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Founded in 2009, Transition US is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that serves as the official national hub for the Transition Movement in the United States through a Memorandum of Understanding with the international Transition Network.

The mission of Transition US is to catalyze a network of communities working to cultivate a just, caring, resilient, and regenerative world through training, support, and collaboration national network.
Dear friends and fellow Transitioners,

2021 was, undeniably, another tough year for everyone. A proliferation of climate-fueled disasters, an attempted coup of our federal government, and a persistently inept response to the coronavirus pandemic are just a few of the many signs that we are wading into increasingly dangerous waters.

However, even as national and international leaders have continued to prove unwilling and unable to take action that’s equal to the challenges of our time, we have been busy laying the groundwork and building power from the bottom up for a truly just and regenerative future.

We are far from alone in this. Not only is so much great work happening throughout our Transition network here in the United States (as you can see from the many local initiatives and impactful stories featured in this report), but the wider movement for regenerative communities is also rapidly growing, maturing, and weaving itself together in increasingly hopeful ways. Our 2021 ReGenerative Communities Summit – with its 53 events, 1,100 participants, and 39 sponsors and partners – was both a powerful demonstration of the diversity and vibrancy of this movement and a call to continue supporting each other, learning from each other, and working more closely together moving forward.

We at Transition US are working hard to build on this momentum through our new, three-year ReGeneration Nation campaign, which aims to make the regenerative vision and regenerative solutions universally known as desirable and viable alternatives to the status quo. By connecting the dots between and shining a light on the thousands of brilliant examples of regeneration that already exist scattered throughout this country, we will make the case that a better world is possible and help move millions of people out of despair and apathy into action.

Accomplishing this will require more collaboration, support, savvy, and daring than ever before, but we are ready. Over the past several years, we have been gradually growing our staff team, improving our finances, strengthening our network, updating our strategy and communications, and deepening our commitment to equity and social justice in preparation for this moment. Now is the time to make a great leap forward. We have no time to waste.

For my part, I will be taking a six-month sabbatical from Transition US starting in February to finish writing a book – Evolutionary Change: From Personal to Global Transformation – that I’ve been working on for a few years now and thinking about for over a decade. However, I leave this organization in the very capable hands of our new Executive Director, Jessica Alvarez Parfrey, and look forward to returning later in the year as Training Director!

Wishing you and yours a 2022 filled with regeneration.

In Community,
Don Hall
for Transition US
Transition Initiative Highlights

Transition Berkeley

The folks at Transition Berkeley were busy bees in 2021, as they celebrated their 10th Anniversary! Work is well underway to become a BEE CITY USA. With help from CalPIRG students and volunteers, Berkeley Parks Dept. and schools, Transition Berkeley has installed POLLINATOR GARDENS in six sites, with many more to come! In early May 2021, Transition Berkeley completed a 12-session REPAIR TRAINING course for Berkeley High Students with support of UC Berkeley students and community repair coaches. Students attended online training sessions in apparel, bicycle, mechanical and electrical repair, and were introduced to community organizations, such as the Ecology Center and Berkeley Tool Lending Library. The flourishing CROP SWAP & SHARE has continued to build community resilience through growing and sharing food with neighbors for 10 years.

In September, Transition Berkeley Co-Directors Bonnie Borucki and Linda Currie shared their successful strategies for growing their organization at the Transition US ReGenerative Communities Summit, resulting in support for new groups to take root and recruit new members locally. Through their collaboration with Mobilize Berkeley, Transition Berkeley hosted two COMMUNITY CLIMATE HEALING CIRCLE events in 2021. The most recent November event featured "Empathy Circles" a practice to develop better listening and understanding skills, and is available online for anyone to learn more. Mobilize Berkeley is an intergenerational citywide sustained mobilization towards stopping climate destruction and participating in a just transition toward sustainable, more equitable and healthier ways of living and working.

Transition Berkeley is proud of the work they have accomplished over the past decade, especially during the pandemic (2020-2021), and thrilled to be part of the Transition US National Movement, connecting and working towards a regenerative future.

@transitionberekely_official

https://www.transitionberkeley.org/
2021 was a busy year for Transition Town Media, PA. A year after we closed for COVID concerns, the Media FreeStore reopened on a limited basis. A four-year project collaborating with Media Borough was completed as weekly curbside composting pickups became Borough-wide in July. We also successfully collaborated with them to produce a beautiful street painting as a community project. Our Delaware County (Delco) Thrive project visited 6 restaurants in the county, bringing in a total of $6,800 for restaurants struggling due to COVID closures. And we closed on a $12,000 low-interest loan to a Chester City black-owned radio station so they could buy mobile podcasting equipment to teach podcasting skills to local high school students. We also started a Protecting Biodiversity group promoting using native plants in residential yards. We also participated in the Transition US Regenerative Communities Summit, where we gave a presentation on how we run our Annual Planning meetings and TTM member Aleisa Myles co-moderated the "Just Transition Panel."
2021 was a big year for Cooperation Humboldt, a Transition Initiative in Humboldt County, CA that exists to help build the solidarity economy along CA’s North Coast. One of Cooperation Humboldt’s most exciting projects is Dishgamu Humboldt, an indigenous-led community land trust partnership with the Wiyot Tribe and Full Spectrum Capital. Dishgamu Humboldt received excellent coverage in local media, YES! Magazine, Shareable, and a Transition US webinar. CH’s Worker-Owned Humboldt program trained 80 people how to develop their own worker-owned cooperatives through their “Worked-Owned Academy,” and is currently incubating 5 worker-owned cooperatives, from dog care to composting. The Food Team produced an annual Food Guide, planted 130 community fruit trees, installed 6 Little Free Pantries and 200 minigardens, and collaborated with Centro del Pueblo to steward Jardin Santuario community garden. And a handful of Cooperation Humboldt members spoke at the ReGenerative Communities Summit: Michelle Vassel and David Cobb were on the Just Transition Panel, Tobin McKee and Morgan March gave a workshop on “Catalyzing Local Economic Transformation,” and Oscar Mogollon and Sabrina Miller shared their wisdom on engaging youth leadership as part of the Council on Intergenerational Solidarity.
Energize Wayland

Energize Wayland and Transition Wayland are two complementary initiatives in Wayland, Mass - a matter of much needed redundancy in uncertain times. In fact, in 2021 we decided to step up our collaborations with other groups in town and beyond. This included the local Garden Club (Spring seedling sale), the Town's Department of Public Works (Annual town-wide CleanUp, discount rain barrel and compost bin sale), the local Arts Coop and the Library (art-based approaches to dark times), and partnerships with food scraps pickup (and compost), a solar vendor, and a nifty Boston non-profit that brokers deals on electric vehicles with local dealerships. Our steering group also welcomed three High School students, who were pivotal in persuading our Town Meeting voters to approve Community Choice Aggregation of electricity, another school solar array (both in collaboration with the Town's Energy and Climate Committee), and last but not least to declare a climate emergency. This declaration set in motion the writing of a Climate Action Mobilization Plan, and we are at the forefront of the mobilization part (fondly called the "MOB"). We kicked it off by handing out Postcards from the Future and convening the community to write more of these imaginative, inspiring messages. We think of 2021 as the year of the "great regrouping" when the connections in our community grew and deepened.

https://www.energizewayland.org/
Eco Vista

In 2021, the now two-years running Eco Vista Transition Initiative (first established in 2017), in Isla Vista, California, adjacent to the University of California, made many strides in its work, largely on the organizational level.

Eco Vista's highlights from 2021 include:
- establishing the Community Plan working group to design a community-wide grassroots plan for a Just Transition/local Green New Deal, in collaboration with many community partners
- the establishment of a Food Forest that currently is growing two initial plum trees, three citrus trees, and two avocado trees that will produce thousands of pounds of fruit within a few short years.
- planning the 2022 launch of the UCSB Eco Vista Club
- increasing our social media presence with plans to re-activate our zine, The Radicle,
- continuing to publish on the Eco Vista Climate Justice Press, works of fiction, poetry, a children's book, and several full-length e-books, especially The Whole Eco Vista Catalogue, a compendium of our work in writing over the first three years.

Most exciting, we are establishing a community center called the Eco Vista Collab, on the site of a former café in the center of town, and planning the many wonderful things we can do and enable with this space in conjunction with Eco Vista to realize our dream of a deeply sustainable, vibrant community with jobs, housing, recreation, and participation, limited only by our imaginations, co-creative energy, and a stronger, more resilient and active network!

@ecovistacommunity
https://ecovistacommunity.com/
The 2021 series of National Network Strategy Conversations built upon the 2020 Strategy Input paper and conversation series, giving local Transition leaders from across the country the opportunity to dig deep, weigh in on, and build cohesion around strategic issues, questions, and tensions on topics including Inner Resilience (January), Youth Leadership & Intergenerational Collaboration (February), Developing a Power Analysis (March), Local Government Collaboration (April), Emergency Preparedness & Disaster Response (May), and Coalition Building and Strategic Partnerships (June). These conversations played an important role in deepening our shared understanding of key themes in our emerging movement strategy, contributing significantly to the design of the ReGenerative Communities Summit and the ReGeneration Nation campaign.

Ultimately, this strategic planning process—which began in late 2019—has catalyzed and marked a transformation for Transition US, as we prioritize the clear integration of equity and social justice at all levels of our work. We are actively cultivating a more diverse staff team, building out our critical capacity. Our goal is to become a more effective and impactful collaborator and co-creator within the regenerative communities movement.
In 2021 we published 14 inspiring stories from local Transition Initiatives across the country, all of which are available on our website at https://www.transitionus.org/stories. A few highlights include The Richmond Grows Seed Library, Community Resilience in the Face of Disaster, How To Run A Solarize Program, and Embodying and Releasing Climate Grief.

Three of these stories, "Bringing Community to the Table in Climate Adaptation," "Permablitzing our Way to Community," and "Community Bikes: DIY Skills," "Tools, and Community Empowerment," were featured during the ReGenerative Communities Summit and will be the focus of the Stories to Action training cohort beginning in February 2022, with the goal of equipping and empowering people to bring these projects to their own communities.
After being forced to postpone our second National Gathering in 2020 because of the coronavirus pandemic, we knew we had to do something big in 2021 to bring people back together and rouse the collective spirit of our movement into action. The result was a multi-faceted, online ReGenerative Communities Summit that started September 24th and ran through October 10th.

Over 1,100 regenerative activists representing 43 U.S. states and 38 countries registered for the Summit, which featured 53 events spread over two-and-a-half weeks, as well as an interactive ReGenerative Communities Portal that enabled participants to connect directly with each other, engage in ongoing discussions, share resources, and even offer their own self-organized events.

Highlights from the program included:

- An Opening Ceremony with Transition Movement founder Rob Hopkins;
- A Catalyzing Ceremony honoring legendary eco-philosopher and activist Joanna Macy;
- All-star plenary panels on Regenerative Communities, Just Transition, Regenerative Systems, and Crisis as Catalyst for Transformation;
- An Evening of ARTivists, celebrating the importance of transforming culture;
A series of experiential activities facilitated by the Inner Resilience Network; A documentary film series organized by Films for the Planet; Dozens of skill-building workshops and lunch-and-learns; and Open Space and Bioregional Organizing sessions.

Feedback from both participants and presenters was overwhelmingly positive, and the Summit generated over $27,000 in revenue from registrations despite inviting people to pay whatever they could and giving away more than 300 free tickets. Eight sponsors contributed a total of $3,500 and our roster of 31 partners included many heavy-hitters such as Bioneers, Shareable, the U.S. Solidarity Economy Network, the Power Shift Network, Post Carbon Institute, the Foundation for Intentional Communities, the Global Ecovillage Network, Naropa University, Quaker Earthcare Witness, Sociocracy for All, and Transition Network.

None of this would have been possible without the extraordinary efforts of our amazing organizing team of Leslie Mackenzie, Ruah Swennerfelt, Don Hall, Marissa Mommaerts, Jessica Alvarez-Parfrey, Elvia Cruz-Garcia, Jul Bystrova, Galen Meyers, Kaat Vander Straeten, John Foran, Thea LaGrou, and Karen Tuininga. Many volunteers also stepped up to play important roles, making sure everything ran smoothly throughout the Summit.

40 event recordings have already been shared with those who registered for the Summit and donated to our year-end fundraising campaign. These videos will be made publicly available in batches by theme throughout the course of 2022.
In recent years, Transition US has offered several highly-successful guided online leadership trainings, including Regenerative Leadership for Social Change, Effective Collaboration Training, and Transition Thrive Training. However, in 2021, we made the strategic decision to refocus our energies on designing self-guided “on demand” courses that anyone can take from anywhere at any time.

The first in this series will be Effective Collaboration, which we plan to launch in summer 2022. With great help from Naropa University Resilient Leadership intern Rachel Goldsmith, course creator Nick Obsorne, Transition US staff Don Hall and Jessica Alvarez-Parfrey, Jessica Cohodes and Jul Bystrova of our Collaborative Design Council and Inner Resilience Network, and Nonviolent Communication trainer Diana Kubilos have been collaboratively updating this curriculum over the past year. It will feature 20 short lectures, each linked to an activity that participants can engage in and discussion forum they will be invited to respond to.

With the generous support of the Tecovas Foundation, we will be offering this training for free to all members of official Transition groups and for a modest fee to everyone else. The next self-guided online training we plan to develop is Transition Talk Training, which we hope will help support the creation of a national speakers’ bureau. This should be ready in early 2023.
CREATING COMMUNITY CHANGE IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

TRANSITION STREETS

With a deepening focus on the work of integrating social justice as a critical and core pillar of transition, Transition Streets was assessed as a valuable and accessible community tool that could also stand to be updated to better meet the needs of the network and support the development of neighborhood and community led-efforts with greater impact. In 2021 we had about 10 groups/individuals download Transition Streets. In 2022 we will be working to update the Transition Streets offering through our ReGenerative Communities Design lab work, municipalities and regional organizing work, and through the R4 webinar series in preparation for the national week of action.

RESILIENT & READY TOGETHER

A new offering to support community and neighborhood cohesion around the subject of disaster response and preparedness was created, edited and shared with the network this year. Building off the work of Ready Together, originally created in partnership with NewStories and the City of Renton's Office of Emergency Management, Resilient & Ready Together is a community resilience and disaster preparedness guide with interactive text, links to tools, and resources, and contextualizes disaster response and preparedness in a way that asks us to account for the disaster of injustice and structural inequities that put marginalized and frontline communities at greatest risk. Alongside the stress and impact of the pandemic this past year, communities have witnessed and experienced an increase in the occurrence of climate disruptions felt across the nation and our planet. In addition to “tactical and practical” preparedness, the guide also provides resources to support the inclusion of inner resilience practices in an effort to begin integrating a more trauma-informed and holistic approach to preparedness and response. We will continue to expand this work within the context of our ReGeneration Nation work in 2022.

Source: http://transitionstreets.org/
Learning from & with our network

Webinars

In 2021 the Politics & Policy group helped to support the creation of webinars offered to and by the network in support of greater shared learning, and connection to tools and resources. With a range of topics from the impact of glyphosate on community health, disaster response and preparedness, to indigenizing the economy, and the creation of indigenous-led community land trusts,

our webinars were consistently attended by a core group of dedicated network participants, with numbers fluctuating between 15-50 participants. In 2022 we are working to provide webinars and virtual workshops in support of our ReGeneration Nation work, and designing content that will support an increasing diversity in our audience and participation overall.

ABOUT:

POLITICS & POLICY WORKING GROUP

The Politics & Policy Working Group was formed in late 2019 to educate and share resources on Transition-aligned policy solutions. The Politics & Policy Working Group hosts a monthly webinar series, and connects and supports local TIs that are interested in policy work.
ReGeneration Nation

Born out of the 2021 Transition US staff retreat, ReGeneration Nation is a 3 year campaign with the goal of making “regeneration a household name”. This project, serving as the vehicle for operationalizing our strategic planning work, will focus on nurturing a network ecosystem of regenerative communities actively sharing and co-creating the messages, models, and resources needed to reimagine and rebuild our world.

Regeneration as a meme and innate truth, speaks to a life-affirming and justice-oriented suite of solutions that is inspiring repair and reimagination of everything from our food and financial systems to housing and healthcare. In order to move forward in a truly transformative manner, we believe that we must follow the guidance and leadership of frontline communities and their allies who are demanding systemic change grounded in a cultural ethos of equity-building, power-sharing, healing, and repair.

In 2022, we will be working to develop stronger strategic partnerships, and deploy the ReGenerative Communities Design Lab, with a focus on centering the leadership, vision, and needs of youth engaged in the work of building regenerative communities. We will be especially focused on uplifting the experiences and expertise of BIPOC, queer, and frontline communities currently underrepresented in the network. As a lead up to the fall week of action, we will be delivering workshops and webinars focused on themes of Resistance, Repair, Reimagination, and Regeneration (R4).
Overall, thanks to hundreds of individual and organizational supporters, Transition US is in a better financial position than it has been in years. However, in order to continue to expand our capacity to serve our network and rise to the challenges of our times, we need to significantly increase revenue in 2022.

**Revenue**

Transition US generated $206,294 of income in 2021, a 48% increase over the previous year. This included $30,571 in sponsorships and pay-what-you-can registration fees from our ReGenerative Communities Summit. We also received $43,485 in Paycheck Protection Program funds from the federal government and $44,006 in grants from Transition Network, the Cottonwood Foundation, New Visions Foundation, Tecovas Foundation, the Anonymous Fund of the Community Foundation of Sonoma County, and the Overbrook Family Advised Fund of the New York Community Trust. 120 individuals, including 21 monthly recurring donors, contributed a total $94,155 to our year-end fundraising campaign: “Together, We Are ReGeneration Nation.”

In 2022, with the help of our new Fundraising and Development Lead, Bret Carr, we will be working to further increase our annual revenue by applying for more and larger grants, launching an organizational sponsorship program, crowdfunding for our Week of Action in the Fall, recruiting new members to join our Movement ReGenerators Circle, and increasing our fundraising efforts on all fronts.
Transition US spent $182,259 and added $24,035 to our reserves in 2021. While $135,640 went to paying four part-time staff members, you can see from the chart above that the vast majority of this staff time was used for network support, engaging in communications and outreach, and developing and running programs. Other major expenses this year included stipends for ReGenerative Communities Summit organizers and contractors ($10,613), honorariums for Summit presenters ($7,500), various software subscriptions to facilitate online collaboration and outreach ($9,215), and participation in an Anti-Racism Cohort led by The Forbes Funds ($3,000).

Additional expenses for 2022 will include bringing on two new part-time staff members to bolster fundraising and network support, paying those who have helped to develop our forthcoming on-demand Effective Collaboration Training, and providing mini-grants to support groups participating in our Week of Action.
“Transition US is at a precipice of meeting our strategic challenges in shifting towards a more generationally and racially diverse organization. At the same time, we will continue to foster the spirit and inner and outer health of those seeking to serve our shared purposes. This youth / BIPOC led strategy was developed via strategic conversations over the last several years, to meet the demands of a country slated to being more than 50% Black, Indigenous, People of Color by 2030. Moreover a youth-focused movement is critical for shifting our work of combating climate chaos. The challenge is to meet the demands of a diversified constituency yet still hold the core principles that we as the vanguards of the Transition Movement in the US hold close to our hearts. Our challenge is to rise to the occasion, think bigger than we ever have, and to be strategic about how we engage with our new and old partners.”

“2021 was a tough year, full of swings between highs and lows in national politics, epidemics, climate, democracy... Honestly, as I write this in the first month of 2022, it feels like there were a lot more lows than highs. And so I found great comfort and hope that the trajectory of Transition US has been consistently upward during the year, with increased capacity, resources, and clarity of vision. The ReGenerative Communities Summit in particular was a high point for me, with world-class speakers, workshops, and sessions. I am especially excited about the launch there of ReGeneration Nation. In a way, it is a return to the Permaculture roots of Transition, enhanced by a clear focus on justice and equity.

I encourage you to join in the work of Transition in the US, to find within that connection the salve of action and community. There is much to do, and our time is limited.”
Thank you for your generous support of Transition US. Our work is needed now more than ever, and we couldn’t do it without committed supporters like you!

Moving through the personal, local/municipal, regional level and beyond, we are embarking on a transformative 3 year campaign journey to strengthen and enliven our networks and uplift the greater regenerative communities movement—this is our time to dig deep and dream big. Regeneration applies not only to our ecosystems, but also to our economic and social systems. What would it look like, feel like, taste like, smell like, and sound like to have an economy that is firmly rooted in the health of our soil? What would this mean for our social contracts? For human health? These are just some of the questions we—as a network and community—aim to make visible, explore, and bring to life through ReGeneration Nation.

This amazing work is emergent, alive, and represents a critical step forward in the transformation of the Transition Movement in the United States and beyond. We are so excited to spend this year working together and building toward a coordinated Week of Action this fall. ReGeneration Nation marks a pivotal moment for Transition US, and we’re so grateful to be doing this work in solidarity with committed changemakers like you. If you have questions or ideas about how to get involved in making Regeneration a household name, please contact Bret Carr at bret@transitionus.org.

**Together, We Are ReGeneration Nation.**

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**Take Action:**

- [Donate](#) to Transition US
- [Subscribe](#) to our mailing list
- [Email us](#) for volunteer opportunities

**Connect with us:**

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