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Open to Public Inspection

▶ The organization may have to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements

F Group Exemption
Number 

Form **990-EZ** (2010)

Part II **Balance Sheets**

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part II ☒

(See the instructions for Part II)

	(A) Beginning of year		(B) End of year
22 Cash, savings, and investments	4,617	22	19,901
23 Land and buildings		23	
24 Other assets (describe in Schedule O)	17,734	24	2,006
25 Total assets	22,351	25	21,907
26 Total liabilities (describe in Schedule O)	9,545	26	7,507
27 Net assets or fund balances (line 27 of column (B) must agree with line 21) .	12,806	27	14,400

Part III **Statement of Program Service Accomplishments**

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part III ☒

Expenses
(Required for section 501 (c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) trusts, optional for others)

What is the organization's primary exempt purpose?
PROVIDING 'RITES OF PASSAGE' SUPPORT TO YOUTH SINCE 1999 OUR PROGRAMS HELP ADOLESCENTS AND TEENS FORGE NEW CONNECTIONS TO THEMSELVES, TO THEIR COMMUNITIES AND TO THE ENVIRONMENT

Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, and other relevant information for each program title

28 PROVIDE 'RITES OF PASSAGE' SUPPORT TO YOUTH IN THE COMMUNITY THE PROGRAMS HELP ADOLESCENTS AND TEENS FORGE NEW CONNECTIONS TO THEMSELVES, TO THEIR COMMUNITIES AND TO THE ENVIRONMENT (Grants \$ 0) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here . . . ☐	28a	0
29 (Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here . . . ☐	29a	
30 (Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here . . . ☐	30a	
31 Other program services (describe in Schedule O) (Grants \$) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here . . . ☐	31a	
32 Total program service expenses (add lines 28a through 31a)	32	0

Part IV **List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees.** List each one even if not compensated (See the instructions for Part IV)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part IV ☐

(a) Name and address	(b) Title and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation (If not paid, enter -0-.)	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans & deferred compensation	(e) Expense account and other allowances
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Part V

Other Information (Note the statement requirements in the instructions for Part V.)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part V ☐ ☒

		Yes	No
33	Did the organization engage in any significant activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," provide a detailed description of each activity in Schedule O	33	No
34	Were any significant changes made to the organizing or governing documents? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the amended documents if they reflect a change to the organization's name. Otherwise, explain the change on Schedule O (see instructions)	34	No
35	If the organization had income from business activities, such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a (among others), but not reported on Form 990-T, explain in Schedule O why the organization did not report the income on Form 990-T		
a	Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year from business activities (such as those reported on lines 2, 6a, and 7a, among others)?	35a	No
b	If "Yes" to line 35a, has the organization filed a Form 990-T for the year? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O	35b	
c	Was the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements during the year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III	35c	No
36	Did the organization undergo a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or significant disposition of net assets during the year? If "Yes," complete applicable parts of Schedule N	36	No
37a	Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions ☐ 0	37a	0
b	Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?	37b	
38a	Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee or were any such loans made in a prior year and still outstanding at the end of the tax year covered by this return?	38a	No
b	If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved	38b	
39	Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter		
a	Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9	39a	
b	Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities	39b	
40a	Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under section 4911 ☐ 0, section 4912 ☐ 0, section 4955 ☐ 0		
b	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year or did it engage in an excess benefit transaction in a prior year that has not been reported on any of its prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I	40b	No
c	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958 0		
d	Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization 0		
e	All organizations. At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction? If "Yes," complete Form 8886-T	40e	No
41	List the states with which a copy of this return is filed ☐ CA		
42a	The organization's books are in care of ☐ THE ORGANIZATION Telephone no ☐ (415) 383-6888 396 GRANDVIEW AVENUE Located at ☐ NOVATO, CA ZIP + 4 ☐ 94945		
b	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country ☐ See the instructions for exceptions and filing requirements for Form TD F 90-22.1, Report of Foreign Bank and Financial Accounts .	42b	No
c	At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside of the U S ? If "Yes," enter the name of the foreign country ☐	42c	No
43	Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of Form 1041 —Check here ☐ ☒ and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year ☐ 43		
44a	Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds? If "Yes", Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ.	44a	No
b	Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities during the year? If "Yes," Form 990 must be completed instead of Form 990-EZ	44b	No
c	Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the year?	44c	No
d	If "Yes" to line 44c, has the organization filed a Form 720 to report these payments? If "No," provide an explanation in Schedule O	44d	
45a	Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?	45a	No
45b	Did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," Form 990 and Schedule R may need to be completed instead of Form 990-EZ (see instructions)	45b	

		Yes	No
46	Did the organization engage, directly or indirectly, in political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I		No

Part VI

Section 501(c)(3) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts only.

All section 501(c)(3) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must answer questions 47-49b and 52.

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part VI

		Yes	No
47	Did the organization engage in lobbying activities or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II		No
48	Is the organization a school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E		No
49a	Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization?		No
49b	If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization?		

50 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None "

(a) Name and address of each employee paid more than \$100,000	(b) Title and average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Compensation	(d) Contributions to employee benefit plans & deferred compensation	(e) Expense account and other allowances
NONE				

f Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000

51 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None "

(a) Name and address of each independent contractor paid more than \$100,000	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
NONE		

d Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000

52 Did the organization complete Schedule A? **NOTE:** All Section 501(c)(3) organizations and 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts must attach a completed Schedule A

☒ Yes ☐ No

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here	***** Signature of officer		2013-07-15 Date	
	ERIC PONCELET BOARD CHAIR Type or print name and title			
Paid Preparer's Use Only	Preparer's signature	TAMARA HULL	Date	2013-07-15
	Firm's name (or yours if self-employed), address, and ZIP + 4			Preparer's taxpayer identification number (See instructions)
	HOLDEN & COMPANY LLP 68 MITCHELL BLVD SUITE 240 SAN RAFAEL, CA 94903			P01065871
			EIN	26-3874426
			Phone no	(415) 472-4225
May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions				
☒ Yes ☐ No				

SCHEDULE A
(Form 990 or 990EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Public Charity Status and Public Support

Complete if the organization is a section 501(c)(3) organization or a section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ. ▶ See separate instructions.

OMB No 1545-0047

2011

Open to Public
Inspection

Name of the organization STEPPING STONES PROJECT	Employer identification number 01-0660562
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Part I Reason for Public Charity Status (All organizations must complete this part.) See instructions

The organization is not a private foundation because it is (For lines 1 through 11, check only one box)

- 1

☐

A church, convention of churches, or association of churches **section 170(b)(1)(A)(i).**
- 2

☐

A school described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii).** (Attach Schedule E)
- 3

☐

A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii).**
- 4

☐

A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii).** Enter the hospital's name, city, and state
- 5

☐

An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv).** (Complete Part II)
- 6

☐

A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(v).**
- 7

☒

An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)** (Complete Part II)
- 8

☐

A community trust described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)** (Complete Part II)
- 9

☐

An organization that normally receives (1) more than 33 1/3% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions—subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33 1/3% of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975 See **section 509(a)(2).** (Complete Part III)
- 10

☐

An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety Se**section 509(a)(4).**
- 11

☐

An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2) See **section 509(a)(3).** Check the box that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 11e through 11h

a

☐

Type I

b

☐

Type II

c

☐

Type III - Functionally integrated

d

☐

Type III - Other

e

☐

By checking this box, I certify that the organization is not controlled directly or indirectly by one or more disqualified persons other than foundation managers and other than one or more publicly supported organizations described in section 509(a)(1) or section 509(a)(2)

f

☐

If the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II or Type III supporting organization, check this box

g

☐

Since August 17, 2006, has the organization accepted any gift or contribution from any of the following persons?

(i)

a person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described in (ii) and (iii) below, the governing body of the the supported organization?

(ii)

a family member of a person described in (i) above?

(iii)

a 35% controlled entity of a person described in (i) or (ii) above?

h

☐

Provide the following information about the supported organization(s)

	Yes	No
11g(i)		
11g(ii)		
11g(iii)		

(i) Name of supported organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1- 9 above or IRC section (see instructions))	(iv) Is the organization in col (i) listed in your governing document?		(v) Did you notify the organization in col (i) of your support?		(vi) Is the organization in col (i) organized in the U S ?		(vii) Amount of support?
			Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Total									

Part II

Support Schedule for Organizations Described in IRC 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)
(Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part III. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part III.)

Section A. Public Support						
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2007	(b) 2008	(c) 2009	(d) 2010	(e) 2011	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received (Do not include any "unusual grants ")	48,251	40,357	15,820	1,500	9,514	115,442
2 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
3 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
4 Total. Add lines 1 through 3	48,251	40,357	15,820	1,500	9,514	115,442
5 The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f)						
6 Public Support. Subtract line 5 from line 4						115,442

Section B. Total Support							
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)		(a) 2007	(b) 2008	(c) 2009	(d) 2010	(e) 2011	(f) Total
7	Amounts from line 4	48,251	40,357	15,820	1,500	9,514	115,442
8	Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources						
9	Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
10	Other income (Explain in Part IV) Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets						
11	Total support (Add lines 7 through 10)						115,442
12	Gross receipts from related activities, etc (See instructions)					12	533,315
13	First Five Years If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here						

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage			
14	Public Support Percentage for 2011 (line 6 column (f) divided by line 11 column (f))	14	100 000 %
15	Public Support Percentage for 2010 Schedule A, Part II, line 14	15	100 000 %
16a	33 1/3% support test—2011. If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization		
b	33 1/3% support test—2010. If the organization did not check the box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization		
17a	10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2011. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts and circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts and circumstances" test The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization		
b	10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2010. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts and circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts and circumstances" test The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization		
18	Private Foundation If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a or 17b, check this box and see instructions		

Part IIIPart III

Support Schedule for Organizations Described in IRC 509(a)(2)
(Complete only if you checked the box on line 9 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part II. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part II.)

Section A. Public Support						
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2007	(b) 2008	(c) 2009	(d) 2010	(e) 2011	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received (Do not include any "unusual grants.")						
2 Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose						
3 Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513						
4 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
5 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
6 Total. Add lines 1 through 5						
7a Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons						
b Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of \$5,000 or 1% of the amount on line 13 for the year						
c Add lines 7a and 7b						
8 Public Support (Subtract line 7c from line 6.)						

Section B. Total Support						
Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2007	(b) 2008	(c) 2009	(d) 2010	(e) 2011	(f) Total
9 Amounts from line 6						
10a Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources						
b Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975						
c Add lines 10a and 10b						
11 Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
12 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV.)						
13 Total support (Add lines 9, 10c, 11 and 12.)						
14 First Five Years If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here						

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage			
15 Public Support Percentage for 2011 (line 8 column (f) divided by line 13 column (f))	15		
16 Public support percentage from 2010 Schedule A, Part III, line 15	16		

Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage			
17 Investment income percentage for 2011 (line 10c column (f) divided by line 13 column (f))	17		
18 Investment income percentage from 2010 Schedule A, Part III, line 17	18		
19a 33 1/3% support tests—2011. If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33 1/3% and line 17 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and stop here . The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization			
b 33 1/3% support tests—2010. If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33 1/3% and line 18 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and stop here . The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization			
20 Private Foundation If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a or 19b, check this box and see instructions			

Part IV **Supplemental Information.** Supplemental Information. Complete this part to provide the explanation required by Part II, line 10; Part II, line 17a or 17b; or Part III, line 12. Also complete this part for any additional information. (See instructions).

Facts And Circumstances Test

Explanation

SCHEDULE O
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

**Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on
Form 990 or to provide any additional information.**
▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

2011

**Open to Public
Inspection**

Name of the organization
STEPPING STONES PROJECT

Employer identification number

01-0660562

Identifier	Return Reference	Explanation
OCCUPANCY, RENT, UTILITIES AND MAINTENANCE	FORM 990-EZ, PART I, LINE 14	DESCRIPTION DEPRECIATION AMOUNT 244
OTHER EXPENSES	FORM 990-EZ, PART I, LINE 16	DESCRIPTION PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AMOUNT 1,838 DESCRIPTION PROGRAM EXPENSES AMOUNT 22,398 DESCRIPTION ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES AMOUNT 2,780 TOTAL TO FORM 990-EZ, LINE 16 27,016
OTHER ASSETS	FORM 990-EZ, PART II, LINE 24	DESCRIPTION ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE BEG OF YEAR AMOUNT 16,653 END OF YEAR AMOUNT 1,169 DESCRIPTION OTHER DEPRECIABLE ASSETS BEG OF YEAR AMOUNT 1,081 END OF YEAR AMOUNT 837
OTHER LIABILITIES	FORM 990-EZ, PART II, LINE 26	DESCRIPTION ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & OTHER LIABILITIES BEG OF YEAR AMOUNT 9,545 END OF YEAR AMOUNT 7,507

TY 2011 Transfers Personal Benefits Contracts Declaration

Name: STEPPING STONES PROJECT

EIN: 01-0660562

Declaration: THE ORGANIZATION DID NOT, DURING THE YEAR, RECEIVE ANY FUNDS, DIRECTLY,OR INDIRECTLY, TO PAY PREMIUMS ON A PERSONAL BENEFIT CONTRACT.THE ORGANIZATION, DID NOT, DURING THE YEAR, PAY ANY PREMIUMS, DIRECTLY,OR INDIRECTLY, ON A PERSONAL BENEFIT CONTRACT.

Additional Data

Software ID:
Software Version:
EIN: 01-0660562
Name: STEPPING STONES PROJECT

Form 990EZ, Part IV - List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees

(A) Name and address	(B) Title and average hours per week devoted to position	(C) Compensation (If not paid, enter -0-.)	(D) Contributions to employee benefit plans & deferred compensation	(E) Expense account and other allowances
ERIC PONCELET 396 GRANDVIEW AVENUE NOVATO, CA 94945	BOARD CHAIR 10 00	0	0	0
SHENA JENSEN 396 GRANDVIEW AVENUE NOVATO, CA 94945	TREASURER 10 00	0	0	0
STEVE KNECHT 396 GRANDVIEW AVENUE NOVATO, CA 94945	SECRETARY 10 00	0	0	0
JAI FLICKER 396 GRANDVIEW AVENUE NOVATO, CA 94945	BOARD MEMBERS 10 00	0	0	0