



GRANTS RECEPTION

May 19, 2015

4:30pm to 6pm

Taos Country Club

Welcome and Introductions

Elizabeth Crittenden Palacios, Foundation Director

TCF Board of Directors

TCF Grants Committee

Women in Philanthropy

Special Guests

Presentation of Awards ~ Lisa O'Brien, Grants Director

Spring Grants = \$144,279

High School Scholarships = \$30,000

Sponsored by

Peoples Bank, Wanda Lucero Insurance Agency, and
Taos Country Club

Animal Welfare

Stray Hearts **\$ 2,000** **Core Support**

Services include adoption services, training to make animals suitable for adoption or transfer and shelter services. Many of the animals presenting to the shelter are abandoned or strays, and many are malnourished and in need of medical attention.

In 2014, there was an intake total of 1,379 dogs and cats; most recent population data lists 79 dogs and 43 cats that are in shelter

Taos Feral Feline Friends **\$ 2,000** **Core Support**

TFFF's mission is to prevent the inhumane treatment, stop unnecessary euthanasia and reduce the population of stray and feral cats in Northern NM. The organization runs a Shelter, TNR (Trap, Neuter and Return) Program and will reimburse the costs of spay/neuter for families adopting or caring for "friendly feral" cats.

Since "Spay/Neuter Taos" began, feline intakes in county have dropped 44% from 673 in 2010 to 376 in 2014.

Basic Needs

Dream Tree Project **\$** **5,000** **Core Support**

Dream Tree provides and Emergency Youth Shelter for runaway and homeless youth ages 12-17, and a Transitional Living Program, an independent living environment with wrap-around supportive services for young adults ages 16-24, helping them transition to self-sufficiency.

Each year, nearly 300 youth in Taos County experience homelessness.

**Taos Coalition to End
Homelessness** **\$** **3,500** **Core Support**

TCEH operates the only men's shelter north of Santa Fe. Shelter services include a warm bed, dinner, showers, laundry and assistance with community referrals.

Since re-opening in the new Taos location in January, 13 men on average every night.

Food Depot **\$** **2,000** **Core Support**

Operating as the food bank for nine counties, the Food Depot provides food to over 145 community organizations serving the most vulnerable in our communities with food; 14 of these serve Taos County, which receives 15% of the food distributed in total

Research shows that in NM 1 in 5 people do not know where they will get their next meal.

Equine Spirit Sanctuary **\$** **3,750** **Core Support**

ESS provides serves as a sanctuary for horses that offers rescue, rehabilitation, relocation or permanent retirement for our equine friends. Services also include therapeutic riding for children and adults.

Himalayan Stove Project **\$** **2,000** **Core Support**

Dedicated to preserving the Himalayan environment and improving the health of people, HSP distributes free, clean-burning, fuel-efficient Envirofit cook stoves, transforming the lives of those who cook with rudimentary stoves or open fire pits inside their homes, polluting the indoor air to dangerously unhealthy levels.

4.3 million people worldwide, die each year from the effects of Household Air Pollution caused by dirty cook stoves.

Creativity and Culture

Taos Center for the Arts	\$	6,000	Core Support
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"Whether we make art, listen to it, watch it or view it; art is integral to individual and community understanding, support and development. Through affordable programming and admissions, TCA strives to make the arts accessible to all". Request is for Core Support.

Taos Art Museum	\$	3,500	Core Support
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Taos Art Museum at Fechin House not only preserves but furthers the artistic heritage of Taos through its historic property, collections, exhibitions, and public programs. Envisioned as Taos' historic home for the arts, the Museum makes personal engagement in the arts accessible and enriching for art lovers and newcomers alike. Request is for Core Support.

Harwood Museum of Art	\$	1,000	Core Support
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This grant will support the wonderful programming offered to children at the museum, both during the school year when classrooms visit on a regular basis, to special summer programming and the "Farmer's Market Fun" sessions under the tent.

SOMOS	\$	500	Core Support
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SOMOS (the Society of the Muse of the Southwest) supports and nurtures the literary arts, both written and spoken, honoring cultural diversity in the Southwest. Check out the 2015 Summer Writer's Series that begins on July 8.

Taos Historic Museum	\$	2,500	Core Support
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The mission is to promote the history, heritage, and cultural arts of Northern New Mexico through education and preservation of the Hacienda de los Martinez and the E.L.Blumenschein Home, and their respective collections.

Community Advocacy

La Comunidad / "Art for the Heart" \$ 5,000 Core Support

Organizations mission is to support the health and wellness of the Penasco area and to foster health through creativity. Projects include the Penasco food pantry, sewing/art workshops to support the UpCycled Fashion project, a cottage industry project with the goal of creating jobs, saving clothes from the landfill and mentoring youth.

The unemployment rate in Penasco is 9.3% and is deemed as "Very High Unemployment Area"; 70 families receive food baskets weekly.

Not Forgotten Outreach \$ 3,500 Core Support

NFO is dedicated to motivating veterans and Gold Star families or our fallen service members to participate in recreational and/or therapeutic activities in order to facilitate the healing process. In addition to a robust agricultural program, NFO added an Adaptive Sports program to its service menu including skiing, cycling, swimming and sled hockey.

Taos County has 2,269 retired veterans and 403 Gold Star Survivors (2012 census data).

Las Cumbres Community Services \$ 2,000 Core Support

In partnership with other non-profit organizations, LCCS will develop "baby boxes" for families with young children to support families and foster health relationships as well as to build relationships with families and early childhood providers in Taos County.

In Taos County, 25% of children under the age of 6 are living in poverty; for children under the age of 18 the percentage is even higher at 43%

Sierra Vista Cemetery Association \$ 600 Core Support

The Sierra Vista Cemetery is the burial site for some of Taos' most prominent, creative and colorful residents including Millicent Rogers and Leon Gaspard. With some beautiful community efforts, an impressive restoration plan has been implemented to bring the cemetery back to a place of prominence for Taos.

The cemetery is located on Paseo del Pueblo Norte, west of the intersection with Sierra Vista Lane (new Allsup).

Education

Bridges Project for Education	\$	8,550	Core Support
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Organization mission is to expand college access to people of all ages, with an emphasis on those who are from the first generation in their families to attend college. Services include individual college counseling; assistance with applications, essays and financial aid.

60% of those served have been first-generation-to-college students; 75% are minority students and most have qualified for Pell grants.

Adult Learning Center - UNM Taos	\$	3,500	Core Support
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The Adult Learning Center provides literacy, GED and English as a second language (ESL) instruction to adults at least 16 years of age whose academic skills fall below a high school completion level. The free classes and tutoring programs serve approximately 200 members of our community each year.

Of most recent 67 GED prep students, 55 entered the program with skills at the elementary and middle school levels; only 12 students enrolled with skills at a high school level.

Mid School Math	\$	2,000	Project
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The social mission of this organization is to work directly with teachers at Taos Middle School to improve and enhance math programs through professional development, in-classroom modeling and software solutions.

Taos Middle School has a student population of 550; on average the proficiency in mathematics is 38% based on NM Standards Based Assessments.

Taos Academy Charter School	\$	2,000	Project
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Project support is requested for the GROW (Growing Renewable Options for the World) agricultural program, a farm to table initiative designed to teach middle and high school students about sustainable living and nutrition using a solar powered growing dome and local farms and gardens as a way to address both hunger and obesity in the community. Funding this year would support the development of a CSA farm model and add bee-keeping to the curriculum.

According to NM Department of Health, 13% of Taos County youth are obese; up from 10% in 2009.

LGBT

PFLAG \$ 3,000 Core Support

PFLAG's mission is to promote the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning people. Support is requested to support the Speaker's Bureau, that provides educational opportunities with schools and the community; and to support the Student Internship program that provides social media and event support for the organization while supporting a youth with a valuable internship opportunity.

Last year, 400 students in local high schools were able to participate/attend a Speakers Bureau presentation.

Taos Pride \$ 1,000 Core Support

The mission of Taos Pride is to create community events to deliberate diversity, increase awareness and provide a safe place to be exactly who you are. The 6th Annual Pride in the Park will take place in August, 2015, and is featured as a free and accessible public event that creates goodwill in the community and providing a great opportunity for outreach.

Date set for August 13-15, 2015.

Music in Community

Taos Youth Music School **\$ 5,000** **Core Support**

TYMS is a tuition-free after-school music program for kids from Kindergarten through 12th grade. There are currently 8 classes offered ranging from music education, 2 choirs, percussion and guitar lessons and a Garage Band for teens.

In 14 years of providing music programming, 100% of TYMS' alumni participants have graduated from high school or achieved their GED

Taos School of Music **\$ 6,000** **Core Support**

Each summer, young arts are selected for a classical summer school/music training experience. Every two weeks during the eight-week session, 19 student musicians are reshuffled into new chamber groups and are given music to master for a public concert at the end of the two weeks. TSM students are coached by members of 3 distinguished string quartet faculty.

Native American Fund

Red Willow Center **\$ 5,000** **Core Support**

RWC exists to address the issues of agricultural decline which threatens cultural heritage, water rights, health, environment and food security; a lack of grassroots economic development and youth opportunities; and a paucity of renewable energy infrastructure and energy conservation applications. Red Willow Farms and Red Willow Farmers market are core programs of this organization at Taos Pueblo.

Environment

Rivers and Birds	\$	8,000	Core Support
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Request is for support of the Heartwood Coalition to plant a fruit orchard at Parr Field in downtown Taos. The goal is to transform an asphalt-covered parking lot into a living orchard. The half-acre "food forest" will consist of trees, shrubs, mixed flowers, grasses and forbs to support pollinators and birds. The orchard will also serve as a living classroom for areas schools and the community. Funds also for youth programming.

The plans outline the orchard will host 25 trees, 30 shrubs, and mixed flowers, grasses and forbs to support pollinators, birds and other wildlife.

Amigos Bravos	\$	3,500	Core Support
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The mission of Amigos Bravos is to protect and restore the waters of New Mexico. 2015 projects are numerous and include both local, state and National partners to continue with wetland restoration, planning and regulatory documents/policies, and increasing water quality sampling initiatives.

The Rio Grande, Colorado River and their tributaries connect NM to 5 neighboring states and provides water to nearly 40 million people for municipal use in NM, CO and AZ.

Taos Land Trust	\$	2,000	Core
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TLT conserves open, productive and natural lands for the benefit of the community and culture of northern New Mexico. Goals for this year under new leadership is to develop a *Community Conservation Plan that will identify specific projects that the community needs, wants and is willing to support. This will be the first step to implementing a plan that will include conserving biodiversity, managing natural resources, meeting social needs, increasing opportunities for income generation, improving health and well-being, lowering management costs and sustaining outcomes over time.*

24,000 acres including Conservation Easements are currently under protected management by TLT.

Health

Youth Heartline **\$ 5,000 Core Support**

Organization mission is to provide services to abused and neglected children in our community. Programs include CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates), The Family Empowerment Program, Trails to Trees outdoor hiking, Supervised Visitation, and SmArt House, an after-school program.

There were 104 substantiated abuse or neglect cases in Taos County in 2013.

Girls Circle Project **\$ 4,895 Project**

Girl's Circles work with female teens that are referred by school counselors due to behavioral, social and emotional difficulties. Girl's Circles typically take place during the school day, and involves a weekly group meeting, a Leadership Project (a Pledge of Kindness) that occurs around Valentine's Day, and monthly outings for team-building.

Nearly 31% of girls in a Taos County HS (9th-12th) reported feeling sadness or hopelessness in a 2013 Department of Health Survey.

Assistance Dogs of the West **\$ 2,000 Core Support**

Organization is requesting funding to expand a Student Trainer program in Taos for at-risk youth, particularly those who have experienced violence or are struggling with peer or family relationships. The role of 2 partner agencies (CAV and RMYC) will be to provide the physical program at their site and to recruit student trainers for dogs who will become service dogs for either an individual with a disability or to be placed as a facility service dog in a community setting (court, hospital, clinic, etc.)

There are currently 2 dogs serving in community setting in Taos - "Clarke" spends his time between CAV and Holy Cross Hospital, and "Sally" who serves as a courthouse dog.

Artstreams **\$ 1,000 Core Support**

Organizations mission is to enhance the quality of life for those with Alzheimer's, and other dementia, and to assist their family caregivers to acquire and strengthen their knowledge and skills.

Based on statistical data, it is estimated that there are 390 individuals in Taos County who have Alzheimer's or a dementia diagnosis.

Housing Solutions

Habitat for Humanity \$ **5,000** **Core Support**

HFH currently builds 1-2 homes per year. Partner families are selected from a pool of applicants who are low-income residents, have a stable and responsible family, have work and the ability to repay a Habitat mortgage (30-year, interest free), currently live in substandard housing and are willing to contribute 500 hours of sweat equity.

90% of population cannot afford to purchase a home in Taos due to extremely high home costs combined with lower than average wages and a high level of seasonal employment.

Youth

Taos High School Culinary Arts Program **\$ 5,000** **Core Support**

THS Culinary Arts program offers students industry standard training for the restaurant/food service industry. In addition to instruction received during classroom time, students learn by experience in three student-driven businesses, THS Chefs-catering; Edu@WorkCafe, and Tiger's Corner concessions. Support for this program assists with equipment upgrades, supplies and student lab fees for those students who have limited financial means. The program is able to offer summer employment to many of the participating students.

120 are enrolled in culinary arts classes this school year; 40 students are employed through the catering program; and nearly 25 students are also employed in community industry as part-time/summer jobs.

Field Institute of Taos (FIT) **\$ 3,500** **Core Support**

FIT provides youth and families opportunities for active, hands-on, nature-based outdoor education and promotes healthy lifestyles within our community. By connecting over 700 children ages 6-16 each year by bringing them into the outdoors to build environmental awareness, the program builds stewards of the environment and building leadership roles through mentoring of younger participants.

40% of participating students attend with scholarship support

Taos Children's Theater **\$ 500** **Core Support**

The program serves over thirteen public and private schools, often offering six productions to local and outlying communities. Plays are produced with multi-age range casts, including senior citizens. With a strong emphasis on dance, in the course of rehearsals students learn improvisation, characterization, vocal development, mime, stage combat and more.

The summer production is "The Emperor and the Nightingale"

Youth

Talpa Community Center \$ 2,250 **Core Support**

TCC and Library is the hub of the Talpa Village and surrounding area. It hosts a certified public library and offers numerous youth activities during the summer and out-of-school times, including sewing/quilting and ceramics classes; a summer reading incentive program; a playground and a basketball court. Public transportation from his neighborhood is not available so the TCC provides a much needed center for youth to gather for programs.

55 individual youth have participated in one or more ceramic, sewing or quilting classes and several youth had individual works as part of the Taos Fall Arts Festival

Beautiful Midden \$ 1,584 **Core Support**

A collaborative arts and environmental restoration initiative designed to unite the community in creatively addressing the systemic and social issues that underlie the nature of illegal trash dumping and discharge of lead based munitions into the arroyos, streams and rivers in Taos.

Big Brothers Big Sisters-Mtn Region \$ 2,000 **Core Support**

The community and school-based mentoring program is part of the national model that provides children facing adversity with a professionally supported volunteer for a 1-to-1 relationship with a mentor.

High Altitude Athletics \$ 1,400 **Core Support**

This grant supports both the programming of HAA—competitive and recreational gymnastics for boys and girls, cheerleading, and tumbling, as well as sponsoring the event “A Night to Shine with Nastia Liukin”, where attendees can meet the 2008 Olympic Gold Medalist.

Sponsorship

The Paseo **\$ 1,000.00 Sponsorship**

The Paseo is a festival dedicated to bringing the art of installation, performance and projection to the streets of Taos. The 2014 inaugural event hosted a mile long walk course within the historic district of Taos brought an estimated 3,000 people "out into the street and interested in art again".

Date set for September 25-26, 2015

Taos Fall Arts Festival **\$ 1,000.00 Sponsorship**

TFAF is a 10-day event that celebrates the art and artists of Taos County and markets Taos as an art destination.

Dates is set for September 25 - October 4, 2015

Taos Jazz Bebop Society **\$ 1,000.00 Sponsorship**

TJBBS's goal is to bring jazz concerts to Taos, raise awareness of jazz music through film as well as music and to promote jazz education through involvement with local jazz students. A fall concert to commemorate the life and music of Frank Morgan is planned.

Date set for November 18-20, 2015

Taos Lilac Festival **\$ 1,000.00 Sponsorship**

TLF hosts an annual festival that celebrates the long-standing tradition of lilacs in the Taos Valley. The festival provides education on the care and planting of lilacs. Event volunteers also plant and maintain lilacs in public places throughout the year

Date is set for May 15 - 17, 2015.

Taos County Chamber of Commerce **\$ 1,200.00 Sponsorship**

Taos Plaza Live is a weekly music concert on Historic Taos Plaza and is produced by Taos County Chamber of Commerce.

Thursday evenings starting May 28th through September 3rd

Holy Cross Hospital **\$ 500.00 Sponsorship**

Walk for the Health of it to support cancer support services in Taos.

Saturday, June 13, 2015

Taos Community Foundation is pleased to announce the 2015 High School Scholars from 3 Scholarship Funds. Each of these students reflects excellence in academics, volunteer/civic engagement and the individual values of each of the scholarships. We welcome the following students to our TCF Scholar Family:

Ernie Blake Memorial Scholarship

Evan Scott Pierce—Moreno Valley High School

Friedman Family Scholarship

Donevan Gravelle—Taos High School

Michael Vigil, Jr.—Taos High School

Garcia Hispanic Scholarship

Amy Gonzalez— Cimarron High School

Francisco Martinez—Taos High School

Michelle Martinez— Penasco High School

Analise Valerio—Taos High School

Miranda Vigil—Taos High School

Each of these scholarship awards were presented at the respective High School Senior Award Receptions.

Special Thanks to

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