

Annual Report 2021

Chairman's Message

I'd like to introduce myself: My name is Devon Vallies and I took over as chairman of the Weather Discovery Center board of directors in September. Jim Cassidy, chairman for 10 years, remains on the board.

I'm happy that my first message for the annual report is a positive one. After coming through 2020 still intact, 2021 showed us there was light at the end of the tunnel. We received assistance from a second Paycheck Protection Program grant, which helped protect our finances. While our admission numbers were still down, in large part because our school field trips did not resume, our door swings were up over the previous year. (It doesn't show this on our 2020 vs. 2021 admissions chart comparison on the back of this report because in 2020, prior to the COVID-19 shut-downs, Groundhog Day was held on a Sunday which resulted in large admission numbers in February.)

We continue to make improvements in both our operations and our exhibits. Thanks to the Glenn and Ruth Mengle Foundation, we were able to acquire new laptop computers for our theater (to use with our Smart-board) and for our Director of Education. In October, we took delivery of four traveling exhibits designed and built by Carnegie Science Center. The exhibits are intended to be used for our outreach programs, but we are also using them in-house both on the exhibit floor and with select school visits. The exhibits were also funded by the Mengle Foundation with assistance from the Great Outdoors Visitors Bureau as a Jefferson County Hotel Tax Project.

As I write this message in February of 2022, we are beginning to get calls from schools to schedule field trips for the spring. Now more than ever, students need the type of educational experience that institutions like ours can provide, and we are elated that we are still here and able to offer just such an experience.

Devon D Vallies



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Punxsutawney, PA 15767

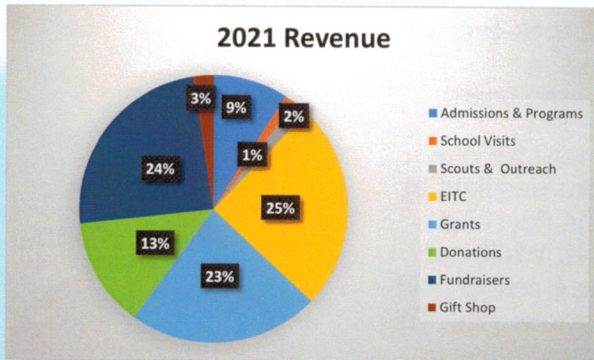


New Sunday Hours and New Traveling Exhibits

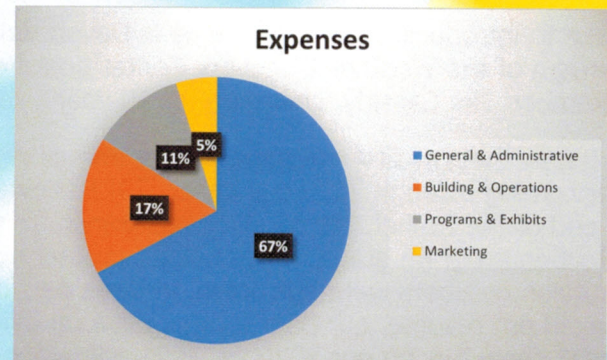
Throughout 2020 and 2021, the board of directors has adjusted the hours of the Weather Discovery Center based on the status of COVID-19 in our region. From January through April, Fridays and Saturdays were the only days it was open. Beginning in May, Thursdays and Sundays were added. Being open on Sunday was a first for the Weather Discovery Center. The board made the decision to coordinate hours with the Gobblers Knob Visitors Center and Punxsutawney Phil's Souvenir Shop, both of which are open on Sunday. Finally in July, as it seemed the virus was abating a bit, Monday was added to the schedule and it has remained unchanged since then.

In October, the design team from Carnegie Science Center delivered four new traveling exhibits: *Hot Hands*, *Hurricane Disc*, *Cloud in a Bottle*, and *Heat Map*. The exhibits are housed in sturdy "field kit" style carrying boxes making them easy to transport to schools and other outreach locations, including festivals. The exhibits are also being used for selected field trips and can be placed on the exhibit floor for visitors.

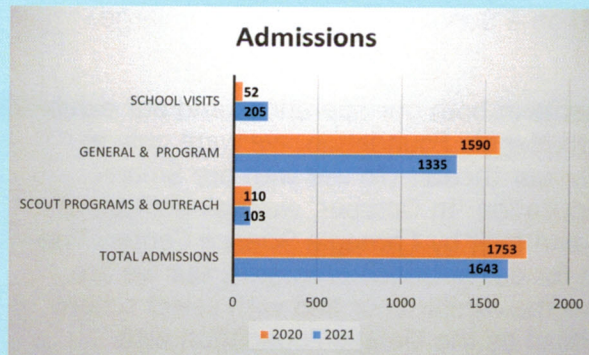
Punxsutawney Weather Discovery Center 2021 Finances & Admission Data



Total—\$101,039



Total- \$72,551



Punxsutawney Weather Center, Inc is a 501(c)(3) public non-profit charitable organization. Our tax ID number is 25-1888172.

2021

Board of Directors & Staff

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 April Astorino, Director of
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 SBA Paycheck Protection Program

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*This is just a partial list of 2021 donors due to space limitations.
 We are grateful for every contribution we receive!*