



# 2023 IMPACT REPORT - AT A GLANCE -

## TRIP & EVENT PARTICIPATION

We served **over 1200** people across the country in 2023 – that’s almost double last year’s participation count!

## EDUCATION

In 2023, our **9 Beyond Bathrooms** facilitators trained **400+** people across the nation – from high school students to top outdoor brands, and more!

## TRIP & EVENT DEMOGRAPHICS

TVOP hosted events in **18 states + D.C.** in 2023. Of attending participants:

- **56%** ID’d as something other than cisgender
- **17%** ID’d as something other than white
- **20%** ID’d as a person with a disability
- Most were **25-40 years old**, but span from 8 months to 74 years!
- Our community members enthusiastically participated in helping reduce financial barriers for others by ‘paying it forward’ on our sliding scale pricing model. About half paid more, so the remaining half could pay less. That’s community helping community!

## COMING IN 2024

- New trips and adventures, including bikepacking!
- 3rd annual AOTA trail running festival – sponsor the event and join us on race day!
- Volunteer Program development

## GET INVOLVED

- Consider a multi-year partnership – it helps us help you!
- Hire us for your team’s DEI training – from keynotes to Trans inclusivity workshops and more!
- Collaborate on events, co-branded merch, and marketing efforts



2023  
**IMPACT  
REPORT**



## COMMUNITY WRAP-UP

### BACKCOUNTRY & OVERNIGHT ADVENTURES

Our team of full- and part-time instructors led...

- **21** two- to eight-day long programs, from New England to the PNW
- **236** participants in skill, challenge, and community-focused adventures, from backpacking to woodworking and more!

### VOLUNTEER & DAY ADVENTURES

Our **22** volunteers are vital to the success of The Venture Out Project, leading over half of our overall program participants in 2023.

- They led **50+** adventures, from Queer Stargazing to Biking, Hiking, Ecology and more
- **362** participants attended volunteer-led day programs in 2023

### EDUCATION

Our Beyond Bathrooms Trans Inclusivity Workshop peaked in 2023...

- We trained **9** new facilitators to lead our workshops
- Our facilitators trained over **400** individuals across the nation and overseas, virtually and in-person

### ALL OF THE ABOVE TRAIL RUNNING FESTIVAL

**OCT 2023:** In its second year, our annual fundraiser (The All of the Above Trail Festival or AOTA for short)...

- Attracted **200+** attendees to run, hike, and hang out in celebration of LGBTQ+ identities in the outdoors
- Met our goal of **\$30,000** for our General Operating Fund!



**In total, TVOP served 600+ LGBTQ+ people across the country and 200+ additional AOTA Participants.**





**"TVOP** is the paradigm for the modern queer seeking a safe, exciting and dynamic outdoor experience. Expert guides led me on a self discovery of community and identity. **A must do!**"

Queer Canoe Participant

# THIS YEAR, WE RAN

## 70+ EVENTS IN 18 STATES + D.C.

Participants traveled from **30 states + D.C.** to attend a TVOP trip or event. Of those registered:

- **56%** ID'd as something other than cisgender
- **17%** ID'd as something other than white
- **20%** ID'd as a person with a disability

Participant ages ranged from 74 years to 8 months old, with our most prominent categories being **ages 25-40.**

### COMMUNITY HELPING COMMUNITY

In 2023, we transitioned to **sliding-scale pricing** across all of our trips and events. The 'self-serve' style of sliding scale reduces barriers that exist in a traditional scholarship application process, as well as eliminates decision-making bias and empowers other community members with more access to financial resources to 'pass it on' when and how they can.

In the end, we found we had **about the same number of people** pay at the higher end of the sliding scale as the lower end - which means our community members enthusiastically participated in **helping reduce financial barriers** for others.



# DEMOGRAPHICS



“On this trip I felt emotional and physically supported, where I could ask for help, take a break, go slower, and not feel judged or shamed. **I felt joy and empowerment** working up a sweat, challenging my body, and getting adrenaline flowing not to show off or burn calories or "get fit" but **out of our shared love for the outdoors.**”

Plus Size Backpacking Participant



## IN 2024, WE'RE BUILDING BRIDGES AND GROWING NETWORKS.

### EXPANDING EVENTS & GROWING CAREERS

Building our team enables us to **build our programming**, and therefore meet the needs of potentially hundreds more LGBTQ+ people from across the country. In 2024, we're excited to expand our trip offerings in **distance, difficulty, and adventure type** as well as grow our staff of **full-time instructors** to help support the success of the upcoming summer season.

With that said, we're stoked to announce the addition of **Bikepacking** to our list of summer adventures! Keep an eye out for all of this and more during our 2024 Summer Trip Launch.

### AOTA TRAIL RUNNING FESTIVAL 2024

In its third year, we're looking to grow AOTA to be a notable event in the outdoor community across the nation. We're setting our sights high, marking this year's fundraising goal at **\$50,000**. Through brand sponsorships, participant fundraising efforts and more, we're investing in the **continued development** of our annual trail running fundraiser.

### SUPPORTING VOLUNTEERS

Our volunteer program proved to be one of our most outstanding program models to date - that's why, in 2024, we'll be investing in the management, support, and oversight of our volunteer staff to **increase retention, diversify program offerings, and develop queer outdoor representation** across the country.

**PSST!**

Summer trips are coming!  
Mark your calendars for **Jan. 22, 2024** and reach out if you want to help share the message!

“I felt I could go on my own journey alongside **new friends**, and **great guides**, who were willing and able to see and hear **my truth**, and what I could offer.”

Queer Backpacking Participant





# GET INVOLVED

CONTACT OUR PARTNERSHIPS TEAM:  
[ana@ventureoutproject.com](mailto:ana@ventureoutproject.com)

## FEEL LIKE RUNNING?

Help us reach our fundraising goal in the year ahead - Have your brand sponsor a team for our 3rd annual AOTA trail fest, and we'll see you out there!

**YOU CAN  
HELP US  
BY HIRING  
US TO  
HELP YOU.**

## EXPLORE MULTI-YEAR PARTNERSHIPS

The bottom line is - our Brand Partners enable the work that we do. **Multi-year partnerships** provide financial support for our organization, granting us time to plan, prep, and execute large-scale activations. If you've not yet explored a multi-year partnership with us, book a time to chat through all the ways you can get involved with supporting The Venture Out Project in 2024!

## ENGAGE WITH BEYOND BATHROOMS

**Sharing our education** opportunities with your place of work helps us reach new audiences, and supports our goals of changing the narrative around queer and trans bodies in the world of outdoor recreation. For those who have already attended a Beyond Bathroom workshop: We're working to build out further iterations of our beloved program, so past supporters can continue to learn with, and support, our nonprofit organization.

## COLLABORATE WITH US

Have an idea for an Employee Resource Group trip, or want to partner for a participant-facing event? Do you dream about co-branded merch, utilizing our network of LGBTQ+ designers and creatives? Want to pass your 2024 Pride Campaign through our queer and trans marketing crew? **We want to hear from you!** Reach out to our Partnerships team with your mile-high vision and let's see how we can make an impact in 2024.



**THANKS  
FOR  
ANOTHER  
GREAT  
YEAR!**

