

investing caring giving convening
advocating realization
legacy family community
neighbors today tomorrow



Taos Community Foundation

Report to Community 2009

What is Taos Community Foundation?

Taos Community Foundation is a community corporation that helps you make an impact on your community through charitable giving.

Since 1998, Taos Community Foundation has been bringing our community together efficiently using available resources to help strengthen Taos and western Colfax counties.

The Community Foundation and our donors respond to the increasingly complex and growing issues and needs affecting our region. We do this by partnering with local and regional agencies, pooling the financial resources of our donors and awarding discretionary grants to nonprofit organizations.



People working together make a difference!
Helping you do good work...Forever

realization

Mission

The mission of Taos Community Foundation (TCF) is to improve the quality of life in the communities we serve by encouraging permanent charitable giving. To fulfill that mission, the Foundation creates permanent funds, prudently invests those funds, and makes grants from the investments to non-profit organizations in Taos and western Colfax Counties.

Creating a fund is simple and can often be done within one day. TCF will assist in choosing the fund that matches your charitable interests. One of the first steps in planning a gift to TCF is deciding which type of fund best matches your interests. All funds are open-ended and may be increased at any time. You may also contribute to an existing fund.

We serve as facilitators pooling the contributions of many individuals so that grant making is more informed and strategic, resulting in community change.

TCF offers fiscally responsible and informed management of its endowments. We don't take undue risks. We're long-term thinkers who take into consideration future generations in our community. Please go to www.taoscf.org/advisors for a complete Guide to Giving.

Taos Community Foundation's work is to:

ENCOURAGE dialogue, interaction, and cooperation.

FOSTER harmony, leadership, and intercultural understanding.

INSPIRE people to make significant and lasting gifts to benefit community.

MOBILIZE community assets to create change.

PARTNER with others to meet the ever-changing needs of all the people of our community.

SHARE information and expertise.

Letter to the community



It is with pleasure that I bring to you the Foundation's annual report. This year we celebrated ten years of working with you, our donors, bridging community investments with community needs. I offer this report to you as a testament of our commitment to community and willingness to creatively address its social needs big or small.

In the past year the Board and staff of TCF spent time pondering how to support basic needs (food, clothing, and shelter) to which we added safety. We looked at how basic needs are taken care of from

emergency services to changes in policy. We asked how can we find more meaningful ways to feed, clothe, make safe, and shelter ourselves, and even enrich these concepts to include true nourishment, protection, expression, and home/hearth.

We came to realize that food, clothing, safety and shelter are very different from family to family. This difference is underscored poignantly with the differing cultural values in our community. We realized that cultures use different measuring sticks to identify and evaluate their well being.

As someone who still sees the merit in the simple definition of "basic needs" it can be overwhelming to see our "supersized," "crazybusy," "commodity-based" new definitions of these essentials. I think the essence of our basic needs gets lost in the perceived need due to "packaging"; media telling us to buy empty calories and more is better. We have found that when both time and money are scarce the quality of basic needs diminishes while the cost increases.

Looking forward, TCF, in partnership with many of our donors, has chosen to focus on basic needs with well placed grants that have the ability to leverage great rewards. Thank you for your continued support!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Elizabeth Crittenden Palacios'.

Elizabeth Crittenden Palacios
Foundation Director

Please learn more about Taos Community Foundation on the following pages.

For Good For Ever



“The things that are most beautiful are the things you have to work for”.
 — (5th grade student, Enos Garcia Elementary)

Accomplishments

Over the years, TCF has worked to make things happen in Taos and surrounding areas. Through our efforts to convene individuals and resources, the Community Foundation has made a significant difference for our community and nonprofits. Some of our highlights include:

Since July of 2008

- More than \$526,000 in youth clothing and products distributed
- Five new funds established
- More than \$759,000 raised for grants and endowments
- \$31,000 awarded to community projects
- Manage \$4.2 million in total assets
- Developed a new Endowment management strategy
- 113 grants to 40 non-profit programs and 11 schools. Totaling \$313,400

Since we began

- Raised more than \$10 million in funds for grants and endowments
- Awarded more than 800 grants totaling \$3.2 million
- Leveraged more than \$9 million in additional contributions to community

Goals for the Future:

Here at the Community Foundation we will be fulfilling our mission by:
 Developing new services and programs assisting donors and nonprofits, growing overall community charitable assets, providing leadership in collaborative partnerships,

and supporting the sustainability of our philanthropic community.
 We will be strategically positioned to face the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead for Taos and western Colfax counties as the community evolves.



Seven ways TCF Benefits Donors

1. The “Endowment” vs. “Lump Sum”

Problem. How can you make a charitable gift? Usually, it’s in relatively small and recurring periodic installments. In fact, you may be disinclined to leave a large amount of money to a charity in a “lump sum”. When given a choice on how to make a large gift to charity, most people prefer to do it in a permanent or endowment fashion. TCF affords you the chance to endow your giving, without cost or hassle. In fact, the mere existence of TCF as an endowment vehicle opens up gifts for the benefit of specific charities – gifts that simply wouldn’t have been made directly to those charities.

2. The “Independent Screen” Problem.

There are several charities in our area that have their own separate foundations. A college or hospital is a good example. The college itself is a corporate entity, and its foundation is a wholly separate corporate entity. Some donors worry that the college may control the “separate” foundation. The beauty of TCF is that it provides donors with an independent screen. There is, in effect, a layer of insulation between the operating entity (i.e., the college, the hospital, or whatever) and the endowment entity.

3. The “Disappearing Charity” Problem.

You may worry that one or more of your favorite charities will someday close down, and that your gifts to those charities, intended to be permanent endowments, will simply disappear into the night. TCF provides a solution to this problem – you can set up a donor-advised fund within TCF, from which fund annual payments are then made to one or more charities. This gives you the right to request that, if a specified charity ever closes its doors, then its payments from the fund are to be diverted to one or more different charities. And there’s an ironic twist to this particular problem. If the fear that a charity may eventually disappear

prevents donors from giving to that charity in the first place, then that very fear may well hasten the charity’s demise! TCF, by providing a “diversion” feature in that event, actually serves as an inducement for gifts that otherwise wouldn’t have been made, thereby helping to ensure the charity’s long-term existence.

4. The “Appreciated Stock Problem.” You may hold stocks worth far more than you paid for them. You can use this type of stock as a charitable gift and avoid capitals gains. You may not want to give \$100,000 to just one charity. TCF can split up the gift – \$10,000 to your church, \$10,000 to a college, etc. In particular, you give the stock itself to TCF, which then sells the stock with no tax due whatever. You may then request TCF to distribute the proceeds to two, five, ten, or however many charities you wish. The mere existence of TCF as a “conduit” or “pass-through” charity opens up charitable gifts that otherwise simply wouldn’t have been made at all.

5. The “Call-from-the-CPA” Problem.

You may receive last-minute telephone calls in December from your CPA or other tax preparer along the following lines: “You need to give away some money, and fast – your taxable income is coming in way too high. Often there’s simply not enough time to come up with the identities of the charitable recipients, much less their sharing ratios. Oftentimes, out of frustration over the time deadline, the contribution simply doesn’t get made at all. By making a gift to TCF it allows you to get the desired tax deduction now, but defer the identity/sharing ratio decisions until later. Thus, giving you a “temporary parking place” for your contribution, TCF stimulates gifts that otherwise wouldn’t have been made at all.

6. The “Cafeteria Line” Approach to Charitable Giving. It is very easy for a

particular charity to “fail to get noticed” when it comes time for a donor to choose charitable beneficiaries. But by opening an endowment fund with a community foundation, a charity effectively “gets its name out” and can actually attract donations that would not otherwise occur – yet another example of how and why donors will give to a charity via TCF, whereas they might not have given to the charity directly.

7. The “Asset Protection” Problem. When a charitable organization is sued it becomes critical to know which of the organization’s assets are “up for grabs. Many organizations have been surprised to learn that its internal “endowment funds” were available to the reach of the enterprising plaintiff. That’s because the funds were “in-house” – in other words, owned either by the charity itself or by its “separate” but nonetheless captive foundation. However, if a third-party donor contributes money to the charity’s organization fund at TCF, then that money is not reachable by the charity’s creditors, even though the money is held for the exclusive benefit of that charity.

Leave a Legacy

Where there is a will there is a way. If you are considering including the Taos Community Foundation in your will, we can assist you and/or your advisor with language and suggestions for structuring your bequest. If you have included TCF in your will please let us know as we would like to honor you through membership in **Plaza de Legado**.



Leave a Charitable Legacy

Donors who include TCF in their estate plans provide a gift that lasts forever. Leaving a legacy through a bequest will support areas of community that you care about most, and will honor your memory this year, next year and through future generations ~ even if an organization originally receiving grants ceases to exist in the future.

Plaza de Legado ~ The Legacy Society of Taos Community Foundation was created to recognize and honor the heritage and legacy of a vision for community. Our Legacy Society recognizes those who have made a gift to the Community Foundation in their will or estate and are willing to make the commitment publicly as inspiration to others. We thank them for their generosity and commitment to the future of Taos and western Colfax Counties.

Members of Taos Community Foundation's **Plaza de Legado:**

Maggie Evans and Aaron Rael
Ursula and Barney Berkowitz
Betty Doshier Backer
Betty Kennaugh
Billie Blair
Charlene Tamayo
Leonard Lecht
Clark Funk
Edy and Charles Anderson
Elizabeth and Oscar Palacios
Barbara Brenner
Francy and John Speirs
Polly Raye and Bill Christmas
Sy and Phyllis Hotch
Wes Patterson
Marcia Oliver
Julia Young

Thank you to our past Legacy Donors

Douglas Smith
Jonathon Taintor
Orrie Friedman
Marty Melzner
Shirley Butts

A charitable legacy demonstrates how the Taos Community Foundation is flexible in supporting the vision and services of many individuals.

Jonathan Case Taintor

Born in 1957 Jonathan grew up in Hartford, Connecticut, the adopted child of Nelson Case and Virginia Clarke Taintor. Settling in Taos in the 1970s Jonathan worked as a contractor and wood carver. He received commissions as early as 1980, for his carvings in relief, used as architectural or decorative elements. He pursued his formal training in the arts at Highlands Extension University in Las Vegas, New Mexico and Adams State College in Alamosa, Colorado learning bronze casting. Jonathan and his stepsons Mathew and Stephen Shain built his home and studio in the upper Valdez valley where he continued to work until his death. As an adopted child Jonathan had a sympathetic understanding of the challenges faced by adoptive families and children. His knowledge of the work of Child Rite led him to take action in supporting their mission. Jonathan left his estate to Child Rite to provide services for special needs children in foster care or adoptive homes and their families. Taos Community Foundation is proud to host the Child Rite Fund in support of Jonathan's ideals.

Douglas Smith and his wife Carolyn Haddock moved to Taos in 1992 after spending a number of ski holidays here, where he immediately got involved with community and was known as a person who undertook new ventures with resilience and commitment. He loved our community and wanted to make it a better place for all. After purchasing and updating the Taos Inn, he invested his time with a number of cultural organizations and those that had the chance to work with him found him to be warm and engaging. He was not one to shy from difficult challenges faced by the organizations he worked with. He led the Taos Center for the Arts through the development of a master planning processes which ultimately lead to a revitalized facility. Doug's legacy as a kind, inclusive, and visionary person will be

remembered. In January 2008 Taos Community Foundation honored Doug's lifetime achievement recognizing him as Volunteer of the Year. TCF is proud to host the Taos Center for the Arts' permanent fund originally envisioned and supported by Doug.

Orrie Friedman

25 years ago last March, Orrie Friedman skied Taos for the first time. A retired chemistry professor from Harvard University and Brandeis University he found a peace and warmth in Taos that spoke to him. A pioneer in biotechnology, Dr. Friedman founded Collaborative Research, Inc., which became a leader in the field. His friendships with TSV employees inspired Orrie to combine his value of education and a giving heart, to create the Orrie M. Friedman Scholarship at Taos Community Foundation. The Scholarships are intended to help fund the post-secondary education of people who either worked at the Ski Valley or their children or relatives since 1998. The Orrie Friedman Scholarship Fund has awarded more than \$100,000 toward scholarships for Taos area students. Thank you to Hank Friedman for his willingness to continue this gift to the student of Taos.



investing

Consult Your Advisors

We encourage you to consult with qualified counsel regarding your plans and options for financial, tax, and estate planning before making a gift. State laws govern many of these principles, and TCF does not offer legal, financial, or tax advice.

“This is the only thing going on in my life that doesn’t make me feel pressured. I can actually relax here”.

— (teen participant in a therapeutic horseback riding program)

Taos Community Foundation Fund Types:

Community Endowment Fund contributions are pooled, enabling TCF to respond with maximum flexibility to our community’s needs and explore unique charitable opportunities to enhance our community. Donor Advised Funds provide more donor involvement, allowing recommended distributions to fields of interest or specific non-profits, changing as the donor’s interests. This fund can provide you the anonymity you may desire.

Field of Interest Funds enable many donors to contribute large or small amounts to one area of focus. If the original charity is no longer in service TCF will select another group that works within the mission parameters of the original.

Capital Funds are temporary funds set up for specific non-profit projects or buildings.

Scholarship Funds provide academic scholarships to students attending qualified educational institutions.

Foundation Services are funds dedicated to supporting the foundation services and operation of Taos Community Foundation.

Designated Funds allow donors to establish a fund for one specific non-profit agency to benefit their programs, taking advantage of the Foundation’s professional financial management and stewardship.

Agency Funds are set up by community organizations to solely benefit their specific agency. This enables them to take advantage of lower fees and the Foundation’s professional financial management and stewardship.

Investment strategies

After much study and discussion, the TCF Investment committee recommended to the Board of Directors a change in our investment strategies. This has affected our investments two fold.

- 1) We made the decision to move our investments to Vanguard. This will lower our fees and offer us more active management.
- 2) We have changed our allocations targeting a 60% equity and 40% bond allocation. Our investment advisors at Vanguard are working with us to select a group of funds that meet our criteria in each fund pool.

We believe this will give us the balance of growth and security that is prudent for permanent endowment funds.





Charitable Funds supporting community today and tomorrow

Community Endowment funds are pooled enabling TCF to respond with maximum flexibility to community needs.

Community Endowment Funds:

- The Healy Fund
- TCF Endowment Fund
- The Totally Wiard Fund
- The Speirs Family Fund
- The Raye Fund
- The Mayer Fund
- Funk Family Legacy Fund
- Domitila Romero Fund
- Enchanted Circle Fund

Current TCF Donor Advised Funds:

- The KE Fund
- Reservoir Fund
- Nanasi Hass Fund
- Rose Zaring Fund
- Cid's Food Market Fund
- Wells Family Funds
- Brandenburg Brenner Heritage Fund
- Winter Family Fund
- Ms. B's Gift Fund
- Evening Shade Fund
- Skygazer Funds
- Porcupine Fund
- The El Salto Fund
- Sacred Mountain Fund
- Benam Russage Fund
- Anonymous Family Fund
- Pleasure Mountain Fund
- Tao Fund
- van der Werff Family Fund
- Yale and Barbara Jones Fund
- The Waye Fund
- Making It Fund
- Peoples Bank Growing Green Fund

Scholarship Funds:

- Youth in Philanthropy
- Orrie Friedman Scholarship
- Ernie Blake Memorial Scholarship

TCF partners with community organizations to host endowments that are expressly for the purpose of providing a source of permanent, ongoing support to their organizations.

Non Profit Partner Funds

Amigos Bravos Friends of the Wild River serves to protect and reclaim the river ecosystem and native riparian and riverine biodiversity; to support the environmentally sound and sustainable traditional ways of life of indigenous cultures; and to ensure that environmental justice and social justice go hand-in-hand.

www.amigosbravos.org

Dream Tree Project a residential program that exists to provide a respectful, loving and safe place for youth to grow to become independent, involved members of their community. The Dream Tree Project uses a holistic approach to combating homelessness among young people.

www.dreamtreeproject.org

Taos Chess Club has offered social camaraderie and an intellectual boost to the students of Taos for more than 20 years. The program offers fun and challenging social activities for youth that help build strong intellect and improve their cognitive and reasoning abilities.

Lama Foundation serves as a sustainable community and educational center dedicated to the awakening of consciousness, respect for spiritual practice in all traditions, service, and stewardship of the land.

www.lamafoundation.org

Taos Center for the Arts exists to exercise both leadership and stewardship in keeping art central to the cultural and economic lives of Taosños, and to enhance Taos as a special place to live and visit. www.tcataos.org

Taos Jewish Center established their endowment fund to support their mission of enriching the lives of the diverse Jewish population of northern New Mexico and to support their programs for all elders of our community. TJC also oversees the Jane Lecht Scholarship Fund. www.taosjewishcenter.org

Taos Land Trust fosters a legacy of open and productive lands for future generations by conserving land with scenic vistas, agricultural value, wild life habitat, and historic sites through direct preservation, conservation partnerships, education, and land use planning.

www.taoslandtrust.org

Taos School of Music now in its 45th year, is dedicated to furthering the appreciation, understanding, and performance of chamber music by helping young string and piano students develop their musical awareness and comprehension, and in the process providing Taos audiences with the finest chamber music concerts possible. www.taoschoolofmusic.com

Think New Mexico is a results-oriented public policy think tank serving New Mexicans working to educate the public, the media, and policymakers about some of the most serious problems facing New Mexico and by developing effective, comprehensive, sustainable solutions to those problems. www.thinknewmexico.org

Music From Angel Fire presents the highest standard of artistic excellence in the classical chamber music repertoire presented by world class artists with emerging and established careers. MFAF has consistently presented outstanding musical events for resident and visitor alike. www.musicfromangelfire.org

Taos Milagro Rotary Fund is a charter member of Rotary International. This Wednesday breakfast club established a fund to support the long-range plans of the club's many youth related service projects, including annual college scholarships, getting books and dictionaries into student hands and several other community literacy projects.

www.taosrotary.nm.org

Friends of the Taos Youth and Family Center Fund supports activities and the purchase of needed equipment for Taos' family recreational center. www.taosyouth.com

community



Taos High Culinary Arts Program

Field of Interest Funds

Current Field of Interest Funds:

- The TCF Foundation Services
- Emergency Medicines Fund
- Jackrabbit Emergency Relief Fund
- LaPlaza Legacy Fund
- The Women and Girls' Circle Fund
- Music for Children Fund
- Martin Legacy Fund
- LGBT Equity Fund
- Earl Stroh for the Arts Fund
- Taos Public Education Fund
- Food Security Fund
- Child Rite Fund

Child Rite Fund: Child Rite, a well known and respected organization serving special-needs children and their families for more than 30 years, made the decision to close their doors and stop offering direct services. By opening a Fund at Taos Community Foundation the Board of Directors of Child Rite were able to insure that the mission and vision of the organization will live and services toward that end will continue to be funded. Honoring donors that have generously supported Child Rite for over two decades, this Fund will carry forth their intent.

Taos Public Education Fund (TPEF): TPEF is dedicated to enhancing and improving the education of every student in the Taos public schools. The vision of TPEF is that every student in Taos Municipal Schools will graduate from high school with the tools necessary to succeed as a productive citizen. The mission is to enhance the academic experience of all students in the school district, by supporting and funding learning opportunities not otherwise available to them. As the first teacher mini-grant application was unveiled, 44 separate projects were funded through a competitive process that included 5 public and 3 charter schools as well as the Taos Detention Center school site. Projects were reviewed in three key areas: Professional Development for Educators, Academic Enrichment/Curriculum Support, and Parents as Education Partners. Funded projects included both tangible items to support classroom teaching (supplemental curriculums, art supplies and books) as well as items to “move a great idea forward” or strengthen an existing school project. Through these small mini-grants to teachers, final reports indicate that 2,700 students have been impacted.



LGBT Equity Fund: Recognizing the importance of all members of our community, the LGBT fund is committed to the belief that LGBT issues are everyone's issues. We seek to promote greater understanding of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender issues of diversity, inclusiveness and acceptance of difference, and to support non-profit agencies in

“This is the only thing going on in my life that doesn't make me feel pressured. I can actually relax here”.

— (teen participant in a therapeutic horseback riding program)

“Even if they choose not to or are unable to buy a home in the future, these families will have more control over their financial lives”

— (Director, Taos Housing Corporation in follow up to a Homeownership Workshop)



developing programs that respond to the needs of the LGBT community. This past year funded grants to the Community Against Violence for a community training titled “Enhancing Outreach, Services and Justice”, support to Lama Foundation’s LGBT Annual Retreat and continued support to Dream Tree Project’s work in strengthening efforts for a Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) with area youth. Further fundraising for this fund will take place at the “2009 Festival of Change” featuring comedian, Kate Clinton in her only New Mexico appearance, on October 3, 2009.

Emergency Medicines Fund: Since its inception, the Emergency Medicines Fund has extended grants to local non-profits to assist community members who need medications on a one-time basis, or to assist them until enrollment in other prescription assistance programs has occurred. This past year, TCF funded a new partnership approach with Holy Cross Hospital and Taos Pharmacy to further develop a community-based integrated system that will enable both increased access to prescription medicine for those in need, while also offering long-term public assistance enrollment and coordinated medication therapy management through one patient visit. The intent with this new partnership is that a much needed advocacy component has been added to an already strong program assisting people with receiving medicine, that would not have been received due to financial challenges.

Music for Children Fund: Creating the “I can” to music, this fund’s mission is to enhance music and performing arts opportunities for students. Mindful that not all families in our diverse community have ready access to the arts, this fund creates access to performances as well as opportunities for students to participate in rhythm/movement exploration. A grant to the Taos Chamber Music Group this past year brought 4 separate chamber concerts to local public and private school students. Nearly 600 students attended performances at the Harwood Museum or at school sites.

Women and Girls’ Circle Fund: The mission of this circle fund is to broaden the awareness of and response to issues affecting women and girls through the power of collective giving and informed grant making. This past year extended the final of three years of grant support to Unidos – Funders Allied with Youth Collaborative. This funding partnership of 20 private, community and corporate foundations came together to pool resources to provide funding support to programming in New Mexico with an emphasis on access to health care and a primary focus on teen reproductive health and teen pregnancy prevention efforts. This past year has brought solid grant funding to two programs serving both male and female teens in community. Taos Men Engaged in Non Violence (MEN) and the Girls Circle project through the Taos Wellness Center at Taos Middle School have both demonstrated strong program design with an important focus on outcome measures as relative to school attendance, academic performance, changes in behavior and self-esteem.

Youth in Philanthropy: One of many in a network of youth grant makers, the motivation behind this initiative is simple – to inspire youth engagement in activities in our community, especially in those areas where they are directly affected. Youth Grant makers are made up of local high school students. The Youth Advisory Council (YAC) oversees all aspects of the grant-making process, from identifying important youth concerns in our community to recommending grants to non-profit organizations that address youth issues. This past year brought a vibrant group of 10 students together, representing 4 area high schools. The group’s primary activity was to design and administer a Community Youth Survey exploring youth concerns as well as recreational/community activity ideas. The survey results will be used by the incoming YAC group as further grant projects are reviewed.



“We learned about being a team and helping each other”.

— (teen participant in Rocky Mountain Youth Corps Junior Corps program)



neighbors

Events

Crystal Ball a formal dinner dance supporting Taos Public Education, was held at El Monte Sagrado Resort. The evening was clear the energy abounded as guests came together in support of public education. Through the generosity of and excitement of the group \$45,000 was raised for support of our teachers and students in the Taos Public schools. Sponsors included: Holy Cross Hospital, DMC Broadcasting, and Southern Wine and Spirits.

2009 Ridge a Thon a one-of-a-kind extreme ski event held in March at Taos Ski Valley. Now in its 14th year, it has become a popular fundraiser attracting skiers from all over the Southwest. The event raises money for the Emergency Medicines Fund at the TCF. The 2010 event will be held March 26-27. Sponsors included: Cid's Food Market, Mogul Medicine, Taos Restaurant Group, Volk, TSV, 999dine.com, Belgium Brewing Co., K2, Scott, and Coca Cola

Taos Winter Wine Festival's silent auction of rare wines benefits the Taos Community Foundation. Part of the Grand Tasting at the Taos Ski Valley Resort Center it features more than 75 different wines from 30 participating wineries and tastes from ten of Taos and Taos Ski Valley's finest restaurants. Is there a better way to end a great day of skiing on one of the world's best mountains? This year's auction will be held January 22, 2010. Many thanks to TSV and Greg O'Byrne.

Special Projects

KIDS Clothing Project facilitates donations of new clothing, shoes, toys, juvenile products and other items to benefit all children. We receive shipments from businesses that include Osh Kosh BGosh, Warner Brothers, Carter's, Gymboree and other national manufacturers. One shipment was seven pallets of brand new shoes totaling more than 5,200 pairs of shoes in one delivery. This year we shared \$526,000 in products to our communities, bringing our total to over \$2 million in product value since 2003! Our KIDS Clothing Project partners include both church and non-profit programs serving the communities of Taos, Questa, Peñasco and Taos Pueblo.

Taos Festival of Art and Architecture celebrates the creative spirit through artistic expression and form. The upcoming 2010 festival premier will address art

and architecture of sacred places. Saint Francis de Asis Church in Ranchos de Taos will be the focal point of the festival.

Ranchitos Retiro is a project committed to the creation and successful sustainability of a continuing-care retirement community. This project will work to insure that superlative care and services are provided to present and future residents of 400 Camino de la Placita. They seek to be an integral and supportive partner in the community life of Northern New Mexico.

Scholarships

College scholarships were awarded this past year that will extend \$17,000 to seven local youth over the next four years of their college experience. To date, TCF scholarship recipients have a college graduation rate of 80%, while maintaining a required 3.0 GPA while enrolled in school.

Youth in Philanthropy Scholarship: This past year's youth council had several participants graduate from high school. Four of those students had participated as advisors for three or more years. In celebration of their dedicated community work, these four students were presented with one-time scholarship awards to their chosen college or university. These youth leaders include: Hannah Bell (University of New Mexico), Sam Orner (Lewis and Clark College), Ben Sobol (St. John's College) and Taylor Zangara (Harvard University).

Orrie Friedman Scholarship Fund was set up in response to the joy and good service that Orrie Friedman and his family experienced during the years they skied at Taos Ski Valley. Existing scholars include: Trevor Martin (University of Chicago), Harrison Holthouse (University of New Mexico), Molly Weber (Hamline University), Mackenzie Wooldridge (Southwestern University), and Ryan Trujillo (Occidental College). 2009 scholars are Sonya Anaya (Dona Ana Community College) and Estrella Padilla (Northern New Mexico College).

Ernie Blake Memorial Scholarship Fund is in memory of Ernie Blake, Founder of Taos Ski Valley who was a great scholar and advocate of education. Existing scholar is Mackenzie Wooldridge (Southwestern University) who is joined by this year's recipient Rhonda Dale Vernon (New Mexico State University).

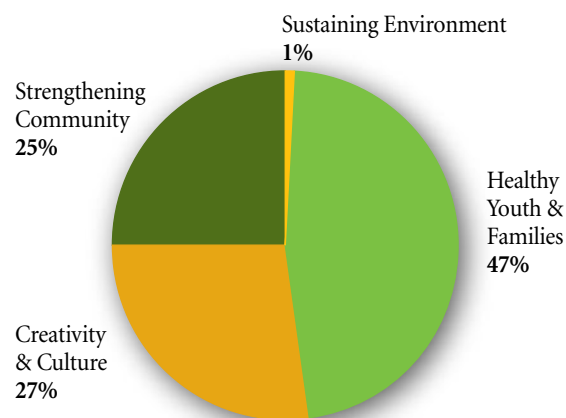


“Thank you once again for recognizing teachers and supporting public education. It gives teachers strength to know that people like you still believe in us”

— (teacher and recipient of a Taos Public Education Fund mini-teacher grant)



2008/09 Grants by Focus Area



“I’ve always respected those who tried to change the world for the better, rather than just complain about it.”

— Michael Bloomberg

TCF Grant making Philosophy – Supporting our Communities’ Quality of Life

The mission of Taos Community Foundation is to enhance the Quality of Life in the communities we serve. We do this by initiating projects and coordinating resources that promote a safe and healthy community. We believe that healthy and safe communities result when:

- Children and youth become competent citizens who are law-abiding, have the desire and the skills to be employed, and have the desire and skills to participate in the civic life of the community
- Working age adults obtain and retain employment with adequate income
- Working age adults are equipped to support the needs of children and youth and the elderly
- Working age adults have access to appropriate and affordable health care
- Elderly citizens are able to maintain their economic well-being and quality of life
- Community members are stewards of our community and natural resources
- All citizens are safe
- All citizens are active in civic and cultural life of the community

We work to effectively leverage resources, be responsible stewards of resources, and be active conveners around policy, economic and service needs.

Grant Making

Taos Community Foundation awards grants with an overall philanthropic strategy and intentionality to be more responsive to the needs of our area. Effective grant making promotes social capital and supports the value of our community. Our funding seeks to impact systemic change and increase opportunities for people to overcome economic, political and social barriers. Grants are awarded in four main focus areas: Healthy Youth and Families (including Basic Needs, Education, and Youth), Creativity and Culture, Strengthening Community and Sustaining Environment.

Moving Forward

As noted above, the Taos Community Foundation supports community programming through a broad and expansive lens. There are often times in grant making a delicate balance of determining when funding should take on a narrower focus, particularly when new and critical areas of need emerge within a community, or when some areas of community are calling out for that strengthening of a circle of care. In our work throughout community, both in grant-making and convening, we are always listening for those emerging threads. In respect to that, the following areas have been identified as key areas of focus and attention for upcoming community work:

Basic Need / Food Security Systems –

Anti-hunger programs, food banks, charitable organizations and the “safety net” of nutrition assistance programs work very hard to combat the worst effects of poverty. Increasingly, we have come to realize that these programs also need to empower the individuals they serve if we truly want to lift large segments of our communities out of poverty and need. Taos Community Foundation is a partner in the New Mexico Plan to End Hunger, a public/private collaboration to support a three year plan to move New Mexico’s national ranking from #1 to #5 in food insecurity. Specifically, this means that one in six New Mexicans do not know where they will get their next meal. Some of our recent efforts have included the Summer Bridge Backpack Project that supplied backpacks for students to assure that they had access to food over the weekend, funding local agencies that serve as food bank hosts, and providing partner funding for community gardens at school sites to further connect students with planting, tending and harvesting of food they could take home. Building on some previous community conversations with local stakeholders, grant making in this coming year will be committed to projects taking new steps to both identify solutions to food insecurity as well as increasing the scope of children and families in need.

giving



After School Programming – Taos Community Foundation has been involved for the past year in convening potential partners to an After-School Network, with the goal of establishing a broad – community based approach to out-of-school time for our elementary school students and families. The goals of the network are ultimately to improve academic development and performance as well as improving the physical, social and emotional well being of our community’s youth, while also utilizing the vast talent within non-profit agencies and private citizens. Research has shown that “out of school time” is a critical time to engage youth and maximize on the mentoring/academic enrichment needs of students. As a first-step towards implementing a robust After School Network, TCF will be supporting a Coordinator position to oversee a pilot after school program, beginning in January, 2010.

Youth Micro Loan Project – The Foundation recognizes youth as a critical factor in the economic well being of our community and through mentorship and guidance wish to further the youth entrepreneurial spirit. In partnership with Centinel Bank of Taos, a revolving micro loan program will be introduced as a new project, utilizing our existing Youth in Philanthropy Youth Advisors as guiding representatives. The intent of the project is to assist young people in learning valuable business and leadership skills, interact with community mentors and potentially form a profitable business.

Art in Community – Taos Community Foundation believes that by funding the arts we can develop an accessible response to the culture, voice and history of our community. Always among the highest expression of every culture, the arts teach us much about every historical period through its literature, visual arts, music, dance, and drama. We know that the arts are languages that most people speak, cutting through individual differences in culture, educational background, and ability. Learning through the arts often results in greater academic achievement and higher test scores. Valuing the experience and wisdom and diversity of local artists we seek to integrate arts and cultural program throughout our community based initiatives.

“It’s good that we get books cause it teaches and motivates us...something like this (reading) could change somebody”

— (youth in Taos Detention Center, in response to reading books provided through a TPEF grant)

Applying For a Grant

Taos Community Foundation accepts grant applications through various competitive cycle processes throughout a calendar year. Application materials and an outlined grants calendar is available online at www.taoscf.org and is updated regularly as new funding initiatives and cycles open up. Organizations applying should have tax exempt 501(c)3 status and serve the people and communities of Taos and western Colfax counties. Programs that have not applied for funding through TCF previously, are encouraged to call the foundation’s Grants Officer, Lisa O’Brien at 575-737-9300. Agencies and individuals may also subscribe to the Foundation e-list, which will send out both funding announcements as well as other important postings relative to non-profit and community services. Please access the Foundation website for this subscription link.

All information is on your computer screen! Visit the Taos Community Foundation website at www.taoscf.org for complete grant information and guidelines.



2008/09 Grant Recipients

Healthy Youth and Families

Anansi Charter School
Afterschool Chess Club
Artesanos de Questa
Kids Clothing Distribution Project
Bridges Project for Education
Core Support
Community Against Violence
Core Support
Kids Clothing Distribution Project
Dream Tree Project
Core Support
Equine Spirit Sanctuary
Core Support
Holy Cross Hospital
Emergency Medicines Community
Partnership
Kids Clothing Distribution Project
Kids in Distressed Situations
Kids Clothing Distribution Project
Knighthawks Chess Club
Core Support
Lama Foundation
Core Support
Leukemia & Lymphoma Society
Core Support
Nepalese Youth Opportunity Foundation
Core Support
Northern New Mexico Midwifery Clinic
Core Support
Picuris Peñasco Community Coalition
Kids Clothing Distribution Project
Rhythms of Life
Core Support
Rocky Mountain Youth Corps
Core Support
Secular Franciscans
Kids Clothing Distribution Project
St. James Food Pantry
Core Support
Sustainable Global Leadership Alliance
Core Support
Taos Center for the Arts
Core Support
Taos Charter School
Plant Soil Science Lab
Student Garden Equipment
Chemistry Cabinet and Supplies
Drama Club Sewing Machine
Taos Coyote Hockey Association
Core Support

Taos Jewish Center
Jane Lecht Scholarship
Taos Land Trust
Core Support
Taos MEN
Core Support
Taos Municipal School District
Chrysalis – Computer Network Upgrade
Chrysalis – Government Curriculum
Chrysalis – Health Exercise Equipment
Detention Center– On-site library books
Enos Garcia - School Garden Support
Enos Garcia - Student Art Supplies
Enos Garcia - Video Equipment
Enos Garcia - Art Storage Unit
Ranchos – Goldstar Therapeutic Dogs and
Enhanced Reading Project
Ranchos – Peer to Peer Mediation program
Ranchos – Northern New Mexico Art
Project
Taos Middle – Science Fair Equipment
Taos Middle – Future Educators Club
Taos Middle – Life Skills Cooking Program
Taos Middle – Student Mediation Project
Taos Middle – Taos Pueblo Project
Taos Middle – “Read Right” Program
Taos High – Business Professionals Club
Taos High – Yearbook Cameras
Taos High – Exceptional Programs Art
Supplies
Taos High – Culinary Arts Equipment
Taos High – Student Portfolio Equipment
Taos High – Math Curriculum Support
Taos High – Health Services Training
Materials
Taos High – Science Club Support
Taos High – Career Readiness Materials
Taos High – District Band/Choir Festival
Taos High – Computer Equipment
Taos High – Plastic Recycling Program
Taos High – Poetry Club Support
Summer Bridge Backpack Program
Taos Pueblo
Day School Horseback Riding Camp
Therapeutic Riding Program
Taos Rotary Interact Club
Core Support
Taos School of Music
Core Support
Taos Youth and Family Center
Core Support

Think New Mexico
Core Support
Vista Grande Charter High School
Core Support
Learning Expedition – Water Resources
Interactive Presentation on
Water Resources
Student Mentorship Program
Geological Studies field trip
Havasupai Cultural Program
Orilla Verde field trip
Robotics Tournament

Creativity and Culture

Association of Music Professionals
“Music Play” Teachers Curriculum
Millicent Rogers Museum
Core Support
Open Hearth
After School Music Program
Art of the Song Core Support
Soundscapes
“Shall We Dance?” Youth Project
Taos Youth Music School
Spring Choral Spectacular
Taos Children’s Theatre
Core Support

Strengthening Community

Enchanted Circle Health Organization
Pre-natal/Pediatric Health Care Vouchers
New Mexico Association of Grantmaker’s
New Mexico Grantmaker’s Directory
Santa Fe Community Foundation
Unidos Partnership for Pregnancy Prevention
Taos Coalition to End Homelessness
Core Support
Taos Entrepreneurial Network “TEN”
Core Support
Taos Sports Alliance
Core Support
Think New Mexico
Core Support

Sustainable Environment

Amigos Bravos
Core Support
Taos Land Trust
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We work hard to be correct in our acknowledgement of everyone that contributes to and volunteers for TCF. Please accept our sincere apologies if we have made a mistake and let us know so we can correct it. Thank you.

For a copy of Taos Community Foundation's audited financial statements please contact our office at 575-737-9300 or visit our website at www.taoscf.org.



"I have found that among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver."

—Maya Angelou, Author