



# ANNUAL REPORT

# 2023



#### Friends,

At Southface Institute, it is always our goal to go bigger, do more, and build on past success. We are proud to report that 2023 was a year marked by collaborative learning, leveraging, and leading. Southface strengthened communities through invaluable learning opportunities, leveraged investments in resilience to create healthier environments, and lead the way for nonprofits to increase impact through more efficient bottom lines. Thank you to all who contributed to that extraordinary momentum!

Our outreach and education efforts equipped more people to make sustainable choices that save money, improve their wellbeing, and even advance their careers. In 2023, Southface led and supported 129 events, workshops, and trainings. We connected with construction workers, county commissioners, and so many others.

We also deepened our commitment to equity to help ensure that communities that are disproportionately impacted by issues like high energy bills and poor air quality are prioritized. Through EarthCraft and our Certifications team alone, Southface supported the sustainability of 7,164 affordable housing and market rate residential units. That means that residents not only have healthier living spaces but also more money to spend on things like food and childcare instead of utilities or emergency room visits.

In October, the U.S. Department of Energy awarded \$5.9M to Southface to make critical cost-saving improvements to nonprofits in disadvantaged communities. This investment reinforces our GoodUse program, which today yields \$3.8M in cumulative annual utility savings for nonprofits nationwide. Energy is the second highest cost for nonprofits, so every dollar saved can go toward community impact instead of overhead.

Overall, Southfacers drove impact through 511 active projects in 2023. Through it all, our message is one that unites: Common sense sustainability measures offer a direct path not only to decarbonization but also to a thriving economy, safe structures, healthy air and water, and basic comfort for all. Thank you for joining us in making the world a better place.

With gratitude,



James Marlow President Southface Institute



Liz York 2024-25 Board Chair

# **2023** TIMELINE



Student learning from a Southface online training

#### January

- Led our first course of the year, ultimately training 1,367 trade workers on home energy ratings, HVAC systems, weatherization, and other sustainable building concepts.
- Performed an efficiency assessment on the first of 15 industrial facilities used in our research with Kennesaw State University in 2023. Overall, the team prepared 15 DOE reports, identifying \$2,069,967 in potential savings.

#### **February**

Conducted blower door testing on the 202-year-old Octagon Museum in Washington, D.C. for a Sustainable Design Consulting project. The four new consulting projects launched in 2023 are estimated to save 3.7 million kWh of electricity and 2,596 metric tons of CO2e emissions annually.

#### March

Launched GoodUse Sarasota, an extension of our longstanding GoodUse program with a special pool of funds from local partners. In 2023, GoodUse awarded 52 efficiency projects to nonprofits, including 6 GoodUse Sarasota projects. The team also completed 54 projects, including GoodUse Sarasota's Save Our Seabirds project.



Octagon Museum, photo by Billy Wilson

Earth Day 2023 Tabling



#### **April**

Engaged the community in 530 conversations across 17 Earth Day events in Florida and Georgia.

#### May

Explored the cost effectiveness of different Georgia Power residential rate plans in the Electric Bills Decoded blog series.

#### June

- Honored Chick-fil-A Sustainability Lead Stephanie Armistead with the Luminary Award at our Summer Solstice Celebration.
- Co-led our first session with the North Georgia Conservation Coalition. In total, our Advocacy team engaged 700+ people across 18 workshops and events, including this series.



Luminary Award Winner, Stephanie Armistead, at the 2023 Summer Solstice



#### July

Launched BIT Building, our sustainable O+M program and platform, putting operational improvements within reach for all facilities, regardless of age or current performance.

#### **August**

- Transitioned our popular Sustainability in Action Roundtable series back to inperson events.
- Welcomed three new Emerging Leaders, Carol Horlock, Benedict Kargbo, and Mark Lannaman, to support and learn from our program, development, and advocacy teams.



From left to right: Carol Horlock, Mark Lannaman, and Benedict Kargbo

#### September

Joined Clean Cities Georgia—the Southface-hosted nonprofit dedicated to advancing clean transportation adoption—in their first Clean Cities Georgia Transportation Summit at Georgia Tech.

#### November

- Established a new strategic plan to guide our impact and growth.
- Honored Dawn Brown and the Mercedes-Benz Stadium Green Team with the Argon Award at our 25th Visionary Dinner.



#### **October**

- Began the community-driven creation of the DeKalb County Clean Energy Plan.
- Received a \$5.9M DOE grant to help nonprofits in Justice 40 communities save money on utilities.



Dawn Brown with Southface President James Marlow at Visionary Dinner



Nathaniel Smith, Rising Star Award Winner, at the 2023 Winter Solstice

#### December

- Completed the final certification of 150 projects (and registration of 141 projects) through EarthCraft, impacting houses, commercial buildings, and multifamily homes. Out in the field, Southface's Certifications team also inspected 1,104 units and tested 235 units in the year.
- Reached 3,500 listens with Southface Sarasota's sustainability podcast, The Peel.
- Honored Partnership for Southern Equity Nathaniel Smith with the Rising Star Award at our Winter Solstice Celebration.

# 2023 GOODUSE RECIPIENTS



Acton Academy at Serenbe



**Dumas Wesley** 



Community Center



**Grove Park Foundation** 

Miracle City Church

MIRACLE CITY

Alabama Theatre &

Lyric Theatre

Goodwill 2 of North Georgia **GROVE PARK** 

Goodwill of North Georgia



Lowcountry Food Bank



Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School



Tennessee Aquarium



The SAE School

Timber Ridge School



Annapolis Maritime Museum & Park



Emerson Unitarian **Universalist Congregation** 





Habitat for Humanity DeKalb County



The Mountain Retreat &



Learning Center



The Salvation Army
Jonesboro Corps, Metro Atlanta Area Command, Miami Area Command, National Capital Area Command



**Trinity Community** Ministries



**Automotive Training** Center



**Feeding Northeast** Florida



High Museum of Art



Music Conservatory of Sandpoint



Sarasota African American Cultural Coalition Inc.



Wartrace Volunteer Fire Department



Blue Heron Nature Preserve



First Choice Primary Care



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS

Boys and Girls Clubs of

Central Mississippi

**GEORGIA** 

**IUSTICE** 

PROJECT

Historic Oakland Hope for the Inner City Foundation



No Boundaries: Northminster Integrated Services for Presbyterian Church Independent Living



Sarasota Opera The Sarasota Players



Boys and Girls Clubs of Southern Nevada



Georgia Justice Project Girls Inc. of Columbus & Phenix-Russel



Girls Preparatory School

Boys & Girls Clubs of

the Valley

BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS



Levite Jewish Community Center

Pittsboro Presbyterian

Church



Lightshare Behavioral Wellness & Recovery



Project 180



Save Our Seabirds

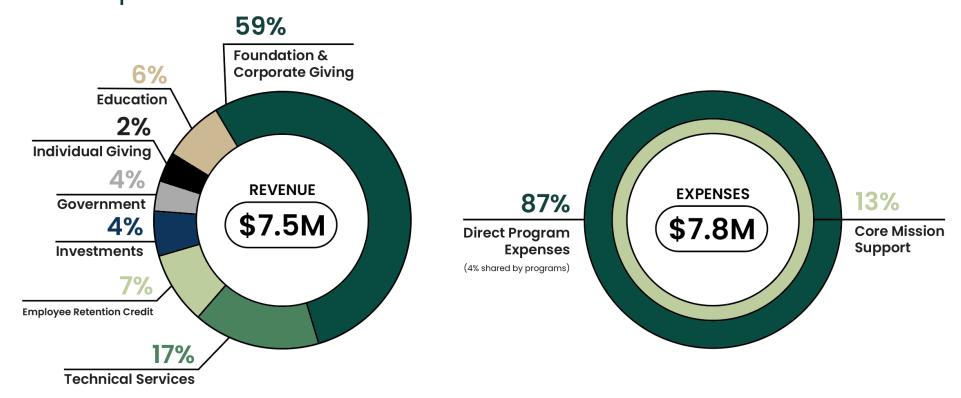


Southside Theatre Guild



Wylde Center

# AUDITED REVENUE & EXPENSES



Southface has been at the forefront of revolutionizing how we build and live since 1978, advancing sustainability efforts to the standards that we recognize today. As a 501(c)3 nonprofit dedicated to sustainability, our transformative programs champion equity and environmental stewardship. We are reshaping residential, commercial, and communal landscapes through education, research, advocacy, and technical assistance.

The truth is, we must remain agile and adaptive as we respond to the increased need for services to our communities. As we continued to recover from economic headwinds in 2023, our team worked diligently to adapt programming to match community needs. Southface was able to secure a significant Employee Retention Credit to help alleviate the effects of lost revenue as we work to boldly streamline programming, launch a new strategic plan, and drive impact for all the communities we serve. Through the generosity of our supporters, we will continue to build sustainably for life.



**James Marlow** Southface President



Evelyn Bolden **Cox Enterprises** Senior Director, Strategy and Investments



George Buchanan **2KB Energy Services** Founder and CEO



Sam D. Cook Jr. JSB Public Affairs Partner



Neil Desai Federal Reserve Bank of ATL Sr Quantitative Specialist



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**Rawson Haverty** Haverty Furniture Companies Senior VP



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Charles Reith, PhD **Sustainability Activist** 



Will Sellers Wholesome Wave Georgia **Executive Director** 



Liz York Center for Disease Control & Prevention Chief Sustainability Officer, Associate Director for Quality and Sustainability

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Foundation

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Atlanta Business Chronicle

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Southwire

The Home Depot Foundation

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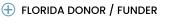
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#### \$499 to \$125

Abbey Patterson 🛞

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Eleanor Chin 🛞

Georgia Environmental Finance Authority (GEFA) 🛞

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Jay Bassett 🛞

Joe Thomas (\*)

John DuConge 🛞

Justin Thomas 🛞

Kevin Brown 🛞

Larry Peck 🛞

Lucia Sizemore (\*)

Lynn McIntyre 🛞

Marilyn Brown 🛞

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Mary Ellen Barker 🛞

Michael Black 🛞

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Pamela Gore Meade (+)

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#### **ATLANTA OFFICE**

241 Pine St. NE, Atlanta, GA 30308 southface.org | 404 604 3642 development@southface.org

#### **SARASOTA OFFICE**

5800 Bay Shore Rd, Sarasota, FL 34243 southface.org/sarasota southfacesarasota@southface.org