

# Field Institute of Taos 2024 COMMUNITY REPORT



## 2024 By the Numbers

- 136 hikes with kids
- 190 bike rides with kids
- 17 weeks of Mountain Camps
- 84 school program days
- 9 FIT Neighborhood sessions
- 5 weeks of free sessions
- 578 volunteer hours (programs and events)
- 13 bike races with our middle school and high school riders
- FITaos presence at 14 community events
- 32 Counselors-in-Training and 20 JCs
- 5 full-time, year-round staff
- Over \$32,000 awarded in scholarships across all FIT programs



**All FIT Scholarships are a direct result of grants, gifts from our donors, and fundraising events.**



## Year Round Programs!



**FITaos is now a certified Snow School!**  
We kicked off 2024 with 4 days of snowshoe activities with 3 area schools.

| Program                       | Session # | Kid #       | Session Days* | Kid Days**  |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-------------|---------------|-------------|
| MOUNTAIN CAMPS                | 26        | 269         | 127           | 2026        |
| FIT NEIGHBORHOOD              | 9         | 247         | 36            | 988         |
| YOUTH LEADERS                 | 35        | 52          | 163           | 428         |
| AFTER SCHOOL BIKING           | 4         | 61          | 20            | 304         |
| COMMUNITY and SCHOOL PROGRAMS | 13        | 556         | 129           | 2049        |
| HS/MS BIKE TEAMS              | 3         | 35          | 79            | 854         |
| <b>TOTALS</b>                 | <b>90</b> | <b>1220</b> | <b>554</b>    | <b>6649</b> |

\*Session Days: 1-hour to all-day, depending on program

\*\*Kid Days: # of kids per specific session multiplied by # of days per session

The goal of FITaos is to touch the lives of every student and child in Taos by increasing our offerings and impact each year, with particular focus on increasing service for students and families for whom outdoor equity continues to be out of reach. Every child deserves the chance to play outside!

Throughout 2024, our small but mighty full time crew and our seasonal staff have continued to build programming and partnerships through our FIT summer camps, adventure/backpacking trips, bike programs, community events, and engagement with area schools.

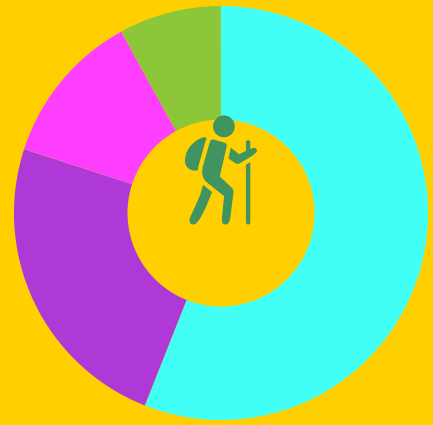


# 2024 COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- Anansi Charter School
- BoxCar Farm
- Bureau Of Land Management
- Enchanted Circle Trails Association
- Goat Gardening
- Humble Brand
- Mountain Skills Rock Guides, LLC
- New Mexico River Adventures
- SheJumps
- Taos Academy Charter School
- Taos Bakes
- Taos Charter School
- Taos Day School
- Taos Land Trust
- Taos Pueblo
- Taos Ski Valley
- US Forest Service
- Zia Queen Bees



# 2024 Income Sources



- Donations 56%
- Program Tuition 24%
- In-Kind Donations 12%
- Fundraising Events & Sponsorships 8%



## A HUGE Thank You To Our Donors, Board of Directors, Volunteers, and the FITaos Community!

Support for Field Institute of Taos comes from a variety of sources, from grants and donors, to our annual fundraisers, such as the 4th of July Duck Race, our BE FIT Fall Raffle, sponsorships for Ride the Rift and Team FITaos. We also rely on support from both national and local organizations such as the National Recreation Foundation, the Fullwood Foundation, the LOR Foundation, the Keeler Foundation, the Jim Thompson Foundation and Taos Community Foundation, among many others.

### SPECIAL THANKS TO THOSE WHO MADE THE FOLLOWING POSSIBLE IN 2024:

- Snowshoes, poles, and snow study equipment for our winter programming
- Bikes to add to our loaner fleet to get kids in need riding
- Ongoing support for Building Bikes, Building Futures program at Taos Pueblo Day School

### A Note from the Director

After 29 years at the helm, our visionary founder, Susie Fiore, has shifted to the role of Bike Program Director. Susie founded FIT in 1996 to blend a strong connection with the natural world with field science, outdoor skills, adventures, and play. Elizabeth LeBlanc, longtime Taos resident and parent of two FIT children, has taken off running as our new Executive Director. Elizabeth comes to FIT with a deep love of the outdoors and commitment to the children of our community, bringing leadership experience from education, nonprofit, and business worlds. Susie and Elizabeth are working together closely so FIT will continue to be an integral part of the Taos community, expanding opportunities for kids on mountain tops, trails, riverbanks, and everywhere else we can get kids active, playing, and learning outdoors.

With our deepest thanks,  
Elizabeth (Executive Director) & Susie (Founder)



## Get Involved with FIT!

[www.fitaos.org](http://www.fitaos.org)

Volunteer, donate, sponsor, and join us outside!

