

The Idea Store Creative Reuse Center

Executive Director / CEO

EIN 825475035

IL · NTEE C27

FY ending 2023-12-31

June 9, 2026

This analysis benchmarks the total compensation of **Christa Weiss, Executive Director / CEO** (\$33,663) against **every comparable organization** that fit the selection criteria — **18** in total — drawn systematically from IRS Form 990 filings, not a hand-picked subset.

Compensation sits at approximately the **39th** percentile of comparable organizations within the typical range

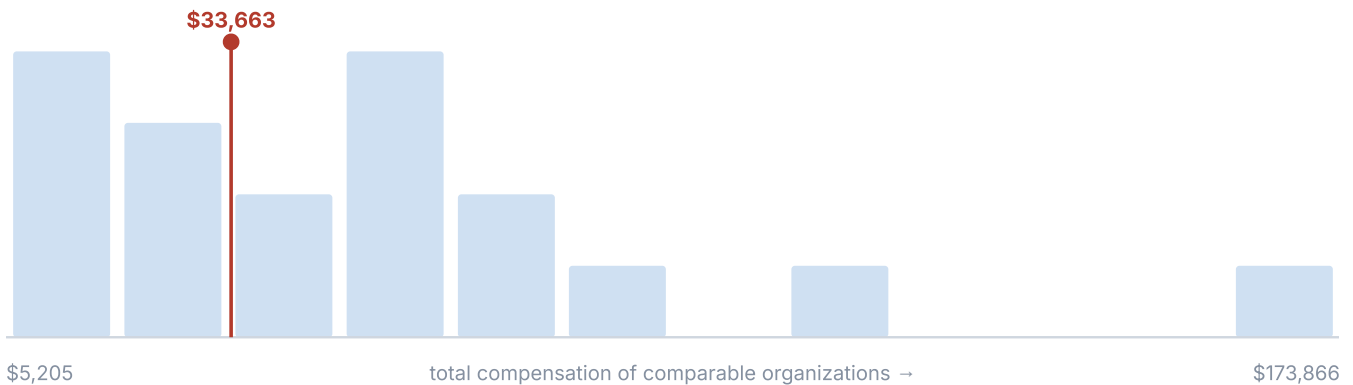
Benchmarked executive: Christa Weiss — reported title “Manager”, selected as the organization's **highest-paid individual** — no exact title match, so confirm this is a comparable role.

How comparable organizations were selected

SECTOR	Organizations sharing the subject's NTEE classification (C27).
BUDGET	Total revenue between \$182,357 and \$408,264 — 0.67x to 1.50x the subject's \$272,176 (the band tightens as size grows).
GEOGRAPHY	Same NTEE sector (C27), nationwide + budget 0.67–1.5x revenue.

18 organizations qualified on sector, size, and geography → **18** within the band form the benchmarked peer set.

Distribution of comparable compensation



\$11,245	\$21,479	\$42,414	\$68,392	\$88,386	\$33,663
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■ Comparable organizations

Each figure is Form 990 Part VII columns D + F (reportable pay plus other compensation and benefits; column F may include amounts from related organizations), normalized to IL cost of living (BEA RPP, 2023) and to its filing year (CPI-U); the reported amount is on each linked 990.

ORGANIZATION	STATE	REVENUE	MATCHED TITLE	COMP (REPORTED)	COMP (ADJUSTED)	FY
Bella Vista Recycling Foundation	AR	\$261,197	Director	\$43,400	\$49,622	2023
Cwmu Association	UT	\$259,051	Secretary	\$5,000	\$5,205	2023
Kanu Hawaii	HI	\$257,751	Executive Director	\$64,996	\$57,492	2024
Methow Recycles	WA	\$291,962	Executive Director	\$29,913	\$26,460	2024
Habits Of Waste	CA	\$307,102	Founder, Director, President, Ed	\$133,943	\$114,271	2024
Bowling Green Recycling Center Inc	OH	\$234,872	Chairman	\$11,045	\$11,558	2024
The Recyclery Collective	IL	\$227,204	Director / Programming Coordinator	\$20,403	\$19,818	2024
Bk Rot Inc	NY	\$319,398	Executive Director	\$82,810	\$72,025	2025
Maine Resource Recovery Association	ME	\$223,731	Executive Di	\$54,674	\$52,696	2025
Cement Kiln Recycling Coalition	VA	\$322,206	Executive Director	\$177,030	\$173,866	2023
Keuka Lake Association	NY	\$218,784	Secretary	\$19,703	\$17,591	2024
People For Urban Progress Inc	IN	\$215,173	Executive Director	\$52,911	\$55,128	2024
Regenerative Education Centers Inc	HI	\$203,725	Pres/executi	\$39,800	\$35,205	2024
Deidox Films Inc	CA	\$194,842	Chair/executive Director	\$88,000	\$77,293	2023
Reuse It Center Inc	KS	\$365,928	Director	\$31,468	\$34,580	2023
Recreative Denver	CO	\$372,240	Executive Director	\$10,780	\$10,514	2023

ORGANIZATION	STATE	REVENUE	MATCHED TITLE	COMP (REPORTED)	COMP (ADJUSTED)	FY
Wachusett Earthday Incorporated	MA	\$372,421	Executive Di	\$34,616	\$30,733	2024
Carolina Recycling Association	SC	\$389,773	Executive Di	\$73,079	\$75,323	2024

Comp (reported) is the figure on each organization's Form 990 (columns D + F); **Comp (adjusted)** normalizes it to IL cost of living and 2023 dollars. Click any organization to verify the figure on ProPublica.

Methodology

Comparable organizations were drawn from electronically filed IRS Form 990 returns and matched on sector (NTEE code), budget (a size-adaptive revenue band that tightens as the organization grows), and geography (same-state first, broadening only when too few peers qualify); every organization within the band forms the peer set. To compare fairly across regions and years, peer compensation is normalized to IL cost of living (BEA Regional Price Parities, 2023) and to the subject's filing year (CPI-U). The figure benchmarked is Form 990 Part VII, Section A, columns D + F — reportable pay plus other compensation, benefits, and deferred amounts (column F may include amounts from related organizations) — with the chief executive matched by role. Related-organization amounts (column E) and institutional trustees are excluded. Full methodology: peerbasis.org/methodology.

Sample, role match & sensitivity

PEER COUNT	18 organizations. Compensation range \$5,205–\$173,866; filing years 2023–2025.
SIZE BASIS	Matched on total revenue (\$272,176); for reference, expenses \$281,769 and assets \$57,839.
ROLE MATCH	Christa Weiss, reported title <i>"Manager"</i> , benchmarked as Executive Director / CEO. Selected as the organization's highest-paid individual without an exact title match — the board should confirm this is a comparable role.
OUTLIERS	1 peer fall outside 1.5× the interquartile range — consider whether any reflect one-time payments (severance, deferred-comp payouts).

Sensitivity — the subject's percentile under alternative compensation definitions:

BASIS	SUBJECT PERCENTILE
Total compensation (D + F), cost-of-living + inflation adjusted — the PeerBasis default	39 th
Total compensation (D + F), as reported (no adjustments)	39 th
Reportable pay only (column D), adjusted	39 th
All sources (D + E + F), adjusted	39 th

If the percentile moves materially across these definitions, the result is sensitive to methodology choices, and the board should weigh which basis best fits its facts.

● Rebuttable presumption of reasonableness · 26 CFR 53.4958-6

Compensation paid by a tax-exempt organization is presumed reasonable — shifting the burden to the IRS — when three requirements are met. This report supplies the comparability data for the second. The board should record the following in its minutes *concurrently* with its decision:

Draft board minutes – executive compensation

1. The compensation of the Executive Director / CEO (Christa Weiss) was approved in advance by [the Board / Compensation Committee], composed of members with no conflict of interest with respect to the arrangement.
2. Prior to its determination, the authorized body obtained and relied upon appropriate comparability data, namely the PeerBasis Compensation Comparability Determination dated June 9, 2026, comparing compensation against 18 similarly situated organizations (Same NTEE sector (C27), nationwide + budget 0.67–1.5× revenue).
3. The authorized body determined that total compensation of \$33,663 is reasonable (approximately the 39th percentile of comparable organizations) and documented the basis for this determination concurrently, on [date], by a vote of [__ for / __ against].

Sources: IRS Form 990 e-file data (apps.irs.gov); IRS Business Master File (NTEE classification). Every figure traces to an original public filing — click any organization above to verify it on ProPublica. PeerBasis is a service of Prismind Analytics; its [methodology is published](#), was commissioned for independent adversarial review, and discloses its own limitations. This report is comparability data to support a board's good-faith determination under IRC 4958; it is not legal or tax advice. Generated by PeerBasis on June 9, 2026.