

2020

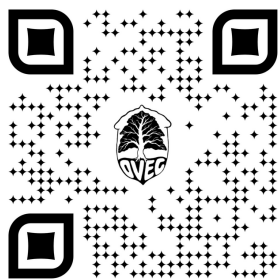
ANNUAL REPORT

Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition



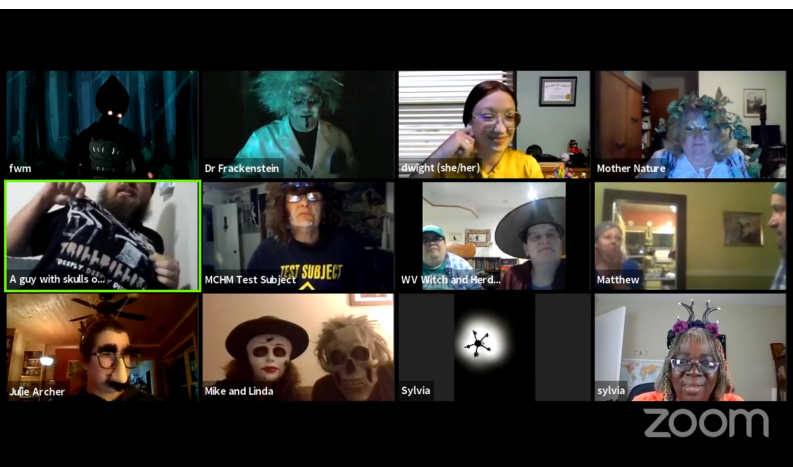
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ABOUT OVEC



The Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition formed in 1987 to stop a toxic waste facility proposed for a low-income community near Huntington, WV. We won that campaign. By supporting organized voices and empowered communities, we've been winning environmental and social justice campaigns ever since.

◀ In October 2020, our first virtual membership drive was a spooktacular celebration and smashing success that resulted in 42 new OVEC members.



OVEC began more than 30 years ago as a small, committed group of people who stood up, spoke out and said “NO” to a major polluter. Over the years, thousands of supporters have stood with us—and if you are reading this, you must be one of them. We hope that you, our members, volunteers, sustainers, major donors, and foundations, know that when we suffer setbacks, we learn, and we hope you revel in your role in every victory we garner, both large and small. You are the lifeblood of OVEC—generous, heart-centered, and committed to a better future for West Virginia. Thank you!



LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

On behalf of OVEC's staff and board, we hope you and all your loved ones are doing as well as possible during this unsettling pandemic year.

No matter what you are facing, we hope you derive benefit from being a member of OVEC and knowing you are supporting our work. We appreciate your membership and are happy you choose to support our organization. Our annual report is one way we give you an update on some of what you help us do.

While we depend on membership dues to help support the work we do, we know these are rough times. We understand the financial hardships our members may be experiencing as of result of this year. If you are able to make a financial contribution when you renew your yearly membership, we highly encourage you to do so. However, if the public health crisis makes it difficult to pay your dues, please take advantage of the membership dues waiver. Your membership is extremely valuable to us: we know there is power in numbers!

Thank you so much for supporting OVEC with your membership! Stay safe as you can, stay powerful, and we look forward to seeing you in person very soon.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vivian Stockman". The script is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized 'V' at the beginning.

Vivian Stockman
Executive Director



'20 HIGHLIGHTS

YEAR IN REVIEW

JAN

- Continued work with Earthjustice to file Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests to force the Department of Energy (DOE) to produce documents related to federal support of PTTG

FEB

- Hired communications specialist, Sarah Carballo
- Hosted Let's Kick ASH, a weekend-long strategy session around the proposed Appalachian Storage Hub that included 26 OVEC volunteers, board members, staff, and supporters
- OVEC Executive Director Vivian Stockman, received the Women of Appalachia Project 2020 Appalachian Advocate Award
- **OVEC offices closed. May we meet again in 2021.**

MAR

- OVEC staff and volunteers participated on virtual panels and spoke about the Appalachian Storage Hub and its connections to fracking, petrochemicals, and plastics.

APR

- Worked with WV Interfaith Power and Light (WVIPL), and other faith community leaders, to develop a letter writing campaign on Action Network—more than 642 letters have been sent to the CEO of the proposed PTTG cracker plant, elected officials, and other investors

MAY

- OVEC and our allies threatened the developers of the proposed PTTG cracker plant with legal action and forced them to re-apply for an expired air permit

JUNE

- Sent action alert to more than 1,000 OVEC supporters, asking that they share a letter with their legislators—739 letters were sent to elected officials, urging them to focus on sustainable solutions for our region

YEAR IN REVIEW

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JULY

- In response to a lawsuit filed by OVEC and three other environmental groups, a federal judge ruled that a coal company owned by the family of West Virginia Gov. Jim Justice is liable for more than 3,000 violations of federal clean water standards stemming from pollution discharged from a coal mine in southern West Virginia

AUG

- OVEC continued educating our members and the broader public on the real economic impacts of ASH-related boondoggle facilities through blogs and social media

SEPT

- Hired communications specialist Dani Parent
- Hosted a screening of the Story of Plastic, followed by a panel discussion
- Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) cancelled permits previously granted for drilling wells at the proposed Mountaineer NGL Storage facility, located adjacent to the Ohio River in Monroe County, OH

OCT

- OVEC Volunteer Randi Pokladnik participated in the global 24 Hours of Reality: Countdown to the Future, hosted by The Climate Reality Project, TED, and former Vice President Al Gore

NOV

- Our Halloween-themed online Monster Membership Drive in October attracted 42 new OVEC members

DEC

- OVEC worked in coalition with Reimagine Appalachia to promote a federal policy platform in support of economic initiatives to fossil fuel extraction
- By the end of 2020, OVEC volunteers and staff were quoted in, or our work was a source for at least 165 news articles, including appearances in Chemical & Engineering News, National Law Review, E & E News, Desmog Blog, Sierra Magazine, and ProPublica

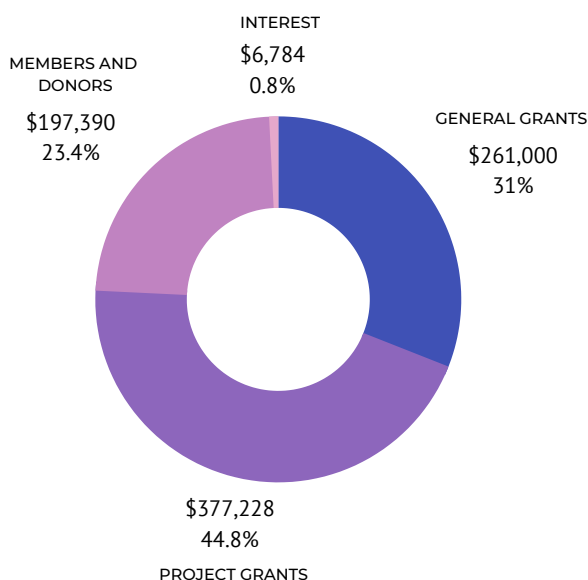
VISIT US ONLINE AT [OHVEC.ORG](https://ohvec.org) TO FIND OUT MORE
ABOUT OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN 2020



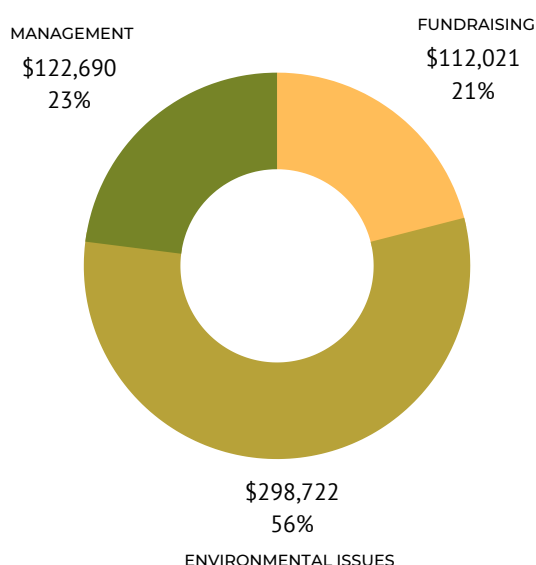
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REVENUE

We had a great year! We received your donations, eleven grants, and were generously remembered by Johanna Williams in her will. We hope our work will continue to drive an increase in memberships and grassroots donations, so that going into each year we know we have a strong base of support.



EXPENDITURES



We strive to provide a good service while keeping expenses in check. While our revenue increased at a record-breaking pace, our expenditures did not. We realize that revenue for us can be erratic, and have taken steps to ensure the continuation of our mission during times of funding gaps.



ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

<i>Checking</i>	\$27,695
<i>Savings</i>	\$589,394
<i>Brokerage</i>	\$55,799

FIXED ASSETS	\$122,810
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TOTAL ASSETS	\$795,698
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LIABILITIES & EQUITY

LIABILITIES	\$37
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EQUITY

<i>Opening Balance Equity</i>	-\$16
<i>Unrestricted (Retained Earnings)</i>	\$873,030
<i>Net Income</i>	-\$77,353

TOTAL EQUITY	\$795,661
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TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$795,598
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***Note: These are unaudited figures.*

MEMBERSHIP



143

NEW
MEMBERS

505

TOTAL
MEMBERS

7.9%

MEMBERSHIP
GROWTH

Volunteers and members are the lifeblood of our work. OVEC members have a vision for our future, a commitment to greater democracy and a cleaner environment. We are people from all walks of life who take an active role in community: by educating ourselves and others about the effects of pollution and corrupt politics on the environment and human health; and by taking unified action on regional environmental threats.

ONLINE ACTIVITY

38

ACTION
ALERTS

13.1%

SOCIAL MEDIA
GROWTH

4.3%

MORE ONLINE
SUBSCRIBERS



We are living in interesting times, but that doesn't mean they have to be cursed times; they also present an opportunity for positive change. For more than 30 years, OVEC has been working to make life better in numerous ways. And, whether or not OVEC has won on a particular issue, it has been in the thick of the fight and has always reliably and forcefully borne witness. In light of unprecedented events this year, we have had to do things a little differently, so cue the social media! #Activist #NotAnotherZoomCallPlease Here's to seeing you in person, outside cyberspace in 2021!

HINDSIGHT IS 2020

As we reflect on the past year, we have allowed ourselves the space to reflect on the scope of work that's still needed in our society. As we continue our work in 2021, we're keeping room in our hearts for hope and determination, and remain dedicated to our work to improve those things within our control.

We can and will make a difference. Together we grow.

“

Like many, I could never have imagined a year such as the one through which we are now living—a year that has rightly and forcefully exposed the consequences of environmental neglect, racial injustice, and political corruption, as each one has played its role in the current contagion that haunts us. I've never seen so clearly how critical and urgent is the demand to safeguard our environment as the foundation upon which all future security depends, including our personal health.

However, though the threats to the environment and basic justice are grave, there is also hope, and one place to find it is in the courageous work of the Ohio Valley Environmental Coalition.

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—WV Poet Laureate Marc Harshman



OVEC.WV



OVEC_WV



OVEC_WV

VISIT [OHVEC.ORG](https://ohvec.org)/DONATE TO SUPPORT OUR WORK IN 2021

WV residents may obtain a summary of the registration and financial documents from the Secretary of State, State Capitol, Charleston, WV 25305. Registration does not imply endorsement.


TOGETHER WE GROW

Thank you for being a member in 2020. What a year it was. Despite its challenges, we had resources to grow and continued working to help make our region a better place to live. With your support, we forged ahead to protect the Ohio River Valley from industries that pollute our air, soil, and water, and continued to encourage our fellow residents to imagine not only a better quality of life for themselves and their community, but for the natural environment as well.

If your membership has lapsed, please renew today. Our members are our most important asset. Right now—if the pandemic is impacting your finances—you may waive your membership fee, but there are also many other ways to contribute. Are you able to volunteer your time and talent? We always need folks to write letters to the editor, attend and speak at hearings, and act as proofreaders and researchers, to name a few.

As you well know, our fight is far from over. Politicians from regions most impacted by environmental destruction are increasingly acting to protect polluters. We need your help to stand against those who value profit over people and ignore the consequences to our health and the environment. If you are able, please make a one-time or a recurring contribution, or consider OVEC in your estate planning.

If you have questions, please contact us at info@ohvec.org or call (304) 522-0246. To make a donation, visit us at ohvec.org or complete and return the form below.

 - - - - - Clip and return with membership payment - - - - -

YES! I want to help protect West Virginia communities, and our air, land, and water. I am enclosing my annual membership renewal or donation made payable to “OVEC”. Donations to OVEC are tax deductible.

Expiration date: _____

Membership waiver @ \$0
or Basic membership @ \$20
or Sustainer membership @ \$60
or Major Donor @ 250 \$ _____

Do you want to receive printed *Winds of Change* newsletters?

☐ Yes, please mail quarterly newsletters to me.

☐ No (I read it online at ohvec.org)

Additional donation: \$ _____ Phone number: _____

Total: \$ _____ Email: _____