



# 2023 IMPACT REPORT

PAE LIVING BUILDING IN PORTLAND, OR | LIVING CERTIFIED  
PHOTO BY BENJAMIN BENSCHNEIDER PHOTOGRAPHY



TABLE OF CONTENTS

|                                                |    |
|------------------------------------------------|----|
| Letter from CEO                                | 3  |
| Introduction                                   | 5  |
| Healthy Products<br>for Healthy Buildings      | 9  |
| Social Equity in the<br>Building Industry      | 13 |
| Climate Resilience<br>in the Built Environment | 17 |
| Regenerative Design<br>in Critical Buildings   | 21 |
| Appendix                                       | 25 |



STANLEY CENTER FOR PEACE AND SECURITY HEADQUARTERS  
IN MUSCATINE, IA | LBC READY DESIGNATED  
PHOTO BY CAMERON CAMPBELL, INTEGRATED STUDIO



## Dear Reader,

Do you remember the first time you entered a building and it changed you? You may have been quite young. Perhaps it was a building that brought on a sense of awe. Perhaps it was intimidating. Perhaps it just looked and felt and smelled like something you'd never experienced before. For many of us, it might have been a school or a library. I remember being four years old and entering my new church for the first time—St. Luke's Episcopal Church on Peachtree Street in downtown Atlanta, Georgia. Being in that space made me feel that I was a part of something bigger than myself.

I have come to understand that buildings change us in a million little and big ways every day of our lives. Another word for that change we experience is learning. Buildings teach us things: they teach us tacitly, they teach us actively, but they are always teaching.

At 18 years old, I became one of the first students of a trailblazing building on my campus. I went to Oberlin College in Ohio, and, in fact, I went to study this building. The Adam Joseph Lewis Center opened the year I started college, and it was an unprecedented experiment at that time. Built to harvest more clean energy than it needed, to clean its wastewater through an elaborate constructed wetland called a Living Machine, and to touch the earth as lightly as it could in every way. It was designed and built to give back more than it took. It was the brainchild of my mentor and advisor, Dr. David

Orr, an environmental educator and writer who was determined to prove that the act of design and construction could serve as its own pedagogy. Orr wrote about the vision this way:

*"The process of design and construction is an opportunity for a community to deliberate over the ideas and ideals it wishes to express and how these are rendered into architectural form. What do we want our buildings to say about us? What will they say about our ecological prospects? To what large issues and causes do they direct our attention? What problems do they resolve? What kind of human relationships do they encourage? These are not technical details, but first and foremost issues of common concern that should be decided by the entire campus community. When they are so decided, the design of buildings fosters civic competence and extends the idea of citizenship."*

These questions, raised and addressed at Oberlin, have stayed with me. The Lewis Center is now a profound learning experience for generations of students and visitors who learn and engage with the building. It is a teacher that will never retire, it is a book in the physical "public library" of our built world. Just walking into the building and learning how it works shows the visitor that a regenerative future is possible. Today, the Lewis Center in many ways is a grandmother of a family tree of buildings that have emerged all over the world that are teaching similar lessons.

We are promoting a philosophy: to build in a way that is regenerative, not just sustainable. The Living Building Challenge can guide decision making. It is also an advocacy tool—a way to ask for the building that you want, the materials that you want, in the private and public sphere. It is also a certification, with all of the specific requirements and documentation that such a designation requires. The goal is to heal ecosystems, to make us healthier than before we entered the building, and to create good and

healthy jobs that sustain families. This is the task of regeneration, which our planet calls upon us to do more deeply today than ever before.

Our goal as a movement and as an organization is to shift our entire building industry towards these practices. Our world's leaders are calling on us to make these practices the new normal in just a handful of years, in order to meet the incredible challenge we face with climate change. Every time a new Living Building pops up in a community, we are building more and more momentum as people experience it and the community learns from it. We are forever changed by these buildings.

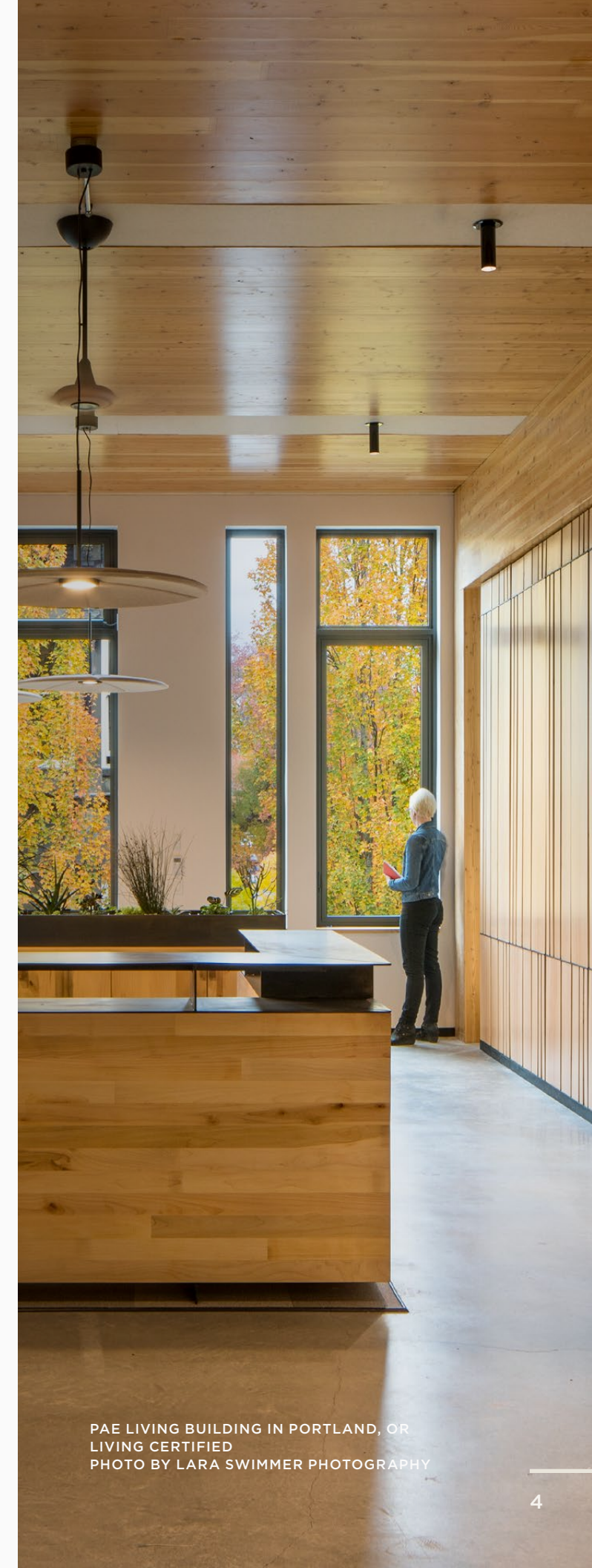
In that spirit, I invite you to read our Impact Report. As we look back at the achievements of 2023, I hope you are inspired by the progress—dramatic and incremental—that we are making together. And I invite you to join us to further that impact today.

In collaboration,



**Lindsay Baker**  
CEO, Living Future

ABOVE PHOTO BY JESSICA YURINKO PHOTOGRAPHY



PAE LIVING BUILDING IN PORTLAND, OR  
LIVING CERTIFIED  
PHOTO BY LARA SWIMMER PHOTOGRAPHY



# Introduction

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The annual Impact Report of the International Living Future Institute (Living Future) is a testament to our commitment to catalyzing a global transformation towards socially just, culturally rich, and ecologically restorative communities. Every day, we strive to transform the built environment, inspiring industries to adopt regenerative and equitable practices. This is our vision for a living future and we believe it to be one that all individuals should equally experience.

This report reflects on 2023 and showcases the strides made by our staff and our community of dedicated professionals, advocates, and volunteers. We're incredibly proud of all that we accomplished together and are excited to keep pushing forward in 2024, to create a future that we all deserve.

Our work is grounded in frameworks that challenge conventional thinking and push the boundaries of what's possible. [The Living Building Challenge \(LBC\)](#), our flagship program, sets the highest standard for regenerative design and construction, inspiring thousands of projects worldwide to achieve a symbiotic relationship with their environment. Complementing this, our [Living Product Challenge](#), [Zero Carbon](#), and [Zero Energy](#) certifications, and [Declare](#) and [Just](#) labels, drive innovation across diverse sectors, ensuring that sustainability is woven into the very fabric of our built and natural environments.

The impact of this work is profound. We have projects pursuing our programs in every climate zone in the US, on five continents, and 42 countries ([link to map](#)). We have Living



Buildings serving vastly different uses—from single family homes to large academic buildings and corporate offices. Our programs are making a difference at all scales—from net-positive energy buildings that harvest more power than they consume, to products that support human and ecosystem health, to organizations changing company policies to achieve gender pay equity. Each certified project stands as a beacon, demonstrating that a living future is not merely an aspirational goal, but a tangible reality. This is our theory of change: to prove that creating regenerative\* buildings, products, and practices is achievable, and to leverage these successes to drive widespread change at scale.

We're incredibly proud of all that we accomplished in 2023 and are excited to keep pushing forward in 2024, to create a future that we all deserve.

\* REGENERATIVE WORK CREATES A POSITIVE IMPACT ACROSS SOCIAL, CULTURAL, AND ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS. THIS IS THE PATH TO A COMMON LIVING FUTURE.

## IN 2023...



We reached a growing international audience with **530,548 visitors** to our website and blogs, **48,710 recipients** of our newsletter, and **54,205 followers** on social media.



We provided **7,564 hours** of online education to **584 learners**, and issued **365 Living Future Accreditations**, raising our total number to **1,341 LFA credentialed professionals**.



We offered opportunities for networking and inspiration to **781 attendees** of our annual Living Future conference and **2,500 Living Future Members** (**47% growth since 2020**).



We facilitated the launch of **7 Regional Member Communities** (Australia, CA, CO, Greater D.C, Greater Nashville, IL, and WA) that offer place-based education and connection opportunities.



We supported **775 clients** participating in our label and certification programs, including **320 Declare manufacturers**, **209 Just firms**, and **281 building project owners**.



We published **347 new Declare labels** (**record high**) and **35 new Just labels**, and certified **20 building projects**, representing **3M square feet** (**2x more than previous high**).



## Highlights



PHOTO BY VERTICAL RIVER

### MEMBERSHIP COMMUNITY

We grew our Living Future Community through engagement initiatives: hosting 11 continuing education webinars, organizing networking events, and introducing our Regional Member Communities program (piloted in seven US cities and Australia).



### PUBLISHING

Living Future's book publishing service, Ecotone, released two new books in 2023: *Challenge and Change: Miller Hull's Living Building Practice* and *The Regenerative Materials Movement: Dispatches from Practitioners, Researchers, and Advocates*.

*"For me, the most valuable resource about my Living Future membership is the network of professionals that I've engaged with through member calls and events, conference participation, and on projects pursuing LBC certification. Membership helps to show what's possible by learning from others. Those lessons learned can be directly applied to current projects regardless of certification goals."*

AMANDA BROOKES, CATALYST PARTNERS

*"The resources, coursework, experts and community that constitute Living Future are invaluable in my design practice as I move forward. It has completely transformed our path and next steps in growth and development. We are now focusing solely on sustainability, regenerative design, and holistic practices moving forward."*

DIJANA SAVIC-JAMBERT,  
MAREDI DESIGN

### EDUCATION

In November, Living Future hosted an information-rich member event, focusing on the Living Building Challenge. The week-long, three-part webinar series featured seven compelling case studies presented by project teams.



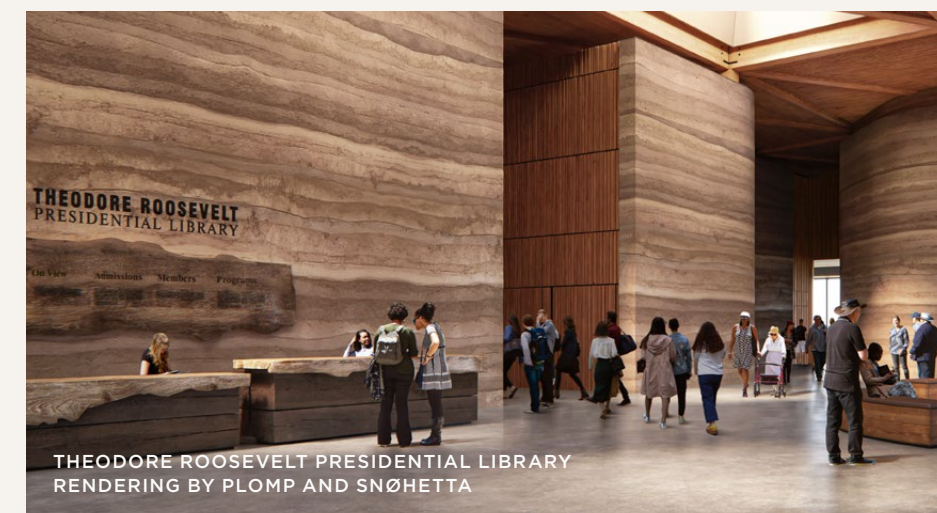
PHOTO BY JESSICA YURINKO PHOTOGRAPHY

### EVENTS

During Living Future's annual conference in May 2023, CEO Lindsay Baker urged our community to adopt a movement mindset to organize, advocate, and amplify impact within the building industry. The three-day event in Washington, DC, hosted 781 attendees and featured 60 in-person sessions, keynotes, trade shows, and networking events, all themed around Advocacy + Belonging.

*"I foster connections with fellow Living Future members across the globe within my organization, and facilitated the exchange of best practices, lessons learned, and value-added insights for Living Building Challenge projects, driving innovation and collaboration towards a shared vision of creating a regenerative built environment."*

SCOTT LIM, ARUP



THEODORE ROOSEVELT PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY  
RENDERING BY PLOMP AND SNØHETTA

### BUILDINGS

From the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library in Medora, ND, to the Roswell Community Masjid in Roswell, GA, we added 52 registered projects, and 20 certified projects totaling 3M square feet in 2023.



# Healthy Products for Healthy Buildings

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

For more than a decade, Living Future has been a leading advocate for transparency and the elimination of toxic materials in building products. These chemicals, prevalent in construction materials, pose risks to human health and the environment across their entire lifecycle—from extraction and processing to manufacturing, use, and disposal—impacting communities and ecosystems. Particularly concerning are the health effects linked to exposure, including respiratory and neurological issues, and potential carcinogenicity, underscoring the urgency of our mission.

In response to the absence of regulatory standards in the United States, Living Future launched the Living Building Challenge (LBC) [Red List](#) in 2006. This initiative aimed to educate the architecture, engineering, and construction (AEC) community and manufacturers about "worst in class" substances that threaten human and environmental well-being. The Red List serves as the cornerstone of our [Declare](#) program, a product label that provides transparent ingredient disclosure and translates complex material health data into accessible information. Today, hundreds of manufacturers participate in Declare, disclosing ingredients down to 100 parts per million (ppm) and screening against our Red List. These products are easily found on the [Declare database](#), empowering consumers and professionals to make informed choices for healthier indoor environments and reduced pollution.



MONMADE GREENLEAP DESIGN REVIEW WITH BRIAN FERRELL DESIGNS  
PHOTO BY JULIA REYNOLDS, MONMADE

We strive to significantly scale the demand and availability of regenerative products--those that are for people and ecosystems, sequester carbon emissions from our atmosphere, create jobs that sustain families and communities, and enable local economies and communities to thrive. One step in this process is to advocate for industry alignment by convening stakeholders and collaborating with mindful MATERIALS on its [Common Materials Framework](#). Using aligned definitions and requirements for ingredient disclosure, assessment, and optimization will spur adoption. Another step is to enhance our holistic product certification, the [Living Product Challenge](#) (LPC), to inspire more manufacturers to make positive products that give more than they take. We are collaborating with manufacturers, specifiers, buyers, and industry experts to create clarity around the structure of LPC and engineer a successful rollout of LPC 3.0.

## IN 2023...



We supported **370 manufacturers** to publicly disclose ingredient information on **1,325 Declare labels** (**↑175 YoY**) representing some **16k products** across **25 CSI divisions** (product types).

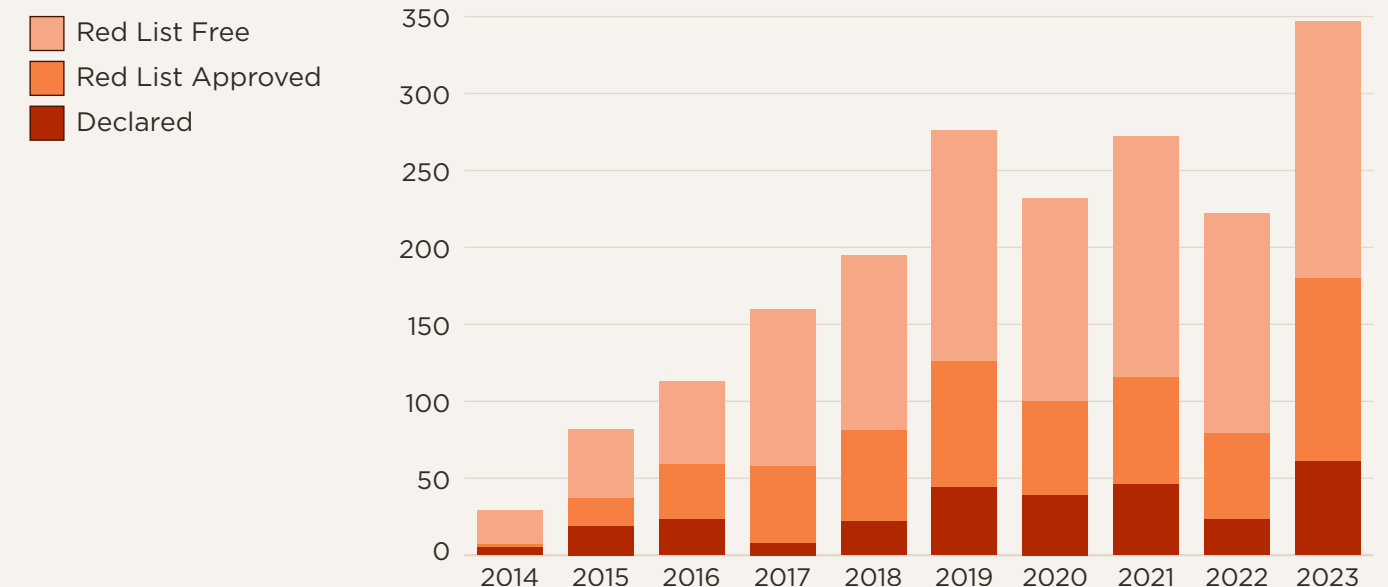


Labels were screened against the LBC Red List, representing **19 chemical classes** and **11,000+ individual compounds**, and **88% were designated as Red List Free or Approved**.



Continuing a trend of strong growth, we published a record-setting **347 new labels** (**↑125 YoY**), including the participation of **80 new clients**.

## New Declare Labels over the past 10 years



Maintaining **42 Living Product certifications**, **8 manufacturers** demonstrated what good looks like with products that are healthier for people, inspiring, and give more than they take.



These manufacturers have contributed to the success of **73 projects**, representing **3.5M square feet**, that have achieved the Materials Petal under LBC.



# Healthy Building Product Highlights



GOOGLE GRADIENT CANOPY IN MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA | PETAL CERTIFIED  
PHOTO BY IWAN BAAN

## GOOGLE'S PETAL CERTIFIED PROJECT

Achieving the Materials Petal in October 2023, Google's Gradient Canopy is the largest LBC certified project. The team engaged hundreds of manufacturers to review 8,000+ products and ensure that every material installed complied with LBC's Red List.



## REGENERATIVE MATERIALS ECOTONE BOOK

In September of 2023, we published a 248-page primer about regenerative materials that was co-authored by Living Future staff and industry experts. This book emphasizes the importance of collaboration, transparency, and justice in materials production and selection.

**A MATERIALS ODYSSEY REIMAGINED** | In May 2023, Living Future and mindful MATERIALS convened more than 100 leaders in Washington, DC, to strengthen industry collaboration and alignment, including the launch of the new Common Materials Framework.

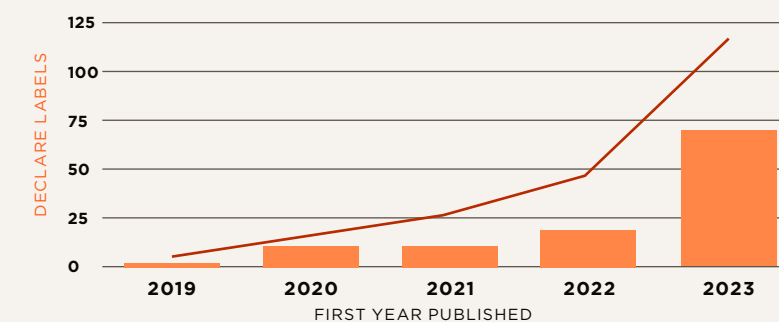


PHOTO BY JESSICA YURINKO



PHOTO BY JESSICA YURINKO

## GROWTH OF LIGHTING PRODUCTS IN DECLARE



## LIGHTING SECTOR GROWTH IN DECLARE

In 2019, we only had 5 lighting products in Declare. Fueled by the momentum of advocacy work promoting transparency in the lighting sector, we now have over 100 published labels for lighting products, 70% of which were added in 2023.



STOCK PHOTOGRAPHY

**PFAS INCLUSION ON RED LIST** | Living Future collaborated with 22 industry professionals on our Healthy Materials Technical Advisory Group to inform the annual updates to our Red List. In 2023, we added 5,000+ PFAS chemicals ahead of US state and federal acknowledgement of the danger.



# Social Equity in the Building Industry

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The built environment is a \$12 trillion industry with profound implications for the social well-being of our global community [[2022 Design for Freedom report](#)]. Given its immense scale, every aspect of the industry – material extraction and transport, design and planning, construction, and occupancy and maintenance – affects the people and communities connected to these stages of built environment projects.

Since 2006, Living Future has been at the forefront of addressing the intersection of the built environment and environmental justice. Through the development of market transformation tools, educational initiatives, and advocacy efforts, we have been championing an equitable transformation of the building industry. Our Just program stands as a testament to this commitment, having assisted more than 350 organizations in evaluating themselves and pledging to address social justice and equity impacts. Since its launch, Just has benefitted more than 60,000 employees to date. Living Future collaborated with the 17 experts on our Organizational Equity Technical Advisory Group, plus Just participants and industry partners, to guide the evolution of our Just program. The new version, Just 3.0, released in May 2024 and added indicators for recruitment, accessibility, racial and ethnic pay equity, and belonging.

Our holistic approach is also embedded within the Living Building Challenge (LBC) and Living Product Challenge: the Equity Petal



spurs inclusive design practices, community engagement, and equitable access. Living Future recently launched the Equity in Built Environment Initiative, collaborating with external experts specializing in equity and justice issues within the built environment. Through this work, we're examining all our programs to identify gaps and opportunities for equity, and embedding equity-based criteria to help project teams seamlessly incorporate equity into planning, decision-making, and outcomes.

*"The Equity Petal challenges communities, owners, architects, engineers, consultants, and contractors to think critically about how equity layers into project planning, design, fabrication, and construction. We must ask deeper questions to ensure equitable solutions flow through building, landscape, and campus design, similar to energy, water, and embodied carbon performance goals."*

JASON J. JEWHRST, FAIA, PRINCIPAL,  
BRUNER/COTT ARCHITECTS

## IN 2023...



We provided education to **789 learners** who participated in equity-related summits, courses, and webinars.

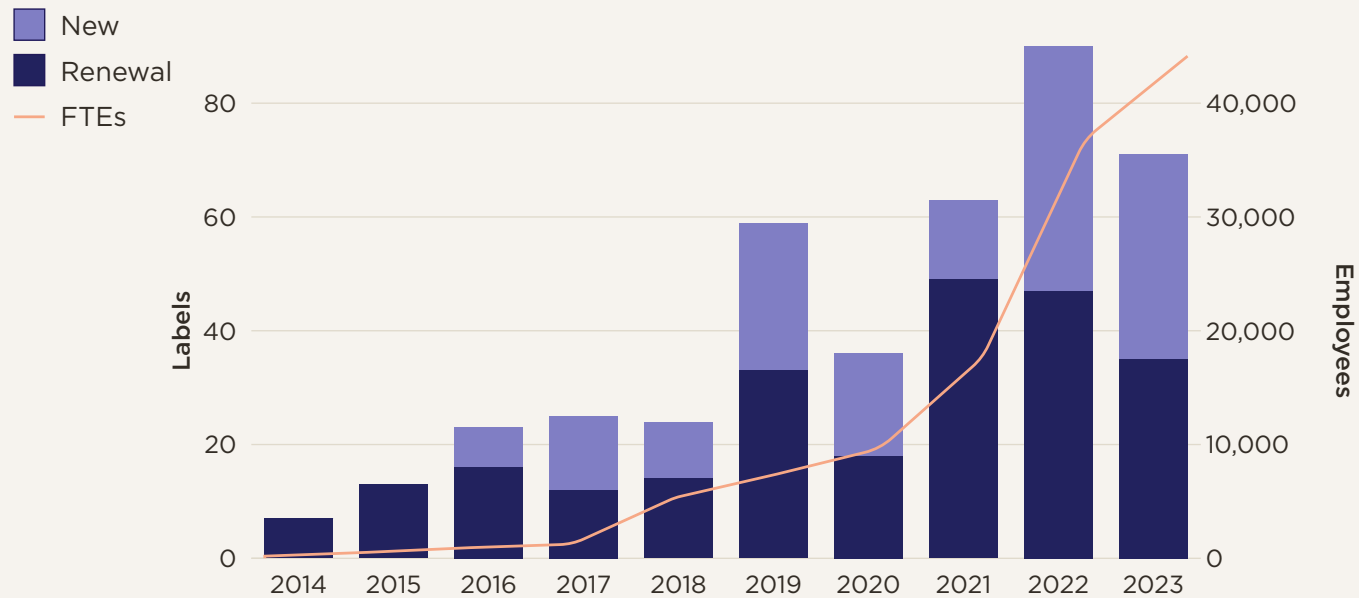


We engaged **62 new firms** to start using the Just framework to evaluate their organizations' policies, practices, and performance (**↑15 YoY**).



We published 35 new Just labels, and ended the year with 161 active Just labels on our database.

### Just Labels published



These Just firms represent a diverse range of organizations and a total of **36,000 employees** (**↑5,000 YoY**), with organizational sizes varying from 2 to 8,500 employees.



These firms have contributed to the success of **68 projects**, representing **1.8M square feet**, that have achieved the Equity Petal under the Living Building Challenge.



## Social Equity Highlights



PHOTO BY JESSICA YURINKO PHOTOGRAPHY

### JUST SUMMIT

Convened 60 stakeholders, including aspiring and established Just organizations; Living Future facilitated dialogue on equity within the building industry for participants to gain insights on how to promote transparency and cultivate fairer workplaces.



PHOTO BY JESSICA YURINKO PHOTOGRAPHY

### BIPOC SCHOLARSHIP

We awarded Living Future conference registration scholarships to 38 members of our regenerative community who identify as Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC).



PHOTO BY JESSICA YURINKO PHOTOGRAPHY



### JUST FOR GOVERNMENTS

Oregon Metro, the regional government for Oregon portion of the Portland metro area, became the first government agency with a Just label in 2023.

[SEE LABEL](#)

### PAE HEADQUARTERS

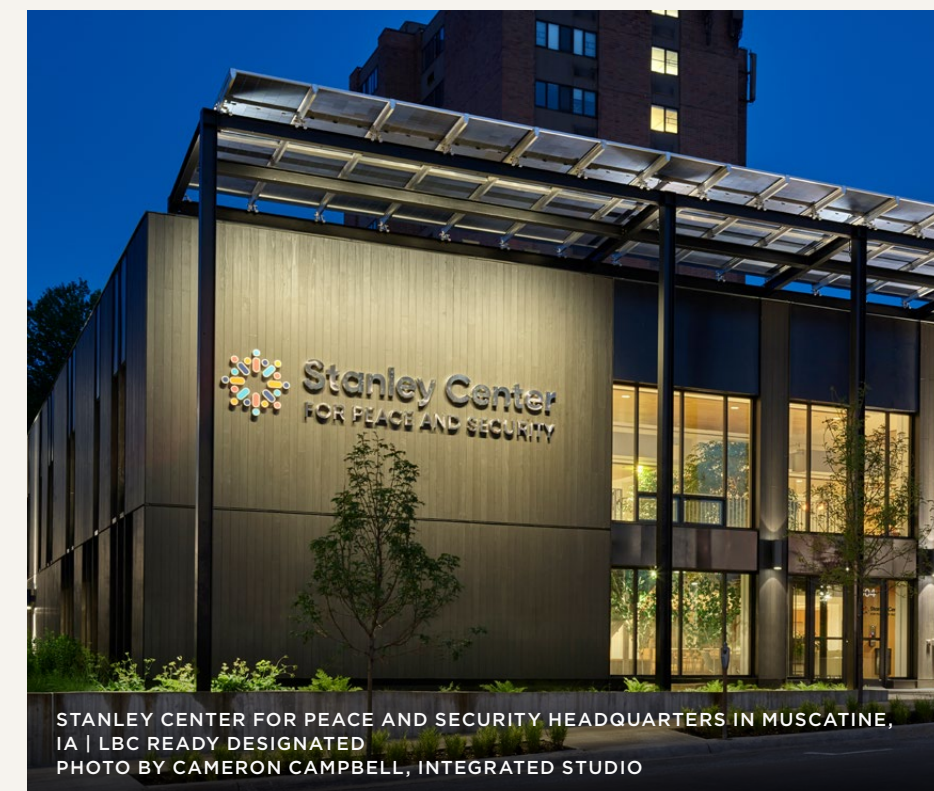
The Portland HQ of PAE, a Just organization, is the first developer-driven LBC certified building. For the Equity Petal, PAE combined energy strategies with their social equity mission to donate energy to a local affordable housing community. [LEARN MORE](#)



PAE LIVING BUILDING IN PORTLAND, OR | LIVING CERTIFIED  
PHOTO BY BENJAMIN BENSCHNEIDER PHOTOGRAPHY

### STANLEY CENTER FOR PEACE AND SECURITY

The Stanley Center in Muscatine, Iowa, exemplifies holistic urban revitalization by converting a 1970s public library into its HQ. Emphasizing local needs and community engagement, it plans on-site food production to support a food bank. [WATCH VIDEO](#)



STANLEY CENTER FOR PEACE AND SECURITY HEADQUARTERS IN MUSCATINE, IA | LBC READY DESIGNATED  
PHOTO BY CAMERON CAMPBELL, INTEGRATED STUDIO



# Climate Resilience in the Built Environment

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The built environment is a major contributor to planetary warming. It's estimated that buildings and construction account for 37 percent of all energy-related carbon dioxide emissions [2022 Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction, Global Status Report]. The built environment community can also play a key role in securing a safe and healthy future, integrating resilience and emissions-drawdown strategies into all design, construction, and operating decisions.

Through our building programs, we promote industry leading energy reduction targets, high quality renewable energy with additionality, and elimination of combustion, which is linked to numerous adverse health and environmental impacts. We encourage passive design techniques that allow structures to self-regulate during seasonal changes and function without grid energy when needed. Our programs promote resilience during extreme weather with backup battery power (critical for schools that serve as community hubs). Our holistic programs also consider other areas of energy use and pollution, including the role manufacturing plays in reducing embodied carbon and environmental toxins.

Living Future has been at the forefront of efforts to align building standards, both in the United States and globally, fostering industry-wide consistency in energy and carbon accounting methodologies. Based on feedback from our Energy and Carbon Technical Advisory Group, we





released updated building certifications in March 2024, aligning energy and carbon requirements across all programs. We are also working to extend our Zero Carbon program to existing assets seeking certification without major capital projects. Thanks to Amazon, JLL, JPMorgan Chase, and Prologis, the ongoing update will broaden the program's applicability to more projects. Through further alignment and collective action, we will continue to position buildings as agents of climate response, driving market transformation towards a safe and healthy future for all.

*"Based on our research, 80% of existing office buildings will still be in use in 2050. This highlights the critical need to decarbonize our current portfolio and support our clients in achieving their goals. There are multiple pathways to enhance sustainability and meet net-zero targets. This new certification will increase transparency and accountability around decarbonization. We're excited to work with esteemed partners and contribute our expertise to advance action in the commercial real estate industry."*

ERIN MEEZAN,  
CHIEF SUSTAINABILITY OFFICER AT JLL

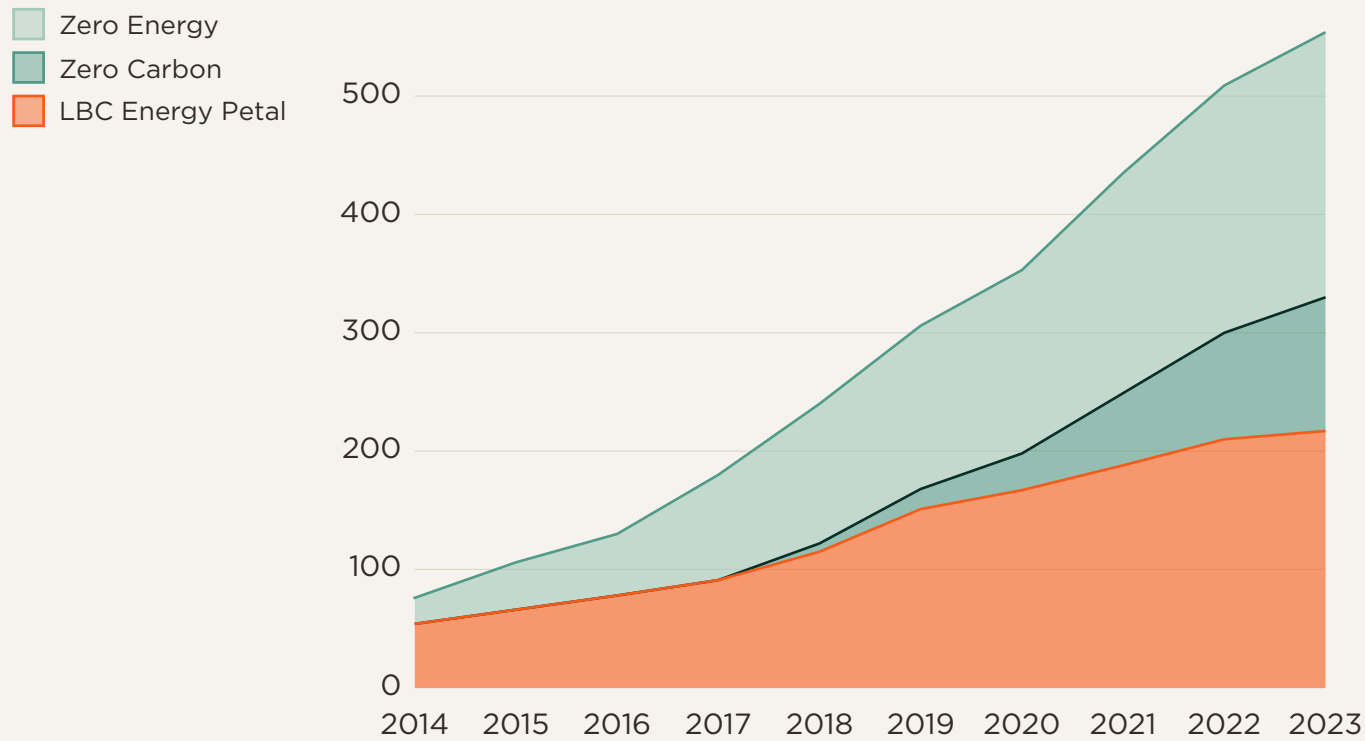
## IN 2023...


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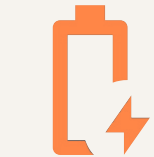
We engaged **45 projects** to register for one of our climate-related certifications (LBC's Energy Petal, Zero Carbon, and Zero Energy).
- 

With growing interest in these certification pathways, we now have **554 registered projects**, ranging from 100 to 5M square feet, and totaling **40M+ square feet**.

## Registered projects pursuing climate-related certification



- 

We supported **16 projects** across the finish line to achieve a climate-related certification (5 LBC Energy Petal, 5 Zero Carbon, and 6 Zero Energy), bringing the total for these certifications to **159 projects**.
- 

The newly certified projects annually generate **24M kWh of renewable energy**, which is the equivalent of **16.8 metric tons of avoided CO2e** or not driving **4,000 gas-powered vehicles**



## Climate Resilience Highlights



CLIMATE PLEDGE ARENA IN SEATTLE, WA | ZERO CARBON CERTIFIED  
PHOTO COURTESY OF CLIMATE PLEDGE ARENA.

**150TH CERTIFIED CLIMATE PROJECT** | We've seen a substantial increase in interest in our energy and carbon programs, including LBC's Energy Petal, Zero Carbon, and Zero Energy. Since January 2023, we've registered 120 projects pursuing our energy programs, representing 20 million square feet. Specifically, we've seen huge growth in warehouses and tech centers pursuing Zero Carbon, including Techbau, which has registered 13 projects in Europe that average a half million square feet. We now have certified over 150 projects focused on energy and carbon, ranging from single family homes to the Climate Pledge Arena, and look forward to seeing that number grow significantly over the next few years.



PHOTO BY LIVING FUTURE STAFF

### MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

The [Embodied Carbon Harmonization and Optimization \(ECHO\) project](#), launched in 2023 by Living Future and partners, fosters collaboration to harmonize embodied carbon data reporting, aiming to reduce confusion and streamline efforts towards achieving the Paris Climate Commitment.



PHOTO BY LIVING FUTURE STAFF

### ZEROING IN ON A SHARED DEFINITION

Living Future joined industry leaders to support the White House's [definition for zero emissions buildings](#), outlining criteria for buildings to be highly energy efficient, free of on-site emissions, and powered solely by clean energy.

### UN-PRECEDENTED BREAKTHROUGH

During COP28 in Dubai, we engaged in discussions with leading stakeholders at UNEP's [Buildings Breakthrough](#), which resulted in 27 countries committing to accelerate the transformation of the sector to near-zero emissions by 2030.



PHOTO BY LIVING FUTURE STAFF



UNISON'S WINDSOR SUBSTATION IN HAWKES BAY, NEW ZEALAND | PETAL CERTIFIED  
PHOTO BY FREENERGY SOLAR SOLUTIONS

**RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE** | [Unison's Windsor Substation](#), which achieved LBC's Energy Petal, aims to inspire and shift the market towards resilient, community-focused infrastructure. It publicly [shared its design](#) and powered its community during a major cyclone in early 2023.



# Regenerative Design in Critical Buildings

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The built environment tremendously impacts the health and well-being of its entire community. Housing, public schools, libraries, community centers, and places of worship serve critical needs in a community, especially for those who experience the heaviest burdens of environmental and health degradation — low-income and BIPOC communities. For generations, they have been disproportionately exposed to unhealthy air, water, soil, and materials in their homes, workplaces, and communities. As a result, they often experience higher rates of health issues (including asthma, allergies, and cancer) and pay more for energy and water. Living Future believes these building types, which we categorize as “critical buildings,” are essential in maintaining family and community resilience and should integrate regenerative design.

For more than a decade, Living Future has run a successful Affordable Housing program premised on the belief that everyone deserves to live in healthy and resilient buildings. We have supported 64 affordable housing project teams in implementing regenerative solutions to improve health outcomes, reach net zero energy and water, and build a better quality of life for over 9,000 residents in 28 states. We have demonstrated that a peer cohort model, combined with resources, education, and technical support from Living Future, allows teams to quickly achieve successes previously not thought possible and amplify their impact throughout the sector.



CARMEN VILLEGAS APARTMENTS IN NEW YORK, NY  
ZERO CARBON REGISTERED  
RENDERING BY MAGNUSSON ARCHITECTURE AND PLANNING

This year, we are expanding our critical buildings work to push for regenerative design in K-12 public schools. Driven by our belief that every school should offer healthy indoor environments, protection from extreme weather events, adaptability to fluctuating energy bills, and resources to support resilient communities, We are building a cohort of local school projects in Pittsburgh and launching a pilot program to equip these schools with the tools, training, and education to build and renovate healthy and resilient school buildings.

*“I can’t say enough good things about Living Future’s Affordable Housing Program. They provided essential tools and knowledge support in areas that often are barriers to design due to the amount of research and time necessary to accomplish the goals.”*

MIKE GWIN, PRINCIPAL  
ROTHSCHILD DOYNO COLLABORATIVE AND  
PROJECT ARCHITECT ON THE HAZELWOOD  
COMMUNITY LAND TRUST HOMES PROJECT

## IN 2023...



We engaged **7 new projects** to participate in our Affordable Housing program, which now includes **64 registered projects** located in **28 U.S. states and 1 Canadian province**.



With these new projects, totaling **500+ housing units**, the cohort represents **3,000+ housing units** that will provide healthy, efficient, and affordable housing for **9,000+ residents**.

THE RESIDENTS SERVED BY THESE PROJECTS ARE 30% OF THE AREA MEDIAN INCOME, SENIOR CITIZENS, LGBTQIA, PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES, AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLE.



We convened **200+ attendees**, including cohort members and key industry stakeholders, at our **annual Affordable Housing Summit** to share innovative strategies and stories.



We supported **2 cohort projects** across the finish line of the Living Building Challenge (LBC), becoming the **first affordable housing projects to achieve Petal Certification**.



THE LIVING HOMES AT MILL CREEK  
MOAB, UT | PETAL CERTIFIED  
PHOTO COURTESY OF MILL CREEK





SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CATHEDRAL CAMPUS IN SEATTLE, WA  
PHOTO COURTESY OF ATELIER JONES

### NEW AFFORDABLE HOUSING COHORT AND UNIQUE PROJECT TYPES

Living Future's Affordable Housing program recently welcomed a diverse cohort of seven new projects, spanning various locations, scales, and building types, and developed by five developers, a government housing agency, and a religious organization. These projects not only offer housing for cost-burdened residents but also include community services like wrap-around support, healthcare facilities, gathering spaces, and an innovative food hall, aiming to promote local culture and economic opportunities.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Participating projects include:

#### CARMEN VILLEGAS APARTMENTS EAST HARLEM, NEW YORK CITY

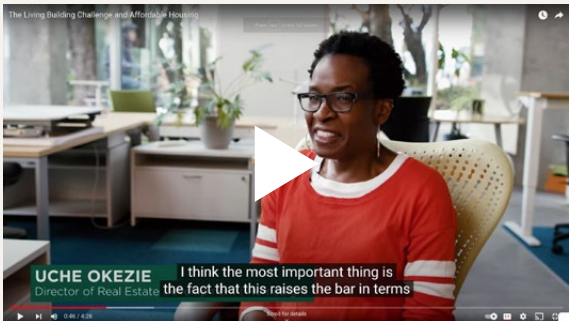
Named after a prominent local activist, this Zero Carbon registered project is the largest affordable housing initiative in Harlem in years, set to provide 211 units for LGBTQ+ seniors earning up to 50 percent of the area median income.

#### LAHAINA AFFORDABLE HOUSING KAHULUI, HAWAII

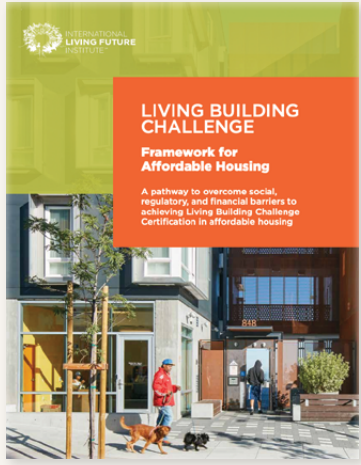
This 1,000-square-foot prototype home, aiming for Living Building Challenge (LBC) certification, aims to spearhead Lahaina's reconstruction efforts, offering affordable homeownership to displaced households below 80 percent of the area median income.

### GROWING AWARENESS

To broaden awareness of our vision for affordable housing, we presented with partners at USGBC's Greenbuild conference, and released a promotional video highlighting our program's impacts and project testimonials. [WATCH VIDEO](#)



**BEST PRACTICES GUIDE FOR MATERIALS** | We crafted a Best Practices Guide for Red List Free Affordable Housing, offering step-by-step vetting advice for Red List materials and Living Future health strategies. It has been downloaded in roughly 50 countries. [LEARN MORE](#)



### PARTNERING WITH CRAFT PRODUCERS

Through a collaboration with Monmade's Green Leap program, we supported craft producers in Pittsburgh to get Declare labels on products that were specified to be used in a local affordable housing project. [LEARN MORE](#)

### AFFORDABLE HOUSING SUMMIT

Grew the demand for healthy materials and energy-efficient affordable housing by convening more than 200 participants for our 7th annual virtual Affordable Housing Summit, themed Practice and Policy, and galvanized interest and action around decarbonization and healthy materials.



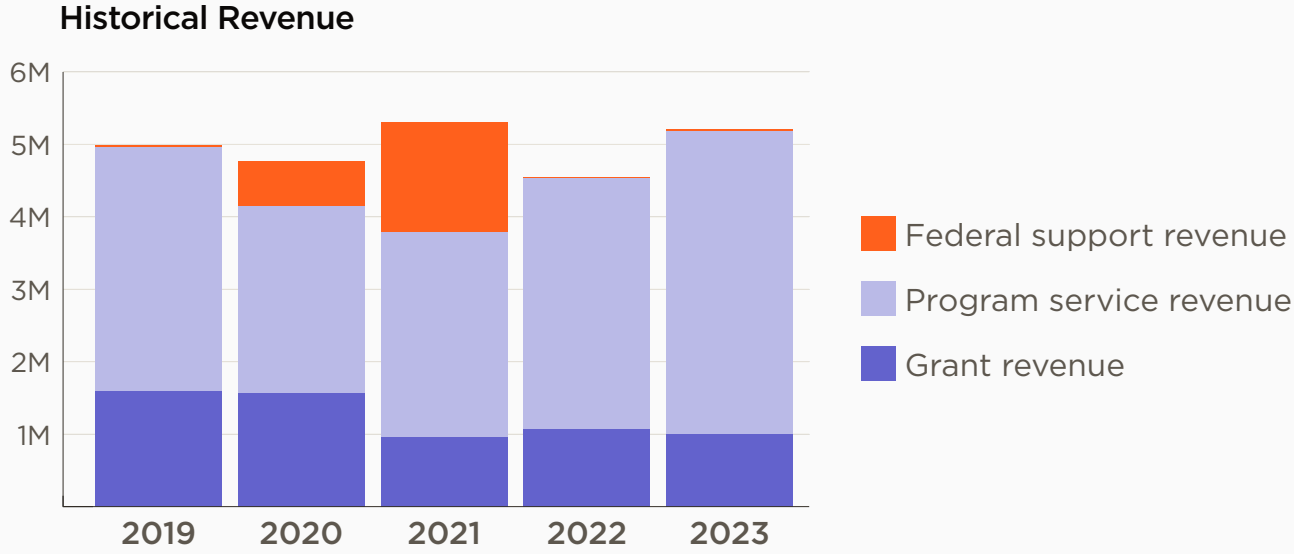
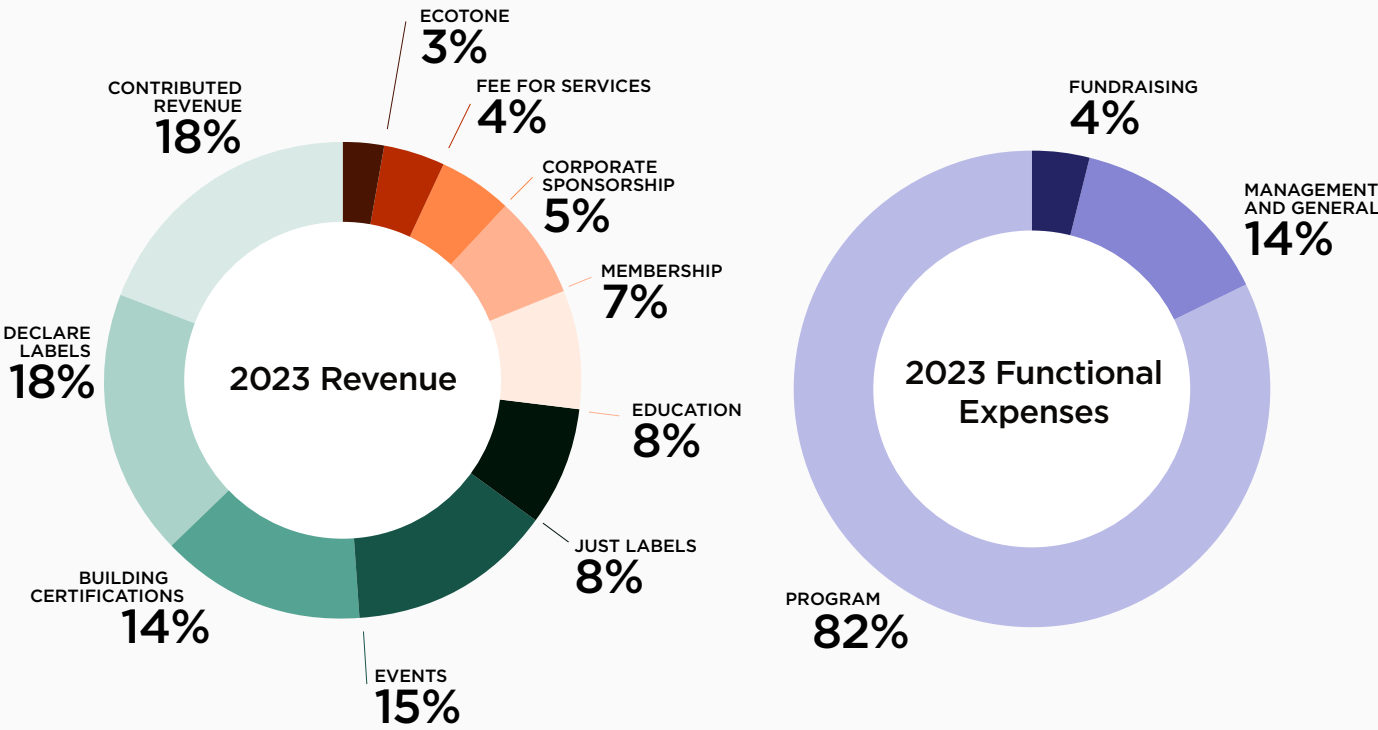
### FIRST LBC CERTIFIED AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECTS

Block Home 009 and Living Homes at Mill Creek are the first cohort projects to achieve certification under LBC, proving the feasibility of regenerative design in affordable housing.



# Appendix

## FINANCIALS



## PEOPLE

We are immensely grateful to our funders, sponsors, Board of Directors, Board Advisors, Technical Advisory Group, and staff for their indispensable contributions and steadfast dedication. Their collaborative spirit fuels our mission and helps us actualize a Living Future that is socially just, culturally rich, and ecologically restorative.

### Current Living Future Board of Directors

[SEE BOARD BIOS](#)

**Elizabeth Heider**, *Chair*  
**Heather Henriksen**, *Vice Chair*  
**Thomas Bland**, *Treasurer*  
**Julie Hiromoto**, *Secretary*  
**Paolo Bevilacqua**, *Past Vice Chair*  
**Mark Chambers**  
**Vivian Loftness**  
**Dr. Mae-ling Lokko**  
**Jason F. McLennan**  
**Erin Meezan**  
**Avinash Rajagopal**

Thank you to **Anthony Guerrero** and **Margaret Montgomery** who served as board members in 2023.

### Lindsay Baker, Living Future CEO

40 Living Future staff spanning 22 states

[SEE STAFF BIOS](#)

### 2 Affiliate Institutes

[LIVING FUTURE INSTITUTE AUSTRALIA](#)

[LIVING FUTURE EUROPE](#)

### 15 Living Future Advisors

[SEE ADVISOR BIOS](#)

72 volunteers serve on our Technical Advisory Groups (TAGs)

[SEE TAG MEMBERS](#)

Energy and Carbon TAG  
Material Health TAG  
Organizational Equity TAG  
Water TAG



### REMEMBERING IBRAHIM ABDUL-MATIN

In June of 2023, we lost an incredible voice for change — the brilliant Ibrahim Abdul-Matin. Ibrahim served on the Living Future Board of Directors from 2015 through 2021, at which time he joined Living Future’s Advisory Committee, continuing to offer his wisdom and support to our mission. His perspective was a valued addition to any conversation and his kindness, generosity, and passion for the movement will be greatly missed.

[READ ARTICLE](#)



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*“Buildings have the power to change minds, but creating change one building at a time is too slow and leaves too many people behind. We need every lawmaker, every teacher, and every business leader in the country, and the world, to walk through these buildings and experience what it feels like to live in a better world. We can use living buildings as inspiration: to educate policymakers, change the culture in communities, and teach our next generation that a better world is possible.”* - LINDSAY BAKER, LIVING FUTURE CEO



Bullitt Center in Seattle, WA | Living Certified  
Photo by Nic Lehoux

We are grateful to the Bullitt Foundation for being a part of our story since our inception. Your steadfast support has amplified our ripple effect. The Foundation spent down its endowment in 2024.



**LIVING  
FUTURE**

**LIVING FUTURE  
GLOBAL HEADQUARTERS**

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