

# TAOS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

**Our vision** is a community where all have the opportunity to thrive.

**Our Mission** is to connect people and opportunities, generating resources to build a more creative, caring, and thriving community.

**Our core values** are Trust, Tolerance, and Transparency.

## Highlights since January 2014

- \$1.4 million received in contributions to funds and special projects
- Community Fund Grants awarded \$468,000 supporting seven pathways of community
- Eight Scholarships awarded totaling \$34,000
- Non Profit Endowment dividends awarded totaling \$203,700
- Donor Advised Grants \$375,000

**Taos Community Foundation — where a gift gives forever.**



NONPROFIT  
PERMIT 6  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
TAOS, NM

### **For Good Forever!**

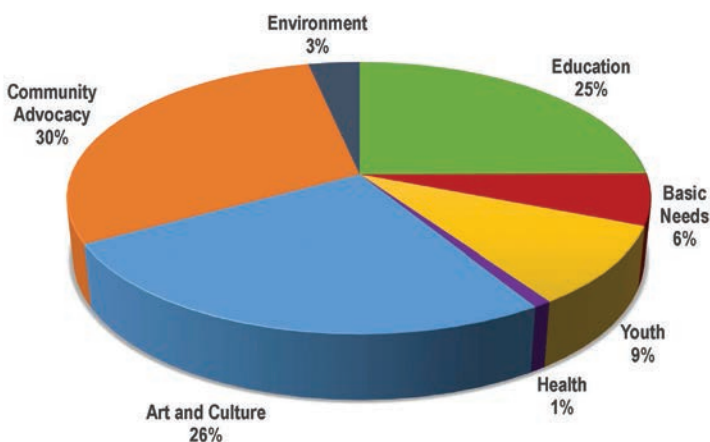
Please contact us at 575.737.9300

[taoscf.org](http://taoscf.org)

Full Financials are available online



### GRANTS AWARDED BY PATHWAYS

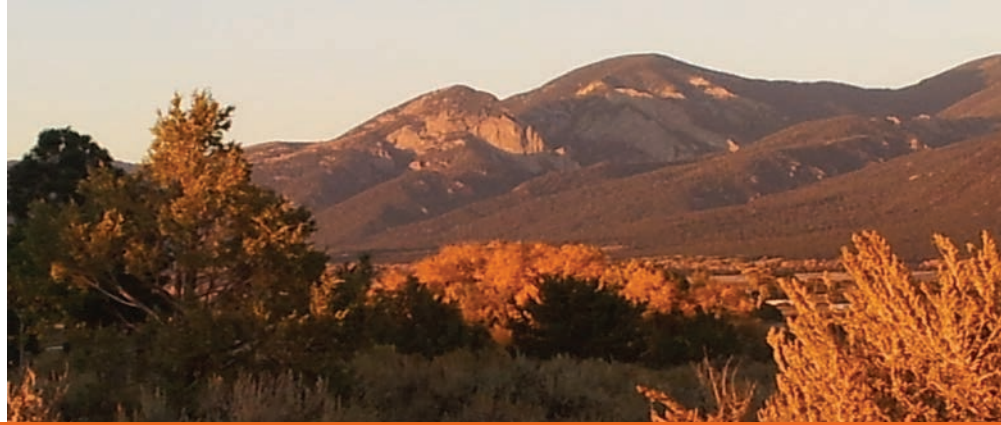


### QUOTES FROM GRANT RECIPIENTS

"This grant did not serve a lot of students but the depth of learning that happened with those 12 students will have a long lasting impact on their mathematical lives. Thank you once again for providing me with the opportunity to provide the type of education that I believe to be the most effective."

"While our impact may not occur in huge numbers, each individual's success is our success."

"This grant fed infant, toddlers and preschool children nutritious meals. The best story is when the young culinary arts student making breakfast for the "babies" made large pancakes...he has since learned to make silver dollar size!"



FOR GOOD FOREVER

FALL 2015 IMPROVING LIVES BY CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

**What is impact?** A grant is made to buy materials to build a house. The house is built. Our question is what happened because the house was built? The impact is how the house helps: a family to thrive, a group of young people to learn skills, create safety, or enable economic opportunity.

**Expanding on the pebble metaphor,** we facilitate the flow of water and build reservoirs so we have the resources to take care of the fields long into the future. Working with landowners, we release the water through a series of acequias; we know which field may need more water and when to redirect it. Fields are planted and tended which in return grows nourishment for our communities. Helping a community to thrive.

**Building endowments,** stewarding investments, working with donors, knowing our community: through leadership and grants, together we enable our community to thrive. The essence of TCF.

**Funding Together for Collective Impact.** In August we completed a Health Impact Assessment (see full report [taoscf.org](http://taoscf.org)). From this we learned that to have measurable impact, funders and grantees must work together on a common agenda. Having both funders and grantees track progress with the same set of measures has more impact on challenging social issues than any single entity could accomplish alone.

**CHARITABLE GIFTS ARE OFTEN REFERRED TO AS INVESTMENTS.** Investments in community with the promise of a social return. But, how do we know if our investments impact a person's life, protect the environment, or create a safe and healthy community?

A pebble in a pond is a good metaphor for understanding our approach to measuring impact. We know our philanthropic investments, of leadership and grants create positive change which ripple out in many directions. The closer we are to the initial investment - "the drop in the pond" - the easier it is to understand our impact in community.



We seek to be realistic in our expectations of impact. To better understand the collective influence of our investments, we embrace adaptation, learning, and refinement. We are clear about our goals, remain open to unforeseen and emerging opportunities, and pay attention to feedback. We evaluate investments of both grants and social capital by asking: what's working, what changed, what can we learn, and what do we see?

We ask you to support the work of the Foundation, because together we can build a more creative, caring, and thriving community.

Warmly,

Elizabeth Crittenden Palacios

