

# STUDENT EMPLOYEE SNAPSHOT

2023/2024

**Created By**

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Senior Lunch



Sustainable Wednesdays



Winter Dinner



Big 3 Move In



Sense of Place: CO Water Tour



NSO Welcome Back Fair



Ditch the Dumpster



Earth Week: Arbor Day



**The Office:** The student employee team at their first meeting of the year in front of the office.

## Team Snapshots

The 2023-2024 academic year was a remarkable one for the Office of Sustainability, with our largest student employee team yet, comprising of 16 dedicated students across 6 diverse teams. Their hard work and passion for sustainability have driven impactful projects and initiatives across campus. The following pages highlight the contributions of each team, showcasing the meaningful work they do to advance sustainability at Colorado College. From community engagement to hands-on projects, these students have played a vital role in shaping CC to be a model for sustainability.

# Administrative Assistant Team

**Adelaide Olberding '26**

Administrative Assistant

**Alyce Watt '27**

Administrative Assistant

The Administrative Assistant team is essential to the Office of Sustainability, providing vital behind-the-scenes support year-round. This team is integral to the smooth functioning of our office, handling a diverse range of administrative responsibilities. This includes overseeing the sustainability email and ensuring that initiatives, programs, and events are effectively communicated across the college. Taking charge of planning office events, ensuring that gatherings and activities run seamlessly. Additionally, this team is an important link between in-office teams and facilitates coordination between our office and other departments/offices. Their role also extends to managing our e-waste program and properly disposing of unwanted electronic waste. Furthermore, they are always ready to take on additional tasks, demonstrating their adaptability and dedication to supporting the office's operations.



**Spring Revival:** The OOS team showcasing their custom-designed artwork on reusable tote bags.

## Team Highlights

- Event Planning Success:** The Administrative Assistant team was responsible for organizing 4 internal office events, including the Meet and Greet, Winter Dinner, Spring Revival, and End-of-Year Celebration. This required the coordination of reserving event spaces, procuring catering, and planning activities during the event for the entire office.
- Managing the E-Waste Collection:** Over the course of that year, the team organized 4 e-waste drop-off events. More than 100 CC community members participated in these drop-off events, responsibly disposing of their e-waste. These gatherings reduced the necessity for individual e-waste pickups, increasing the accessibility and efficiency of the program. Working with E-Tech Recyclers, over 21,000 lbs. of e-waste was collected that year.
- Earth Week Support:** During spring, the Administrative Assistant team played a vital role in communicating and publicizing Earth Week events happening across the college hosted by other offices, departments, and clubs. This involved working with campus partners to obtain event details and graphics for the Earth Week webpage, ensuring timely updates and accuracy.



**Block 8 E-Waste Drop-Off Event:** The Administrative Assistant Team, Watt (left) and Olberding (right), helping community members at a drop-off event.

# STARS Team

**Brigitte Arcoite '24**

STARS Intern

**Louise Dellarco '26**

STARS Intern

**Programmatic Volunteers**

Mimi Allehaut '24, Ella Simons '25, & Jessie Squires '26

The STARS® team is dedicated to their efforts to collecting, reviewing, and reporting annual sustainability data to comprehensively and consistently track institution-wide sustainability efforts. This data is subsequently published via the STARS® Platform, ensuring transparency and accountability for institutional commitments. Following months of data gathering from stakeholders across the college, the team allocates their time to preparing the State of Sustainability report, aimed at educating the Colorado College community about the current state of sustainability at the institution. Within the report, the team identifies challenges and opportunities that exist at all levels of the institutional level.

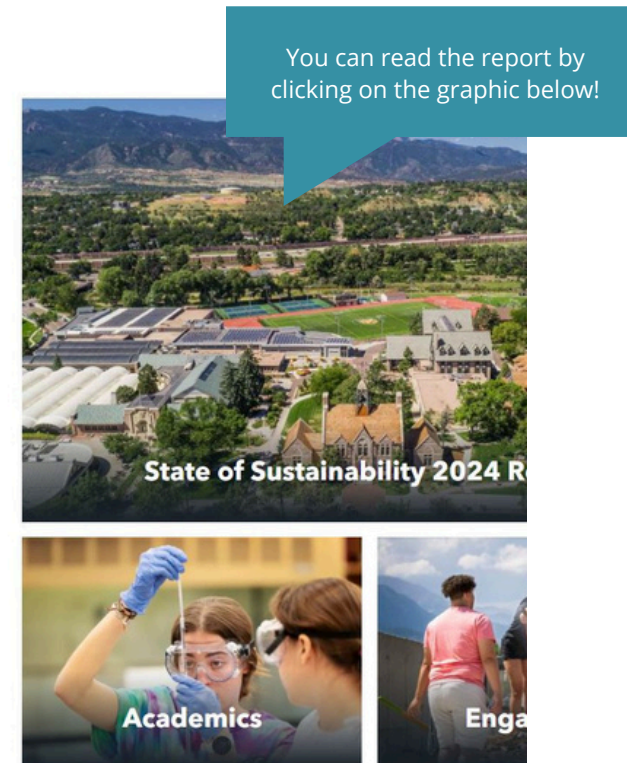


**STARS Team:** The STARS team outside of the OOS, Arcoite (left) and Dellarco (right).



**Get started**

Start with #1: "State of Sustainability 2024 Report" to learn about this year's State of Sustainability report! You will be able to follow the report chronologically or navigate around the categories based on your



“ I always come out of the Office with so many great memories. This year, my favorites were working with Louise, despite being buried deep within the data! I am grateful to have had Louise's infectious energy, ease some of the tediousness of the data, and I'm so grateful to have gotten to know her. The emphasis on teams and collaboration in the OOS has served me well these past four years. ”

- Arcoite '24

## Program & Project Recap

- Fall semester data collection involving over 25 unique data stakeholders across the college
- Spring semester data review and input into the STARS® platform
- Creation of the State of Sustainability Report 2023-24
- UCCS Office of Sustainability STARS® peer review collaboration
- Hosted block 4 Sustainable Wednesdays in Worner Campus Center
- Joint creation with the OOS Emissions team on a data stakeholder feedback survey

## Team Highlights

- **Fall Data Collection & Spring Review:** Throughout the fall semester, the team systematically gathers data from stakeholders across various college offices. This data spans five main areas: Academics, Engagement, Operations, Planning & Administration, and Innovation, totaling over 65 credits with numerous data points, making it a substantial undertaking. This spring, the STARS team implemented a rigorous internal review process for each data point collected by students and staff within the OOS to ensure accuracy and relevance. The college maintains its gold standing for the ninth consecutive year.
- **UCCS Collaboration:** For the first time since reporting to the STARS® platform, the Office of Sustainability collaborated with the University of Colorado Colorado Spring's Office of Sustainability for a peer review. This included independent auditors from both institutions reviewing the data entered into the platform, followed by multiple rounds of edits to ensure adherence to best practices prior to official submission.

# Communications Team

**Mahnoor Rehman '24**  
Communications Intern

**Jacob McDougall '24**  
Communications Intern

**Haley Outwater '25**  
Communications Intern

**Programmatic Volunteers**  
Adeline Turner '27 & Molly Vance '27

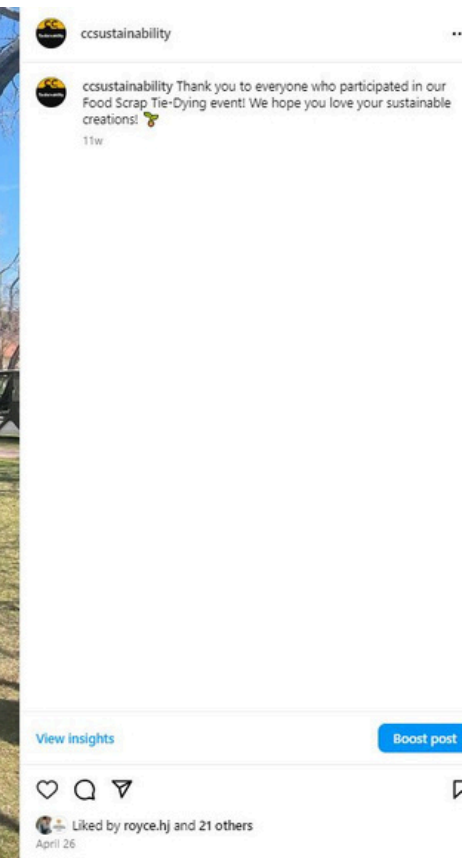
The Communications team led the marketing and messaging needs of the Office of Sustainability (OOS), while also assisting the other teams within the office to promote programs, events, and reports throughout the year. A key aspect of the responsibilities of this team included the monthly production of the newsletter that was distributed across campus, communicating upcoming programs, recapping events, and familiarizing the campus with the work of the Office of Sustainability. Additionally, the Communications team oversaw the management of the office's social media channels, actively engaging with the student community across various platforms.

## Program & Project Recap

- Produced 8 blockly newsletters with support from the Office of Communications & Marketing
- Updated the Worner Dashboard blockly
- Crafted targeted marketing campaigns for other OOS teams
- Managed social media channels, such as Instagram and Facebook
- Led marketing efforts for Earth Week, Ditch the Dumpster, and our office hiring initiatives
- Developed and published an updated sustainability virtual tour.
- Hosted Sustainable Wednesdays in Worner Campus Center
- Collaborated with HR to create and produce a Sustainability Orientation Video

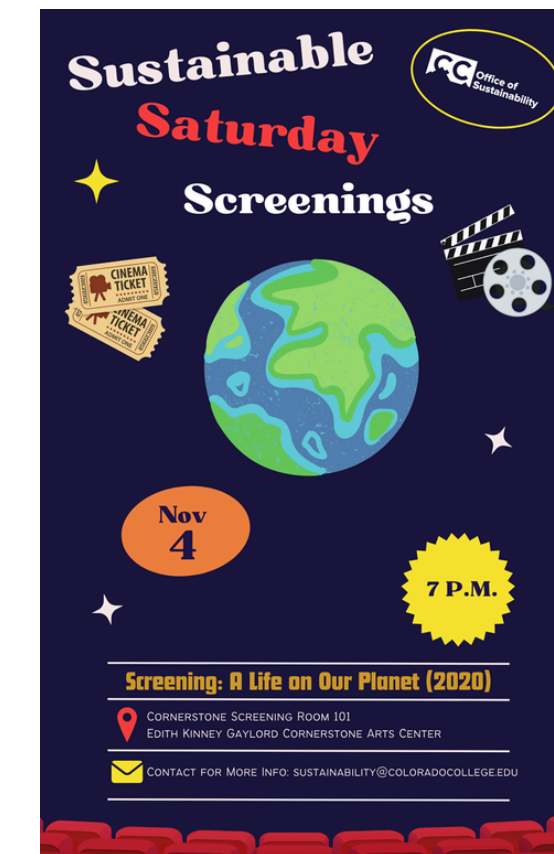
“ This year was really fun and exciting. I think my favorite memory from this year was when we were filming for the OOS orientation video. Although challenging, it was fun to be creative with the script and locations of the video. I enjoyed being outside filming little moments around sustainability and interviewing the people we work with. ”

- Rehman '24



## Team Highlights

Below are examples showcasing the Communications team's work throughout the year. They include an Instagram post during Earth Week, a snippet of one of the newsletters, a digital poster, and a snapshot from the orientation video.



### Emissions Travel Survey

Can you believe that it is almost Winter Break? As many of us gear up to travel for the holidays, we invite all students, staff, and faculty to participate in the OOS' annual Travel Survey! By giving just five minutes of your time to fill out the survey, you will help the Emissions Team understand transportation habits among students, staff, and faculty, guiding our alternative transportation projects to reduce emissions. As there are two different surveys, please make sure you select the appropriate survey, which closes on Dec. 8. To thank you for participating, you will be entered into a drawing for a \$25 gift card. Your contributions not only make our campus greener but also shape the future of sustainable commuting!

(Student Survey | Staff and Faculty Survey)

### Recap of Sustainable Wednesday and Film Screening

The first Sustainable Wednesday of the year was a success! The Waste Team introduced themselves through fun games at Worner Campus Center. We hope you were able to stop by and get a small peek into what our office is working on! Please join us for the next Sustainable Wednesday on Dec. 13 from 12:15-1:15 p.m. hosted by the STARS Team, where they will be hosting a sustainability-related trivia activity and handing out donuts as prizes.

On Nov. 4, the OOS hosted our first Sustainable Saturday Screening in collaboration with the Film and Media Studies Department by showing David Attenborough's riveting documentary, *A Life on Our Planet*. Through up-close documentation of current environmental changes, Attenborough helped viewers witness the urgent need for sustainability. By providing a window into the future, he gave the audience a chance to reflect on their impact and what sustainability means to them. We hope you can join us for our next Sustainable Saturday Screening in Block 5! Look out for more information to come.



# Emissions Team

**Erin Mullins '24**  
Emissions Intern

**Tam Phan '25**  
Emissions Intern

**Ethan Stewart '25**  
Emissions Intern

## Programmatic Volunteers

Emma Nawara '24, Christopher Burich '24, & Sadie Curtin-Adelman '27

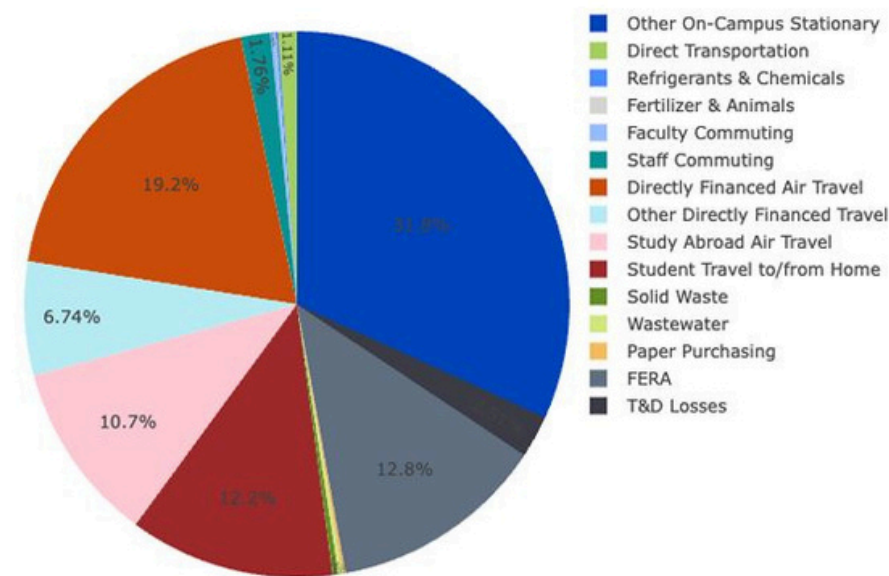
The Emissions Intern team is tasked with annually tracking CC's greenhouse gas emissions. The Emissions team collects, organizes, and calculates emissions with guidance from the Sustainability Director. These emissions stem from various sources including direct emissions from combustion and business travel, as well as associated emissions from purchased electricity, food sourcing, and student commuting. Additionally, this team focuses on cultivating a culture of sustainable transportation across the college. Working to spread awareness for Mountain Metro, increase engagement with PikeRide and bicycle programming, and develop the OOS voluntary travel offset program.

## Program & Project Recap

- Fall semester data collection with 12 unique data stakeholders
- Spring semester data review, calculation, and analysis
- Creation and publication of the Greenhouse Gas Technical Report
- Supported STARS® reporting by inputting and revising emissions data
- Collaboration with the OOS STARS team on a stakeholder feedback survey
- Public transportation proposal to Outdoor Ed for NSO
- Hosted Sustainable Wednesdays in Worner Campus Center
- Supported the Dean of the College travel offset program
- Class discussion with Dr. Roth from the EV Department about last year's Greenhouse Gas Technical report



Carbon: 2023



**Carbon Emissions Graph:** FY23 carbon emissions broken down by source to better understand the contributions of each emissions source to CC's aggregate emissions.

## FY23 Emissions Summary

Scopes	Emissions By Scope FY23	Percent Changes	
		FY08-FY23	FY22-FY23
Scope 1	7,838.23 MTCO <sub>2e</sub>	25.7%	7.71%
Scope 2	0 MTCO <sub>2e</sub>	100%*	100%*
Scope 3	15,849.10 MTCO <sub>2e</sub>	1.98%	22.3%
<b>23,687.33 MTCO<sub>2e</sub> (total) - 23,687.33 MTCO<sub>2e</sub> (offsets) = Net Zero Emissions!</b>			

- Moderate increases in natural gas and propane usage slightly increased Scope 1 emissions
- \*Scope 2 emissions are at 0 for the first time due to the purchasing of RECs at Baca and the CC Cabin, in addition to those having been purchased for the CC campus
- FY23 is CC's first full year back to normal campus operations, resulting in higher overall Scope 3 emissions

“During my internship, I gained valuable skills and knowledge that I can apply beyond CC. Learning how to collect, interpret, organize, and enter data into SIMAP, a sustainability management tool. I also developed the ability to plan and organize timelines for data collection, communicate effectively with institutional stakeholders, and ensure data accuracy. These experiences have equipped me with the skills... which are transferable to various roles requiring data analysis, project management, and communication skills.”

- Phan '25



# Waste Team

**Alexa Rennie '24**

Waste Intern

**Jasmine Sone '24**

Waste Intern

**Chase Hetler '25**

Waste Intern

**Programmatic Volunteers**

Martina Hasler Arantes '25, Lauren Moore '26,  
& Em Renetzky '27



**Top:** The Waste team (Rennie, Hetler, and Sone (left to right)) tabling at the CC Exchange & Waste spring pop-up. **Bottom:** Sone (right) engaging with a CC student at a Sustainable Wednesdays event.

“During my waste internship, I gained valuable project management, leadership, and communication skills. Balancing multiple projects with outside commitments is not easy, and requires self-discipline and time management skills. I learned that this balancing act is made easier with the support of a team and consistent and transparent communication.”

- Hetler '25



The Waste team in the OOS is dedicated to implementing a diverse array of waste programming and educational initiatives across campus, aiming to enhance understanding and improve waste management practices. Through various projects and initiatives, they strive to decode the intricacies of waste at CC, identifying key areas for improvement. The team's primary objectives include reducing waste generation campus-wide and increasing waste diversion into proper streams for recycling and composting. By collaborating with students, faculty, and staff, the team endeavors to foster a culture of environmental stewardship and responsible waste management within CC.

## Program & Project Recap

- Lead the Plant Library program
- Managed the Campus Compost program
- Implemented the 'I Don't Know Bin' Campaign in the Big 3 dorms
- Completed the waste infrastructure project for academic and administrative buildings with Facilities Services
- Worked on planning documents for a waste infrastructure project for residential buildings
- Consulted and provided recommendations with the Office of Admissions to explore alternative water bottle options for visitors on campus
- Developed targeted educational campaigns across campus for students
- Collaborated with Bon Appetit on several waste initiatives
- Hosted Sustainable Wednesdays in Worner Campus Center

“During my internship, one memorable aspect was the opportunity to build meaningful relationships with my colleagues who shared a similar dedication to sustainability at CC. These connections not only led to valuable friendships and provided a platform for personal growth but also offered insights into my own working style, boundaries, and professional identity.”

- Sone '24

## Team Highlights

- **Plant Library Program:** The Plant Library aims to educate students about the benefits of houseplants and promote their propagation across CC's residential spaces. Launched as a pilot in spring 2024 and officially introduced in fall 2024 by Rennie '24, the Waste Team hosted two plant exchange pop-up events during the year, distributing a total of 29 plants to students.
- **I Don't Know Bin Campaign:** The "I Don't Know Bin" campaign, introduced this year, provides a solution for individuals unsure of where to properly dispose of their trash by encouraging them to use a designated bin. Through audits conducted in the Big 3 Dorm, the Waste team identified the top five items causing diversion confusion:
  - napkins and paper towels
  - paper
  - plastic bottles and containers
  - snack bags and wrappers
  - food and liquid waste

The team plans on conducting targeted educational programs for the upcoming year with this data. As a pilot project initiated during the spring semester, the team is looking forward to refining and scaling the campaign for improved waste diversion across campus.

# CC Exchange Team

**Kate Lamkin '24**  
CC Exchange Intern

**Paige Simenz '24**  
CC Exchange Intern

**Malia Rivera '24**  
CC Exchange Intern

**Programmatic Volunteers**  
Avery Lane '27 & Anna Paul '27

The CC Exchange is dedicated to advancing sustainability and equity for students by offering a space to recirculate goods such as clothing, books, household items, and more, all at no cost. The goal of this program is to minimize waste and enhance waste diversion on campus. We achieve this by partnering with community members both on and off-campus, and by creating a space that supports students' well-being by addressing their basic needs and beyond. Located in Worner Campus Center, the CC Exchange is open to the community for donations and operates weekly on Thursdays. As a dynamic and adaptable initiative within the Office of Sustainability, the CC Exchange is committed to making a positive impact on campus and in the wider community.



**CC Exchange:** A picture of the physical space located in Worner Campus Center.

## Program & Project Recap

- Partnered with Residential Experience to collect 50 lbs of unclaimed clothing from the laundry room in Hybl Community Center
- Teamed up with the Career Center for a professional attire drive, resulting in over 200 lbs. of clothing donated
- Organized pop-up events in collaboration with CC Arts & Crafts, CCSGA, and the Butler Center for Goth Prom in the fall, and with the OOS Waste Team in spring, with a total of 240 student participants across both events and multiple days
- Donated more than 235 lbs. of items from the CC Exchange to Springs Rescue Mission, Terracycle, and local thrift stores
- Supported the Queer and Trans Collective by opening the CC Exchange monthly for Transition Closet gatherings through the Butler Center
- Distributed dorm items to incoming students in partnership with Residential Experience and International Student Orientation
- Continued the Craft Nook with Who Gives a Scrap
- Hosted the CC Pantry Exchange Service Day for the 2nd year in a row with the HVE/Best Buddies Club
- Hosted Sustainable Wednesdays in Worner Campus Center



**Top Left:** Professional clothing that was donated during the spring clothing drive.  
**Top Right:** The Who Gives a Scrap craft nook in the CC Exchange.  
**Bottom:** Students picking out clothing at the pop-up event hosted at Hybl Community Center in fall.

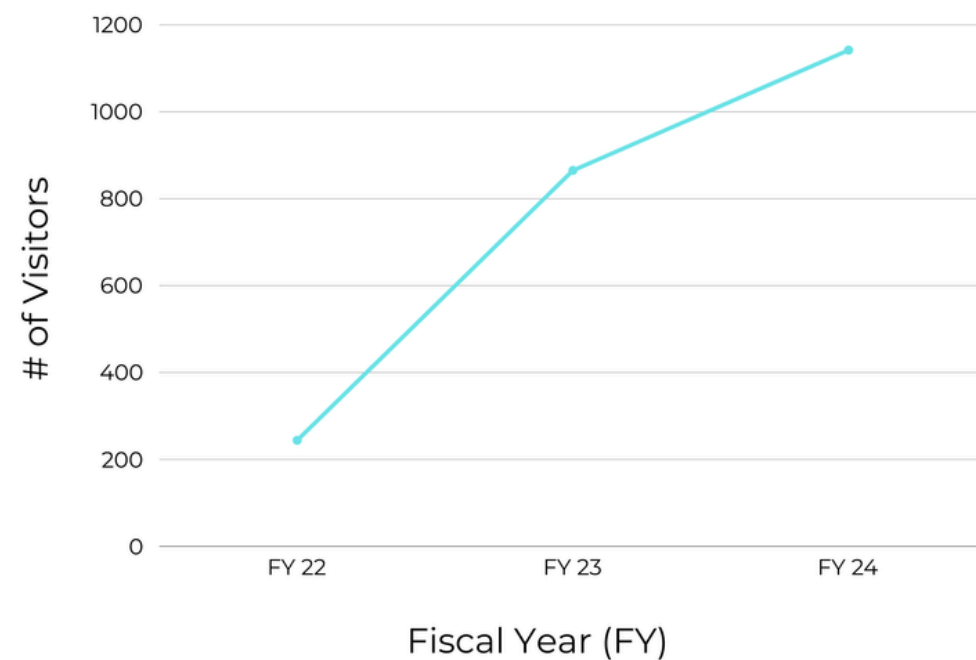


# CC Exchange Team Continued

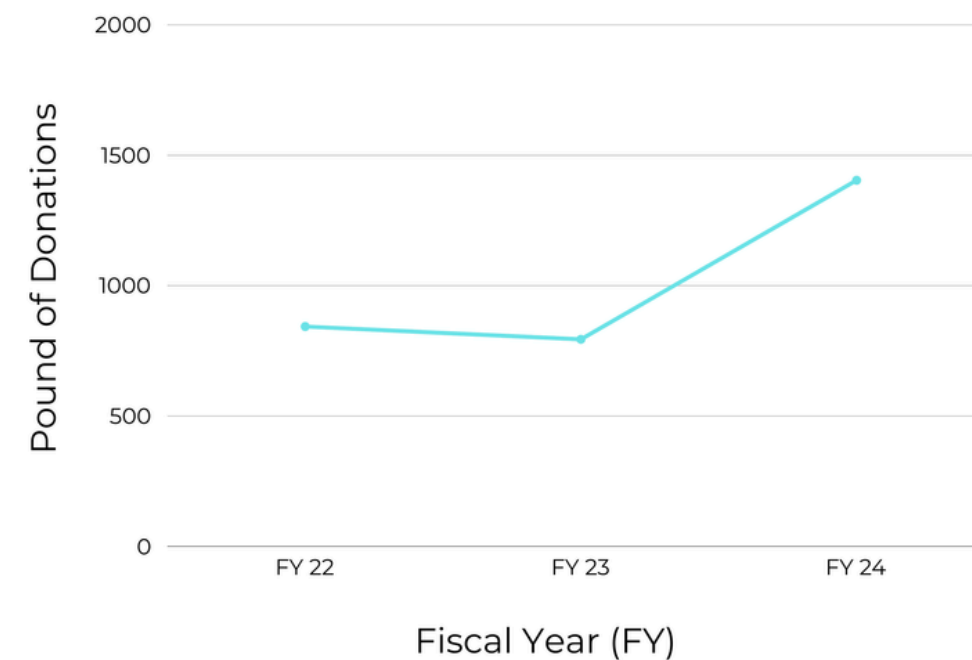
## Program Statistics

- In FY24, the CC Exchange welcomed 1,142 visitors, marking a 27% increase from the previous year
- On average, 65 visitors engaged with the space during its weekly two-hour opening
- Over the course of the academic year, 1,404 lbs of clothing, shoes, and other items were donated by students, staff, and faculty to the CC Exchange

CC Exchange Visitor Log



CC Exchange Donation Log

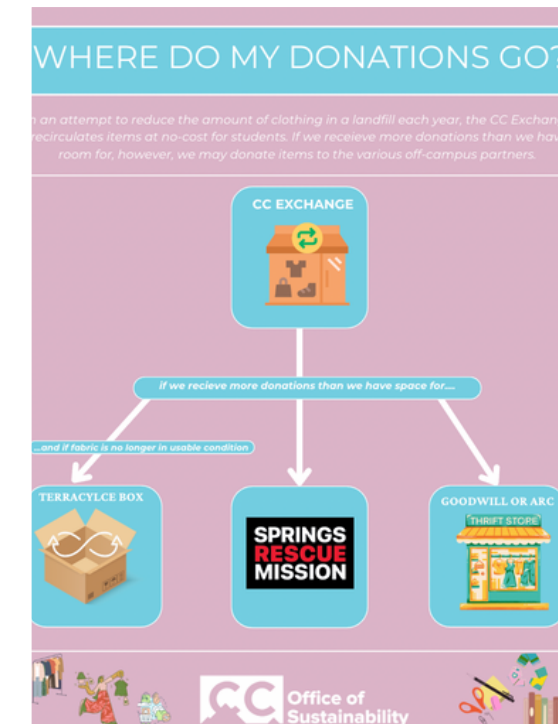


“ My favorite project was the Transition Closet collaboration. The event itself was so much fun, and it's nice to see the CC Exchange serve as more than just a thrift store but also a place for communities to gather and enjoy each other. I'm even more excited to see how the collaboration grows with more intentional programming and events! I think the CC Exchange has the potential to be a welcoming place for all kinds of students, identities, etc. ”

-Rivera '24

“ My favorite projects to work on were the pop-up events! It was so fun and rewarding to see a whole bunch of people engaging with the CC Exchange for the first time. My favorite part of this role is getting to see the direct impact we have on the campus community, and these events further heighten that. Overall, my favorite memories were the times I spent with my fellow CC Exchange Interns sorting and planning events. ”

- Simenz '24



Top Left: Donation flow chart created by the team for out-going donations from the space.  
 Top Right: A digital poster for the fall pop-up event created by the student team.  
 Bottom: Rivera at Mathias setting up dorm items for families to take for free during move-in.

# Additional Highlights

Beyond our student programming, our office is actively engaged in a variety of other initiatives across campus.



## PikeRide & Mountain Metro

CC offers free PikeRide and Mountain Metro memberships to students through the Office of Sustainability. Last year, over 29,830 trips were taken, covering 43,626 miles on PikeRide bikes!



## Volunteer Program

The Office of Sustainability onboarded 13 year-long volunteers who supported student teams and assisted with projects like the CC Exchange, data review, and researching waste alternatives, serving over 170+ hours throughout the year.



## CC Farm & Greenhouse

The Office of Sustainability oversees the CC Farm & Greenhouse and advises the CC Student Farm Club in managing weekly operations, growing food, and engagement with the community.



## Sustainable Wednesdays

Sustainable Wednesdays is a fun, interactive series of pop-up events that engage students on sustainability topics with tips, resources, and peer-to-peer discussions. In FY24, six events led by each student team engaged with 158 students.



## Sense of Place: CO Water Tour

Students (19) and staff (2) joined the office, in partnership with Colorado Springs Utilities, to explore Colorado's water infrastructure, including reservoirs, pipelines, and pump stations that supply Colorado Springs over Block 1 break.



## Ditch the Dumpster

Ditch the Dumpster is CC's annual move-out donation program. Last year, over 10,000 lbs. of items were donated in 8 days, with 56 students, staff, and faculty sorting and distributing donations across campus and the community.



## Earth Week

Every April, the college celebrates Earth Week with a week-long, multi-office event featuring activities like Trash Peak, Arbor Day, Pride Outside, and more!



## NSO Engagement

In partnership with the CCE and Bike COS, 20 incoming students were lead on a PikeRide bike tour to explore Colorado Springs, helping them familiarize themselves with the city and key campus locations they might visit during their time at CC.

# Learn More



## Our Website

<https://www.coloradocollege.edu/offices/sustainability/>



## Visit Us

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## Contact Us

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