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## Dear Friends,

It takes community to build a foundation.

For 75 years the Foundation for Intentional Community (FIC) has supported creative dreamers and ambitious builders to reimagine and remember ways for humans to live in harmony with one another and the planet.



In a world fixated on individualism and compliance, we invite you to join us in imagining what we might become together.

Every intentional community is a living laboratory, a beta test center, for how we can live high quality lives that cause minimal harm. These are places for remembering cooperation, feeling our vulnerability, listening to the land, and developing new skills. Although they are not utopias, it is in our *practice* that we succeed.

The FIC is the movement's communal toolshed to access the skills, teachings, and conversations of today's dreamers and builders.

Sometimes it's messy (just like any communal tool shed), but you'll almost always find what you're looking for.

The world desperately needs the dreams, hopes, and imaginations of people living together, and the solutions that they have created and are pioneering in their intentional communities. Will you join us?

In community,
Daniel Greenberg & Kim Kanney
FIC Co-Directors

### The FIC Team

Arguably the strongest asset within the FIC's organization is its team of paid staff and volunteer board of directors.



Shannon Farm, August 2024

We span 7 time zones, 5 countries & territories, and we fluently speak 6 languages. We share about our lives at the start of every meeting, know one another's pets by name, and offer support when we experience challenges in our personal lives. When we are together we laugh, dance, and hug tightly. We are more than a staff, we are a community.

All nine members of our permanent team work part-time for FIC.

Our cumulative hours are the equivalent of 2.6 full time employees!

Despite limited hours, we achieve a lot:

 We run a complex website with an eCommerce store, an online learning platform, a directory of communities, and a library of resources

• We host several webinars, workshops & courses every month

• We communicate with our community regularly through social media, newsletters, customer support & online events

We manage a budget and the admin involved in running a nonprofit

• We travel and speak on behalf of FIC, building strong bridges along the way

• We do a LOT!

We believe we achieve so much because each of us care about what we do. We believe in the FIC and we believe in this movement.

Imagine what we could do with double the hours!



# 2024 Highlights

#### Where do we go from here?

Sky Blue writes an open letter to the intentional communities movement at a crossroads, urging us to consider our next steps forward.





FIC strengthens its "community of communities" by launching an upgraded **community membership** with added benefits and more opportunities for communities to be active agents of the movement.

Daniel Greenberg, FIC Co-Director, represents FIC at the **GEN Europe Ecovillage Gathering in Ängsbacka**, Sweden.

FIC kicks off the inaugural **Convergence of Intentional Communities (CIC)** event in
collaboration with the Twin Oaks Communities
Conference. CIC is a 2-day movement building
event to help us build stronger relationships
between intentional communities.



JANUARY

**FEBRUARY** 

**APRIL** 

Select each image for a corresponding link

Cynthia Tina & FIC collaborate to kickoff a new event series called "**Blueprints for Belonging**" Cynthia speaks to expert guests on many topics from visioning and planning to execution.



Rebecca Mesritz, host of **Inside Community Podcast, announces Season 2** with a new lineup of guests and topics that address the beautiful and messy parts of community.

JUNE

AUGUST

SEPTEMBER

FIC achieves a record-setting number of staff to attend an **in-person retreat at Shannon Farm**. **Community**. Seven staff and four board members were present for reflection, brainstorming and coworking in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains.

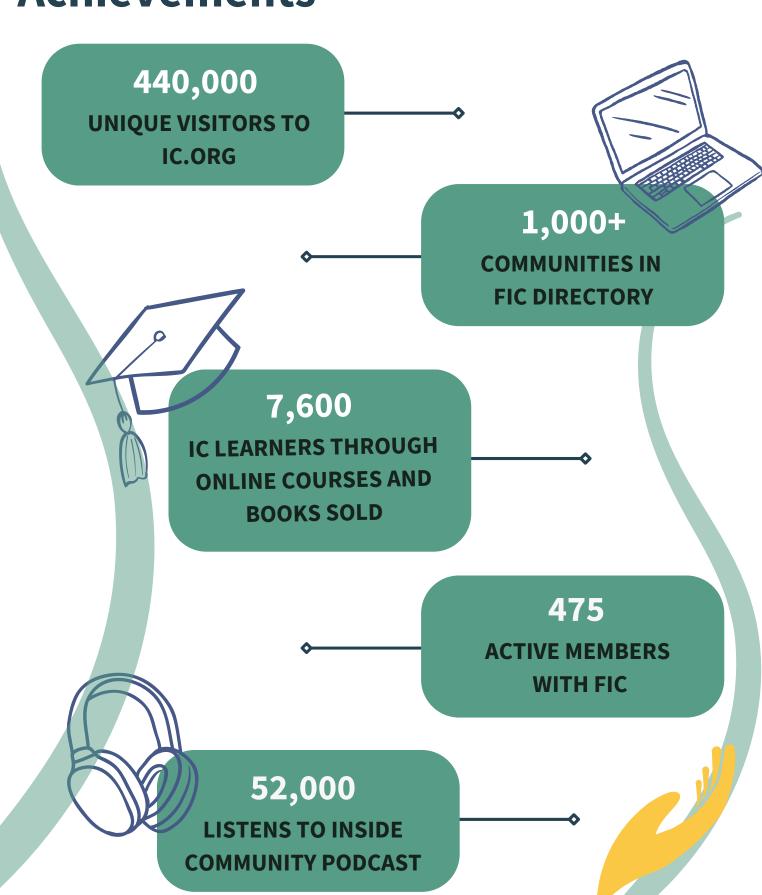


It takes
COMMUNITY
to build a
foundation

FIC launches the **It Takes Community webinar series**. In this 5-part series, we highlight the most relevant topics in communities today - from resiliency to regenerative business.

**DECEMBER** 

## **Achievements**



# The Communal Toolshed

The FIC is the **Communal Toolshed** with the resources *you* need and want. We are in service to *you* so that your intentional community experience is meaningful, successful, and inspiring.

1

Easy navigation & improved access to courses, podcast episodes, blog articles and books

Engagement
through membership,
the Communities
Council & active
working groups

Support and guidance from a passionate team eager to ensure you succeed

Detailed information about communities in a new online directory platform

Access to shared documents from established & successful communities

# **Financial Report**

Phew! We did it! With the help of donors like you, we were able to protect FIC from the threat of closing its doors in late 2023. We also made difficult decisions about expenditure cuts that helped us work within our means.

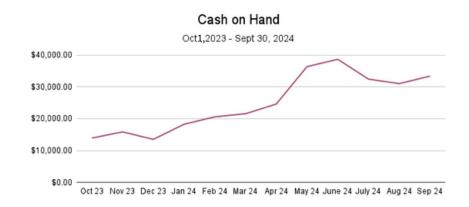
#### Within the first six months of 2024 we more than doubled our cash on hand.

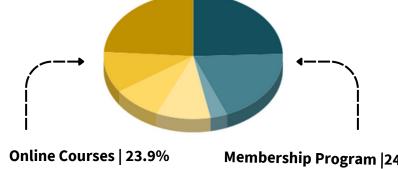
The additional cash helps us to have an adequate emergency fund to get us through variations in our income and expenses.

54% of our income derives from products and services; this part of our income has been decreasing over the last 3 years. 46% of our income relies on the support of our members, donors and sponsors.

# Our aim is to shift from surviving to thriving!

The FIC will complete fiscal year 2024 with an income of \$170,000 and expenses of \$152,000. Our aim for 2025 is to increase our income streams by 15% while maintaining current expenditures so that the FIC can build its savings and invest in its programs and people in the future.

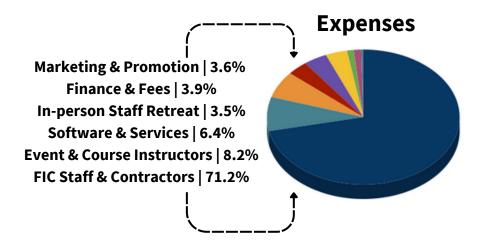




Revenue

Online Courses | 23.9% Workshops & Webinars | 10.6% Communities Bookstore | 8.8% Classified & Banner Ads | 9.7%

Membership Program |24.4% Donations | 19.4% Sponsorship Program | 3%



## Support the FIC

It takes community to build the resilient, cooperative and just world we imagine. What have we shared with you that impacted your life irreversibly? How deep do you think our impact could be? Your financial contribution will help us...

- Pay for the software that gets the resources into your hands
- Upgrade our free online directory to connect communities and seekers
- Create informative and educational content for all paths on the community journey
- Provide the FIC team with a living, equitable wage
- Ensure we can build an emerging Communities Council and its Working Groups

#### Select each button below for more information



# **Reflections & Responsibilities**

We all came into this movement with similar values for equity, peace, sustainability, and harmony. Despite our good intentions, we still sometimes cause harm - even within our organization. Some of the harm caused is perpetuating white supremacy culture and encouraging harmful land acquisition practices.

# We believe that those of us who benefit from this system have a responsibility to work to change it.

As an organization that promotes and supports land-based intentional communities, reconciling with our collective history on stolen land is a complicated entanglement. We at the FIC recognize the privilege inherent in one's ability to buy land, access resources, and start businesses. And when that has been achieved, we might unintentionally create communities that are unwelcoming or outright hostile to people who are not like us.

The FIC is committed to looking at the ways in which we play a central role in perpetuating white supremacy, oppression and marginalization in intentional communities. We hope to facilitate more conversations about DEIJ and social justice in 2025 and invite you to join us.

Read our DEIJ
Statement

### **BIPOC IC Council**

The Black, Indigenous, People of Color Intentional Community Council (BIPOC ICC) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit that seeks to inspire, support, and assist BIPOC and other oppressed or disenfranchised groups to create intentional communities. In four years, BIPOC ICC have grown to a membership of 200 individuals and have distributed \$28,000 in funds to BIPOC led projects!

The FIC continues to support its efforts because we support <u>landback</u>, reparations, and other initiatives that the BIPOC ICC is directly addressing.



Historically, the FIC has not made an effort to engage with indigenous or BIPOC led communities. We are now working to build stronger relationships with all ICs.

The Foundation for Intentional Community gives 10% of all its unrestricted donations each month to the BIPOC ICC.

We encourage you to also consider giving a one time or ongoing donation directly to the BIPOC ICC. The BIPOC Council hosts monthly support calls, holds events centering BIPOC voices, and funds intentional community projects through an annual regranting process.

Learn more about BIPOC-led IC's and their experiences by watching these recorded events hosted by the FIC:

Addressing Microaggressions in Community

Exploring the Resilient of Black Intentional Communities

Reviving the Black Cooperative & Intentional Community Movement

Rethinking the Future of Intentional Communities

## From Our Donors...



"I have partnered with the FIC in many ways over my research career, including for larger surveys and more intimate one-on-one interviews.

The organization has shown to me a real commitment to understanding what intentional communities mean to people, not just through their plentiful courses, workshops, etc. but also through my specialty as an academic researcher. If you want to support an organization that goes above and beyond in supporting the movement, I suggest you support the FIC."

Zach Rubin, Donor Associate Professsor of Sociology Lander University

"Learning to live together in ways that evidence personal responsibility and respect for others is a step towards larger goals of personal health, cooperation, and environmental protection. I'm grateful to the FIC for providing a hub of information and connection for the communities' movement. We at Magic sponsor them because we perceive them to be especially effective in promoting ecology-based culture essential to human well-being."

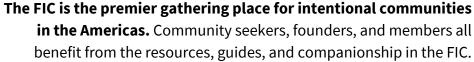


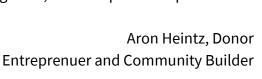
Hilary Hug, FIC Member & Sponsor Magic Community Resident Fellow



"FIC has been around [a long time] doing the basic work of community connection, building, and communication. It has been and is making a most meaningful contribution to the evolution of our society. I am happy to contribute to it."

Eric N. Best, Ph.D., Legacy Donor Founder of the Mariposa Group







# Thank you!



#### **Foundation for Intentional Community**

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