Making America a great place for walking by working collaboratively to share knowledge, advance policies and implement effective campaigns to promote safe, convenient and accessible walking conditions for all.
People have been walking for 4 million years, and throughout history communities were designed for people getting around on foot. In the mid 20th century, motorized vehicles and the “American Dream” of suburban life drew people away from this fundamental part of our nature.

The pendulum now has swung. In 2013, our old-school human trait is back in vogue, as are communities that are safe and comfortable for walking. The demand has grown so rapidly that opportunities to reside in walkable communities are in limited supply. Unfortunately, this also means that many people can’t afford to live where they are able to walk safely to enjoy life’s basic necessities such as fresh food, schools and parks.

In 2013, America Walks worked with national and community-based organizations, elected leaders, and federal agencies to shift this supply-demand paradox. We have seen an explosion in policy change, program innovation, and communications to Make America a Great Place to Walk!

America Walks is the “backbone organization” of a partnership of organizations called the Every Body Walk! Collaborative. In this role, America Walks staffed Collaborative successes, including the first National Walking Summit. We also drove a record number of comments to the U.S. Surgeon General’s proposed Call to Action on Walking and Walkability, and increased awareness of the importance of walking and walkability through over 100 media channels.

America Walks supports a network of more than 570 state and local organizations. We represented you in our nation’s capital, as the only voice focused singly on improving conditions for all to walk and roll. We supported this effort by providing on-line technical assistance including delivery of our highly successful webinar series and eight community-based workshops.

There are so many ways you can walk your talk. Start today by taking a walking meeting, bringing walking to your church congregation or employer, and becoming involved with your neighborhood association or local board to ensure the walking community is represented. Now, more than ever, your donations are welcomed to help us continue to grow the ranks of organizational partners to ensure that the walker’s view always is represented in legislation and regulations that govern our highways, roads, and streets.

In 2014, we will accelerate our progress. America Walks will continue to expand the national dialogue, advance federal policies, and support organizations to lead successful campaigns to achieve the most fundamental of human rights – walking. Walk with us.
EVERY BODY WALK! COLLABORATIVE America Walks began our role as the central supporting structure of the Collaborative, a partnership of 100 national organizations dedicated to making walking and walkability a valued part of every community, organizing meetings and sustaining the work teams, holding workshops, and leading the National Walking Summit. Our collaborative released new publications and survey results to better understand attitudes and preferences towards walking.

2013 NATIONAL WALKING SUMMIT & WALK THE HILL DAY America Walks and the Everybody Walk! Collaborative organized the first National Walking Summit that drew 400 participants to the two and one-half day event in Washington, DC. The sold-out event helped propel the movement by connecting and energizing national, state and local partners to increase walking and make communities more walkable. America Walks held a “Walk the Hill Day” where 75 attendees visited Congressional offices to advocate for improved federal policies for pedestrian infrastructure and safety.

U.S. SURGEON GENERAL’S CALL TO ACTION ON WALKING & WALKABILITY (CTAWW) America Walks and the Collaborative helped drive a record number of public comments to federal register for the Call to Action on Walking and Walkability.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS Our network of state and local partners surpassed 570 in 2013. These organizations, business, and coalitions all believe in a Vision for a Walkable America. We provided these partners with on-line learning (below) and in-person networking opportunities through the Walking Summit.

ON-LINE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE America Walks continued our successful series of webinars and discussion forums, producing 14 on-line learning events, engaging nearly 5,000 people on a variety of topics related to walking and walkability.

COMMUNITY-BASED WORKSHOPS America Walks conducted eight community-based workshops throughout the nation, supporting health, transportation, and economic development coalitions to create strategies to advance walking and make communities more walkable. Workshops included: Austin, TX; Colorado Springs, CO; Omaha, NE; Greater Portland, Oregon; and Door County, Wisconsin.

“Working with America Walks connects our expertise creating healthy, vibrant communities with America Walks’ grassroots audience and its network of partners in public health, economic opportunity, and the environment.”

Laura MacNeil, MTA, principal author of Steps to a Walkable Community
2013 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

REVENUE TOTAL $462,905

- 10% Contributions and grants $46,291
- 2% In-kind contributions $9,258
- 8% Summit registration fees $37,032
- 80% Government and private contract revenue $370,324

EXPENSES $449,108

- 91% Program Services $410,188
- 6% Management $28,398
- 3% Fundraising $10,522
“We are very excited to have a very active role in the built environment world and it was truly catalyzed by our hosting the America Walks workshop.”

Mina Liebert,
Director of Live Well
Colorado Springs

OUR SUPPORTERS

BENEFICIARIES
Kaiser Permanente
Kaiser Foundation
Community Benefit Grants

PROGRAM SUPPORT
Kaiser Permanente
Centers for Disease Control
with American Public Health Association
National Center Safe Routes to School

VISIONARY
AARP
Anonymous Donor
Federal Highway Administration
MIG, Inc.

STRIDERS
Alta Planning + Design Inc.
Carmanah Technologies Corp.
Kineteks Corporation/Tractivity
Molly O’Reilly
Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Dr. Penny Stern
Weissman-Landman Family Foundation
Xclamation Media & Communications Group Inc.

PACESETTERS
AARP-Oregon
Alliance for Biking & Walking
Scott Bricker
Carter Headrick
Wendy Landman
Landman Family Trust
Molly O’Reilly
Adetokunbo ‘Toks’ Omishakin
Kathy Smith

STEPPERS
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STREPSERS
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Active Transportation Alliance
BluePoint Planning
Complete Streets Coalition
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Jeffrey Miller
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Natural Horizons Wellness Centers

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Synergy LLC
Tenge Law
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NATIONAL STEERING COMMITTEE ORGANIZATIONS
AARP
Active Transportation Alliance
Alliance for Biking & Walking
America Bikes
American Heart Association
Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals
American Public Health Association
Blue Point Planning
Idaho Bicycle and Pedestrian Coalition
Initiative for Bicycle and Pedestrian Innovation, Portland State University
MIG, Inc.
National Center on Senior Transportation
National Complete Streets Coalition
PedNet Coalition
Project for Public Spaces
Rails To Trails Conservancy
Safe Routes to School National Partnership
Synergy, LLC
Walkable and Livable Communities Institute

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