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## AWARDEE SPOTLIGHT

### Uplift Youth Fund Enabled Taos Education Collaborative to More Than Double Summer Camp Capacity for Working Families

*Award supported expansion from 50 to 125 students across two locations while providing fair wages for local educators*

**October 1, 2025 - TAOS SKI VALLEY, NM** – The [Taos Education Collaborative](#) (TEC) used support from Taos Ski Valley's [Uplift Youth Fund](#) to dramatically expand its 2025 community summer camp program, providing six full weeks of high-quality programming that combined fun activities with continued learning opportunities.

#### Significant Growth and Community Impact

"For Taos Education Collaborative, this funding from the Uplift Youth Fund meant that we were able to expand our impact from serving 50 students at one location, as we did in 2024, to nearly 125 students in two locations in the Taos Community for the summer of 2025," said Elizabeth LeBlanc from TEC. "The funds also helped us pay Taos educators a fair wage as they are sharing their time and expertise to support our students in summer fun and learning."

This expansion addresses critical needs for working families while creating meaningful summer employment opportunities for local teachers.

#### Building Stronger Communities

"We're excited to support TEC's expansion of this vital community resource," said Dawn Boulware, Vice President from Taos Ski Valley. "Quality summer programming serves multiple needs at once supporting working families, providing continued learning opportunities for students, and creating meaningful employment for local educators."

#### About the Uplift Youth Fund

Launched in January 2025 by Taos Ski Valley, the Uplift Youth Fund provides more than \$100,000 annually to local organizations through youth-focused projects. The fund supports initiatives in four key areas: outdoor equity and youth programming, environmental stewardship, economic and workforce development, and connection to community. Grants ranging from \$2,500 to \$10,000 are awarded twice yearly to nonprofits and organizations serving Taos County and northern New Mexico youth.

#### About Taos Education Collaborative

Taos Education Collaborative is dedicated to eliminating the barriers that stand between our community's youth and educational success. Through collective action, the organization works to make Taos a place where high-quality learning and educational experiences are available and accessible to learners of all ages.

