

Dear Friends,

Coombs Outdoors launched a new 3-5 year strategic plan this year to address responsible growth and organizational sustainability. The plan is a response to growing demand for our services and a result of thoughtful input from our board, staff, parents, and families. The plan includes an updated vision and mission statement, as well as defined program outcomes and a set of values that provide a foundation for our organizational culture.

These five new values guide our day-to-day program work, partnership development, communications with families, and the strategic decisions that we make. Our values are Belonging, Empowerment, Growth, Fun, and Adventure. Our goal is to create and implement programs that reflect these values and promote them within the Coombs community. Coombs participants learn these values in programs and can use them in other parts of their lives, including school and relationships.

This summer we checked-in with Coombs participants and staff to understand how they personally experience these values at Coombs. Hearing the impact that our programs have on participants through their own words and stories is not only inspiring, but also helps us incorporate their feedback to develop more meaningful and collaborative programs.

We are also inspired by the strong values and philanthropic spirit of the community of Jackson. Generous donations to Coombs Outdoors through Old Bill's Fun Run have made it possible for us to invite more than 350 local youth into our year-round outdoor programs in 2022. Your contribution to Coombs Outdoors this year will increase our capacity to share our values with more youth through innovative, inclusive programs that bring us closer to our vision of a community in which youth feel supported, connected, and inspired.

Thank you for supporting Coombs Outdoors!



Jenny Wolfrom Holladay
Executive Director



**Give through
Old Bill's between
Aug. 12 - Sept. 16**

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**WE HOPE YOU'LL JOIN US IN
CELEBRATING OUR 10TH YEAR
ANNIVERSARY WITH A GIFT
THROUGH OLD BILL'S THIS SEASON!**



Coombs Outdoors
PO Box 7665
Jackson, WY 83002



**COOMBS
OUTDOORS**
ACTIVATE. ENGAGE. EMPOWER.



CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF Community





BELONGING

We are committed to strengthening feelings of belonging for our youth. Feeling connected to the Coombs community and the greater community of Jackson Hole can improve their motivation, mental and physical health, and overall happiness.

“Belonging means being part of something, sticking with something. It means they’re your family, and you belong there. I felt a sense of belonging when I went backpacking with Coombs and I dropped my pancake on the floor. I felt really guilty, but everyone was there for me. They cared for me and reassured me, and that really made me feel warm.”

- Mia, 12, Coombs Outdoors Engage Participant



GROWTH

We provide a safe, supportive space and transformative outdoor experiences where youth can challenge themselves, develop new skills, and overcome doubt.

“Growth is learning from your own mistakes and taking into account why things happen. I am growing a lot with Coombs in a leadership position with the kids because I am learning the balance between letting them have fun and keeping them safe. It’s been great to go from being a participant myself and doing all the activities that I wasn’t able to do, and now to be an instructor to the next generation. I’m looking forward to becoming a more independent instructor and relying on myself instead of others.”

- Manny, 18, Coombs Summer Instructor



ADVENTURE

Coombs creates and facilitates adventures large and small. Adventure creates tolerance for adversity and helps youth build resilience through new and unique experiences.

“Adventure means being excited for anything that happens. I had an adventure when we went hiking in the Tetons, it was so fun. My favorite part was going swimming. I’m excited to keep going to Coombs camps because they are always a big, surprise adventure.” - James, 10, Coombs Outdoors Activate Participant

EMPOWERMENT

Our goal is to inspire youth in their daily lives. We believe our programs are opportunities to gain confidence and independence through active participation and mentorship.

“Empowerment means that I have power and control over what I’m doing. I gain some new knowledge or learn something new. In the Empower Internship program I get to learn more about the behind the scenes and process of everything. I feel most empowered when I’m skiing with Coombs. Because I’ve done it since I was 8, it’s the one thing that I actually know a lot about.”

- Jasmin, 17, Coombs Empower Intern



FUN

Local youth face many challenges in their everyday lives. Our programs provide a break from stress caused by school, family, and screen time. Prioritizing fun creates strong social bonds and memorable experiences, boosts energy and productivity, and keeps kids returning to our programs.

“The memory I have of fun is going hiking for the first time when I was in kindergarten with one of my friends from Coombs. This year I had fun when I swam at Astoria and skied fast. I’m looking forward to meeting other new friends and getting better and swimming.”

- Annie, 10, Coombs Outdoors Activate Participant



Celebrating 10 Years of Success with a \$1 Million Challenge!

A group of generous donors has come together to celebrate Coombs Outdoors’ 10-year milestone with a 3-year, \$1 Million fundraising challenge intended to build consistent annual operating support that will provide the financial resources necessary to build capacity towards developing more programs that serve a greater number of youth in the community.

For the next 3 years, all gifts up to \$333k per year from new and existing donors will be matched dollar-for-dollar through the challenge as well as multi-year pledges to support Coombs Outdoors.

Help us secure our funding challenge by donating today!

