

Sun Valley Institute

2017 REPORT TO OUR COMMUNITY

From **Risk** to **Opportunity**



First Snow—Kirk Anderson

Dear Friends,

The Sun Valley Institute has just finished its third year working to build resilient prosperity locally and globally. In this time of rapid change, we established the Institute to turn our local risks into opportunities, serving as a model and resource to others and convening for local and global learning and action. The Sun Valley Institute foments policy leadership, public action and capital investment by creating opportunities for individuals, businesses and government to make direct impact. I am deeply proud of what we have accomplished in such a short time. From energy and food to land use and the environment, we pioneer innovative initiatives to strengthen local quality of place in the face of economic and ecological changes.

Locally, we have focused on three powerful levers to turn our risks into opportunities: food, energy and land use. We are localizing our food system by working with our schools, restaurants, stores, and individuals; we are increasing local energy production and strengthening energy resilience of specific critical infrastructure; and shifting land use to restore nature and supply food and energy and housing in a way that meets local needs while protecting our environment – which is the foundation for quality of life.

These efforts diversify economies; save individuals and business money; protect our communities and quality of place; and create high quality jobs, thereby increasing our resilience to chronic and acute environmental and economic risks.

We have an incredibly talented staff, board, and advisory board guiding our progress, along with collaborators in our community and far beyond. Thank you. And thank YOU – our far-reaching community – for your financial and volunteer support and for your participation in our programs and events.

We look forward to our continued work together here, around the region, and far beyond, to build a healthier, more equitable and prosperous world.

In partnership,



Aimée Christensen
Executive Director

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Sun Valley: An Extraordinary History

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RISK



We experience unplanned power outages like on Christmas Eve 2009 in subzero temperatures.

We send \$80 million of energy expenditures per year to companies outside of our region/state.

Our energy is largely sourced from greenhouse gas emitting, carbon base fuels and an increasingly unreliable snowpack: 35% from coal, 10% from natural gas and 50% from hydro.



95% of what we eat locally is imported.

98% of what we grow locally is exported

Blaine County is one of the top 10 most expensive counties for food in the nation.

Food, transportation, local water and pesticide use undermine our local and global environment.



Beaver Creek Fire: We experienced the nation's 2nd largest wildfire in 2013, evacuating our communities, taking 24 days to contain, with a \$40 million local impact.

Loss of water and soils: Blaine County is facing water constraints in years of drought and this will only increase. Water is vital to fisheries and recreation as well as for domestic and commercial uses. With over 200,000 acres of arable land, Blaine County soils are a rich resource that needs protecting for food, carbon and water quality and quantity.



Idaho received a D+ from Climate Central's "States at Risk" analysis because of the size of climate risk facing our state – especially drought and fires – and because our state has taken almost no action to address those risks.

OPPORTUNITY



Solarize Blaine

"I care about the philosophy of green investment. It's a way for me to be a stockholder for my community and the environment."

Patrick Buchanan, State Farm Insurance, Solarize Blaine participant

RevUp Blaine

"Purchasing an electric vehicle is the best choice you could make. They're good for the environment, they are powerful, they are easy to drive, and you have plenty of room."

Sindy Burke, RevUp Blaine participant

Critical Infrastructure Protection

Local energy systems and microgrids can secure critical loads with local energy generation, reducing operating costs, creating good paying jobs, keeping dollars in the local economy, and reducing the community's impact on the environment.



Blaine County Food Council

The Institute's Local Food Alliance helped create the BCFC working together with key food stakeholders in the public, private and nonprofit sectors to improve our food system.

Farm to School Lunch

Helping bring fresh nutritious local food to Blaine County schools. In 2017, 13,440 farm to school meals were served to local students.

Food Hub

Connecting producers and consumers to make our local and regional food systems more robust.



Fire Resilient Community

Partnered with the University of Idaho and local fire officials to enhance preparedness and resilience to future wildfires, and the cascading impacts that follow.

New Models

Create models for resilient land use with multiple benefits through local food and energy production, affordable and workforce housing, and conservation and restoration of natural systems.



Sun Valley Forum

Bringing together leaders. Sharing best practices.

Sparkling Deals

Making the deals that matter, from EnerBlu and KY to NY Climate Week, we create connections for win-win-win benefits, for jobs, economy and environment.



From **Risk** to **Opportunity**

2017 MILESTONES

ENERGY

RevUp Blaine

In 2017, following our highly successful Solarize Blaine solar adoption program, we turned our attention to our transportation system. We developed RevUp Blaine as an education and buy-down program to help our community transition to electric vehicles (EV)s. The Institute partnered with regional dealerships to negotiate some of the largest discounts in the country on four discounted EV

models. RevUp Blaine tripled the number of electric vehicles in our community and wiped out local dealers' inventory and added an additional public charging station with more in the works! Our results are consistent with the incredible growth of electric transportation happening around the world.



Digital Energy Blueprint and Critical Loads

The Institute collaborated with Idaho National Laboratory and Idaho Power to launch the development of a "Digital Blueprint" of Blaine County's energy system. We are only the third community in the country to employ such a tool, which lays out our county's transmission and distribution network and consumption loads in real time. We are working with our local cities, the county, and St. Luke's-Wood River Medical Center to determine their critical loads and backup capacity and needs. The Institute is analyzing this data to develop projects that utilize local, efficient, affordable, and low-carbon energy technologies to secure our critical loads and ensure that "the lights stay on" during an emergency. Additionally, these technologies reduce costs, create good paying jobs, keep energy dollars in the local economy, reduce our community's carbon footprint, and increase the security of our energy system in the event of larger grid disruption.



FOOD

Local Food Alliance

The Local Food Alliance (LFA), became a program of the Institute in 2016, and has been working to increase the demand for and availability of locally and regionally grown foods.

By re-localizing and re-regionalizing our food system, we can improve individual, community, local economic and environmental health and resilience.



Families and Our Schools

LFA initiated the Wood River Valley's first farm to school lunch programs serving hundreds of local children each week. LFA sponsored the first of now four annual Hemingway FarmRai\$ers, raising money for school educational programs while supporting local farmers and food entrepreneurs.

Blaine County Food Council

LFA played a seminal role in the creation of the Blaine County Food Council (BCFC) in early 2017 to continue the work initiated by The Hunger Coalition to assess our community's food system and identify solutions. BCFC members represent LFA, University of Idaho, The Hunger Coalition, Wood River Farmers' Markets, St. Luke's-Wood River, city councils, county commissioner's office, local farmers, and community members. All are committed to creating access to fresh, clean, nutrient-rich foods.

Wood River Valley HarvestFest

The 3rd Annual Wood River Valley HarvestFest, which brings together locals and visitors alike for an afternoon & evening in celebration of local farmers, local restaurants, and local community, brought together 400 community members, 13 restaurants and 15 local food producers to consume over 1000 pounds of locally grown food.

2017 MILESTONES

LAND

Resilient Land Repurposing

Our land resources are central to our quality of life and vital to building resilient prosperity in our community. Traditional land uses can be augmented or replaced with value-added uses such as local food production, energy production and affordable housing to provide even more opportunities for our community, both economically and environmentally. We are developing strategic opportunities for resilient land repurposing to benefit the local economy as well as the environment.

Building Fire Resilient Communities

The Institute was launched in part due to the massive impact of the 2013 Beaver Creek Fire on our local economy and quality of life. As we seek to build resilience, fire continues to pose a major threat. SVI is fortunate to have

as a partner the University of Idaho's School of Natural Resources and their renowned fire resilience expertise. This past June, the Institute co-hosted the University of Idaho workshop, "Building Fire Resilient Communities," identifying strategies and new resources available to reduce the risk facing fire-vulnerable communities. Workshop attendees included fire scientists, government agencies, area decision-makers and local stakeholders, examining new technologies and processes in mapping, mitigation, response, and adaptation in order to build and refine fire resilience strategies, both preventative and restorative. We are excited for what this can mean for our ability to prepare for and recover from future fire outbreaks to minimize impacts from fires and the cascading effects such as from flooding and harm to river ecosystems, protecting our local community and economy.



CONVENING

Sun Valley Forum

We celebrated our 3rd annual Sun Valley Forum on July 5-8, 2017, bringing together leaders who have been instrumental in accelerating the transformation to sustainable, equitable, and secure—resilient—economies and communities. 200 attendees heard from presenters who inspired and educated while working groups developed strategies and seeded new collaborations. Exciting projects have already emerged from participants' connections, with collaboration well underway, and we look forward to our 2018 Forum to seed even more!

Sparking the Deals that Matter

The 2017 Sun Valley Forum yielded an exciting partnership for community resilience when speaker Jonathan Webb, founder of AppHarvest (hightech, large-scale greenhouses) encouraged

EnerBlu (an energy storage and electric transportation company) to move its headquarters to Lexington and to build its planned manufacturing in Eastern Kentucky's coal country. In December 2017, EnerBlu and the governor of Kentucky announced this \$400 million investment and creation of 875 jobs for former coal workers. The Institute is thrilled to have facilitated this partnership.

NYC Climate Week

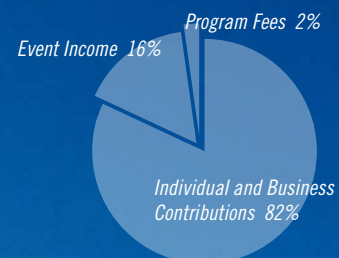
In mid-September, in support of the 2017 NYC Climate Week theme of Climate Optimism, the Institute hosted a panel and reception with government leaders, investors, businesses and technology innovators on leadership and how to accelerate our work transforming risk into opportunity. We also hosted a meeting of the US Climate Alliance with representatives of participating Governors' offices, supporting their exploration of how to scale up financing for climate solutions in clean energy and resilience, sharing strategies for public sector partnerships with private innovators and investors.



FINANCIALS

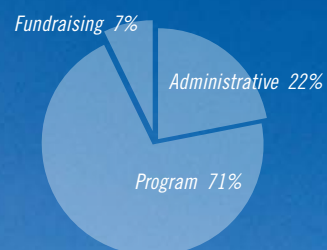
Income

Individual and Business Contributions	\$ 321,544
Event Income	\$ 61,835
Program Fees	\$ 8,222
Total Income	\$391,601



Expenses

Administrative	\$ 81,109
Program	\$266,894
Fundraising	\$ 26,463
Total Expenses	\$374,466



DONORS

\$10,001 and above

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Cypress Creek Holdings
The Springcreek Foundation/
Ali Long
Julie Ann Wrigley Foundation

\$5,001-10,000

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Joel Makower, Chairman, GreenBiz

Langely McNeal, Director of Community, Summit Series

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David Sandalow, Inaugural Fellow, Columbia University's Center on Global Energy Policy, former acting Under Secretary of Energy and Assistant Secretary of State

Larry Schoen, Blaine County Commissioner

Larry Schweiger, Former CEO, National Wildlife Federation

Jason Scott, Co-Managing Partner, Encourage Capital

Michael Shuman, Author of Local Dollars, Local Sense

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Julie Ann Wrigley, CEO, Wrigley Investments, LLC; President, Julie A. Wrigley Foundation; Co-Chair and Co-Founder, Julie A. Wrigley Global Institute of Sustainability at ASU

TEAM

Aimée Christensen, Executive Director

Energy

Katie Bray, Energy Program Director

Annie Keenan, Energy Program Coordinator

Food

Ali Long, Local Food Alliance Founder & Program Director

Stacy Whitman, Local Food Alliance Founder & Communications Manager

Amy Mattias, Local Food Alliance Food System Strategist

Operations

Erica Linson, Resilience Coordinator

Kent Lavery, Development Associate

Lauren Winslett, Operations Coordinator

Werner Morawitz, Director of Investments and Research



PO Box 5569
Ketchum, ID 83340
(208) 928-7873
inquiries@sunvalleyinstitute.org
www.sunvalleyinstitute.org