

- **Acknowledging that we are living in the historic territory of the Abenaki people**, who have endured displacement, oppression, and genocide over the past 200+ years, but who are still here. VWS is working with the Akomawt Educational Initiative to improve Native representation and acknowledgment in our program offerings and trainings. And in 2020 we will offer a Native Studies class, led by a local majority-Native teaching team. (Join us!)
- **Training teachers, managers, and parents to bring nature connection principles into their classrooms, workplaces, and families.** Over the past 20 years we have trained over a thousand people in our effective methods for nature connection mentoring and program design.
- **Building a movement.** VWS has taken a leadership role in helping create a network of 47 other like-minded wilderness schools around the region. Together we are responding to the interlocking global crises of climate disruption, disconnection from nature, and the insidious mindset of extraction and domination.

We could not, and will not, be able to do all this without your support. Without you, all we could manage would be to run a few fun programs for youth here in the Brattleboro area. But the world is calling us— all of us— to do more. VWS is ready to answer that call. Please join us as we embark on our next 20 years.



Please help us fill our 2020 Scholarship Fund.  
We need to raise \$30,000 by December 31.  
 So far we've raised \$3,500, and we have \$26,500 to go!

With gratitude,

Sam Stegeman  
 Executive Director

On behalf of  
 The VWS Board  
 &  
 The VWS Staff

P.S. **100% of your donation will provide scholarship funds. Please give by December 31.**

P.P.S. I hope you'll join us for our **20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020**. Details coming soon!