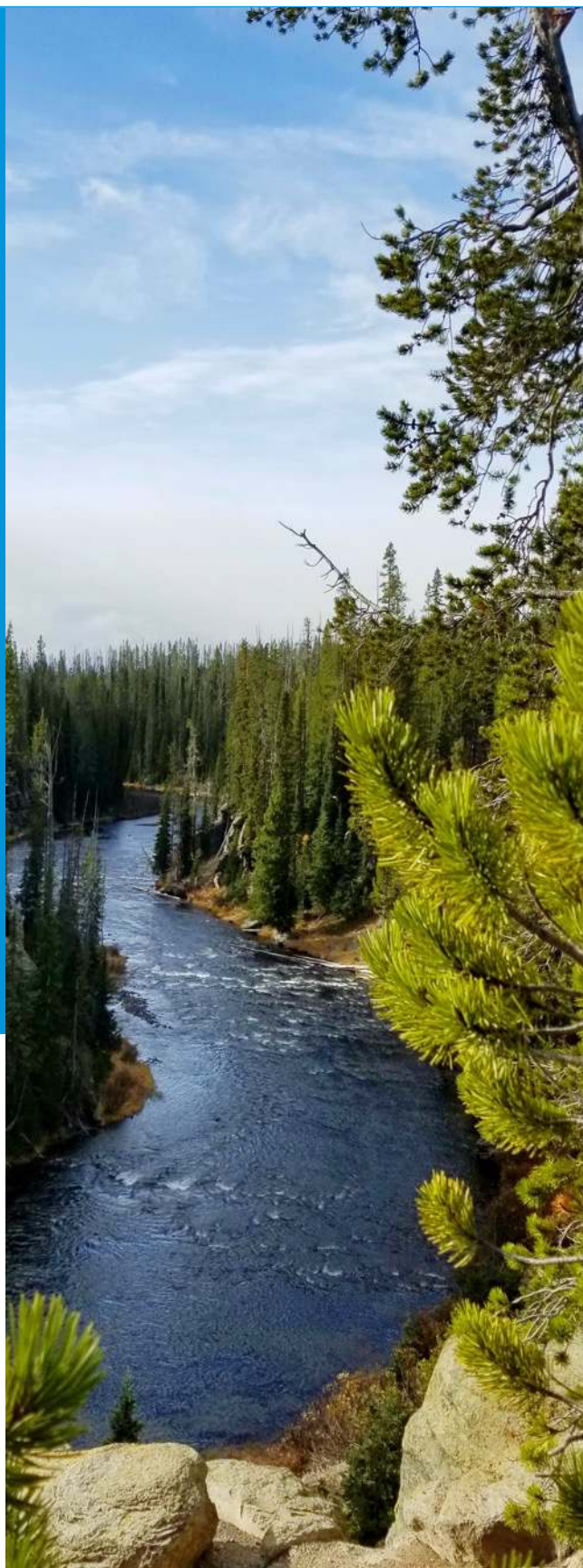


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EconomicDemocracyAdvocates.org

106 Gallows Hill Road, Cranford NJ 07016

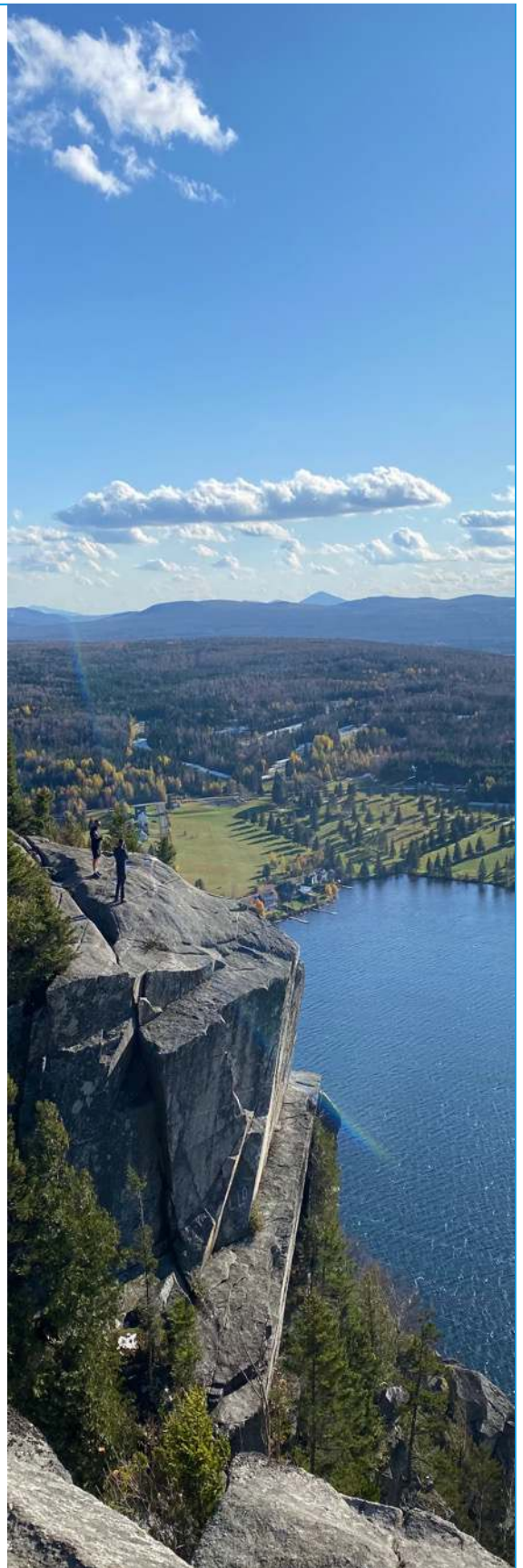


Who we are

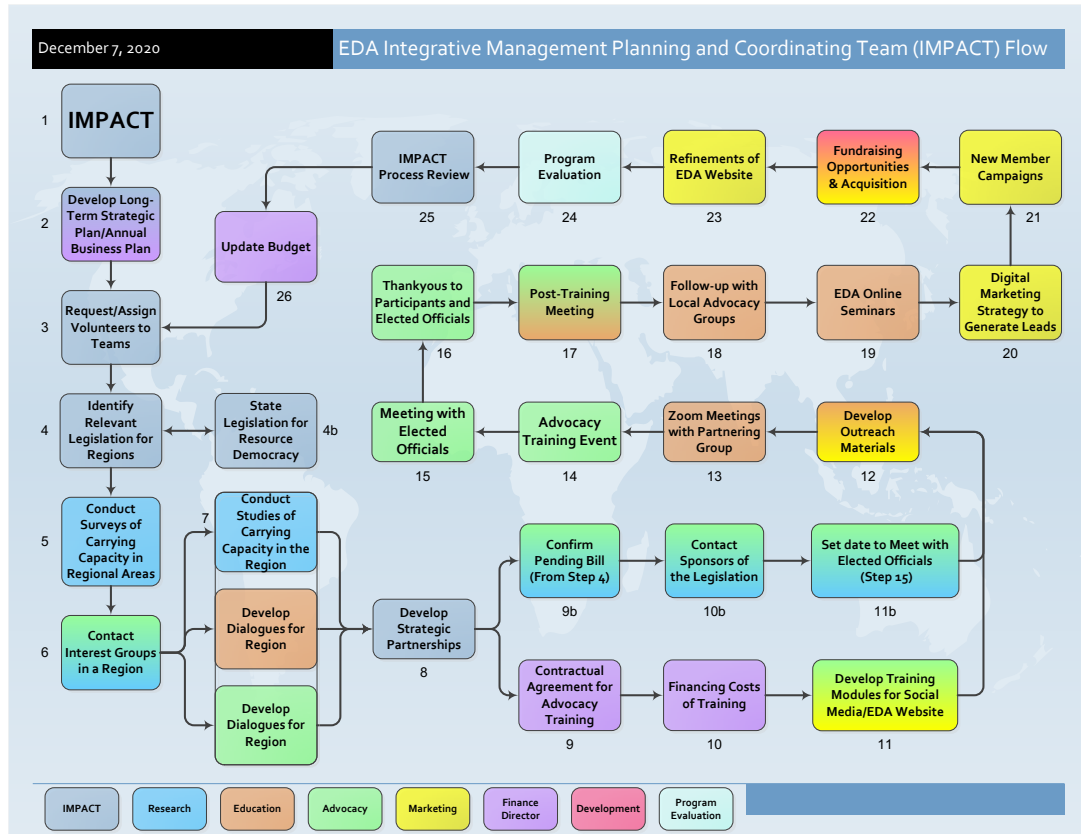
Economic Democracy Advocates was launched on January 1, 2017, to advocate for equitable and sustainable management of food, water and energy systems in the United States. We are a full-service agency providing research, education and advocacy training to link citizens with legislation and elected officials in support of economic democracy.

During the past four years, we have developed a platform to meet these objectives:

- a Cooperative Charter that provides a framework of governance for our organization
- a 501(c)(3) organization (Economic Democracy Advocates Foundation) granting educational status through which we develop research, education and marketing programs
- 501(c)4 organization (Economic Democracy Advocates) granting charitable status through which we conduct advocacy training for legislative action
- IMPACT (EDA's Integrative Management Planning and Coordination Team) forms the blueprint for our business operations



Integrative Management Planning and Coordinating Team (IMPACT)



In 2021, we will be expanding our work to arrange advocacy training and meetings with elected officials for pending legislation to help regional communities better manage their resources.

At the heart of these efforts will be a website that emphasizes community decision-making for greater equitability, resilience and cohesion within our regional communities.

This website will include State Legislation for Resource Democracy — a comprehensive educational service that reports on the most significant bills for equitable and sustainable management of food, water and energy across the United States. It will use special search, content management and outreach features that customize this information in conjunction with our data source, BillTrack50.

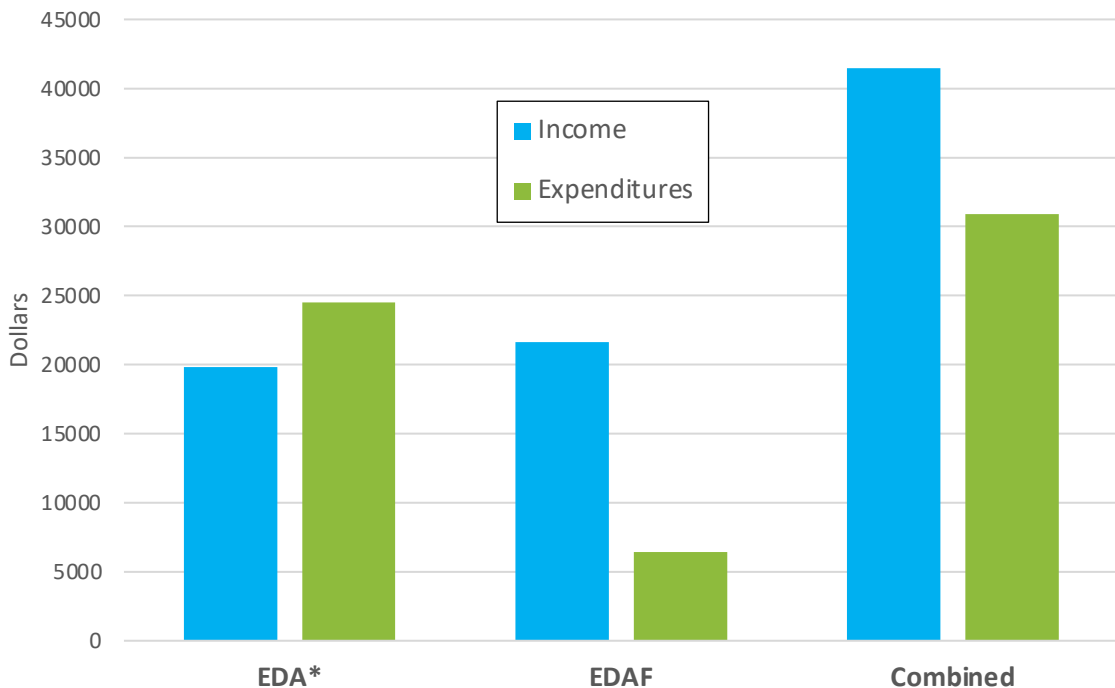
In 2021, we will expand our education, outreach and training through relationships with regional organizations, including universities, practitioners, non-profit organizations, local governments, industry and community groups. We will be applying for grants and bringing new partners into our network to:

- Practice regional cooperation through participatory decision-making
- Lobby for bioregional legislation with elected officials through representative democracy

- Educate citizens on good management of food, water, energy and other resources within the long-term capacity of their bioregions
- Promote self-sufficiency in diverse regenerative communities on a regional scale

This phase also involves converting our static data sources for carrying capacity into real-time sources of data. Eventually, we will build cloud-based software applications for the use of citizens, land planners and policy-makers in gauging the self-sufficiency of the food, water and energy of their regions.

Income & Expenditures



*Note: 2019 surplus funds were used to cover 2020 deficit

EDA is already a leader in the field of regional resource assessment. We recognize that without tools for projecting resource value into the future, there is no way of accurately determining the scope of economic development and its ecological footprint upon a region — and no way of accounting for the real value of food, water and energy other than market prices.

EDA recognizes that sustainable regional systems are capable of meeting human needs once they are measured, following the principle in molecular biology that the expression of a need triggers the distribution of the ingredients to fulfill it. Supplying resources to a cell, organ or organism at the moment of demand is how this works in the replication of DNA and within the bodies of living beings.

We believe that societies can operate in a similar way, by working collaboratively to re-connect people with their living systems and with each other through the places where they live. This is why we measure the dynamic self-sufficiency of people within their regional environments through the calibration of carrying capacity. By recognizing that community members are organisms which depend on environmental resources for their support, we can map, track and report on the metabolism of living systems.

This is who we are

...advocates for legislation in support of equitable and sustainable carrying capacity between people and their environment



Why we care

Economic Democracy Advocates recognizes that exponential economic growth has driven global resource use and population growth to unsustainable levels. Evidence that human demand has crossed the sustainability threshold of its ecosystems has been demonstrated in many studies, including the 2018 report of the *United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change* and Johann Rockström's book on planetary thresholds, *Big World, Small Planet*. It's clear that responsible safeguards for the productive capacity of Earth's resource base are critical for the long-term survival of humanity.

But economic democracy is an equally important and complex problem to solve. Inequality is already undermining social cooperation for resource production and distribution and this will increase as non-renewable resources become scarcer. Intense competition for declining resources will generate even greater levels of poverty, injustice and social and economic instability until world societies extend the meaning and practice of equality to encompass the sustainability of Earth's resources.

In a time of collapsing ecosystems and mass extinction of species, including human beings, we must set our sights on changing the rules of legislative policy. Without sustainable governance in society, nations will escalate their claims and conflicts for resources and the sustainability of our natural commons will be become even more endangered.



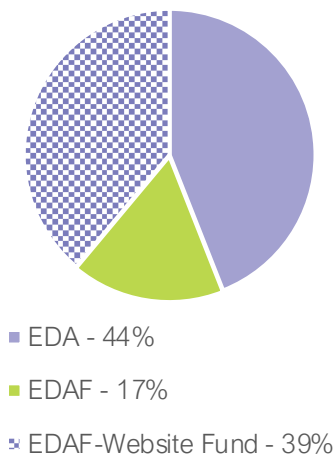
We must ensure not only that sufficient resources are distributed to everyone to alleviate the massive shortfalls that are now occurring but also recognize that sustainable equity is about safeguarding renewable and non-renewable resources for future generations.

So, EDA is focused on the regional communities that we inhabit, where we have first-hand experience and where our voices can be heard. Place-based knowledge is deeply rooted in regional culture and history, which in turn are deeply rooted in the bioregional community. Yet most regions are not organized to make participatory decisions for their own self-reliance. Modern societies neglect the skeletal supports and connective tissue that link urban and rural systems, which includes geology, topography, climate, soils, hydrology and watersheds, agriculture and flora and fauna.

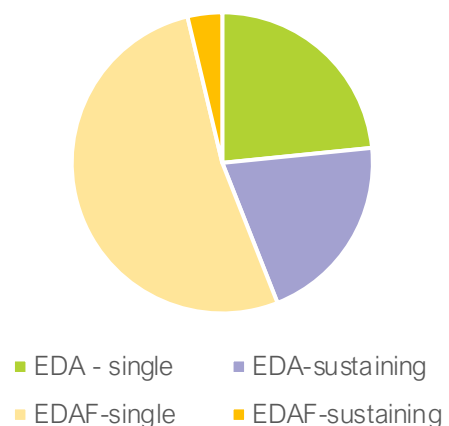
This raises some pivotal questions:

- Why aren't communities measuring the degree to which individual well-being and social equality depend upon the resilience and health of their environment?
- What is the optimal framework for creating a socially and ecologically responsible design between living organisms and their ecosystem?
- How do we build equitable and sustainable communities that express the value of our direct relationship with nature?

2020 Donations



2020 Donations by Source



All of this becomes clearer when the logistic growth of regional resource systems is assessed. This is why scientists, economists, policy makers and citizens must agree on the appropriate geographic scale for ensuring that people's baseline needs and well-being are fulfilled through the carrying capacity of their bioregion.

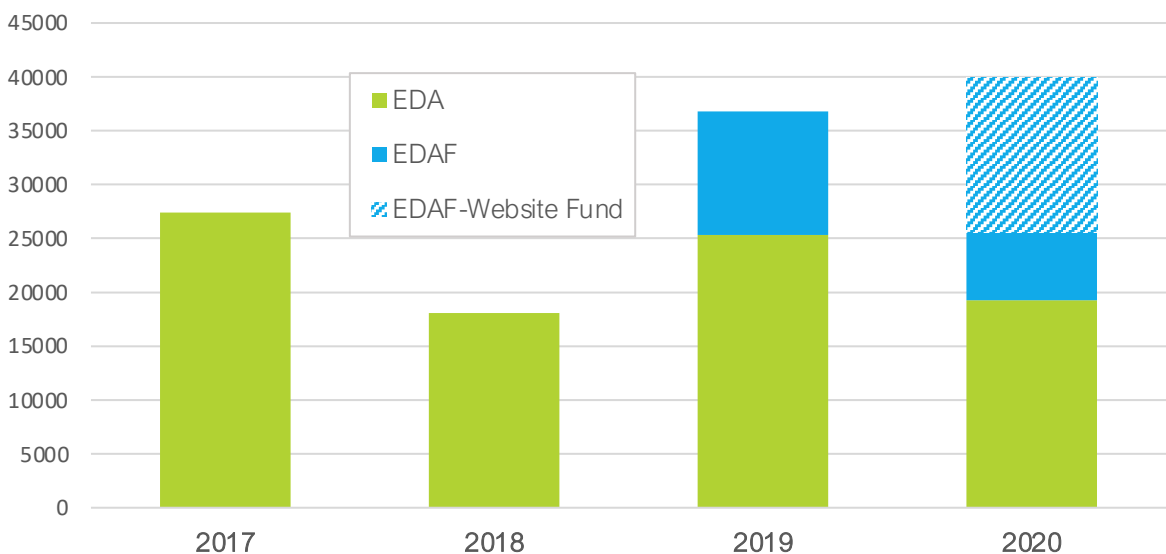
The application of self-sufficiency, distributive value and the actual meeting of human needs at the regional level is a startling recognition that we have entered a new era. The promise of bioregions in building social cohesion and collaborative interaction, restoring the health of ecosystems and strengthening regenerative economies is unlike anything we've experienced in the modern era.

Bioregions are the key to our future. A comprehensive plan for social equity in sustainable regional systems is not only a benchmark for equal resource distribution within a geographical community; it is also essential in creating intergenerational resource sufficiency across time.

This is why we care

...to work together in the production and distribution of our resources and to build the broader identity of an equitable and sustainable society.

Annual Revenues



Research

EDA's Research Team develops factual reports on carrying capacity to support the Advocacy and Education Teams in accomplishing our goals for the equitable and sustainable management of vital resources to meet human needs.

What we do

- Identify the regional opportunities or risks involved in maintaining the self-sufficiency of an area
- Measure the potential of resources available within a bioregion to meet the needs of that region's population
- Relate the computed data to State legislation that supports the public management of food, water, and/or energy

How we do it

- Develop formulas for computing self-sufficiency within different physical regions
- Perform a mathematical analysis of the time required by a region to meet sustainable goals based on their current and potential carrying capacities
- Coordinate with other EDA teams to prepare material that will be used to facilitate advocacy and education in support of specific State legislation

Why we do it

- Slow humanity's demand on nature, which is exceeding nature's capacity to supply resources
- Establish economic democracy locally and regionally
- Create equal and sustainable distribution of resources for current and future generations



Education

EDA's Education Team develops and provides information to cultivate popular understanding for the equitable and sustainable management of vital resources to meet basic human needs.

What we do

- Ensure that EDA's research results are understood across a broad audience
- Support advocacy initiatives that enable legislative action for resource democracy
- Provide education for EDA members and create materials that introduce these ideas to the general public

How we do it

- Create support materials and follow-up information for local advocacy groups
- Offer regular online seminars on resource democracy
- Develop educational materials for schools, educators, community events, partnering organizations and media

Why we do it

- Educate people on how their needs can be met equitably and sustainably
- Inspire their trust that it can be done
- Motivate people to participate in getting it done within their own communities



Advocacy

EDA's Advocacy Team supports people in becoming advocates for legislation on economic democracy, empowering them to act on behalf of their communities.

What we do

- Provide detailed advocacy training through in-person meetings and online seminars
- Help people assess their community and regional needs
- Guide them in determining if there is resource legislation in their area and help them to enlist the support of their elected representatives

How we do it

- Educate ourselves and others on the current issues and the legislative process
- Train people to communicate effectively with their elected representatives
- Provide support and follow-up to community advocates and partner with like-minded groups

Why we do it

- Initiate legislative change for a more sustainable and equitable future, beginning in each bioregion
- Reduce the current demand for resources that exceed society's capacity to replenish them
- Create equitable and sustainable distribution of resources for current and future generations



Our great hope for the future

A message from EDA President Roar Bjornnes
and Managing Director James Quilligan

Economic Democracy is an ancient concept that is now being redefined. It's a joyous yet solemn task to be advocating for legislation on resource equity and sustainability. We recognize the significance of bringing this new perspective into the social realm, expressing both an ethical and empirical vision of interdependence between people and their environment.

Social and economic inequality still undermines human cooperation for policy action that could lead to a more resilient and equitable world. As long as the individual freedom for using resources is given more weight than our collective responsibility for protecting these resources, the inequality over resource production and distribution will continue.

At this point in human history, we must bridge the dichotomy between social action and evolutionary science because both are vitally important in preserving the health of people and planet. Social struggle does not preclude rewriting the rules of our political and economic systems — it is a prerequisite for the human race in sustaining itself. This requires the biological imperative of self-organization, self-governance and self-sustainment to regenerate life and bring human societies back into balance with nature.

This is why equitable and sustainable outcomes must involve both participatory and representative forms of decision-making.

Our great hope for the future

Greater social harmony and safety can only flourish where there is community cooperation for the management of resources that is supported by legislation for renewing and restoring life-systems.

Some people have begun to realize that their own neighborhood exists within a geographical area or bioregion and that the boundaries of ecosystems are more subtle than political or economic boundaries.

Yet most regions still lack the inclusive identity of an ecological culture which is patterned and shaped by the places that people inhabit.

EDA empowers the self-sufficiency of regional communities. The culture and cooperation for this capacity-building begins with our own dedicated members. It is our vision and hard work that creates the biophysical interconnections and systems that will shift decision-making from political boundaries to natural boundaries.

Together, we can transform today's overemphasis on the self-interest for resources into a new ethic of cooperative distribution, ensuring that society and nature act in harmony as one. Together, let us restore the dream of life for our children and for future generations.

We are humbled and grateful to be serving you.



EDA Financial Documents

Independent of EDA's Finance Team and Board of Trustees, EDA members Dorothy Myers and John Lowe completed an internal audit of EDA and EDAF finances for 2020. This audit was certified by EDA Treasurer Greg Pace on February 22, 2021.

You can view the 2020 Audit Reports [here](#).

EDA Financials

- [2020](#), [2019](#), [2018](#), [2017](#)

EDAF Financials

- [2020](#), [2019](#)

IRS Documents

- EDA
 - ✓ Form 990-N
 - ✓ [2020](#)
 - ✓ [2019](#)
 - ✓ [2018](#)
 - ✓ [Notice of Intent Letter](#)
- EDAFoundation
 - ✓ Form 990-N
 - ✓ [2020](#)
 - ✓ [2019](#)
 - ✓ [IRS Determination Letter](#)





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