



# 2025 IMPACT REPORT

Growth through Service.  
**POWERED** by Community.

30  
ROCKY MOUNTAIN  
YOUTH CORPS  
YEARS  
of IMPACT  
INSPIRING TOMORROW'S  
LEADERS, TODAY

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## FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND BOARD PRESIDENT

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Dear friends and supporters,

Like many organizations working in the nonprofit sector in 2025, we faced unprecedented challenges with the withdrawal of federal grants, staffing challenges with our federal partners, policy shifts and a prolonged federal shutdown. These changes have been disruptive to our work and the loss of funding has resulted in fewer projects in the field and fewer members hired. Even so, we are especially proud to share that we navigated these constraints without a single layoff or furlough – an outcome that reflects careful stewardship, adaptability, and a deep commitment to our members and mission.

Despite these challenges, the season was also marked by meaningful growth and momentum. We broke ground on a new Taos office building that will strengthen our infrastructure and expand what's possible for programs in the years ahead. We launched a Youth Council made up of high school students through our Prevention Program, ensuring that young voices are helping shape the work designed to serve them. And our Conservation Program delivered an exceptional year of performance, marked by expanded saw certifications, a leading backcountry program statewide, and the strongest partner feedback in our organization's history. These accomplishments are a testament to our dedicated staff's will to really dig in, despite the challenges we face.

This annual report tells the fuller story of a year defined not only by obstacles, but by perseverance, progress, and impact. We invite you to dig in, celebrate what we accomplished together, and look ahead with us. And as we prepare for another strong season, keep an eye out for our crews in 2026 – we can't wait for another fabulous season, doing the work that matters most.

In service,



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "BCT".

Ben Thomas  
Executive Director



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Marc Space".

Marc Space  
RMYC Board President



“I haven’t felt more cared for in a place before this. I loved watching the staff interact with everyone. I felt seen and felt like others were seen. To have people recognize us is awesome.”

—SAM, Assistant Crew Leader

# TRAINING PROGRAM

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**80%**  
**PROGRAM  
GRADUATION**

OF 2025 CORPSMEMBERS



**85% OF 2025  
GRADUATES**

ARE NOW CURRENTLY ENGAGED  
IN EDUCATION, TRADE SCHOOL,  
EMPLOYMENT, OR COMMUNITY SERVICE

**99%**

OF CORPSMEMBERS

**COMPLETED MULTIPLE  
LIFE SKILLS AND  
VITAL PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS**



**88%**

OF CORPSMEMBERS

**RECEIVED  
CPR/FIRST AID  
CERTIFICATIONS**

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## NATIONAL SAWYER CERTIFICATIONS

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**25 USFS  
CROSSCUT  
BUCKING  
CERTIFICATIONS**

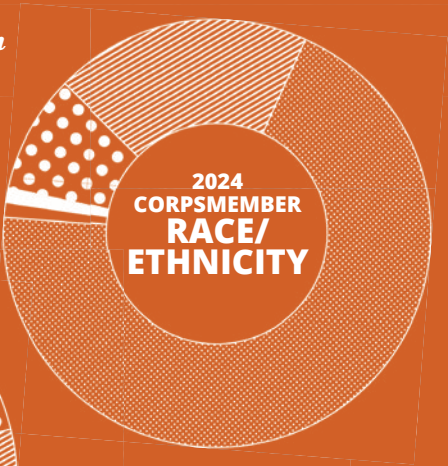


**25 USFS  
CHAINSAW  
CERTIFICATIONS**



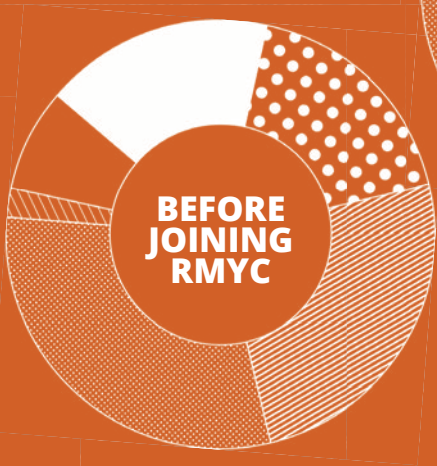
# CORPSMEMBER DEMOGRAPHICS

*In 2025, 92 corpsmembers contributed 70,607 hours of service while earning more than \$1.3 million in living stipends and education awards.*



- 69.6% White
- 19.6% American Indian/Alaskan
- 8.7% Other
- 1.1% African American
- 1.1% Asian

*36% of members identify as Hispanic*



*73% Unemployed  
41% Economically Disadvantaged  
23% Experience a Disability*

- 30% High School Diploma / GED
- 25% Some College
- 17% Still in High School
- 18% College Degree
- 8% Associates Degree
- 2% Graduate Degree



- 40.3% Entered Secondary/Post Secondary Education
- 24.7% Entered Employment
- 22.1% Entered Other Service
- 13% Unknown

# FINANCIALS

*Fiscal Year June 2024-July 2025*



## GRANTS

52.09% / \$2,051,207



## FEE FOR SERVICE

38.24% / \$1,505,718



## CONTRIBUTIONS / GIFTS

8.64% / \$340,270



## OTHER REVENUE

0.55% / \$21,763



## IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

0.47% / \$18,580

## WAGES, BENEFITS & TAXES

71.07% / \$2,859,738



## EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS & SUPPLIES

28.47% / \$1,145,433



## IN-KIND EXPENSES

0.46% / \$18,580





“My experience with the Youth Coalition has been a wonderful lesson in stepping out of my comfort zone, exposing me to the newfound connections that result when people come together for the wellbeing of the community.”

— **ZAHTRA**, RMYC Youth Coalition Co-Chair



# PREVENTION PROGRAM



**500**

**LOCKABLE BAGS**

PROVIDED TO THE TAOS  
COMMUNITY FOR SAFE STORAGE

**4 YOUTH  
COALITION  
MEMBERS**

CONTRACTED FROM  
TAOS HIGH SCHOOL



**300+**

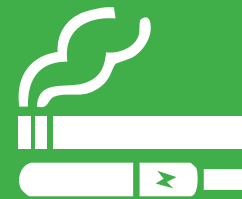
**NEW MEXICO  
COMMUNITY SURVEYS**

COLLECTED FOR THE PURPOSE OF  
LEARNING ABOUT ALCOHOL AND DRUG USE  
AND RELATED ATTITUDES AMONG STUDENTS

**27**

**TOBACCO MERCHANT  
EDUCATION VISITS**

COMPLETED IN TAOS COUNTY



## YOUR MEDICINE CABINET: A HIDDEN DANGER

**FACT:** Nearly 50% of people  
who misuse prescription  
drugs get them from a  
family member or friend.

**50%**

*\*Source: SAMHSA*



**Safe Storage Saves Lives.**  
Protect our kids and **LOCK IT UP.**



**1**

### STORE SAFELY

Store all prescription drugs,  
especially opioids, in a secure,  
locked container, bag or cabinet.



**2**

### TRACK MEDICATION

Keep track of your medication  
count. If pills are missing,  
investigate immediately.



**3**

### TALK IT OUT

Talk to your family, especially  
teens, about the importance  
of securing medications.

**LAUNCHED  
A NEW  
OPIOID  
PREVENTION  
CAMPAIGN  
AND STRATEGY  
THIS FISCAL YEAR  
FOR TAOS COUNTY**



# NATIVE AMERICAN PROGRAM

## BANDELIETZ HISTORIC PRESERVATION



**220** GALLONS OF  
MORTAR USED

**64** ROCKS RESHAPED  
OR REPLACED



— ON ANCESTRAL STRUCTURES —

## TAOS PUEBLO

**26** VIGAS  
PEELED



**4,800**

INVASIVE WEEDS  
REMOVED FROM PUEBLO STRUCTURES



**42** ADOBE BRICKS & **740** GALLONS  
OF MORTAR

USED IN PUEBLO RESTORATION



“My experience working with RMYC has been great from the start. I’ve grown and learned a lot working with the Wilderness Rangers for Taos Pueblo. I feel proud of the work I’ve done with this crew.”

— DEMETRIUS, Wilderness Ranger Crew Member



# AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE PROGRAM



**6** CORPSMEMBERS  
COMPLETED  
**1,300** HOURS OF  
SERVICE



**1,624** FEET OF  
INVASIVE SPECIES  
REMOVED ALONG  
TRAILS



**280** GALLONS  
OF MORTAR  
MIXED AND APPLIED TO  
ANCESTRAL SITES



**150**  
PLANTS  
PLANTED

**603** FEET OF  
MORTAR WALL  
RESTORED



“This was my first time working with others I did not know. I learned how to better communicate with my Deaf and Hard of Hearing peers.”

— **MICHAEL**, *ASL Summer Crew Member*





“We are only here because of mother earth. Being out there seeing these natural things make me even more passionate to bring it back to people living in cities.”

— **MATCY**, Crewmember



# CONSERVATION PROGRAM

 **225** MILES OF TRAIL  
IMPROVED

AND

 **104** MILES OF TRAIL  
CORRIDOR MAINTAINED



**2,090** CUBIC  
FEET OF  
ROCK RETAINING  
WALLS BUILT

**165** ACRES  
OF FOREST  
TREATED AND THINNED  
AND

**3,945** TREES  
REMOVED



**824** FEET OF FENCE

CONSTRUCTED REPAIRED OR REMOVED



**10** ACRES OF  
INVASIVE SPECIES  
REMOVED



**103**  
CORDS OF FIREWOOD  
CUT AND DONATED

**5,684**  
FEET OF ACEQUIAS  
CLEANED



**1,350**  
TREES  
PLANTED



# INDIVIDUAL DONORS

From fiscal year July 1, 2024-June 30, 2025      \*\* In-Kind donation

## FOUNDER'S CIRCLE – \$5,000+

Doug Eichelberger\*\*

Kenneth and Karen Bergren

Margaret, Mike, and Allison Keirst\*\*

## STEPPING STONE – \$1,001 - \$5,000

El Salto Advisors

Joel Serra

Keith Burke

Paolo DiRosa

Rebeca Romero Rainey

William Knight

## DIFFERENCE MAKER – \$501 - \$1,000

Amy Rankin

Bette Myerson

Carl Colonius

Chris Ellis

Darrow Kirkpatrick

George Brown

Hamilton Brown

Horacio Trujillo

Karen Dyer

Stephen Rose

Thomas and Vivian Martinez

WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE CONTRIBUTIONS  
FROM DONORS WHO WISH TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS.

## **TAKE PRIDE** — \$101 - \$500

AnJanette Brush

Ben Thomas

Carl Struck

David Hicks

Dean and Alberta Lujan

Dede and Mark Feldman

Del Dubois

Doug Roth

Jeff Tetenbaum

Kathy and Ernie Thomas

Laurie Dunn

Leslie Gray

Louis Romero and

Patricia Chavez

Matthew Lichtash

Melissa Haye Cserhat

Paule Marx

Peter Lora

Polly Raye and Bill

Christmas

Robert and Rose

Chappell

Ryan Trujillo

Sara Back

Stephen Patrick

Susan and Conrad

De Jong

Tara Blau

Terry and Mary Earls

Viola Vasquez

## **WORK SAFE** — \$1 - \$100

Aaron Back

Ana M. Maria Campos

Ashley Hom

Cindy Brown

Coleman and Jason Burnett

Delores Endres

Eytan Krasilovsky

Glenn Johnson

Gregory Elbring

Gwen and Michael Tennison

Harriet J. Van Denbos

Herbert Foster

Jhovany Garcia

John Geddie

Jon Mudder

Kaelin Tonrey

Kenneth Gallard

Lucas Schreiber

M. Teresa Pisano

Magee Build, Inc

Marianne Pepin

Marybeth Auld

Quinn Mendelson

Richard and Carol Rinehart

Richard and Jane Padberg

Robert Carlson

Robert Schoen

Sean Wild

Stephen and Carmelita A.  
Lieurance

# SUPPORTERS

\* In-Kind donation

From fiscal year July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

## FOUNDATIONS, NON-PROFITS & BUSINESSES

### \$100,000+

Aqualia Foundation  
KFC Foundation  
National Forest Foundation  
Natioanl Park Foundation

### \$20,000-\$99,999

|                                   |                           |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| United Way of Central New Mexico  | Justice Outside           |
| The Edw. F. Zimmer Community Fund | Taos Community Foundation |
| The LOR Foundation, Inc.          | Lineberry Foundation      |
| Richard B. Siegel Foundation      |                           |

### \$1-\$19,999

|                                       |                                          |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
| 203 Fine Art                          | Kush Family Fund                         |
| Albuquerque Community Foundation      | LANL Triad                               |
| Bent Lodge No42 AF&FM                 | Margaret, Mike, and Allison Keirst       |
| Buffalo Exchange                      | Nature Niños New Mexico                  |
| Centinel Bank of Taos                 | NUSENDA Foundation                       |
| Cid's Food Market, Inc.               | Page Sullivan Real Estate Group          |
| Clothes Helping Kids, Inc.            | Paul and Virginia Cabot Charitable Trust |
| Conservation United                   | PayPal Giving Fund                       |
| Constellation Consulting              | Planet in Peace Foundation               |
| Delta Dental Plan of New Mexico, Inc. | PPC Solar                                |
| Diva Cup*                             | Pulakos CPAs, PC                         |
| Erik Steinberg Trust                  | Reed Family Foundation, Inc.             |
| Habitat for Humanity Taos             | Santa Barbara Foundation                 |
| J3 Fund                               | Taos Ski Valley, Inc.                    |
| JF Maddox Foundation                  | The Rebecca Kush Family Fund             |
| Kroger                                | Trout Unlimited                          |

# GOVERNMENT & INSTITUTIONS

## FEDERAL

AmeriCorps, through Serve New Mexico  
Commission

U.S. Bureau of Land Management:  
*Taos Field Office, Socorro, Magdalena,  
Navajo Lake, El Malpais, Cabezón,  
Rio Puerco*

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation:  
*Albuquerque acequias,  
Navajo Dam State Park,  
and Elephant Butte State Park*

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:  
*Valle De Oro Wildlife Refuge*

U.S. Forest Service, NM:  
*Carson, Santa Fe, Cibola, Gila National Forests*

U.S. National Park Service:  
*Bandelier National Monument,  
Pecos National Historical Park,  
Valles Caldera National Monument,  
Youth Programs Division*

## STATE

NM Department of Game & Fish

NM Dept. of Cultural Affairs:  
*Los Luceros Historic Site*

NM Division of Vocational Rehabilitation

NM Office of Substance Abuse Prevention

NM Outdoor Recreation Division

NM State Parks

NM Youth Conservation Corps

## TRIBAL

Sandia Pueblo

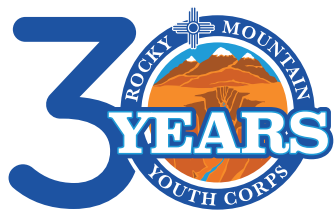
Taos Pueblo

## EDUCATIONAL

Anansi Charter School, Taos  
New Mexico School for the Deaf  
Taos Academy Charter School  
Taos High School  
University of New Mexico, Taos  
Van Buren Middle School, Albuquerque  
Vista Grande High School, Taos

## LOCAL

Agri-Cultura Network  
Bernalillo County  
City of Albuquerque  
City of Albuquerque Open Space  
Ciudad Soil & Water Conservation District  
Continental Divide Trail Coalition  
El Salto De Agua Land Association  
Enchanted Circle Trail Association  
Environmental Policy Innovation Center [EPIC]  
Keystone Restoration Ecology  
Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District  
Santa Fe County Open Space  
JEB Outfitters  
Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation [PIRE]  
Taos Alive  
Taos County  
Taos DWI Council  
Taos Health Council  
Taos Soil & Water Conservation District  
Town of Taos  
Village of Taos Ski Valley



MAKING A DIFFERENCE

— Since 1995 —

P.O. Box 1960  
Ranchos De Taos, NM 87557

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



**Back Row** (L-R): Ben Thomas, Dwayne Lefthand, Zeki Schwartz, Nick Burns, Nicki Powers, Quinn Fjal, Carl Smith, Chandler Callahan, Candice Abasta, Michelle Roaque

**Front Row** (L-R): Kate Sorrell, Nixo Lanning, Andrea Pepin, Mickayla Hodgman, Quinn Mendelson

**Not Pictured:** Rosanna Aragon, Sheldon Tenorio, Cecilia Dimas

2026  
**STAFF**