

Beech Creek Annual Report FY-2023

BOTANICAL GARDEN & NATURE PRESERVE

We imagine a world where everyone has the ability to connect with nature. A world where exploring outside is fun and inspires a desire to make choices to help protect it. A world where everyone knows that time spent in nature improves their physical and mental health. This is the vision of Beech Creek Botanical Garden & Nature Preserve. At a time when so much seems overwhelming in the world, our 181-acres of green space is a sanctuary where you can find recreation, education, adventure, curiosity, and peace.

This vision is a reality only because of you. We are so grateful to all of the donors and volunteers who have helped Beech Creek Gardens to be a haven for Northeast Ohio. Your assistance allows us to offer quality programs, maintain and improve our nature trails, create engaging exhibits, teach thousands of youth each year about the environment, preserve a beautiful and diverse piece of land, protect our wildlife and their habitats and provide meaningful outdoor experiences which improves one's quality of life and inspires preservation of our natural world.

Impact Highlights

- 34,720 Visitors Explored our Gardens, Trails & Exhibits
- 2,753 Students Educated on School Field Trips
- 4,227 Butterflies Raised
- 91 Kids Experienced Summer Day Camp
- 171 Programs Offered
- 37 Workshops Taught



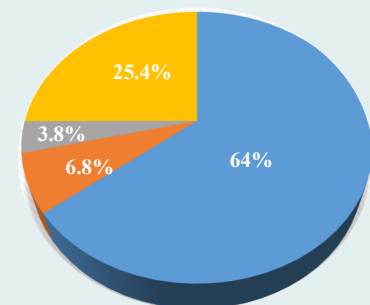
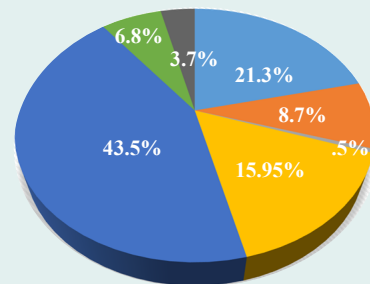
2023 Fiscal Report

Revenue

Memorial Contributions	\$ 2,795.00	.5%
Facility Rental	\$ 20,324.00	3.7%
Gift Shop & Plant Sales	\$ 36,137.00	6.8%
Donations	\$ 46,773.00	8.7%
Program Support	\$ 87,077.00	15.95%
Memberships	\$ 116,723.00	21.3%
Admissions	\$ 238,956.00	43.5%
Total	\$548,785.00	100%

Expenses

Fundraising	\$ 20,523.00	3.8%
Administration	\$ 37,354.00	6.8%
Property Costs	\$135,997.00	25.4%
Program Services	\$349,457.00	64%
Total	\$543,331.00	100%



We Are Focused & Committed
to educate and inspire people to better their lives by celebrating and protecting the living world around them.

Projects & Grants Completed

7-Passenger ADA Accessible Golf Cart

Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation: Accessibility for everyone is very important to us. We are committed to finding and implementing modifications to ensure all visitors with accessibility limitations have access to our exhibits, gardens, attractions, facilities, and trails. Thanks to the Reeve foundation we are now able to offer improved accessibility!



Pond Restoration

Herbert W. Hoover Foundation: In addition to restoring the pond, this program is teaching 1,200+ middle & high school students through the study of the actual restoration of a freshwater pond ecosystem from initial planning stage to the final restoration of the pond. Our goal is not only to restore the pond but to also educate and inspire students & thousands of people of all ages that with proper intervening we can reverse our negative impact and create positive outcomes.



Chad's Way Nature Trail & Boardwalk

53 Accessible Alliance w/Greater Alliance Foundation: Chad McClung loved spending time in nature, sadly he lost his life this past year due to ALS a paralyzing disease. To celebrate his life, his wife Heidi McClung began a journey to improve hiking trails, making nature accessible not only for Chad but for thousands of others living with mobility disabilities now and into the future. Thanks to Chad & Heidi, Beech Creek Gardens now has nearly a half-mile of wheelchair accessible nature trail. Chad's Way now opens the door for thousands of people living with paralysis & mobility restrictions along with their families and caregivers to be able to have a beautiful place to explore, experience and spend time connecting with the natural world.



Storybook Nature Trail ~ Rory: An Orca's Quest for The Northern Lights

1st Energy Foundation: This grant funded a new storybook trail about Rory, an Orca whale, and his friends. It teaches the importance of preserving our environment for wildlife to have adequate habitats. It teaches about one of nature's greatest light phenomenon. Enjoying this storybook trail encourages reading & literacy. And our hope is that it will also inspire you to follow your dreams!



Projects & Grants In-progress

Woven ~ Outdoor Art Museum

Visit Canton's Cultural Tourism Grant: We believe that a connection between art & nature is undeniable, this interactive exhibit will highlight that connection & inspire people to appreciate the beauty of the earth's naturally designed works of art. It is designed for visitors to not only observe and learn but also to express themselves by creating their own art, offering a unique interactive experience for people of all ages. Using weaving, we are teaching history, architecture, culture, and art. We are helping people to see how we are all interconnected with nature, how we are all interconnected with each other and how the healthiest communities are woven together, therefore highlighting the importance of biodiversity! **Opening April 6, 2024**



Songbird Aviary ~ Wings of Wonder

Visit Canton's Destination Enhancement Grant: With funding assistance from Visit Canton, and in a collaboration with Raptor Hallow Sanctuary. We are constructing a new 3,000 sf, walk-through aviary designed to teach about the importance of preserving 3 natural habitats which songbirds need to survive; woodlands, grasslands, & wetlands. **Opening May 4, 2024.**



Nature Therapy ~

FedEx Critical Care Grant: With initial funding from FedEx, and in collaboration with Pathways Caring for Children, Child & Adolescent Behavioral Health, CommQuest, and the Blick Center of Akron we have begun developing a new mental wellness program. We believe that every child deserves to feel joyful & loved, to be clear-minded, have confidence in themselves and have a sense of purpose. We further believe that spending time in nature is one of the best places where they can experience, learn, and feel all of these and where positive healing can happen. This program is targeted for students 12-18 years old that struggle with depression and mental wellness. Our goal is to implement this new program during the **summer of 2024.**

