

Women Give Taos



Taos Giving Circle's mission:

To unite women as leaders and change agents to create opportunities for women and children in Taos and western Colfax Counties.

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Women Give Taos Advisors present the 2021 grant recipients, Youth Heartline, with a check for \$30,000. Accepting the check are Executive Director - Sandra Emory along with her children Kellen & Nia Emory-Crowther, CASA Director - Yasmin Haque, Community Programs Coordinator - Feliz Medina, and staff.

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WOMEN GIVE TAOS was founded several years ago as a giving circle, providing grant funding to local organizations that assist and encourage women and girls to flourish and succeed. Operating under the umbrella of the Taos Community Foundation, WGT is a regional acknowledgment of countless studies showing that when women and girls thrive, so do communities, countries and the world as a whole.

Giving Circle members meet quarterly to learn, share, laugh and give together, with the primary emphasis being on giving. Each year WGT grants are made possible by the ongoing commitment of the donor advisors, who pledge an annual \$1,000 investment in the fund. Pooled with the contributions of the other donor advisors, the giving of one individual becomes significantly magnified and can make an enormous difference in the lives of women and girls in the community. To date, WGT has awarded over \$200,000 to local organizations supporting Women and Girls.

In recent years, grantees have included Las Cumbres Community Services, DreamTree Project, HEART of Taos, UNM Taos TECC, Community Against Violence, and Taos Whole Community Health.

The donor advisors who comprise WGT cast their 2021 gifting vote to Youth Heartline, who received \$30,000 in support of their TRACE Integrated Learning Program. The program supports 'at risk' families, many of



A few Women Give Taos members gathering before a recent meeting.

whom are involved in the justice system, substance misuse and recovery programs in the development of the interrelated skill areas of digital, health, financial literacy and parenting.

"This year we will again be granting one \$30,000 award", said Helen Forte, Director of Community Impact for TCF. "As always, the giving circle is hoping to hear from applicants whose proposals are grounded in local knowledge, impactful and transformative, criteria that we use in assessing the probability of positive outcomes for women and girls."

This year's grant application submission deadline is April 10th.

Women Give Taos asks women with power in all its forms — financial, social, leadership, voice, influence and access to networks — to step forward and join in

this strategic gifting movement.

"Being part of a group of likeminded philanthropic women is, in itself, gratifying," Forte further noted. "You have a say in how grants are disbursed and then see your donations go to work locally in real and substantive ways. It's a great feeling."

As noted by one Giving Circle member, "Being a small part of an effort that enhances the lives and education of women and children in our community means everything to me."

Taos Community Foundation is located at 115 La Posta Road, Suite A, Taos NM 87571. To learn more about the foundation, Women Give Taos and other ways ways to get involved, visit taoscf.org, or call 575-737-9300.

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