVED THE FOLLOWING IMPACT:

best practices chapter downloads in



72

countries worldwide

deep advising partnerships with



8

local climbing organizations

more than



400

pounds of climbing gear distributed

(180 kg)

local voices elevated through



5

storytelling projects

investment in



1

first Climbing Leadership Fund recipient

GEAR

IN 2022, OUR  
TEAM DISTRIBUTED  
**\$15,000**  
OF GEAR

ropes, harnesses, carabiners,  
helmets, climbing shoes,  
chalk, slings, ice boots,  
sleeping bags, and cold  
weather apparel

TO 5 INCREDIBLE  
ORGANIZATIONS

PITI DHARR  
ICE FEST



INDIA

CLIMBING LIFE  
KENYA



KENYA

ESCALANDO  
FRONTERAS



MEXICO

CLIMB LIKE  
A WOMAN



INDIA

COLETIVO  
ESCALADA LENÇÓIS



BRAZIL

 KENYA

PHOTO BY DANNY SKILTON/  
CLIMBING LIFE KENYA



TRAINING

THROUGH OUR  
CLIMBING LEADERSHIP FUND,  
WE SUPPORTED CLIMBING  
COMMUNITY LEADER

# PRERNA DANGI

TO EARN HER AMGA SINGLE PITCH INSTRUCTOR  
CERTIFICATION IN THE UNITED STATES

We also spent the year planning our community-scale mentorship and Single Pitch Instructor training in Kenya for Spring 2023

"When I started climbing in India twelve years ago, the hardest thing to find was mentorship and role models. Taking climbing seriously to me meant holding myself up to the highest standards. By supporting my SPI training, GCI has helped me access the education and training that will enable me to become the kind of leader and mentor I needed in my early days in this sport."

- PRERNA DANGI

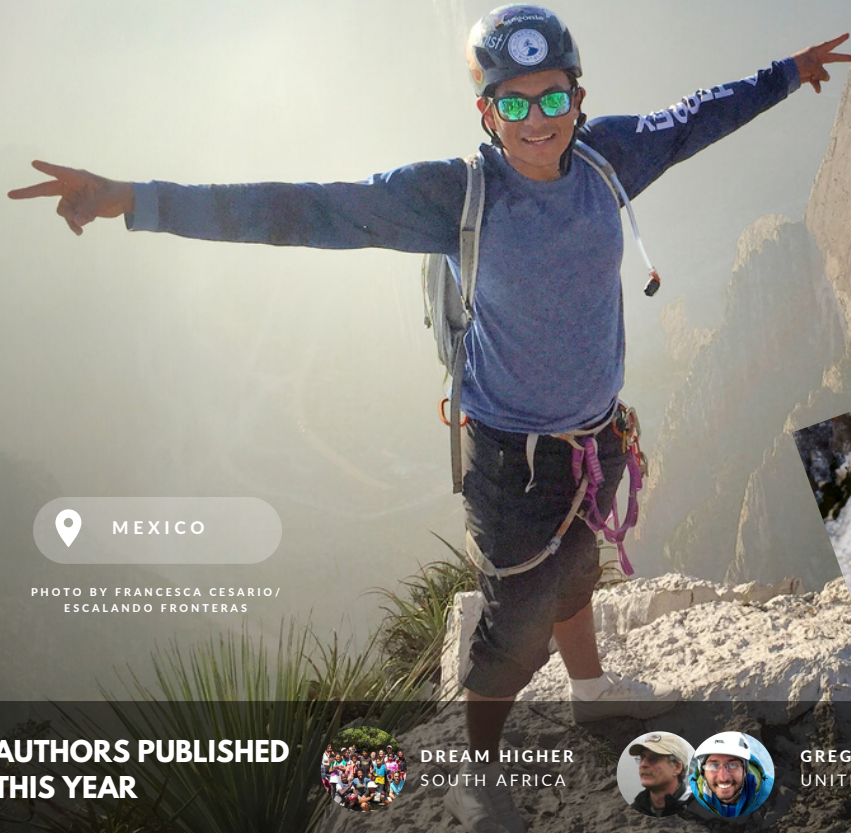


UNITED  
STATES

PHOTO BY IRENE YEE



BEST PRACTICES



WE RELEASED 3 MORE

# BEST PRACTICES CHAPTERS

- CLIMBING WITH AT-RISK YOUTH
- ADAPTIVE RAPTOR MANAGEMENT
- WORKING WITH VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES



CLIMBING WITH AT-RISK YOUTH  
BY DREAM HIGHER



ADAPTIVE RAPTOR MANAGEMENT  
BY GREG ORTON AND TAIMUR AHMAD



WORKING WITH VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES  
BY ALEJANDRO MEDINA FUENTES



MEXICO

PHOTO BY FRANCESCA CESARIO /  
ESCALANDO FRONTERAS

**AUTHORS PUBLISHED THIS YEAR**



DREAM HIGHER  
SOUTH AFRICA



GREG ORTON & TAIMUR AHMAD  
UNITED STATES



ALEJANDRO MEDINA FUENTES  
MEXICO

FUNDING

AND WE ARE THRILLED TO  
ANNOUNCE OUR NEW

# COMMUNITY GRANTS

POWERING THE VISIONS OF CLIMBING  
ORGANIZATIONS AROUND THE WORLD

Applications open April 2023

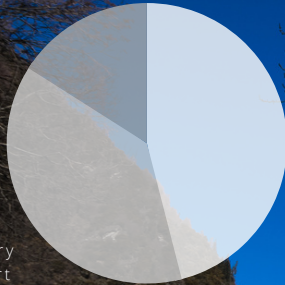
 PHILIPPINES

PHOTO BY LILAY MARQUEZ

# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

**INCOME**  
\$65,158

Individuals  
16%

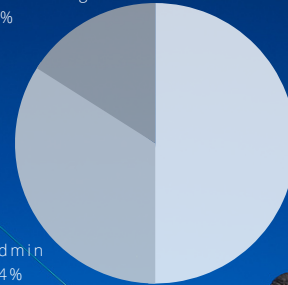


Foundations  
46%

Industry  
Support  
38%

**EXPENSES**  
\$41,046

Fundraising  
16%



Programs  
50%

Admin  
34%



CHINA

PHOTO BY LIM JOEL

# OUR INDUSTRY SUPPORTERS

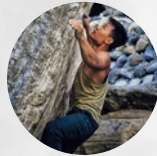


OUR WORK IS IMPOSSIBLE  
WITHOUT YOUR GENEROUS  
CONTRIBUTIONS. THANK YOU!

INDIA

PHOTO BY KIRAN KALLUR/  
PITI DHARR ICE FESTIVAL

# OUR TEAM



**AMOS LEE**  
IMPACT CONSULTANT



**DANI DOBROT**  
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR



**ELLIE YATSKO**  
DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR



**GAWAIN PEK**  
ASIA REGIONAL  
COORDINATOR



**JORGE MALDONADO**  
IMPACT CONSULTANT &  
LATIN AMERICA REGIONAL  
COORDINATOR



**LIZ NDINDI**  
IMPACT CONSULTANT &  
AFRICA REGIONAL  
COORDINATOR



**LUDIVINE  
BRUNISSEN**  
DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH



**NATHANIEL SOON**  
ASIA REGIONAL  
COORDINATOR



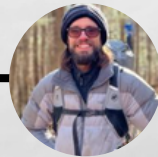
**NICKI SIMON**  
DIRECTOR OF ENGAGEMENT



**ROB KYTE**  
STORYTELLER



**SARAH LABIB**  
MIDDLE EAST  
REGIONAL COORDINATOR



**SCOTT PAGEL**  
DIRECTOR OF STRATEGY



**TYLER ALGEO**  
DIRECTOR OF PHILOSOPHY



**VERONICA BAKER**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**KENYA**

PHOTO BY DANI DOBROT

**THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR SUPPORT**



**GLOBAL  
CLIMBING  
INITIATIVE**

**BECOME A DONOR**  
[GLOBALCLIMBING.ORG/SUPPORT](https://GLOBALCLIMBING.ORG/SUPPORT)



 **PHILIPPINES**

PHOTO BY NICK AGUILOS