#### It Takes a Village



The TAM connects people with MALT lands

#### **Welcome Emma!!**



With 11 months of impact ahead of her, Emma Schneider joins the MALT team as this year's ECOAmeriCorps Member! Emma will be MALT's 4th full-time member in 5 years, and her impact will surely stack up alongside her predecessor's. What is she looking forward to most? Living in the present so she can soak in all that MALT is. Emma hails from Massachusetts, is a UVM grad, and loves to wonder about the beautiful world we live in. Welcome to the MALT family, Emma!

# We couldn't do it without VOLUNTEERS 2,846 hours dedicated to MALT's mission



John and Jack repair the TAM's 20+ boardwalks

We value all of our volunteers, THANK YOU!

And for their exceptional contributions we thank:

Jim Payne, Kirk Fiske, Monument Farms,
Michael Corbett, Carl Robinson,
Glen Wehrwein, Jett Landscaping,
Chris Zeoli, Doug Gourney, Jason
Chance, John Derick, Susan Polk,
Bill Roper, the MALT Board,
and many more!

Trail fairies leave the MALT team some gratitude



#### 200 NEW Members Since 2017

MALT membership history...

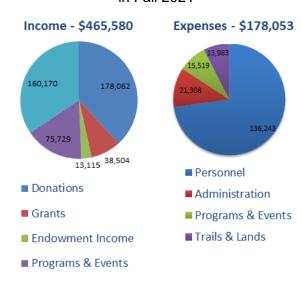
Year	Membership
2017	134
2018	245
2019	274
2020	301
2021	332!!

# We are investing funds to strengthen MALT's mission:

\$\text{Invested \$262,762 in the TAM Endowment}

NEW full-time seasonal TAM maintenance position in Summer 2021

NEW full-time Education Manager in Fall 2021



■ Conservation Income





## **2021 Impact Report**

#### **Middlebury Area Land Trust**

Connecting people with the lands we protect



#### Our Mission...

Working with our community to conserve natural and productive landscapes, and enhance scenic, recreation, and education opportunities.

### **NEW Staff and Strategic Plan in 2022**



MALT Staff and Board at the 2021
Summer Retreat

In MALT's next chapter, we will connect people with the lands we protect by embarking on a NEW Strategic Plan and welcoming a NEW full-time Education Manager and TAM Trail Crew Member. The Education Manager will lead and deliver all ways MALT engages people, offering new adult and family programs, establishing a scholarship program, engaging

local youth throughout the school year. The Trail Crew Member will provide critical maintenance in a full time capacity during each growing season.

A few things will shift for MALT's existing staff. Caleb has been promoted to Lands & Trails Manager and will dedicate more time to stewarding our lands and coordinating trail activities. Caleb will continue to teach his favorite education programs, making sure his enthusiasm and dynamic way with kids remain a part of MALT's programming culture. I will continue to serve as Executive Director and shift my focus to leading our mission, engaging our community in philanthropy, and supporting our growing team.

The coming years will forge new partnerships and cultivate existing ones, emphasize a strategic approach to conservation, make our trails more accessible, and raise critical funds for our work. I look forward to serving in these core competencies and helping MALT thrive,

Jamie Jo Brookside, Executive Director

#### A Gift from Caleb to our Community

In the early months of the pandemic, staff member Caleb Basa built MALT's teaching shelter and playground in Otter Creek Gorge. The structure and space are pivotal in expanding our community's connection to the forest during a time when we need it more than ever. Inspired by grandmother White Oak, this shelter has provided a space to dig deeper for the magic and wonders of Otter Creek Gorge, an invitation to explore and be curious outdoors. Whether MALT campers revisit the skull of a Minotaur or a hiker takes a brief break on the rope swing, this space opens the door for all to expand their connection to the land. It is a place of peace, curiosity, and inspiration, continuously watched over by the Majestic white oak. We invite you to stop by in any season and spend a moment with this gift from Caleb.



# TAM Trek 2021 was miles of joy!

276
Participants!!
\$17,800 Raised
New Women's
19-mile record!



The smiles and miles were endless! 276 people participated in an event that's grown by 200 participants and \$10,000 in just four years. Thank you for celebrating the TAM with MALT!





Photos by Josh Hummel

#### Willard's Woods Conserved

In December 2020 MALT conserved 130+ acres in Lincoln, donated by Will Jackson. Cherished for its public trails, quiet forests, and stunning views of Mt. Abe, MALT is deeply grateful to Will, our donors, and the Lincoln Selectboard for making this project possible. MALT's AmeriCorps Member Emma reflects on her ribbon cutting ceremony experience, "On October 6<sup>th</sup>,

Willard Jackson cut the ribbon at Willard's Woods. It was an absolutely beautiful day that continued into a peacefully clear night. I wasn't expecting to cry, but I started when Jamie expressed her gratitude for what Will had done with his donation, continued when Will spoke on the importance of the land to the children of Lincoln, and again when I read the sentences written by kids about how they feel when playing in Willard's Woods."



Land donor Willard Jackson cuts the red ribbon