

YCC Projects FY25

Project Sponsor	County	# Youth Employed	Funds Awarded	Project Description
Alamo Navajo School Board, Inc.	Socorro	13	\$107,391.76	The overall goal of project one will benefit the youth and community of Alamo. There is high rate of diabetes in the Alamo community and surrounding areas, there is a dire need to practice healthy lifestyles and eating healthy foods. Alamo is located in a very rural and remote area in West Central, New Mexico. Access to healthy food, such as fresh produce is essential for disease prevention as well as treating many chronic disease, including successful recovery from substance abuse.
Albuquerque Sign Language Academy	Bernalillo	32	\$187,346.56	The Honey Badger YCC crew is cornerstone project to involve youth of all abilities in ability appropriate activities and conservation work thus empowering youth to give back to our communities while learning critical job skills. People with disabilities have an estimated 70% underemployment/ unemployment rate in New Mexico. This project supports youth with (and without) individual and developmental disabilities by taking classroom instruction and applying their learning in hands on conservation projects. Research from the Outdoor Industry Foundation indicates that HEALTH & WELLNESS is improved by spending time outside improves the physical and mental health with significant positive impact with obesity, diabetes, anxiety, depression, PTSD and more.
Aldo Leopold Charter School	Grant	47	\$85,580.00	These improvements have an enduring impact on our residents and natural environment. The projects outlined in this proposal will contribute a wealth of knowledge to be shared locally and nationally, support economic development within the community, and promote community stewardship among crew members, residents of the area, and visitors. Each semester ALCS students are given the opportunity to work on one of our YCC crews: Garden crew, Ecological monitoring crew, Murals crew, Trails crew, and Water harvesting crew. Each crew helps to improve our region and collaborates with our partners to build and strengthen relationships between youth and the greater populace of Grant County.
Aldo Leopold Charter School	Grant	60	\$121,230.00	Garden crew, Ecological monitoring crew, Murals crew, Trails crew, and Water harvesting crew. Each crew helps to improve our region and collaborates with our partners to build and strengthen relationships between youth and the greater populace of Grant County.
ALMA (Apprenticeships for Leaders in Mosaic Arts)	Bernalillo	13	\$143,176.21	The mosaic projects that ALMA creates are permanent public art installations, created to last for many, many years. Their beauty becomes a permanent part of the landscape, representing a unique archive of community history and collaboration. ALMA's partnerships with local community leaders from the South Valley and the Pueblo of Isleta have facilitated our unique interview and design process that has also created a lasting physical archive of community history that may be shared into the future.
City of Aztec	San Juan	8	\$23,408.79	Project 1 was changed and involved fencing the Aztec Motocross ROW and City's Recreation Area boundary; Project 2 was dog park amenities at the Animal Shelter; Project 3 was 6 basket disc gold putting course at Riverside Park
City of Bloomfield	San Juan	8	\$115,647.79	Vereda Del Rio San Juan river trail project has entailed the construction of multi-use, diverse, non-motorized trail along the San Juan River in Bloomfield, NM. The trail has been constructed on property owned by the City of Bloomfield. The trail is a continuation and completion of a project started in 2006. For future development of the trail, will include but not or limited to, Russian Olive and Salt Cedar eradication and noxious weed prevention along the riverbanks of the trails. Once completed, the clearing of the invasive species will provide visibility to the waters of the San Juan River, enhancing the natural beauty of the area. The city will continue working on the infrastructure of the natural water way.
City of Gallup	McKinley	19	\$176,245.09	The Gallup YCC program builds on a track record of delivering a highly successful youth workforce program that delivers first-class and worthwhile projects for the community. Projects are aligned with advancing health and economic targets, such as providing nutritious snacks, physical fitness stretches and yoga, to improve trails, community gardens, park beautifications, conservation, and built environment projects. Work plans also restore, recycle, and regenerate open space for habitat, safe play, community gardens, and recreation areas.
City of Tucumcari	Quay	10	\$77,393.23	This year's YCC project goal is to provide an employment opportunity for Quay County youth and provide an environment where they are able to use and expand their job skills. This year members will be revitalizing open spaces around Tucumcari. We hope the work done increases community provide and the public will continue to keep the spaces clean and safe for public use.
Ciudad Soil and Water Conservation District	Bernalillo	27	\$183,389.61	The Albuquerque Open Space Division has seen unprecedented increases in trail use within Major Public Open Space (MPOS) since 2020, with some trail heads experiencing nearly double the number of visits. Increased trails use inevitably results in trail impacts such as soil compaction and increased erosion, necessitating heightened efforts to maintain and repair the trails.
Commons Center for Food Sustainability & Security	Grant	7	\$19,511.72	Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) Summer Report July 2024 Youth Empowerment Through Conservation and Community Engagement Overview The Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) of 2024 had a highly productive summer, focused on conservation, community education, and hands-on learning in environmental stewardship and sustainable practices. Throughout July, our YCC team engaged in multiple impactful projects, collaborating with local organizations and gaining valuable skills in both conservation and community leadership. Key accomplishments this summer include the completion of the City Parklet revitalization, successful facilitation of a 4-day Kids' Garden Camp, and ongoing contributions to the community's sustainability efforts through practical, skill-building programs. Project Accomplishments 1. City Parklet Revitalization & Preparation for Edible Labyrinth Garden In July, the YCC team completed the clearing and revitalization of the City Parklet, an underutilized public space that will serve as a central part of the upcoming community educational project: the Edible Labyrinth Garden. After weeks of hard work, the parklet is now cleared and prepared for next summer's educational garden space, designed to serve as both a peaceful sanctuary and a teaching tool for the community. The edible labyrinth will incorporate native and edible plants, creating a safe and sustainable space for hands-on learning, wellness, and environmental education. The work completed this summer will ensure the project is ready to launch next year, providing a unique space for community members of all ages to engage in gardening and environmental sustainability. 2. Kids' Garden Camp with Health Kids Healthy Communities In collaboration with Health Kids Healthy Communities, the YCC team
Conservation Legacy	Bernalillo, Cibola, McKinley	6	\$144,133.45	Acoma youth and young adult participants are provided a variety of life skill and career workshops such as traditional cooking classes centered on the food they have grown to both preserve cultural knowledge and strengthen healthy nutritional habits. Other workshops have utilized partnerships with Bank of America to demonstrate and explain financial health, access to credit, and smart business practices to ensure the sustainability of the corps member's career goals. Acoma Traditional Farm Corps youth members learn how to provide for themselves, their families, and those around them while reconnecting to their land and culture and gaining critical career and business skills.
County of Bernalillo	Bernalillo	7	\$89,915.75	BCOS manages a few properties in its inventory that have a history of serving agricultural purposes. We aim to maintain these in arable condition as practical and educational resource. As we move toward our goals of increasing access, improving educational opportunities and teaching stewardship, we continuously partner with organizations in the community to help us engage in place-based planning and community development.
East Rio Arriba Soil & Water Conservation District	Rio Arriba, Santa Fe	7	\$62,082.94	While out in the field the crew will also learn to identify and inventory Natural Resources health concerns, such as: Invasive Plant Species, Invasive Tree and Shrub Species, and Illegal Dumpsites. The crew will learn valuable skills such as: GPS data collection, resource inventory, plant classification, extensive conservation techniques, technical writing, and public speaking skills.
EcoServants	Lincoln, Otero	19	\$180,415.27	The purpose of EcoServants Lincoln County NMYCC Project will be to improve and maintain outdoor recreational opportunities and forest health of Lincoln and Otero Counties' public lands, while working with local natural resource managers. This project will also recruit, train, and employ 21 local youth with competitive wages and an AmeriCorps scholarship. The big projects planned for 2024 are building a new 5 mile trail in Sawmill Canyon, restoration of South Fork Trail (which was closed in 2012 due to the Little Bear Fire in White Mountain Wilderness Area on United States Department of Agriculture - Forest Service (USDA-FS) Smokey Bear District), extension of the Enchanted Trail on USDA-FS Sacramento Ranger District, performing FireWise duties, and planting trees on the Mescalero Apache Reservation.
EcoServants	Lincoln, Otero	26	\$180,415.27	The purpose of EcoServants Otero County NMYCC Project will be to improve and maintain outdoor recreational opportunities and forest health of Lincoln and Otero Counties' public lands, while working with local natural resource managers. This project will also recruit, train, and employ 21 local youth with competitive wages and an AmeriCorps scholarship. The big projects planned for 2024 are building a new 5 mile trail in Sawmill Canyon, restoration of South Fork Trail (which was closed in 2012 due to the Little Bear Fire in White Mountain Wilderness Area on United States Department of Agriculture - Forest Service (USDA-FS) Smokey Bear District), extension of the Enchanted Trail on USDA-FS Sacramento Ranger District, performing FireWise duties, and planting trees on the Mescalero Apache Reservation
GEM Environmental NFP	Cibola, Grant, Hidalgo, McKinley	7	\$294,765.78	AML / MMD Cooperative Agreement w/ YCC to inventory hard rock mining features statewide.
GEM Environmental NFP	Cibola, Grant, Hidalgo, McKinley	0	\$151,276.90	Crews will inventory mining features and perform maintenance checks; enter, process, quality-check and submit data; provide a training program equivalent to 10% of the time worked.

Harwood Art Center of Escuela del Sol Montessori	Bernalillo	11	\$64,703.65	In 2024, we'll complete the Art Park we've created along its eastern border with a series of narrative artworks that integrate the 4 monumental public artworks created over the last 5 years. In 2024 we'll create a narrative steel panel for the north facing edge of Portal, and a steel trellis for the south facing edge along with a sculpture planter that will house trumpet vine to grow along the trellis and up over the archway. In 2023, we laid the berms, basins and boulders for the Arid LID Garden at the heart of the art park; in 2024, we'll plant the garden and lay a series of sculpted tile pavers to guide residents safely through the garden. Our team of artists will invite and weave in poems and narratives from park residents into these culminating artworks.
Hermit's Peak Watershed Alliance	Mora, San Miguel	9	\$136,787.40	Our YCC crew members will assist HPWA in enacting a long-term recovery effort that couples building a local workforce with land and water restoration in the Hermit's peak burn scar. HPWA is part of a regional effort to restore health to our land, water and communities following the HPCC fire comprised of federal and state agencies including the City of Las Vegas, San Miguel County, New Mexico Highlands University, Luna Community College and numerous nonprofits. This hardworking group is responsible for planning and implementing land and water post-fire restoration on both public and private lands, ensuring the safety and viability of our communities.
Institute for Applied Ecology	Bernalillo, Rio Arriba, San Miguel, Sandoval, Santa Fe, Taos, Valencia	6	\$98,173.83	Job skills (i.e., plant ID, Seeds of Success, electronic data collection, restoration) help them climb a career ladder in natural resources. They are provided a week of training in safety, communication, protocols, and job expectations under the supervision of experienced professionals. After this job, they will be able apply for Biological Science/Plant Technicians with the USFS or BLM.
Jemez Mountain Public Schools (JMPS)	Rio Arriba	7	\$56,722.11	During the 8 week summer project, YCC corps members will be provided with summer work experiences for youth in the surrounding area while also participating in cultural experiences by community experts. They will complete various work plans that will provide job training, pride in their community, career development and skill building. Youth employment opportunities in the area are limited and greatly needed.
Mark Armijo Academy Charter School	Bernalillo	28	\$162,499.20	The main work plan will occur on site at Mark Armijo Academy in the form of developing a hoop house, school garden, pollinator gardens, and murals to beautify the MAA campus. The other works plans are designed with the Village of Los Ranchos Agri-Nature Center, Rio Grande Academy for Fine Arts, Cottonwood Gulch, and Bernalillo County. Each project has been carefully evaluated by MAA and the community partners.
New Mexico Acequia Association	Mora	8	\$57,997.39	Purpose: The overall purpose of the project is to restore the function of acequias impacted by the Hermit's Peak Calf Canyon fire and recurring flooding. Acequias are the community-based irrigation systems that support the way of life and livelihood of the rural communities of Mora County. They are political subdivisions of the state with public infrastructure and easements and they have the responsibility of water allocation and distribution of irrigation water to landowners with water rights. The project will consist primarily of two types of activities: 1) debris removal from acequia waterways that get clogged from recurring flooding, and 2) restoration projects to mitigate the impacts of flooding by reduce erosion and debris flows.
Rio Arriba County	Rio Arriba	21	\$199,999.97	The purpose of the Rio Arriba County Fairgrounds improvement project is to provide the community with a more enjoyable and clean county fair experience by enhancing the current fairgrounds infrastructure. The goal is to make it year-round accessible - currently the road is corroded and without gravel, which makes it inaccessible during heavy rains. The county currently only rents out RV spaces during the annual July Rodeo. However, with site improvements they can increase their capacity to continuously rent the RV sites and utilize the Rio Arriba County Rural Event Center for outdoor activities such as concerts.
Rio Arriba County		16	\$199,999.81	Overlooking the beautiful Espanola valley, the purpose of the Healing Garden is to create a public healing space for the community. The garden is an open and safe space intended to help those in the grieving process find peace in losing loved ones to negative substance use outcomes. The gardens hold a physical space for memorials dedicated to loved ones that have died by suicide, violence, and substance use.
RiverSource Inc. (Partners in Education Foundation)	Mora, Rio Arriba, San Miguel, Santa Fe, Taos	5	\$34,529.60	The Watershed Academy creates water job pathways that include hydrology, restoration ecology, watershed management, and green infrastructure with a focus on assessment, monitoring and planning work. Our overall goal is to advance land, water, and wildlife protection. To do this we must build these skills for youth and assist our partners in achieving success in managing New Mexico tribal, local, state, and federal lands and waters. This new part of the Watershed Academy will promote work-learn opportunities through the fall of 2024 and the spring of 2025 to support individual internships with mentors that we recruit from within the Las Vegas, Pecos, Santa Fe, an Peñasco in 3-4 communities.
RiverSource Inc. (Partners in Education Foundation)	Mora, Rio Arriba, San Miguel, Santa Fe, Taos	32	\$143,115.24	The Watershed Academy creates water job pathways that include hydrology, restoration ecology, watershed management, and green infrastructure with a focus on assessment, monitoring and planning work. River Source builds capacity, rather than create dependency, with the communities we work with. This approach helps sustain hope in a world with few economic opportunities for youth and widespread ecological degradation. Our overall goal is to advance land, water, and wildlife protection. To do this we must build related skills for youth and assist our partners in achieving success in managing New Mexico tribal, local, state, and federal lands and waters.
Robert F. Kennedy Charter School	Bernalillo	17	\$160,415.50	RFK's farm to school project goals include providing experiential learning opportunities and education for its students in agriculture and nutrition, horticulture, environmental science and life skills. RFK aims to improved what kids eat in school by increasing access to fresh, locally grown produce.
Rocky Mountain Youth Corps	Taos	14	\$196,537.42	The overarching objective for Rocky Mountain Youth Corps YCC Proposal is to offer comprehensive life skills and workforce development training to youth and young adults, guiding them towards a career in conservation and community service through practical employment experiences. Corps members will participate in a range of community development projects aimed at preserving natural and cultural resources while bolstering the local economy. To achieve this mission, RMYC will engage three (3) crews from Taos, New Mexico. To accomplish this, Rocky Mountain Youth Corps (RMYC) is embarking on several collaborative projects, each with its unique purpose and contribution with three conservation crews.
Rocky Mountain Youth Corps	Bernalillo, Santa Fe	18	\$196,333.09	o achieve this mission, RMYC will engage three (3) crews from Santa Fe and Albuquerque. Crews will have 1 week of orientation and 8 weeks of project work. To accomplish this, Rocky Mountain Youth Corps (RMYC) is embarking on several collaborative projects, each with its unique purpose and contribution with three conservation crews.
Rocky Mountain Youth Corps	Bernalillo, Sandoval, Taos	10	\$106,902.00	The primary objective of Rocky Mountain Youth Corps' new Urban Forestry program is to expand RMYC's Conservation Program to address critical environmental challenges in New Mexico's public lands. The project aims to enhance Corps members' skills in natural resource management, specifically focusing on wildfire mitigation, invasive species removal, urban canopy cover, and degraded trails. By doing so, RMYC contributes to the conservation of public resources while providing valuable training and service opportunities for youth.
San Juan College	San Juan	14	\$169,518.40	San Juan College's YCC Project goal is to provide youth employment, life skills, and hands-on learning experience to corps members. By installing a botanical garden at San Juan College, corps members will learn how to cultivate, conserve, and sustain the cultures of plants.
Santa Clara Pueblo	Rio Arriba, Sandoval	18	\$112,644.01	Our goal this year is to employ and train unemployed youth to preserve traditional cultural structures and clean and rehabilitate trails, wetland areas, and ponds. Youth will learn how to fix, maintain, and restore Homos (outdoor ovens) for elders within the community. Along with this, the youth will also be working to clear and rehabilitate traditional trails within the upper canyon area of the reservation along with recreational trails at Puye cliffs. A final project consisting of monitoring wildlife within the area and rehabilitating ponds that are on the Santa Clara Pueblo lands.
Santa Fe County Fire Department	Bernalillo, Sandoval, Santa Fe, Taos	0	\$198,345.86	The goal of SFCFD is to prepare young men and women for their future careers. We instill discipline, confidence, and respect for themselves, and others. Through team work and training on a daily basis. Learning to work with others in difficult situations they may encounter while on a fire or project site. SFCFD will hire eight individuals to fill a ten-person hand crew available for forest thinning projects in Santa Fe County as well as assisting fire crew on emergency incidents. This crew will also be available for deployment to wildland fires, and support search and rescue operations in and out of the county.
SLO - Coop	Bernalillo	3	\$200,000.00	Map and gather data on Golden Open Space in Bernalillo County.
Southwest Educational Partners in Training	Bernalillo	8	\$40,109.81	Corps members will learn valuable skills that can help them enter the workforce immediately or acquire the requirements to attend community college and other job training.
Spirit of Hidalgo	Hidalgo	10	\$41,558.32	Explore Hidalgo County Outdoors (EHCO) seeks to increase economic opportunities and community wellness around outdoor recreation in Lordsburg and Hidalgo County. The Shakespeare Hub project is the development of a web of trails from the intersection of Shakespeare Ghost Town, Shakespeare Cemetery, and Shakespeare CDT Trailhead. From this Hub, there is access to miles of the CDT, interesting gravesites at the cemetery, walking tours at the ghost town, offshoot roads and trails that go through old mines and ranch land, Veterans Park with overnight camping and picnic areas, the archery range, and the water towers to see for miles around.
Talking Talons Youth Leadership	Bernalillo	8	\$52,434.52	TTYL's project partners for the 2024 YCC program are Village of Tijeras (VoT), Bernalillo County Open Space (BCOS), Friends of the Sandia Mountains (FOSM) and City of Albuquerque Open Space (Cabq OS). Each of these partners will be providing meaningful project work for the YCC crew members to complete in service to the community, as well as training for the YCC members. Volunteer Lou Romero, who has had a long career in land management and youth development, will contribute additional volunteer hours to support the YCC training program

Taos Land Trust	Taos	11	\$148,719.85	Taos Land Trust (TLT) plans to hire two different crews for our 2024 growing season. One crew will work from spring to fall, while the other will work only during the summer. Both crews will work on various tasks like regenerative agriculture, ecological monitoring, land restoration, and improving park infrastructure at TLT-owned Rio Fernando Park
The Family YMCA	Los Alamos	13	\$77,181.07	The purpose of the project when it first started in 2009 was to repair fire-damaged community trails that traverse 58 miles throughout the Los Alamos community, as well as perimeter trails on USDA Forest Service land. This purpose has evolved in to providing service to any number of projects for overall community benefit (such as park repairs and minor building projects), often times addressing or creating new community trails for sustainability and supporting fire line trails.
The Forest Stewards Guild	Cibola, Los Alamos, Mora, Rio Arriba, San Miguel, Sandoval, Santa Fe, Torrance	23	\$199,928.74	Crews complete a wide diversity of projects across the wide areas in which they work. Projects will reduce fire risk, improve recreation resources, conserve soils and native plants, and improve forest and ecosystem health. Recreation projects include trail maintenance and rehabilitation that improve user experience and safety. Forest management projects include marking units for thinning, marking wildlife trees for protection, removing noxious weeds, constructing fire-line, slash piling, and ecological monitoring. Range and watershed management projects include erosion control, spring and water resource revitalization, trick tank construction, and fence repair and construction. All projects are in full compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act, the National Environmental Policy Act, and other related laws and regulations
The Forest Stewards Guild	Bernalillo, McKinley, Rio Arriba, Sandoval, Santa Fe, Taos, Torrance	15	\$198,055.85	
Town of Mountainair	Torrance	10	\$58,373.02	Our purpose would be to landscape, paint and make our Monte Alto Plaza to make it more beautiful for the Town including for events. We want to do some work that would make it easier access and add some nice landscaping details to make it more beautiful and appealing. We also want to clean Chinese elms and other brush from our local heliport including the entrance to the heliport to make it easier access for our town ambulance.
Valencia County Fire Department	Valencia	6	\$104,528.97	Work conducted by Corps members will provide long lasting value to the communities and corps members themselves. Work completed through this funding source will include fire mitigation efforts that protect community assets, emergency response location detection along levees, and community fuels reduction in key communities within Valencia County. The completion of each work plan will provide decreased fire hazards throughout the county. Lasting values for corps members will be accomplished through the educational opportunities within individual work plans and the high volume of training listed in this application.
Valencia Soil and Water Conservation District	Valencia	7	\$112,873.24	This project will provide career development of youth in the realm of conservation, restoration, and agriculture. Participants will learn to rejuvenate lands from recent wildfire, to conserve the soil and water necessary for community sustainability, and to practice regenerative agriculture, all of which provide green spaces for community members to explore, learn about, and protect nature. With this project, the District will endeavor to continue to employ and train local youth as it has in prior years with the Youth Conservation Corps.
Village of Columbus	Luna	6	\$25,765.92	The Village of Columbus 2024 YCC Project offers an opportunity for many of you young people, ages 14 to 25, to gain basic job skills as they help make much needed improvements and beautify village property. YCC crew members will help restore historic sites by landscaping, weeding, painting, planting trees and shrubs, and building concrete slabs for better access to the Senior Lunch Center, benches and other improvements for the community gardens and beautification of the Tres Hermanas RV Park.
Village of Corrales	Sandoval	0	\$115,512.80	The Crew at the will be able to take part in trainings and work that will give knowledge to be able to respond a variety of emergency situations, wildland fires, WUI fires, flooding, structure fires, car fires, Search and Rescue, Animal Rescue, Swiftwater rescue and Emergency Medical calls. They will also learn about fire prevention activities defensible space, clearing and maintaining fire breaks within the Bosque, Trail management and erosion prevention on the Levees and irrigation ditch system and habitat requirements with in the Village owned property and the Bosque. Crews will gain knowledge of the National Incident Management System, Incident Command System, they will utilize ICS 214 Activity logs for building project plans and use Unit logs for tracking daily activities.
Village of Corrales	Sandoval	6	\$90,132.30	The Crew at the will be able to take part in trainings and work that will give knowledge to be able to respond a variety of emergency situations, wildland fires, WUI fires, flooding, structure fires, car fires, Search and Rescue, Animal Rescue, Swiftwater rescue and Emergency Medical calls. They will also learn about fire prevention activities defensible space, clearing and maintaining fire breaks within the Bosque, Trail management and erosion prevention on the Levees and irrigation ditch system and habitat requirements with in the Village owned property and the Bosque
Working Classroom	Bernalillo	10	\$108,738.01	Working Classroom is proud to partner with the City of Albuquerque Public Art Urban Enhancement Division in this proposal to engage Youth Conservation Corps members in creating public art to revitalize, beautify, and enhance the historic Babelas Park. Constructed in 1974 as the heart of Albuquerque's railroad district, Babelas Park and the surrounding neighborhood fell into decline during the transition to the interstate highway system and air transportation over the last 50 years. In response, the City of Albuquerque recently undertook a 1.9-million-dollar project to renovate the park. Babelas Park reopened in June 2023 with the explicit intent to integrate public art in a variety of spaces across the four-acre area. In particular, the City is interested in integrating ceramic tile, cut metal, and other designs into gathering spaces such as the large community table at the center of the park
YouthWorks	San Miguel, Santa Fe	33	\$199,997.84	YouthWorks (YW) Santa Fe Youth Conservation Corps (SFYCC) will deliver projects with public/nonprofit property owners and key partners that will improve and restore lands for the benefit of the public and teach and train youth for the 2024 seasonal work period. Our 2024 project will rotate 15 crew members between projects throughout the 6-month seasonal project duration in conjunction with partners and training opportunities to impart critical work skills and education and maintain work activity variety while striving to meet each project's goals. Transportation and crew work team-size will be facilitated by YouthWorks training personnel and scheduled professional technical trainers.