

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

# GROUP14 SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT

2/28/2022

**PREPARED BY:**

Group14 Engineering



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## INTRODUCTION

Group14 Engineering is an energy efficiency and sustainability consultant committed to personal, societal, and ecological prosperity. Our mission is to transform the built environment to realize a more resilient future. While Group14's expertise is in the built environment, our passion is the people for whom and with whom we work. We operate with the goal of creating a positive impact through our work.

Group14 has sustainability at its core. We understand that sustainable development requires a holistic approach to growth and a deep understanding that true success depends on a dynamic interconnectedness of economic, ecological, and social viability. Our values and our actions speak directly to this interconnectedness. We also believe in transparency and progress. Group14 is committed to reporting our efforts with and continuing to learn from our community - including our clients, the people, and places we serve, and our city to drive awareness of our corporate responsibility values.

## LAST YEARS ACHIEVEMENTS

As much of the world experienced, 2020 proved to be a year of adaptability, reflection, and action. The COVID-19 pandemic and concerns of Black Lives Matter were topics that deeply impacted our company and our community and Group14 worked to address these topics head on through our ever-improving work policies, and the establishment of our Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusivity (JEDI) committee.

The last year tested our ability to ride the waves of our industry's ups & downs while ensuring employee health & wellbeing and also being true to our company culture. Group14 management and employees quickly (and relatively smoothly) transitioned to 100% remote working. Workforce issues like paid leave, flexible work arrangements, community relief, worker health and safety, and workspace accommodations all became a focus of our efforts.

We also felt a responsibility and desire to reflect upon our role in the anti-racism movement and to be an active member of addressing justice, equity, diversity, and inclusivity in our company, our community, our industry, and our personal lives. This includes the efforts of our newly created JEDI committee.

In 2020 we also finalized our sustainable purchasing policy and began to address our city's role in combating climate change by working on the City of Denver's Climate Action Plan and the City's Electrification Plan.

## LETTER FROM LEADERSHIP

Welcome to Group14 Engineering's Annual Report, 2021 Edition. The most significant improvement to our business is our commitment to Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in our workplace and community. We now have a committee to lead our efforts to improve our hiring practices and attract and hire diverse candidates, to guide our charitable giving, and to educate us on issues specifically related to justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion.

Group14 proudly became a Public Benefit Corporation, Just Organization, and a Certified B Corporation in 2016. Each of these efforts validates our firm's more than 25-year commitment to personal, societal, and ecological prosperity. These efforts also formally align corporate operations with our mission to transform the built environment to realize a more resilient future.

Group14 Engineering continues to focus our efforts on lessening the degradation of buildings on the environment, pursuing innovation and education, and achieving a work-life balance.



As a Colorado Public Benefit Corporation, we annually review our adherence to our mission and present our findings to our stakeholders (clients, partners, and the public) through an annual report. We believe our corporation's narrative is compelling and we hope that our passion for our public benefit is tangible and serves as inspiration for other businesses. We'd love to hear your thoughts, ideas and reactions to our report. You can contact us at [admin@group14eng.com](mailto:admin@group14eng.com).

## OUR STORY

Group14 Engineering, PBC is a 50-person consulting firm committed to improving the energy and resource efficiency of buildings. We are a recognized authority in sustainable design and energy efficiency, building commissioning, and LEED project management. We offer a unique combination of energy design assistance, commissioning of new and existing facilities, and ongoing monitoring of buildings with advanced software analytics. Our mission is to transform the built environment to realize a more resilient future.

Group14 was established in 1992 and is headquartered in Denver, Colorado with projects across the United States. The firm's name, Group14, symbolizes the carbon group on the periodic table-- a fitting choice for a company that works to reduce carbon emissions via building efficiency and sustainability.

Group14 is a certified women business enterprise (WBE) with the City and County of Denver, as well as a certified Women's Business Enterprise (WBE) with the Women's Business Enterprise National Council. The firm is also a registered small business enterprise (SBE) and disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE) with the City and County of Denver. Group14 is committed to justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion in our culture, our community, and our workplace. To that end, we have a staff-led Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion ("JEDI") committee that guides our firm's efforts to apply diversity as a core principle throughout our corporate decision-making, including our policies, programs, and hiring practices.

In addition to being a B-Corp, Group14 is also a LEED Proven Provider, a JUST organization, and a Public Benefit Corporation. These certifications continually drive us to positively impact our workforce, the environment, and our community.



## THIRD PARTY CWERTIFICATION

### BCorp & Best for the World

In 2016, Group14 changed our bylaws and became a public benefit corporation (PBC). The PBC status demonstrates our dedication to our workforce, our environment, and our greater global community by challenging the convention that the goal of business is profitability above all else. We renewed our commitment by recertifying as a BCorp and JUST Organization in 2018 and will again in 2021.

Group14 Engineering has operated as a purpose-driven business long before our awareness of Certified B Corporations. Our decision to pursue becoming a Certified B Corporation was initially driven by a desire to quantify our past and current modes of operation. While we certainly accomplished that goal, we were also introduced to concepts and tools that have allowed us to expand our social enterprise in ways we simply hadn't envisioned. We are very proud to be a Certified B Corporation, with many exceptionally talented team members working together to transform the built environment to realize a more resilient future

2017: Best for the Environment Honoree, Best for Governance Honoree

2018: Best for the World Overall Honoree, Best for the Environment Honoree, Best for Governance Honoree

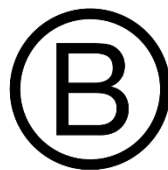
2019: Best for the World Overall Honoree, Best for the Environment Honoree, Best for Governance Honoree

2020: Best for the World honors delayed to 2021 due to COVID

2021: Best for the Environment Honoree



Certified



Corporation

This company meets the  
highest standards of social  
and environmental impact

## JUST

Before we were a BCorp, we were JUST. The International Living Future Institute's JUST label served as one of our first steppingstones towards having a comprehensive CSR program. JUST is a voluntary disclosure program for social justice. The JUST program provides a platform for Group14 to demonstrate transparency in operations, how employees benefit by working at Group14, and where we make our financial and community investments. By earning our JUST label, we had our first measuring stick of how we could continuously improve our operations, governance, and financial transparency.

As a sustainability consulting firm, our JUST label also helps us to contribute to projects seeking the Living Building Challenge by meeting a portion of the equity petal.

We first became a JUST organization in 2015 and have since undergone two renewals, our latest being in 2021. Below is our current JUSTv2.0 label.

**Just.**

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**Organization Name:** Group14 Engineering  
**Organization Type:** Consulting  
**Headquarters:** Denver, Colorado  
**Number of Employees:** 46

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**Social Justice Indicators:**

<b>Diversity &amp; Inclusion</b> ■■■■ Gender Diversity ■■■■ Ethnic Diversity ■■■■ Inclusion ■■■■ Engagement	<b>Employee Benefits</b> ■■■■ Health Care ■■■■ Retirement Provision ■■■■ Family/Medical Leave ■■■■ Training/Education
<b>Equity</b> ■■■■ Full-Time Employment ■■■■ Pay-Scale Equity ■■■■ Freedom of Association ■■■■ Living Wage ■■■■ Gender Pay Equity	<b>Stewardship</b> ■■■■ Local Communities ■■■■ Volunteering ■■■■ Animal Welfare ■■■■ Charitable Giving ■■■■ Positive Products
<b>Employee Health</b> ■■■■ Physical Health ■■■■ Well-Being	<b>Purchasing &amp; Supply Chain</b> ■■■■ Equitable Purchasing ■■■■ Supply Chain

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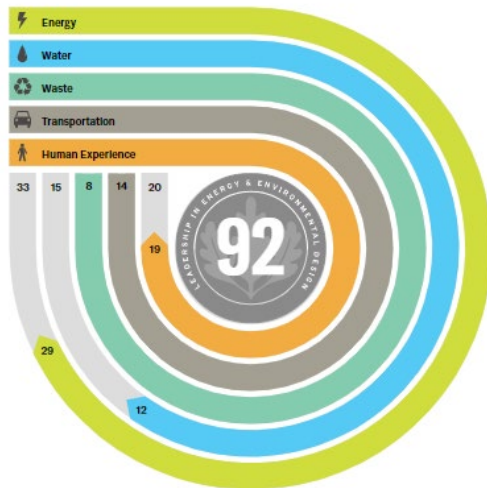
**THE SOCIAL JUSTICE LABEL 2.0**  
 GEI-003      EXP. 06/01/2023

INTERNATIONAL LIVING FUTURE INSTITUTE™

## LEED Platinum

Group14 continues to maintain our LEED New Construction (NC) and LEED Operations and Maintenance (O&M) certification. Our headquarters, located at 1325 E 16th Ave in Denver CO, achieved LEED for New Construction (v2009) certification at the time of major renovation.

The new LEEDv4.1 O&M program is based on actual performance data and reflects our ongoing operations month to month. As of December 2020, Group14 continues to be a leader in green building operations with our Platinum status and maintaining our position in the top 1% of performing buildings in the nation.



## B:CIVIC





### DBE, SBE, WEB, & WOSB

Group14 is a certified women business enterprise (WBE) with the City and County of Denver, as well as a certified Women Owned Small Business (WOSB) with the Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC). The firm is also a registered small business enterprise (SBE) and disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE) with the City and County of Denver.



**DENVER**  
**OFFICE OF ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT**

### ALIGNMENT WITH SDGS

In 2018, Group14 began aligning themselves with the SDGs and tracking their progress and impact in each of the categories.

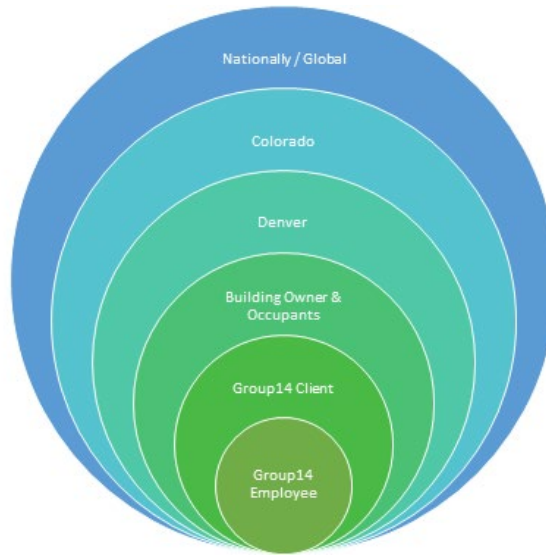
*Our scoring is here:*

[app.bimpectassessment.net/company/182322/assessment/171765/q?view=performancereport](http://app.bimpectassessment.net/company/182322/assessment/171765/q?view=performancereport)

### OUR PROGRAMS

When Group14 decides what programs to invest in, we consider all of our stakeholders - those directly involved with our day-to-day operations, such as our employees and clients, as well as those we impact through our work. We consider our community to be local, regional, and global and continually work to align our CSR strategies with those impacts that bring the greatest benefits to all our stakeholders.





## Corporate Philanthropy

Since our founding, Group14 has recognized that our firm can achieve a positive social impact through a strategic and generous use of finances at times to help others in the community. As a direct demonstration of this commitment, we have pledged to annually give at least 5% of our profits to charity. This public benefit includes direct corporate donations as well as a matching gift program that supports employee charitable giving.

## Volunteerism

As a commitment to the community and its people, Group14 provides valuable community service to strengthen the community such as supporting families in need, supporting schools and youth education, and beautifying the community. To encourage participation in community service, the company covers 16 hours of paid time each year for full-time employees and 8 hours of paid time each year for part-time employees to dedicate to a cause of their choice. The success of this program has resulted in maintaining a high percentage of employee participation since the policy was implemented, with an annual increase in staff participation.

**2018:** 72% of staff volunteering over 400 cumulative paid volunteer hours

**2019:** 91% of staff volunteering over 515 cumulative paid volunteer hours

**2020:** 95% of staff volunteering over 469 cumulative paid volunteer hours

The pandemic presented challenges to the traditional in-person volunteer service model, however Group14 employees were able to find creative ways to serve those in our community in a remote or socially distanced manner throughout the year. The following examples illustrate a few of the many organizations that Group14 employees chose to volunteer with:

## The Delores Project

The Delores Project (TDP) is an organization which provides shelter and services for women and transgender individuals experience homelessness and advocates for housing solutions. As a company, Group14 organizes a monthly meal preparation which facilitates a consistently formatted and easily accessible volunteer opportunity for employees. Group14's CEO also serves on the board of The Delores Project. During typical years, the food would



be prepared and served at the shelter. During the pandemic, however, volunteers coordinated to cook individually in their own homes and organized the preparation and delivery in time for dinner at the shelter.

In addition to our standard volunteering policies, in which employees are allocated paid volunteer hours which are also matched by dollars-for-doer grants, any food purchased in preparation for the meal is also donated in-kind. Group14 has also utilized our building industry expertise to offer services for TDP and assisted in the design and development of the organization's new facilities.

## Charitable Giving

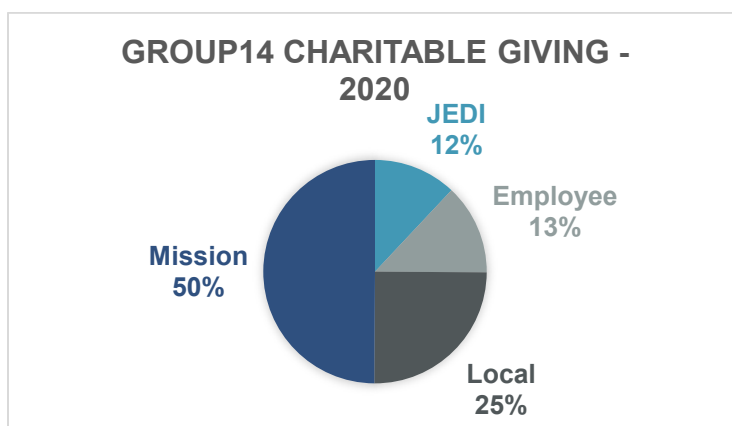
Group14 has committed to donating 3% of our profits to charitable organizations. Our guiding principles for company-directed giving are outline by the following criteria and goals:

1. Reduce impact on environment and support Group14's mission.
2. Address Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion with emphasis on developing a more diverse workforce within the building sustainability and energy fields.
3. Provide a local impact with a focus on Colorado and preference for Denver organizations who support low-income people and improve our community.

In addition to the company's leadership team and JEDI-committee informed charitable giving allocations that are selected to support our local community, benefit the environment, and address racial justice, Group14 provides dollars-for-doers hourly donation matches towards organizations at which employees have used their allocated volunteer hours with. Furthermore, employees are encouraged to participate in the Community Shares program. This program allows individuals to donate directly to non-profit organizations of their choice through a payroll deduction, which is then matched by the company at up to \$500/yr.

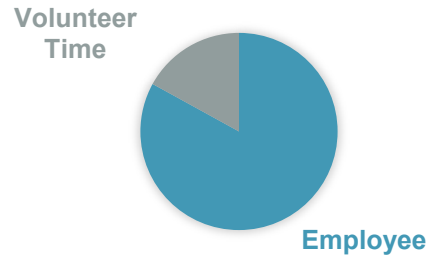
Over the course of 2020, Group14 donated a total of \$91,661 to charitable organizations. This accounts to 1.2% of the company's total revenue donated, and 5.6% of total profits donated. The following figures provide further details around Group14's charitable giving.

The chart below shows the breakdown of the total amount donated into key categories:



The following chart shows the employee giving category breakdown between Community Shares employee donation matching, and volunteer hourly donation matching:

### GROUP14 EMPLOYEE CHARITABLE GIVING - 2020



The following table summarizes the organizations to which Group14 donated to as a company. Blue rows indicate strategic giving selected by the company owners, and the white rows indicate JEDI committee selections:

Organizations	
ACE Mentor Program of Colorado	MWHS Giving Tree
ACEEE	Network for Good
ACTBLUE CO Sierra Club	PayPal Ace Mentor
B Local: Changemakers Coalition of Colorado Mobilizing Sponsor	People for Bikes Foundation
Bicycle Advocacy Group (Boulder)	Prevent & Prevail
Building Commissioning Assoc. Scholarship Foundation	Project Angel Heart
Cancer League of Colorado	RIP Medical Debt
CO Criminal Justice Reform Coalition (CCJRC)	Rocky Mountain Chapter ASHRAE
Conservation Colorado	Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI)
Diversity in Architecture Scholarships, CU Denver	Same Cafe
Education Investment Foundation	Society of Women Engineers (SWE)
Friends of DHA	Aurora STEM
Greenway Foundation	The Delores Project (TDP)
Housing Authority, Birmingham District	THA, Inc
Housing Authority, Denver	The Alliance Center
Housing Authority, San Antonio	The Denver Foundation
Housing Authority, Topeka	The Denver Foundation, Black Resilience in CO Fund (BRIC)
Housing Authority, Trenton	Trenton Partners for Development Inc.
International Living Future Institute (ILFI)	Boy/Girl Scout Troops/Packs: 35, 68304, 61019
Metro Denver STEM Alliance (MDSA, LSAMP) - Community College Fund	Urban Land Conservancy (ULC)
Magic City Housing Development	Western Resource Advocates
Mental Health Center of Denver	Youth Roots



## Racial Justice Programs

Group14's employee-directed JEDI committee was formally established in 2020 to provide a focused effort towards addressing racial justice in the company's policies, practices and community impact. It is this committee's responsibility to research and delegate JEDI-focused charitable giving allocations. While many of the organizations that Group14 has historically contributed to positively impact the community and inherently include JEDI components, the subset selected by the committee are chosen to provide further support towards non-profit organizations and scholarships with racial equity focused missions. In 2020, Group14 supported the following programs:

- CO Criminal Justice reform Coalition (CCJRC)
- The Denver Foundation, Black Resilience in CO Func (BRIC)
- Diversity in Architecture Scholarship Func, CU Denver
- The Metro Denver STEM Alliance (MDSA), community college scholarship fund

In addition to supporting external programs through charitable giving, actions and initiatives led by the JEDI committee also included:

- Writing a company statement and outlining company goals
- Increasing internal education efforts
- Refining hiring practices
- Working with other organizations to assess opportunities for improvement
- Developing ongoing programs to provide industry exposure and mentorship to students

## Employees

Central to any successful company are the employees, and at Group14 we have the best employees. We include a diverse group of effective and engaged individuals from a multitude of backgrounds. We continually strive to learn together, increase or collective impact together, and grow together.

### Employee Satisfaction

Group14 Engineering understands that employee productivity is directly linked to employee happiness. Group14 was founded on the belief that workers should experience positive work-life balance in order to thrive and maintain productive self and family relationships. Our policies support this work-life balance including maternity & paternity leave, bereavement leave, unlimited PTO, workplace wellness programs, flexible work hours, the ability to work from home, paid time for volunteering, training budgets for continuing education, and yearly retreats for employees and their families paid for by Group14.

Every year, Group14 formally engages the staff to understand how working at Group14 is impacting their professional and personal lives and what the company can do to improve. Group14 is proud to say we have over a 93% satisfaction rate and the feedback provided in the surveys is continually assessed and woven into our ongoing CSR efforts.

One of the ways Group14 works to maintain employee satisfaction is through our training program, where employees receive a yearly stipend to invest in their own career development and engage in topics that interest them. This stipend can also be used for training related to equity, diversity, and inclusivity training.



## Workplace Wellness

Group14 recognizes that the average American spends 95% of their life indoors (*EPA*). Therefore, it is imperative that our work environment contributes to our health and wellbeing. The concept of biophilia suggests that human well-being is tied to our connections with nature and other forms of life. From the standpoint of the built environment, we have focused on biophilic design, thermal comfort, and ergonomics to create an environment that is enjoyable for our staff and visitors. Our office space has high levels of daylighting, access to views, abundant plant life, operable windows for the majority of spaces, natural ventilation, and standing desks.

## Response to COVID-19

With the transition to remote work brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, Group14 responded with flexibility and increased channels of communication. In order to keep staff informed with ongoing changes to policies and general office updates that we would traditionally receive in person, we started a weekly newsletter. This allowed staff to remain engaged about any new work in the office, professional development highlights, volunteer opportunities, fun anecdotes, and general updates from leadership and our JEDI & PB&J teams.

Group14 granted each employee with a \$1000 stipend to utilize for a remote work setup and better ergonomics. As a small business, Group14 qualified for federal funding to help supplement personal impacts that COVID had on employee health or childcare arrangements. These programs made it easier for our company and our employees to navigate such a challenging time.

While much of our work remains remote for the time being, we have also taken measures to ensure our staff feels comfortable returning to the office. We have rearranged our workstations for social distancing, require masks for any non-vaccinated staff and visitors, and encouraged vaccinations through paid time off.

Our work has also seen a greater focus on health and wellness. We have seen an influx of projects pursuing the WELL Building Standard and Fitwell, we have set up outside air dashboards for clients using SkySpark and have worked with dozens of projects wanting help to improve their HVAC systems and prioritize air quality.

## Gender Equality

Workplace gender equality is achieved when individuals can access and enjoy the same rewards, compensation, and opportunities regardless of gender. Group14 is committed to gender equality not only because it is the 'fair' and 'right thing to do,' but because it is also linked to our overall economic performance and worker happiness. To ensure a balanced work environment Group14 is focused on maintaining a maximum of a 5% deviation from a gender balanced workforce. Group14 strives to maintain a maximum of 10% deviation from gender balanced management and senior leadership staff to further promote gender balance at all job classifications and levels. Group14 is committed to hiring the best talent free of discrimination based on gender for qualified individuals.

## Ethnic and Racial Diversity

An organization's success and competitiveness depend upon its ability to embrace diversity and realize the benefits. Group14 actively develops and implements diversity plans. According to McKinsey & Company "research finds that companies in the top quartile for gender or racial and ethnic diversity are more likely to have financial returns above their national industry medians."

Diversity in the workplace strives to make people of all socioeconomic backgrounds feel comfortable working within the organization. Diversity promotes equal opportunities among all employees or prospective employees to be hired and promoted based on merit without consideration of race or creed. Group14 maintains non-discrimination standards and is committed to anti-racism in our workplace and in our practices.

Beyond the legal compliance issues explored in workplace diversity, Group14 and its staff benefit from encouraging more than just tolerance but also an embrace of differences. In doing so, new horizons can be opened with new customer demographics, business partners, and internal performance methods. Even a small

business is exposed to many different cultures, demographics and education levels and can improve future business opportunities by encouraging diversity in the workplace.

## Environment

A huge part of our mission at Group14 is to preserve the environment and conserve resources. This goal is central to every one of our projects and it is central to how we operate our business as well. For this reason, we assess our impact on both a local and global scale and work to make a healthier, more resilient place for all of life.

Group14 assesses their impact in terms of carbon emissions, energy and water consumption, waste reduction, land use and preservation, ethical consumption, and awareness building/education.

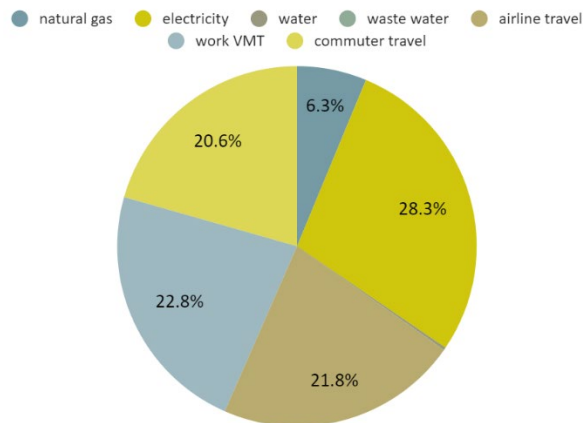
### Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Group14 began tracking their Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in 2008. Since that time, Group14 has pursued several strategies to address their emissions and put them on the path toward carbon neutrality. Group14 accounts for Scopes 1-3, including sectors such as energy, water, waste, purchasing, and transportation. Calculations are made in alliance with WRI GHG Protocol and the Carbon Disclosure Project.

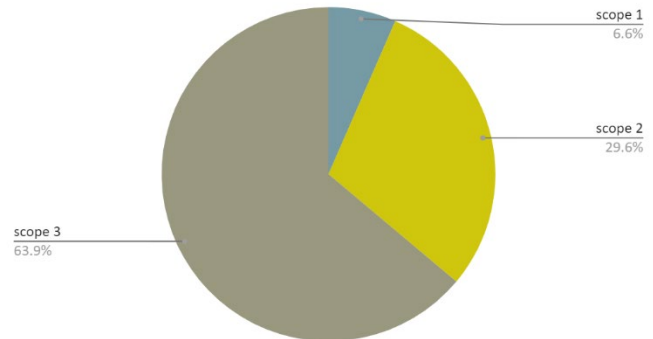
SCOPE	MATERIAL	mT CO <sub>2</sub> e
Scope 1	natural gas	4.310
Scope 2	electricity	19.427
Scope 3	water	0.148
	wastewater	0.013
	total waste	-3.020
	airline travel	15.003
	work VMT	15.696
	commuter travel	14.164
<b>TOTAL EMISSIONS</b>		<b>65.74</b>
1.34		<i>mTCO<sub>2</sub>e/employee</i>



Source as Portion of Total Emissions



Scopes as Portion of Total Emissions



Group14 is in the process of setting science-based targets as it relates to our carbon footprint. We hope to share more of the details in our 2021 as well as our road map to carbon neutrality.

## Furthering Our Impact

Group14 engages in a number of other programs and initiatives to not only lessen our impact but to actually created positive change. These includes:

- Our Waste Diversion program that includes advanced recycling opportunities and composting. In 2020, our waste diversion from the landfill was 89%
- Commuting Policies that includes employee incentives for using alternative, and human-powered transportation
- Sustainable Purchasing Policy where we prioritize Group14's purchases to be from local suppliers that provide eco-friendly products and are transparent about their products social and environmental impact.

## Bike-to-Work Day

Although Bike-to-Work Day 2020 was cancelled in Colorado due to Covid-19, Group14's ongoing effort to incentivize carbon-neutral commutes as much as possible. In 2020, Group14 reimbursed employees for 1692 miles of carbon-neutral commuting, saving approximately 700 kg of CO2 from being released into the atmosphere.



## OUR IMPACT

The scope of our impact continues to grow, and we are excited about the future of creating a sustainable built environment with our partners. Our work at Group14 focuses on reducing emissions, resilient designs, sustainable materials, net zero energy and water, affordable housing, and healthy communities. A few of our most notable projects from the last year include:

### DENVER BOTANIC GARDENS – DENVER, CO



Group14 performed LEED, energy, Xcel Energy Design Assistance (EDA), and commissioning services for the new Fryer-Newman Center for Science, Art and Education at the Denver Botanic Gardens. The two-story, 62,154 SF center contains an atrium, labs, four galleries, classrooms, a herbarium, library, café, and a 300-seat auditorium.

The building, which earned LEED Gold in 2021, includes a rainwater harvesting system, onsite solar power, and the use of 20% recycled building materials. The design also incorporated active and biophilic design principles, including the use of materials and elements from nature.

The Fryer-Newman Center was able to achieve 30% energy cost savings. Using high efficiency plumbing fixtures, the center was able to reduce indoor water consumption by more than 35% annually. Additionally, the project reduced exterior water use by over 60%— driven in part by harvesting rainwater for on-site use (the first commercial property in Colorado to do so).

### L'AVENIR- FORT COLLINS, CO



The L'Avenir project includes four 2,500-SF, net-zero townhomes in downtown Fort Collins. Each of the three-story townhomes is 100% powered with solar panels and ground-source heat pumps. The townhomes also feature optimized insulation and energy recovery ventilation. Targeting a goal of Zero Energy Certification through the International Living Future Institute, the townhomes must demonstrate that they operate as claimed with 100% of net annual energy consumption met through on-site renewables.

Group14 provided energy consulting and modeling services to help guide the design for Zero Energy. This included window thermal performance, insulation levels, and EnergyStar appliance selection. In addition to energy modeling, Group14 also coordinated with Energy Logic on the HERS energy analysis to make sure the design achieved net-zero energy.



## CSU SPUR CAMPUS AT THE NATIONAL WESTERN CENTER- DENVER, CO



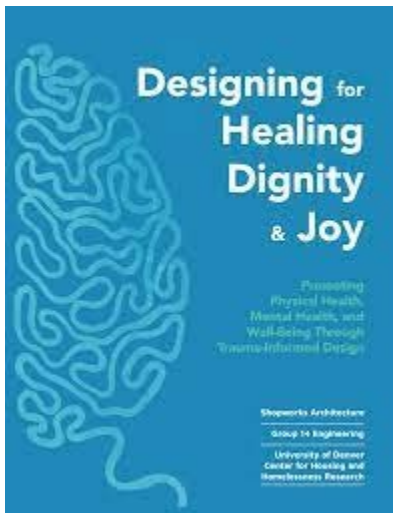
Group14 provided energy modeling, sustainability, commissioning, building enclosure commissioning, and monitoring-based commissioning for three projects at the CSU Spur Campus. The 61,047 SF Center for Food and Agriculture, which broke ground in May 2020, will provide public spaces, experiential learning opportunities and research in food and agricultural systems. The campus also includes the 108,000 SF Animal Health Complex that marries veterinary and animal-related services together with educational programs. The last project is the Water Resource Center, a

147,000 SF research laboratory with educational programming for the community. The Water Resource Center will also serve as the home for Denver Water's world-class Advanced Water Quality lab.

The National Western Center is one of three low-carbon projects in Colorado, and Group14 was part of a team that helped CSU develop sustainable strategies to create a "net zero" district at the NWC, placing the project among the most sustainable in the region. All three projects are pursuing LEED Gold and utilize heat recovery chillers connected to the innovative NWC wastewater heat recovery condenser loop.

## RESEARCH & PANELS

We have been involved in some incredible research, panels and committees this year.



Group14 is a part of a multidisciplinary team of researchers working on integrating the principles of trauma-informed care into design with the goal of creating spaces that promote healing, dignity, and joy. Central to this research is the benefits of biophilia and human-nature relationships. The work to date has been featured in dozens of articles and books, and the team has trained over 1,400 individuals.

One of Group14's directors, Celeste Cizik, was named to the 2021 Energize Denver Task Force-- a 25-member team working to improve energy efficiency standards in Denver buildings. Celeste has been an active member of the team, even leading the effort to develop a policy design tool to assist existing buildings in achieving Net Zero Energy by 2040.

Group14 supports our team members, offering a wide range of professional development opportunities and encouraging staff to share their expertise. Our staff members are frequent speakers on panels and at conferences, presenting on various topics related to sustainability, energy, and building efficiency. A sample of some of our 2021 presentations is provided below:

- Presentation on Net-Zero Energy at the IBPSA-USA Denver Chapter Event
- Presentation on Biophilic Design at the International Living Future Institute's Affordable Housing Summit
- Presentation on Building Analytics at the AEE World Energy Conference
- Presentation on SkySpark Dashboard at SkyPosium 2021
- Presentation on Sustainable Building Materials at the Colorado Concrete Conference, hosted by the Rock Mountain ACI Chapter



## AWARDS & RECOGNITION

Throughout our firm's almost 30-year history, Group14 has received recognition for hundreds of sustainability and high-performance design projects. In the past year, many of the projects we've worked on-- from affordable housing developments to higher education facilities-- have been honored with design and building awards.

Each of the recognized projects below represents a collaboration between the client, and multi-disciplinary teams of architects, contractors, and other engineers.

- Dyna Energetics, Blum, TX
- L'Avenir Townhomes, Fort Collins, CO
- Arroyo Village, Denver, CO