

**Audited Financial Statements
and Supplementary Information**

THE MOUNTAIN INSTITUTE

September 30, 2014

The Mountain Institute

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T A T E



T R Y O N

A Professional Corporation

Certified Public

Accountants

and Consultants

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements

To the Board of Trustees
The Mountain Institute

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of The Mountain Institute (the Institute), which comprise the statement of financial position as of September 30, 2014, and the related statements of activities, functional expense, and cash flows for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of The Mountain Institute as of September 30, 2014, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

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Change in Accounting Policy

As discussed in Note N to the financial statements, during the year ended September 30, 2014, the Institute changed its accounting policy related to the recording of revenue related to certain cost-reimbursable grants. As a result, the net assets balance as of October 1, 2013 has been restated from what was previously presented. Our opinion is not modified with respect to that matter.

Tate & Tryon

Washington, DC
January 27, 2015

The Mountain Institute

Statement of Financial Position September 30, 2014

Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 118,112
Grants and contributions receivable	149,537
Accounts and other receivables	145,382
Prepaid expenses	13,339
Investments	113,235
Endowment investments	387,312
Property and equipment, net	331,845
Total assets	\$ 1,258,762

Liabilities and Net Assets	
Liabilities	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 161,789
Deferred revenue	339,863
Lines of credit	593,500
Total liabilities	1,095,152
Net assets	
Unrestricted	(651,290)
Temporarily restricted	427,588
Permanently restricted	387,312
Total net assets	163,610
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 1,258,762

The Mountain Institute

Statement of Activities Year Ended September 30, 2014

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
Revenue and support				
Grants and contributions:				
Government grants	\$ -	\$ 646,554	\$ -	\$ 646,554
Multilateral organizations	-	583,624	-	583,624
Private foundations	-	269,474	-	269,474
Other organizations	14,275	145,477	-	159,752
Consultants and contracts	500,608	-	-	500,608
Tuition and fees	335,597	330	-	335,927
Individual donations	272,553	37,430	-	309,983
Other income	26,839	8,347	-	35,186
Investment income	447	9,021	-	9,468
	1,150,319	1,700,257	-	2,850,576
Net assets released from restriction	1,702,874	(1,702,874)	-	-
Total revenue and support	2,853,193	(2,617)	-	2,850,576
Expense				
Program services				
South America	957,974	-	-	957,974
North America	689,416	-	-	689,416
Global	421,149	-	-	421,149
Asia	233,297	-	-	233,297
Total program services	2,301,836	-	-	2,301,836
Supporting services				
Management and general	452,841	-	-	452,841
Development and fundraising	58,404	-	-	58,404
Total supporting services	511,245	-	-	511,245
Total expense	2,813,081	-	-	2,813,081
Change in net assets	40,112	(2,617)	-	37,495
Net assets, beginning of year - as restated	(691,402)	430,205	387,312	126,115
Net assets, end of year	\$ (651,290)	\$ 427,588	\$ 387,312	\$ 163,610

See notes to the financial statements.

The Mountain Institute

Statement of Functional Expense Year Ended September 30, 2014

	Program Services					Supporting Services		
	North America	Asia	South America	Global	Total Programs	Management and General	Development and Fundraising	Total
Salaries and benefits	\$ 287,011	\$ 46,945	\$ 224,513	\$ 171,629	\$ 730,098	\$ 246,477	\$ 35,572	\$ 1,012,147
Consultants and contractors	124,449	9,794	255,780	117,600	507,623	(9,400)	1,034	499,257
Subgrants	-	56,047	107,458	-	163,505	-	-	163,505
Fringe benefits	61,693	12,108	33,717	46,918	154,436	72,413	10,487	237,336
Program supplies	90,255	25,484	65,531	10,972	192,242	1,281	-	193,523
Travel	57,154	34,132	44,654	26,725	162,665	11,507	7,945	182,117
Equipment and software	19,900	10,486	57,087	20,723	108,196	8,368	2,329	118,893
Training and workshops	(401)	5,545	84,200	11,342	100,686	-	40	100,726
Facilities and equipment rentals	-	4,599	42,390	5,989	52,978	24,000	-	76,978
Legal, audit and accounting	5,300	-	-	-	5,300	41,591	-	46,891
Postage and shipping	845	995	1,215	59	3,114	411	671	4,196
Interest and bank fees	347	292	3,490	275	4,404	30,142	109	34,655
Telecommunication	7,355	1,270	5,445	3,011	17,081	5,641	-	22,722
Taxes, licenses and insurance	1,114	210	2,959	819	5,102	16,853	-	21,955
Utilities	15,812	947	604	975	18,338	35	-	18,373
Office supplies	(1,079)	6,335	7,524	1,573	14,353	2,661	4	17,018
Printing and publications	6,168	898	4,836	2,050	13,952	780	213	14,945
Depreciation	8,706	-	-	-	8,706	-	-	8,706
Miscellaneous	4,787	(4,411)	1,827	489	2,692	81	-	2,773
Currency losses (gains)	-	21,621	14,744	-	36,365	-	-	36,365
Total direct expenses								
per statement of activities	689,416	233,297	957,974	421,149	2,301,836	452,841	58,404	2,813,081
Allocated indirect expenses	128,233	45,885	184,494	82,741	441,353	(452,841)	11,488	-
Total fully allocated expenses	\$ 817,649	\$ 279,182	\$ 1,142,468	\$ 503,890	\$2,743,189	\$ -	\$ 69,892	\$ 2,813,081

See notes to the financial statements.

The Mountain Institute

Statement of Cash Flows Year Ended September 30, 2014

Cash flows from operating activities		
Change in net assets	\$	37,495
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash flows used in operating activities:		
Depreciation		8,706
Donated securities		(547)
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Grants and contributions receivable		(5,329)
Accounts and other receivables		(30,667)
Prepaid expenses		(10,137)
Accounts payable and accrued expenses		45,807
Deferred revenue		(197,389)
Total adjustments		(189,556)
Net cash used in operating activities		(152,061)
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchases of property and equipment		(10,000)
Net cash used in investing activities		(10,000)
Cash flows from financing activities		
Principal payments on line of credit		(4,500)
Net cash used in financing activities		(4,500)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents		(166,561)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year		284,673
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$	118,112
Supplemental Disclosure of Cash Flow Information:		
Cash paid during the year for interest	\$	20,487
Supplemental Schedule of Noncash Investing Activities:		
Donated securities	\$	547

The Mountain Institute

Notes to the Financial Statements

A. ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Organization: The Mountain Institute (the Institute) is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to advance mountain communities and preserve mountain environments. Founded in 1972, the Institute is headquartered in Washington, DC, and has offices and community-based programs in the Andean, Appalachian, and Himalayan mountain ranges. By prioritizing sustainable mountain development, the Institute partners with local people to strengthen their communities and to conserve their natural resources and cultural heritage.

The Institute's objectives are to:

- Conserve high-priority mountain ecosystems,
- Improve mountain livelihoods,
- Support mountain cultures and,
- Promote the well-being of mountain people through advocacy, education and outreach.

Basis of accounting: The accompanying financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting. Consequently, revenue is recognized when earned and expense when the obligation is incurred.

Use of estimates: The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Actual results could differ from estimates.

Income taxes: The Institute is exempt from the payment of income taxes on its exempt activities under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC). The Institute is not considered to be a private foundation, as it meets the requirements of a publicly supported organization as defined in IRC Section 509(a)(1).

The Institute believes that it has appropriate support for any tax positions taken, and therefore, does not have any uncertain tax positions that are material to the financial statements. The Institute's income tax returns are generally subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service and state and local taxing authorities for three years after they were filed.

Cash and cash equivalents: For financial statement purposes, the Institute considers highly liquid, short-term instruments with original maturities of three months or less to be cash and cash equivalents.

Investments: Investments consist of certificates of deposit and donated stock.

Grants, contributions, and accounts receivable: Grants, contributions, and accounts receivable represent amounts due from individual donors, foundations, federal agencies, and foreign governments. All amounts are due within one year and are considered fully collectible.

Property and equipment: The Institute capitalizes all non-grant purchases of property and equipment in excess of \$5,000. Expenditures for major repairs and improvements are capitalized; expenditures for minor repairs and maintenance costs are expensed as incurred. Upon the retirement or disposal of assets, the cost and accumulated depreciation is eliminated from the appropriate accounts and the resulting gain or loss, if any, is included in revenue and support or expenses.

The Mountain Institute

Notes to the Financial Statements

A. ORGANIZATION AND SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – CONTINUED

Revenue recognition: The Institute reports gifts, contributions, and grants of cash and other assets as temporarily restricted support if they are received with donor stipulations that limit the use of donated assets. When a donor restriction expires, that is, when a stipulated time restriction ends or purpose restriction is accomplished, temporarily restricted net assets are reclassified to unrestricted net assets and reported on the accompanying statement of activities as net assets released from restrictions.

Amounts earned under cost-reimbursable grants are recognized as revenue as the related expenditures are incurred. Costs incurred in excess of cash received are included in accounts receivable while cash received in advance of expenditures incurred are recorded as deferred revenue in the accompanying statement of financial position.

Unrestricted contributions are reported as revenue and support in the year in which the payments are received and/or unconditional promises are made.

Net assets: Net assets are classified as unrestricted, temporarily restricted, or permanently restricted. A description of each net asset group is as follows:

Unrestricted: Unrestricted net assets represent the portion of expendable funds that are available for support of the Institute's operations.

Temporarily restricted net assets: Temporarily restricted net assets are comprised of amounts specifically restricted by donors or grantors to be used for specific programs.

Permanently restricted net assets: Permanently restricted net assets are comprised of contributions received from donors who have specified that the corpus of their original and certain subsequent gifts be maintained in perpetuity.

Functional allocation of expenses: The costs of providing various program and supporting services have been summarized on a functional basis in the statements of activities. Accordingly, certain costs have been allocated among the program and supporting services benefited.

Subsequent events: Subsequent events have been evaluated through January 27, 2015, which was the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

B. CONCENTRATIONS OF RISK

Credit risk: The Institute's cash is held in accounts at various financial institutions that, at times, may exceed the amount guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and, therefore bear some risk. The uninsured portions of cash and money market accounts are backed solely by the assets of the underlying institution. As such, the failure of an underlying institution could result in financial loss to the Institute.

The Mountain Institute

Notes to the Financial Statements

C. INVESTMENTS

Accounting standards use the following prioritized input levels to measure fair value. The input levels used for valuing investments are not necessarily an indication of risk.

Level 1 – Observable inputs that reflect quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets, such as stock quotes;

Level 2 – Includes inputs other than level 1 inputs that are directly or indirectly observable in the marketplace, such as yield curves or other market data;

Level 3 – Unobservable inputs, which reflect the reporting entity's assessment of the assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability, including assumptions about risk such as bid/ask spreads and liquidity discounts.

Investments are recorded at fair value on a recurring basis and consisted of the following at September 30, 2014:

	Total	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Certificates of deposit	\$ 500,000	\$ -	\$ 500,000	\$ -
Stock	547	547	-	-
Total	\$ 500,547	\$ 547	\$ 500,000	\$ -

The Institute's certificates of deposit are carried at their face value. Management believes that the face value of the certificates of deposit approximates the fair value of these instruments.

D. CONDITIONAL PROMISES TO GIVE

The Institute has received grant commitments from the U.S. Federal government. These grants are cost-reimbursable in nature. As such, the Institute accounts for these grant commitments as conditional promises to give. Thus, a receivable related to these grants is only recognized as the Institute incurs grant-related expenses. Total unearned conditional grant commitments as of September 30, 2014 approximated \$2,575,000.

The Mountain Institute

Notes to the Financial Statements

E. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Property and equipment are recorded at cost and are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the following estimated useful lives:

Building and improvements	10-25 years
Furniture and equipment	3-5 years
Vehicles	4 years

Property and equipment consists of the following at September 30, 2014:

Building and improvements	\$	415,597
Land		268,828
Vehicles		31,698
Furniture and equipment		<u>11,350</u>
		727,473
Less accumulated depreciation		<u>(395,628)</u>
Property and equipment, net	\$	<u>331,845</u>

F. LINE OF CREDIT

The Institute has entered into a \$500,000 line of credit agreement with a bank. Amounts drawn on the line bear interest at a fixed rate of 3.15%. The line of credit is collateralized by the Institute's certificates of deposit held at the same bank. The amount drawn and outstanding on the line is \$498,000 at September 30, 2014, which is payable in full on February 28, 2015.

The Institute established a second line of credit at the same bank for \$100,000. Amounts drawn on this line of credit bear interest at the bank's prime rate plus 0.5% but no lower than 4.75%. The second line of credit is secured by the Institute's grants receivable. The amount drawn and outstanding on the line is \$95,500 at September 30, 2014, which is payable in full in February 2016.

G. TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

Temporarily restricted net assets consist of the following at September 30, 2014:

North America	\$	273,891
Global		131,991
South America		<u>21,706</u>
	\$	<u>427,588</u>

The Mountain Institute

Notes to the Financial Statements

H. ENDOWMENT FUND

The Institute has a donor-restricted endowment fund established for the purpose of generating earnings to support an educational program in West Virginia. As required by generally accepted accounting principles, net assets associated with permanently restricted net assets are classified and reported based on the existence or absence of donor-imposed restrictions.

Interpretation of Relevant law: The Board of Trustees of the Institute has interpreted the West Virginia Uniform Prudent Management of Institutional Funds Act (UPMIFA) as requiring the preservation of the fair value of the original gift as of the gift date of the donor-restricted endowment funds, absent explicit donor stipulations to the contrary. As a result of this interpretation, the Institute classifies as permanently restricted net assets the original value of gifts donated to the permanent endowment and the original value of subsequent gifts to the permanent endowment. Investment returns on permanently restricted endowments are classified in accordance with donor specifications. When no specifications are outlined by the donor, investment earnings are classified as temporarily restricted net assets until those amounts are appropriated for expenditure by the Institute in a manner consistent with the standard of prudence prescribed by UPMIFA.

Funds with deficiencies: From time to time, the fair value of assets associated with individual endowment funds may fall below the fair value of the original gift(s). Deficiencies of this nature are reported as part of unrestricted net assets.

Return objectives and risk parameters: The Institute has adopted investment and spending policies for endowment assets that attempt to provide a predictable stream of funding to programs supported by its endowment while seeking to maintain the purchasing power of the endowment assets. Endowment assets include those assets of donor-restricted funds that the Institute must hold in perpetuity. Under this policy, as approved by the Board of Trustees, the endowment assets are invested in funds to achieve growth in principal value and income over time sufficient to preserve or increase the purchasing power of the funds, thus protecting the funds against inflation. Actual returns in any given year may vary.

Strategies employed for achieving objectives: To satisfy its long-term rate of return objectives, the Institute relies on a total return strategy in which investment returns can be achieved through both capital appreciation (realized and unrealized) and current yield (interest and dividends). The Institute targets a conservative asset allocation, which is reviewed as necessary by the Board of Trustees.

Changes in endowment net assets consist of the following for the year ended September 30, 2014:

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Total
Endowment net assets, beginning of year	\$ -	\$ 269,669	\$ 387,312	\$ 656,981
Investment income	-	9,021	-	9,021
Appropriation of endowment assets for expenditure	-	-	-	-
Endowment net assets, end of year	\$ -	\$ 278,690	\$ 387,312	\$ 666,002

The Mountain Institute

Notes to the Financial Statements

I. RETIREMENT PLAN

The Institute maintains a defined contribution retirement plan pursuant to Section 403(b) of the Internal Revenue Code for all employees who work at least 30 hours per week. The Institute makes annual discretionary contributions to the plan based on a percentage of each participant's salary when funds are available. This percentage is determined annually by the Board of Trustees. There were no pension contributions to the plan for the year ended September 30, 2014.

J. OFFICE LEASE

The Institute leases office space in Washington, DC on a month-to-month basis. Rent expense for the year ending September 30, 2014 was \$17,088.

K. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Office of Management and Budget Circular A-133: The Institute has instructed its independent auditors to audit its applicable federal programs for the year ended September 30, 2014, in compliance with Circular A-133 issued by the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB). Until such audit is reviewed and accepted by the contracting or granting agencies, there exists a contingent liability to refund any amounts received in excess of allowable costs. Management believes that any matters arising from the reviews by the agencies of the independent auditor's reports for fiscal year 2014 will not have a material effect on the Institute's financial position as of September 30, 2014, or its results of operations for the year then ended.

Provisional indirect cost rates: Billings under cost-reimbursable government contracts and grants are calculated using provisional rates that permit recovery of indirect costs. These rates are subject to audit by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the Institute's cognizant agency. The audit results in the negotiation and determination of the final indirect cost rates, which may create availability for indirect cost recovery for amounts billed in excess for the actual rates, or may allow for additional billings for unbilled indirect costs.

USAID audits costs related to the U.S. government contracts and grants, in accordance with Circular A-122 issued by the OMB. USAID has yet to audit the costs and indirect cost rates for the year ended September 30, 2014. Management believes that cost disallowances, if any, arising from USAID's audit for September 30, 2014 will not have a material effect on the Institute's financial position as of September 30, 2014, or its results of operations for the year then ended.

L. FOREIGN OPERATIONS

The Institute has field offices in various foreign countries to implement grants received from the U.S. federal government, foreign governments, private foundations and other types of organizations in support of the Institute's public purpose. The future results of these programs could be adversely affected by a number of potential factors, such as currency devaluations or changes in the political climate. The Institute had cash in these foreign countries totaling approximately \$13,000 which represents approximately 1% of the Institute's total assets as of September 30, 2014.

The Mountain Institute

Notes to the Financial Statements

M. MANAGEMENT'S PLAN

During fiscal year 2014, The Mountain Institute's Board of Trustees and Management have continued to focus on strengthening the organization's financial position and reinforcing its overall operations in order to ensure its long-term wellbeing, viability, and mission-oriented impact. More specifically, during fiscal year 2014, the organization made important strides in the following areas:

- The organization has made great progress in expanding and diversifying its Board of Trustees. During fiscal year 2014, a total of eight new trustees joined The Board of Trustees, while three rotated off the Board due to term limits imposed by the by-laws. The new trustees have diverse and varied backgrounds and bring valuable skills to better enable the Board of Trustees to oversee and support the organization's mission of advancing and preserving mountain communities, cultures, and environments. The Mountain Institute will continue to build on this progress as it looks to further expand its Board during fiscal year 2015.
- During fiscal year 2014, The Mountain Institute hired new directors of its Himalayan and Appalachian Programs. The Himalayan Program Director is based in Kathmandu, Nepal and has a demonstrated professional commitment to alleviating poverty, focusing on issues of social justice and equality. The Appalachian Program Director, based in West Virginia, brings a wealth of education experience to her position, and is passionate about the role schools can play in building communities.
- In addition to the new Program Directors hired during fiscal year 2014, The Mountain Institute also hired a new Director of Development in late fiscal year 2014. This new position will help focus and coordinate the organization's fundraising efforts in a more systematic, targeted way, enabling The Mountain Institute to continue to expand its support of mountain communities.
- Recognizing the need to address the organization's negative unrestricted net asset position, Management has taken aggressive strides to reduce unrestricted spending while, at the same time, focusing on both increased unrestricted giving and improved profitability of the organization's Spruce Knob Mountain Center. These efforts have resulted in an improved unrestricted net asset position during fiscal year 2014 and the organization will continue this focus during fiscal year 2015.

Looking forward to fiscal year 2015, the organization plans to continue to build on the progress made during fiscal year 2014, focusing on expanding its support of communities, cultures, and conservation efforts in mountains around the world.

The Mountain Institute

Notes to the Financial Statements

N. RESTATEMENT OF PRIOR YEAR FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

During the year ended September 30, 2014, the Institute changed its policy for accounting for cost-reimbursable promises to give. Previously, the Institute recognized revenue, along with a corresponding receivable, for funding deemed to be "obligated" by the awarding agency. However, in order to more clearly reflect the cost-reimbursable nature of these arrangements, the Institute has elected to account for them as conditional promises to give as of and for the year ended September 30, 2014. As a result, the Institute will only recognize revenue under these arrangements as the related costs are incurred. Thus, the net assets balances as of October 1, 2013 have been restated in order to reflect the impact of this change in accounting policy. In conjunction with this change in accounting policy, the Institute also concluded that certain older funds were more appropriately presented as unrestricted net assets as of October 1, 2013.

The impact of the restatement is as follows:

	<u>Unrestricted</u>	<u>Temporarily Restricted</u>	<u>Permanently Restricted</u>	<u>Total</u>
Net assets at October 1, 2013, as originally presented	\$ (793,605)	\$ 2,577,094	\$ 387,312	\$ 2,170,801
Reclassification of fund balances	51,506	(51,506)	-	-
Restatement of grant revenue	<u>50,697</u>	<u>(2,095,383)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,044,686)</u>
Net assets at October 1, 2013, as restated	<u>\$ (691,402)</u>	<u>\$ 430,205</u>	<u>\$ 387,312</u>	<u>\$ 126,115</u>