

CHOCOLATES
vermont



Lake Champlain
CHOCOLATES®



2022 IMPACT REPORT



Lake Champlain CHOCOLATES®

July 1, 2022

Change seems to be more of the norm these days. But over the past 12 months, our team here at Lake Champlain Chocolates excelled and didn't let the disruptions get in the way of making progress. Here are some of the sustainability highlights of this past fiscal year, ending June 30, 2022:

- We recertified as a B Corp and recognized the need to set ambitious goals to continue our growth.
- Project Waste Not launched with a focus on reducing the amount of paperboard in our waste stream by reusing packaging and giving it a second life.
- By moving our chocolate production to a single, more energy-efficient location, we reduced our carbon emissions by 27%!
- You are reading our first impact report! We are thrilled to share with you more about the work we do and the work ahead.

I'm excited to raise the bar and we've got a great team that's ready for the challenges ahead!

Ellen Reed, Vice President





LAKE CHAMPLAIN CHOCOLATES EMPLOYEES

At Lake Champlain Chocolates we blend fresh ingredients with fresh ideas, tempting our customers with luxurious chocolates and gifts. By matching the quality of our people and our brand with the high quality of our chocolates, we continue to grow in new markets.

Gender



BIPOC and Ethnicity

- 12% of employees identify as Asian
- 2% of employees identify as African American
- 2% of employees identify as Hispanic/Latinx

OUR COMMITMENT TO FAIR TRADE



\$97,000

of sugar and cacao paid in **Fair Trade Premiums** to farmers and communities.



1,188,893 POUNDS

of chocolates produced last year





EMISSIONS TRACKING

CO2 EMISSIONS LOWERED BY 27%

This past year, we successfully transitioned all of our manufacturing, production, and administration to a single facility in Williston, VT. This helped reduce our emissions by 27%! We are excited to have everyone under one roof.



NATURAL GAS

Natural usage was reduced by **8,300 CCF**



WASTE

Waste was reduced by **2,266 pounds**



ELECTRICITY

Electricity usage was reduced by **44,000 kWh**

ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS



PROJECT WASTE NOT

This new project enables us to reuse over 20 kinds of cardboard packaging in our warehouse and retail locations. So far, we have reused over 8,600 pieces and kept 900 lbs of cardboard out of the recycle stream!



POWER OF THREE

Through this closed-loop recycling program, our shredded paper is recycled into paper towels and other paper products. In 2022, we collected 3,650 lbs of paper that was re-used to make 1,060 lbs of our paper products.



HAIRNET RECYCLING

We found that 20,000 hairnets a year were being put into landfills, so working with Terracycle, we have introduced hairnet recycling bins to mitigate our hairnet waste in our manufacturing facility.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

THE INTERVALE CENTER

Since June 2020, Lake Champlain Chocolates **donated 10% of net profits** from the sales of the Restorative Moments Collection to the **Intervale Center's Conservation Nursery**, an organization that plants trees to help restore the quality and integrity of our waterways, like our namesake Lake Champlain.



44,000 trees planted



\$2,377 donated



2,559 POUNDS OF CHOCOLATE DONATED

Over the last year, Lake Champlain Chocolates donated **over a ton** of chocolates to a number of hard-working teachers, schools, health care workers, and other non-profit organizations.

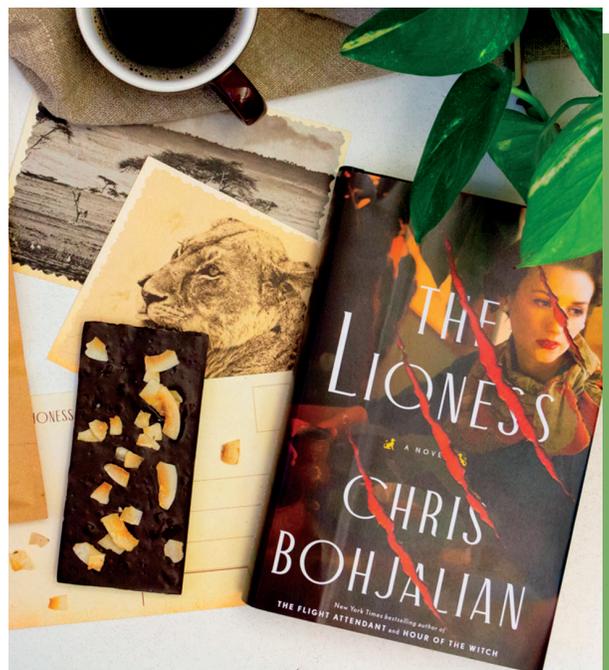
THE LIONESS CHOCOLATE BAR

In partnership with **NY Times** best-selling author Chris Bohjalian, we created a limited-edition chocolate bar based on his new novel, The Lioness. Working with **Fair Trade U.S.A.**, a percentage of the proceeds were donated to the **Women's Empowerment Project**. This project was started by Fair Trade USA to challenge the power imbalances of global trade by presenting women cocoa farmers with access to supportive work environments, education, finance, farm inputs, and access to land ownership.



"Women had to walk really far to get water. It was dirty and unsafe. Now, the water pump area is clean, efficient, and safer for our community."

With sales from the Lioness Bar, we **raised \$1,398** for the Women's Empowerment Project in Africa!





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OUR 2023 GOALS



SUSTAINABILITY GOALS

Build out our sustainability goals to 2025



BENEFIT CORPORATION

Transition to a Benefit Corporation



COMMUNITY SERVICE

Increase participation in our community service program



EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT

Complete an employee engagement survey