

2025

ONWARD!



*Build
a
Legacy!*

Annual Report

ONWARD! A LEGACY FOUNDATION

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION SERVING THE
FOUR CORNERS' COMMUNITIES

Mission:

Provide opportunities to develop and maintain a sustainable resource base that will enhance the quality of life for residents in the Four Corners' communities.

Guiding Principles:

- Invest donor funds responsibly to preserve capital, provide growth, and earn income for grant making
- Create and encourage methods for philanthropic giving to meet financial goals for a variety of donors
- Identify, improve, and assist in addressing the needs of the Four Corners' communities
- Foster understanding and cooperation among diverse cultural and ethnic groups

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Pete Montano – President
David Coit – Vice President
MB McAfee – Secretary
Youvonne Neeley – Treasurer
Laura Herrick
Jessie Farias
Rebecca Samulski
Casey Simpson
Jennifer Tewell

INVESTMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Marty McKean
Youvonne Neeley
David Coit
Tom Helms – Financial Advisor
Andrew Cuckie – Financial Advisor

ONWARD! STAFF

Chuck Forth – Chief Executive Officer
Vanessa Malloy – Executive Program Director
Misty Hatley – Executive Assistant
Tharimae Jones – Operations Manager
Rebecca Tevault – Staff Accountant



ONWARD! CORE VALUES

We Serve With Visionary Leadership

We strive for collaborative and equitable relationships to benefit the future of our community.

"Leadership is the art of giving people a platform to spread ideas that work." -Seth Godin

We Steward Investments With Integrity

We tend your generous contributions with active engagement, opportunities for growth, and long-term considerations.

"Investing isn't a value system, it's an investing strategy, but it works better if you're fighting for something you truly believe in." -Phil Town

We Cultivate A Culture Of Giving and Caring

We make a difference through local philanthropy.

"Philanthropy, like charity, must begin at home; from this center our sympathies should extend in an ever-widening circle." -Charles Lamb

We Embrace Excellence

We strive for excellence through reliability, accountability, and professionalism.

"Excellence is never an accident; it is the result of high intention, sincere effort, intelligent direction, skillful execution and the vision to see obstacles as opportunities." -Aristotle

We Forge Innovative Growth

As catalysts in our community, we work to move peoples' passions to actions, while acknowledging our foundation of diverse histories, cultures, and experiences.

"Sometimes you have to create a vision, a path for a vision. It may not be apparent, and you may have to forge it yourself." -Herbie Hancock

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FIND US ON FACEBOOK:

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/ONWARDFOUNDATION



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Have you thought about the legacies that have been handed down to you from your family? My Grandfather was a shepherd from 1926 to 1948 in the mountains of Colorado. It was a family affair including many of his brothers and my uncles. They carved their names on Aspen trees and dates along with hometowns. I visit these areas a couple times a year. I treasure them. I have taken most of my family members up there to celebrate their past. That is the legacy that was left for me and my family. It is beautiful up there.

Are you able to build a legacy with the resources that are available to you? Think about what it would mean to your family and others and to their future. Please consider a consultation with Onward! to learn how you can build a Legacy in your name.

*Respectfully,
Pete Montaña*

FROM THE CEO

Onward! will end the year with the most assets under management – about \$10 Million! I must acknowledge all the incredible donors, grantors and our numerous fiscal funds that make a difference in our communities!

The Good Food Collective fund, based in Durango, was able to purchase their own building this year providing them a secure and permanent home for their programs! Onward! will use a small space in the office for our new Onward! Durango Program Hub thereby providing more support for all of our funds operating in La Plata county.

Then, in October, Onward! was the recipient of the largest gift ever given to the foundation – the donation of 155 acres in McElmo canyon, a property with large warehouses, other buildings, water and irrigable farmland! This will be the home of our Pueblo Seed and Grain Hub serving farmers in the Southwest region. It will have commercial grade seed cleaning equipment available for farmers, it will become a regional seed bank for Heritage seeds and provide experiential learning opportunities. We are so excited about this next phase for Onward!

We are so proud to be involved in our communities and assisting those in need. Perhaps there is a Legacy you would like to build in our community. Onward! staff are always available to discuss how your gifts can transform our area. Together, we can make our quality of life better for all in Southwest Colorado.

*Sincerely,
Chuck Forth*

At Onward! A Legacy Foundation...

We serve with
visionary
leadership

We steward
investments with
integrity

We cultivate a
culture of giving and
caring

We embrace
excellence

We forge
innovative
growth

At Onward! A Legacy Foundation, together, we elevate our communities.



DONOR ADVISED LEGACIES

WE CONNECT PEOPLE WHO CARE WITH CAUSES THAT MATTER
2025 GRANT AWARDEES

Yellow Jacket Charitable Fund: supported Four Corners Child Advocacy Center, Good Samaritan Center, Lewis-Arriola Community Center

Heart of Axis Fund: supported Indigenous Wellbriety, La Plata Youth Centers, School Community Youth Collaborative, Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County

Heartwood Fund: supported Dove's Nest Early Care and Education Center, K-9 Search and Rescue Team, Inc., Reaching Out to Community and Kids, San Juan Symphony, Silver Lining Recovery Homes, Students Tackling Unhealthy Decisions

Searle Community Endowment Fund: supported Grace's Kitchen, Lamp Post Creative Learning Center

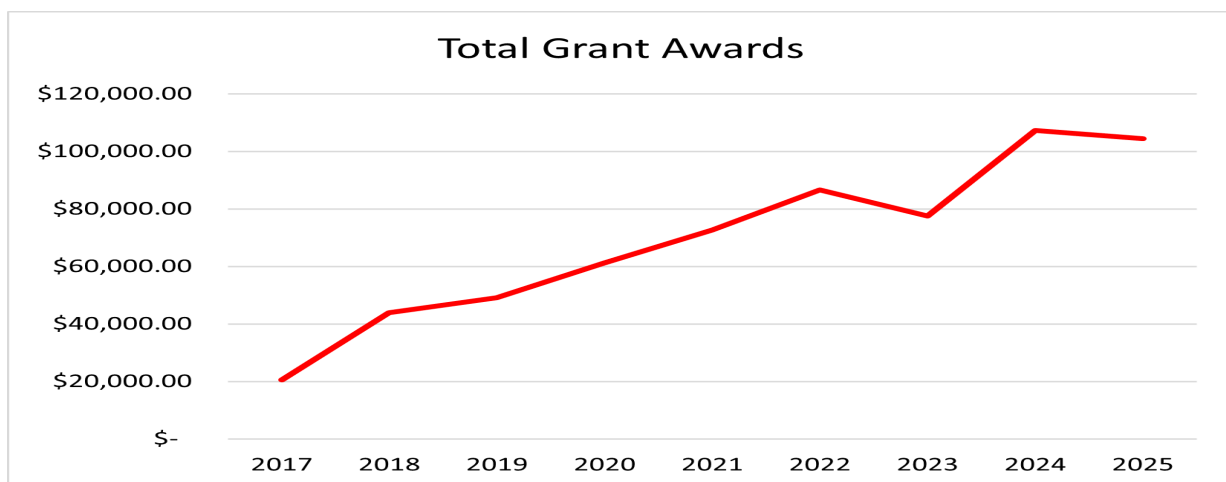
Golden Dreams Foundation Fund: supported The Bridge Emergency Shelter

Onward! General Endowment Fund: supported Cortez Farmers Market, Cortez Water Dragons, Inc., DARE to be You, Four Corners Community Band, Grace's Kitchen, Hospice of Montezuma, Lamp Post Creative Learning Center, Montezuma County Department of Social Services, Montezuma Heritage Museum, School Community Youth Collaborative, Southwest Memorial Hospital Foundation, The Powerhouse, The Salvation Army



ONWARD! GRANTS THROUGH THE YEARS

FROM 2017 TO 2024 ONWARD! HAS GIVEN OUT \$601,691 FROM OUR DONOR-ADVISED FUNDS, GENERAL ENDOWMENT FUND AND GENERAL FUND IN GRANTS TO LOCAL NONPROFITS. ONWARD! WILL GIVE OUT ANOTHER \$104,435 IN 2025!





ENDOWMENT FUNDS

THE CORTEZ PUBLIC LIBRARY ENDOWMENT FUND

Established: November 2002

Purpose: Provides permanent support for specific library needs, children's programs, and annual subscription costs through private donations.

THE SEARLE COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND

Established: October 2003

Purpose: Originally established by Citizens State Bank in honor of their past president, Charles Searle. The fund now awards annual grants to programs or organizations benefiting the region as a whole.

GENERAL ENDOWMENT FUND OF ONWARD!

Established: September 2009

Purpose: Provides permanent funds for grants and the general operation of the foundation. The yearly grant cycle runs from September 1st to October 15th, with numerous grants awarded throughout the community in November.

KSJD ENDOWMENT FUND

Established: October 2016

Purpose: Supports bringing news, arts, and entertainment programs to KSJD and the Sunflower Theatre.

WHAT IS AN ENDOWMENT FUND?

Endowment funds manage assets in perpetuity and distribute the earnings annually to the beneficiary non-profit or scholarship.

The principal amount of gifts and bequests that are accepted are subject to a requirement that the principal be maintained intact and invested to create a source of income for a specific purpose. Endowment funds managed by Onward! earn market rates of return.

*"People coming
together as a
community can make
things happen."*

-Jacob Rees-Mogg

DONOR-ADVISED FUNDS

THE GOLDEN DREAMS FOUNDATION FUND

Established: January 2010

Purpose: Created through an inheritance gift from a local family. The fund provides grants to non-profit organizations, including a generous multi-year grant to local nonprofits.

THE YELLOW JACKET CHARITABLE FUND

Established October 2017

Purpose: Created by a local Yellow Jacket family to help enhance the Onward! Grant Cycle and support non-profits in Montezuma County.

THE HEARTWOOD FUND

Established November 2017

Purpose: Established by a family in Montezuma County to support non-profits in the Four Corners area.

CHRISTA CUSHMAN - CORTEZ ANIMAL SHELTER

Established May 2018

Purpose: Created with a generous donation in the memory of Christa Cushman to support the Cortez Animal Shelter.

SEEDING KSJD'S FUTURE FUND

Established May 2019

Purpose: Established through a local donor to create a fund that looks towards helping KSJD as they grow in the future, especially towards capital investments and expenditures.

What is a Donor-Advised fund?

Donor-Advised funds allow donors the most flexibility to achieve their charitable purposes and are a simple alternative to a Family Foundation. Create a donor-advised fund with Onward! A Legacy Foundation's help to navigate the process. With six easy steps, your legacy can make a mark in our community.

1. Make a gift of cash, securities, real estate or other assets to Onward!
2. Onward! creates a special fund in your name, or the name you select
3. You receive a tax benefit in the year your gift is made
4. You recommend uses for the fund
5. Onward! ensures that recipients of the fund are IRS-recognized nonprofits in good standing
6. Onward! handles the administrative details and pays grants to charities in the name of your fund

These funds are designed for donors to be actively involved in directing how the funds are used.



SCHOLARSHIPS IN OUR COMMUNITY



Academic scholarship money was awarded to 32 local high school students in the Four Corners area. This scholarship money helps these students in their post-secondary academic pursuits at many higher educational institutions.

MONTEZUMA-CORTEZ HIGH SCHOOL

Emily Carver	Shayda Clark	Abraham Hafner	Cruz Hernandez
Benjamin Hoffman	Emily Howell	Houston Hurst	Atticus Keel
Samson Lein	Luna Moore	Leopold Morey	Maddisyn Morris
Lexyn Neighbors	Danika Oliver	Kendall Simmons	Adisyn Todacheeny
Kenzi Whipple	Maecyn White		

DOLORES HIGH SCHOOL

Alexis Anderson	Halee Kibel	Maya Lowe	Siena Parr
Isla Vaughn	Coralea Wright		

MANCOS HIGH SCHOOL

Spencer Eschallier	Lucas Figueroa	Akima Kane	Tori McKinley
Trista Soto	Kaiden Wyatt		

PAGOSA SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL

Jesse Beck	Brady Dale
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2025
class of



SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIPS:

BILL AND PEG REES SCHOLARSHIP

Established: April 2002

Purpose: Awards renewable scholarships for goal-oriented students from Montezuma and Dolores counties in post-secondary education programs.

SHAUN M. MCANDREW MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Established: May 2005

Purpose: This fund was established in memory of Shaun McAndrew to support a Montezuma-Cortez High School athlete-scholar for post-secondary education.

KNIGHTS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Established: December 2006

Purpose: The Knights of Columbus established a memorial scholarship fund to provide a scholarship for post-secondary education.

MANCOS CENTENNIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Established: January 2010

Purpose: This scholarship commemorates the 100th anniversary of the Mancos School District by awarding annual scholarships to students from Mancos High School for post-secondary education.

LEONARD CAIN MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIP

Established: December 2010

Purpose: Provide annual post-secondary scholarships in a medical field of study to students of Montezuma or Dolores County.

CONE FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

Established: March 2012

Purpose: This fund provides two scholarships for Montezuma County Seniors: the Henry Scholarship & the Bill Scholarship.

M-CHS ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP

Established: March 2012

Purpose: Alumni created this fund for scholarships for post-secondary education for M-CHS graduates.

VIC AND ETHEL POMA PAGOSA SPRINGS SCHOLARSHIP

Established: December 2013

Purpose: The Poma family created

this scholarship fund for graduates of Pagosa Springs High School for both trade school and four-year institutions.

WOODS CANYON SCHOLARSHIP

Established: June 2014

Purpose: Awards post-secondary scholarships to employees' dependents of Woods Canyon Archaeological Consultants.

HOOVER ENDOWED MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIP

Established: December 2017

Purpose: Awards post-secondary scholarships to high school graduates from Dolores and Montezuma counties for post-secondary study in the medical field.

ROLAND R. SCHNEIDER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Established: July 2018

Purpose: This scholarship was created to benefit M-CHS graduates as they further their education with either a two-year associate's degree or a four-year bachelor's degree.

TRI-CITY SOCCER ASSOCIATION ACADEMIC COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

Established: August 2018

Purpose: This scholarship was established by the local youth soccer organization to support M-CHS Varsity Soccer athletes as they pursue post-secondary education.

LARRY LARSEN ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

Established September 2018

Purpose: Renewable scholarships for goal-oriented students from Montezuma and Dolores counties in post-secondary education programs. This scholarship is in memory of long-time Cortez resident, Larry Larsen.

MICHELLE YVONNE TAYLOR SCHOLARSHIP IN EDUCATION

Established: November 2018

Purpose: Awards scholarship for M-CHS seniors pursuing post-secondary study in the field of education in memory of former teacher Michelle Taylor.

WILL LINDSAY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Established May 2019

Purpose: Established in honor of Sergeant 1st Class Will Lindsay, who passed away in the line of duty. The funds from this scholarship will be used to assist others with the additional expenses of joining the armed forces from M-CHS.

HEARTWOOD SCHOLARSHIP

Established: March 2020

Purpose: Awards post-secondary scholarships to employees' children and grandchildren of Muscanell Millworks.

EDDIE MARSHALL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Established: August 2021

Purpose: Provide higher education opportunities for students pursuing a degree in Speech and Language Pathology or Special Education.

ALLEN LICHLITER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Established: January 2022

Purpose: Annual scholarship for graduates desiring higher education at college, vocational, technical, or art school.

JOEL STEVENSON MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Established: April 2022

Purpose: Awards scholarships for graduates seeking higher education.

AIKIN SCHOLARSHIP IN MEMORY OF ERIK AND JEFFREY HOBBS

Established: March 2024

Purpose: The intent of this scholarship is to provide secondary education funding assistance up to \$2500 to graduates of Mancos High School and non-traditional students living within the Mancos 81328 postal zip code at the time of their scholarship application.

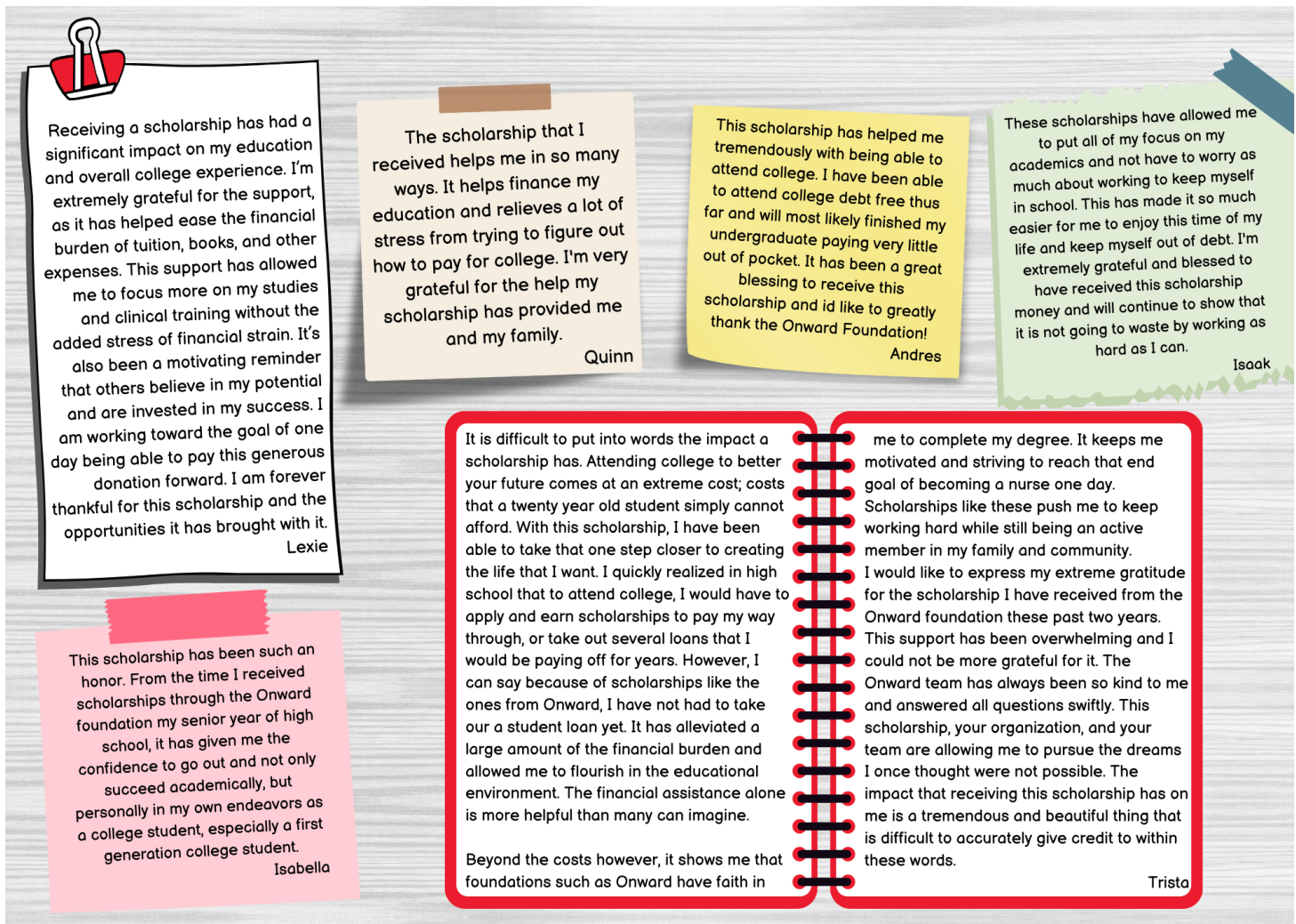
MONTEZUMA COUNTY FAIR JR LIVESTOCK SALE SCHOLARSHIP

Established: March 2024

Purpose: Awards scholarships to graduating seniors who are 4-H or FFA members who have sold in the Montezuma County Fair for at least five years.



What impact has receiving a scholarship had on you?



SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

GENERAL SCHOLARSHIPS:

THE ESCALANTE CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION FUND

Established: February 2011

Purpose: Established by the Escalante Shrine Club to provide travel assistance for families traveling to Shriners Medical Facilities.

FRIENDS OF RECREATION

Established March 2019

Purpose: Dedicated to raising funds for a healthy community. Fundraising efforts provide scholarships that cover membership fees to The City of Cortez Recreation Center.

CHRISTOPHER OCÓN MEMORIAL BASEBALL FUND

Established May 2024

Purpose: To allow Montezuma County youth whose families are experiencing financial hardship to play baseball by covering registration fees and equipment costs.



GOOD FOOD COLLECTIVE

BUILDING OUR REGIONAL HUB



The Good Food Collective is a nonprofit organization based in Durango, Colorado, working to strengthen the regional food system through efforts to address food security, food justice and equity, and the regional food economy. The organization works in deep partnership with stakeholders across the food system to build a just and resilient regional food system in Southwestern Colorado, believing that an intact regional food system creates economic opportunities for rural areas, creates jobs, stewards the environment, ensures that everyone in the community has access to nutritious, dignified food, and builds the backbone of a vibrant community.

The Good Food Collective is currently focused on three core areas: Agricultural Support, Regional Convening, Coordination & Support, and Food Security and Health

Equity. The organization addresses food system challenges through systems-based approaches that consider the needs of the entire region through meaningful partnerships and cross-sectoral collaboration.

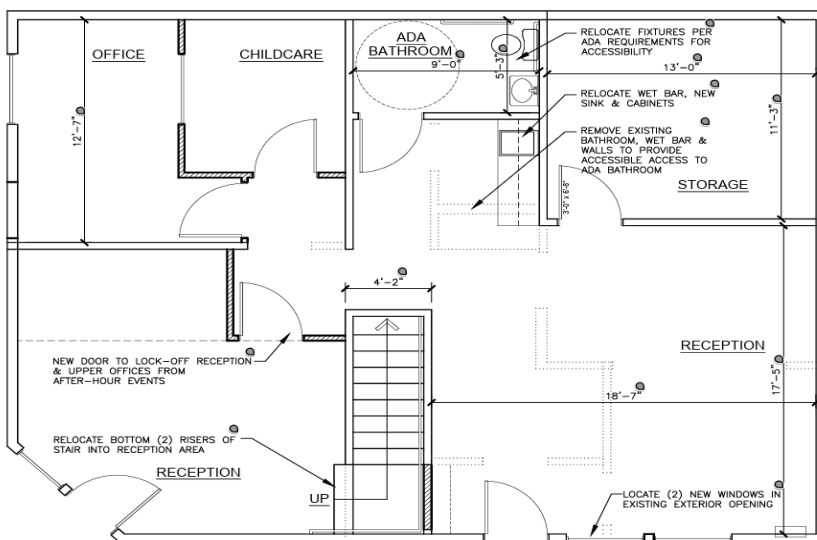
In August 2025, the Good Food Collective purchased a 2,500-square-foot facility in Durango—our first permanent home and, importantly, a regional hub shaped by community and partner input. With renovations, this building will house a flexible convening and teaching space, a childcare nook, a shared office hub with technology access, and critical food storage infrastructure. Statewide food hub leaders have identified our region as an essential “node” in Colorado’s distribution loop, and this facility will enable our producers and pantries to link more effectively into statewide markets and networks.

This facility will be more than bricks and mortar—it will serve as a regional hub shaped by stakeholder input, designed to connect people, strengthen supply chains, and elevate voices that are too often left out of systems-building work. By co-locating



meeting, childcare, technology, and storage infrastructure, we will create opportunities for dialogue, coordination, and innovation that extend across southwest Colorado and link to statewide networks.

The GFC is actively seeking funds to support the renovation needed to transform our building from an old warehouse to a regional asset. If supporting this project is of interest, you can donate at goodfoodcollective.org. To learn more, contact Rachel Landis, Executive Director at rachel@goodfoodcollective.org or 970-403-5020.



REMODEL FLOOR PLAN



AGENCY FUNDS

THE HEART TO HEART FUND

Established: June 2007

THE AXIS HEALTH SYSTEM FUND

Established: June 2009

THE SOUTHWEST MEMORIAL HOSPITAL FOUNDATION FUND

Established: December 2013

FOUR CORNERS CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER FUND

Established May 2018

GALLOPING GOOSE HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Established January 2019

MONTEZUMA HERITAGE MUSEUM

Established December 2020

THE BRIDGE EMERGENCY SHELTER FUND

Established November 2021

What is an agency fund?

Agency funds are created by non-profit 501(c)(3) organizations with Onward! for managing long-term funds.

These funds give organizations the opportunity to save dollars in a professionally managed fund that can generate investment income, year after year, but also remains fully accessible with a vote of the nonprofit's board. A portion of the earned income can be drawn down in set annual payments or reinvested in the fund to grow over time, according to the organization's needs. It's a flexible, simple way for nonprofits to build funds for a project or future operational needs. Agencies can also choose to create an endowed fund to maintain a principal balance for the future.

WHAT IS A SPECIFIC INTEREST FUND?

Specific interest funds can resemble other funds with Onward!. A specific interest fund can be set up by a donor to support his/her favorite non-profit organization over time. While a donor advised fund gives flexibility as to the recipient year to year, specific interest funds are designated to carry out the donor's specific wish annually.

Specific interest funds can also bring together a group of people to support a charitable interest in our community without creating a new 501(c)(3). Examples of this include the Ute Mountain Roundup Reserve Fund, and the various friends of the library funds.

SPECIFIC INTEREST FUNDS

ONWARD! GENERAL FUND

Established: April 2002

Purpose: Used for the operations of the foundation. It is unrestricted and the income is generated from the annual 1% management fee assessed on the invested funds and management fees of fiscal fund sponsorship.

DOLORES PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION

Established: July 2004

Purpose: Supports specific library needs and programs at the Dolores Public Library. The fund was established in memory of Clifford C. Fossum, a local citizen who was an avid supporter of the Dolores Public Library.

MONTEZUMA COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE EMPLOYEE FUND

Established: November 2007

Purpose: Assists the sheriff's office employees in the event of a tragedy or major medical situation. The fund is funded by private donations.

THE FRIENDS OF THE CORTEZ LIBRARY FUND

Established: January 2008

Purpose: Provides additional earnings to the Friends group, which in turn provides support to the Cortez Public Library.

THE UTE MOUNTAIN ROUNDUP RESERVE FUND

Established: August 2009

Purpose: Creates a reserve fund for future capital improvements at the Montezuma County Fairgrounds.

THE MANCOS LIBRARY FOUNDATION FUND

Established: June 2012

Purpose: Support specific needs and programs at the Mancos Public Library and was created by library patrons.

COX FAMILY CHARITABLE REMAINDER TRUST

Established May 2018

Purpose: Onward! manages this trust for the beneficiaries.

AXIS EMPLOYEE GIVING FUND

Established February 2019

Purpose: Establishes charitable giving from the employees of Axis Health System via employee committee review during the Onward! grant cycle.

IMAGINATION LIBRARY DOLORES COUNTY

Established June 2021

Purpose: Book gifting program that mails free books to children from their birth to their 5th birthday. Applications are available at the Dove Creek & Rico Libraries.

IMAGINATION LIBRARY MONTEZUMA COUNTY

Established June 2021

Purpose: Book gifting program that mails free books to children from their birth to their 5th birthday. Applications are available at local libraries and the Montezuma County Public Health Dept.



PUEBLO SEED AND GRAIN HUB

A NON-PROFIT INITIATIVE DEDICATED TO HEAT AND DROUGHT TOLERANT GRAINS & LEGUMES IN SOUTHWEST COLORADO

The goal of this project is to develop key infrastructure and training, education and technical assistance to support the production of heat and drought tolerant food and cover crop seed in order to adapt regional agriculture to hotter, drier conditions and feed people more nutritious food.

The objectives are:

- Seed Repository, Cleaning & Testing: Establish & operate food-grade seed cleaning line, seed repository, and laboratory for small and mid-scale organic farmers and food businesses in Colorado, the Four Corners region, and the greater Southwest
- Demonstration Gardens: Develop & maintain small plot gardens for trialing, training & educational and pollinator habitat purposes
- Outreach: communicate with farmers and organizations in Colorado, the Four Corners region and the greater Southwest to promote services
- Seed & Food Literacy: Create and disseminate educational initiatives and materials aimed at introducing nutritious, drought tolerant seed and food into food systems of Colorado, the Four Corners region and the greater Southwest.



Background

Hobbs & Meyer, LLC DBA Pueblo Seed & Food Co. is a vertically integrated family farm located in Southwestern Colorado. The Pueblo Seed & Food Co. farming operation has been certified organic since 2001 by the Colorado Department of Agriculture and specializes in open-pollinated vegetable seeds, varietal garlic and heritage grains and legumes. The central focus of the business is to grow adapted, open-pollinated seed to produce nutritious and flavorful food to improve people's diets in Colorado and beyond. Value-added activities, such as milling, baking, freezing, dehydrating and cooking, take place in a Bakehouse in downtown Cortez. In 2022-2023 the business purchased a food-grade seed cleaning line and started a fund with the Onward! Community Foundation to advance charitable and educational work pertaining to seed and food.

Pueblo Seed & Food Co. will continue to operate its for-profit seed and food work as a separate enterprise but is donating its seed cleaning equipment to Onward! to set-up and operate the Pueblo Seed & Grain Hub on a non-profit basis. Pueblo Seed & Food Co. also intends to eventually donate its seed collection to Onward!.

Value Proposition

Organic, drought tolerant heritage grains and cover crops are in extremely short supply in the U.S. (Hubbard et al. State of Organic Seed, 2022). Infrastructure to support the regional production of these crops is non-existent. Pueblo Seed & Food Co. will establish and operate a non-profit Seed & Grain Hub as a project of Onward! at the Foundation's property located at 19891 Road G. Cortez, Colorado, in order to provide essential services to family farmers and expand the availability of adapted seed and consumption of healthy food in Colorado, the four corners region and greater Southwest. Seed cleaning and testing services will be operated on a fee-for service basis. Outreach, demonstration gardens, educational services to build seed & food literacy will be operated through charitable contributions and grant funding.





FISCAL FUNDS

SCHOOL COMMUNITY YOUTH COLLABORATIVE

Established: December 2010

Purpose: SCYC is a youth serving organization that supports connection, youth leadership, communication and community. We are a prevention-based organization that supports youth through out-of-school time programming, substance use prevention programming, and safe driving education.

CORTEZ PANTHERS YOUTH FOOTBALL FUND

Established: June 2012

Purpose: This fund provides support and supplemental funds for the Cortez Panthers Football teams (2nd-6th grade football teams for Cortez-area youth).

SOUTHWEST COLORADO CANYONS ALLIANCE

Established: January 2013

Purpose: SCCA is a non-profit organization dedicated to fostering awareness and appreciation for the landscape and cultural heritage of the Canyons of the Ancients National Monument through collaboration with the Bureau of Land Management

MONTEZUMA LEADERSHIP NETWORK

Established: June 2015

Purpose: The mission is to identify, enlighten, and encourage emerging leaders of diverse backgrounds, occupations, and cultures for the purpose of enhancing the quality of leadership in the community.

MONTEZUMA ORCHARD RESTORATION PROJECT

Established: June 2018

Purpose: MORP is working to preserve Colorado's fruit-growing heritage and restore an orchard culture and economy to the southwestern region.

GOOD FOOD COLLECTIVE

Established: April 2019

Purpose: The Good Food Collective works together to build a just and thriving food system in Southwest Colorado. We do this by increasing access to healthy food, supporting farmers, reducing waste, changing policy, and connecting the region.

FOUR CORNERS DANCE SOCIETY

Established: August 2019

Purpose: The Society is a group of dance enthusiasts who work to ensure the longevity of access to ballroom, Latin, swing, and other dance opportunities.

CONSTRUYENDO

Established: September 2019

Purpose: Construyendo Poder began in 2018 as a grassroots response to the urgent call for healing, resilience, and community care among monolingual/bilingual Indigenous, Brown and Latine families.

SAN JUAN MOUNTAIN SOLES

Established November 2019

Purpose: San Juan Mountain SOLES inspires young women to lead healthy, fulfilling lives rooted in big mountains, confident leadership and community engagement.

D'VOCE COMMUNITY CHOIR

Established November 2019

Purpose: D'Voce Community Choir began in 2019 with the vision of bringing Christ-centered music to Montezuma County.

DARE TO BE YOU

Established January 2020

Purpose: An evidence-based model program to build strengths in youth by working with them through family, school, and community organizations to reduce problem behaviors such as substance abuse, school dropout and other risky behaviors.

DOLORES YOUTH BASEBALL

Established February 2020

Purpose: The goal for Dolores Youth Baseball is to bring baseball back to the Dolores community for the children who attend the Dolores School District in order to learn and grow while playing baseball together.

OHANA KULEANA COMMUNITY GARDEN

Established May 2020

Purpose: Located in Durango, the Ohana Kuleana Community Garden promotes healthy living, organic gardening, and sustainability to build a strong, supportive community for all.

FOUR CORNERS SLOW MONEY

Established August 2020

Purpose: Four Corners Slow Money's goal is to build a robust local food economy by giving community farmers, growers and local food enterprises a leg up in the Four Corners region.

DOLORES WATERSHED COLLABORATIVE (DWC)

Established September 2020

Purpose: DWC promotes forest, community, and watershed resilience through collaboration with local partners. DWC works to share knowledge and resources; develop approaches that enhance ecological and community resilience to wildfire and changing conditions; and promote industry development of forest products.

20MOONS DANCE THEATRE

Established December 2020

Purpose: 20MOONS is a contemporary dance theatre company that believes in the power of art to guide people into profound relationships with themselves, others, and the true nature of the world we live in.

LOR FOUNDATION FISCAL FUND

Established June 2021

Purpose: Provide individuals a source for grant funds to use towards charitable and educational pursuits within Cortez.

From its creation in 2002 to the present, Onward! has grown from managing \$78,000 in assets in one fund to managing over \$9.7 million in assets in over 170 different funds.



CORTEZ FARMERS MARKET

Established March 2022

Purpose: We are a group of independent producers who want to support the local community with locally grown produce, dry beans, eggs, local meats, fresh flowers, local honey, homemade goods, and specialty vendors selling prepared foods, and beverages.

DURANGO WILD SOUL

Established August 2022

Purpose: Durango Wild Soul is a local organization providing high-quality, deeply meaningful and connective nature-based programming for youth..

CORTEZ BMX

Established September 2022

Purpose: To provide a safe, fun, and competitive racing environment. Promote sportsmanship, leadership, and hard work through a racing atmosphere that values encouragement, accomplishment, and physical activity.

CORTEZ PICKLEBALL CLUB

Established October 2022

Purpose: To encourage the growth and development of pickleball in the Cortez area.

MCHS BAND BOOSTERS

Established December 2022

Purpose: This group supports the award-winning Montezuma-Cortez High School band program—an organization dedicated to fostering musical excellence, personal growth, and strong community values in our youth.

PUEBLO SEED AND GRAIN HUB

Established February 2023

Purpose: An initiative to adapt Southwest regional food production and consumption to hotter, drier conditions by establishing a seed repository and infrastructure for open-pollinated, drought-tolerant grain and legume field crops.

FOR LOVE AND BABES

Established March 2023

Purpose: To provide a safe and welcoming space where parents can come together to share experiences, listen deeply, and support one another.

LOST CANYON BIKE AND SKATE PARK

Established March 2023

Purpose: The Lost Canyon Bike and Skate Park is a modern recreational space for our community in Joe Rowell Park in downtown Dolores. The Lost Canyon Group will provide maintenance, promote programming, and continue to build and expand this incredible resource.

MCHS DRAMA BOOSTERS

Established November 2023

Purpose: To provide support and funding to the MCHS Drama Department throughout the school year.

MONTELORES COALITION

Established: December 2023

Purpose: The Montelores Coalition is a diverse group working together to balance sustainable outdoor recreation and conservation of natural, agricultural, and cultural resources to serve the unique needs of Colorado's southwest corner.

SQUIRREL CONGRESS

Established: December 2023

Purpose: Squirrel Congress celebrates local culture by facilitating quirky experiences and productions in order to strengthen our community through partnerships with local businesses and nonprofits.

CORTEZ YOUTH BASKETBALL

Established: December 2023

Purpose: Cortez Youth Basketball is a group of volunteers who help middle school-aged boys and girls play basketball. They work with 6th, 7th, and 8th-grade teams that travel to play.

MCHS TRACK BOOSTERS

Established: February 2024

Purpose: The MCHS Track Boosters provide essential funding and support for the MCHS Track Team to allow kids to participate without additional costs.

MONTEZUMA COUNTY FAIR JUNIOR LIVESTOCK COMMITTEE

Established: May 2024

Purpose: The Montezuma County Fair Junior Livestock Committee is here to empower and inspire the next generation of leaders in agriculture by providing educational programs, hands-on experiences, and leadership opportunities that foster an appreciation for the importance of agriculture in our community.

SOUTHWEST COLORADO CONCERTS

Established: July 2024

Purpose: Our mission is to present an annual series of live, world-class, classical and contemporary concerts at a cost broadly affordable to the community.

RENEW

Established: July 2024

Purpose: Our mission at ReNew is to provide assistance to victims of domestic violence, adult sexual assault, and adult survivors of child sexual abuse through crisis intervention, public education, and awareness.

WHAT IS A FISCAL FUND?

To further assist the non-profit community, Onward! supports numerous groups and initiatives by being their Fiscal Sponsor. This fiscal sponsorship is an agreement between Onward! and the group/initiative/project that is providing or meeting a community need and requires non-profit recognition. Once the group is sponsored by Onward!, they are provided the benefits of a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status and all their financial activity is recorded on the Onward! books.

FISCAL FUNDS CONTINUED



STUDENTS TACKLING UNHEALTHY DECISIONS

Established October 2024

Purpose: STUD is a team of high school students that facilitates various prevention programs for the youth of the Dolores County Community that encourage safe and healthy choices.

SOUTHWEST COMMUNITY JUSTICE COALITION

Established December 2024

Purpose: We work hand in hand with our community providing restorative practices and transformative solutions to address conflict and cycles of harm in order to heal and build relationships and a stronger, safer and more just southwest Colorado.

SUSTAINABILITY ALLIANCE OF SOUTHWEST COLORADO

Established December 2024

Purpose: The Sustainability Alliance of Southwest Colorado (SASCO) networks with local organizations, businesses, governments, and individuals to create a more just society that prioritizes environmental stewardship, social equity, and a thriving local economy.

FOUR CORNERS COMMUNITY BAND

Established February 2025

Purpose: To provide quality, public musical entertainment for the Four Corners area and to provide an opportunity for area musicians to continue their involvement in music.

LAMP POST CREATIVE LEARNING CENTER

Established March 2025

Purpose: Lamp Post Creative Learning Center aims to provide a facility and/or campus to house plays, learning groups, classes, and clubs to meet the needs of our community for ages children to adults who desire to explore and learn.

CORTEZ ARTS DISTRICT

Established March 2025

Purpose: The Cortez Arts District aims to enhance our cultural landscape, develop creative spaces, and drive economic growth through collaboration.

MCHS FOOTBALL BOOSTERS

Established April 2025

Purpose: The MCHS Football Boosters provide essential funding and support for the MCHS Football Team.

WILDWOOD DANCE PROJECT

Established April 2025

Purpose: The Wildwood Dance Project is dedicated to reinvisioning the art of dance by blending movement, media, and community.

360 ARTS NOW

Established August 2025

Purpose: 360 Arts Now is a full-circle approach to creativity. Joyful collaboration and robust inclusivity unites people of all ages, through creative expression.

GOOD SAMARITAN CENTER

Established October 2025

Purpose: To ensure we all have access to healthy food and supportive connections while working together to build a more just food system.

DURANGO FARMERS MARKET

Established October 2025

Purpose: To support agriculture and the local community of farmers and ranchers by providing a vibrant marketplace. Within this marketplace, we aim to support the growth of sustainable food networks and local small businesses, enhance access to education, and boost the local economy.

LOST CANYON BIKE AND SKATE PARK OPENS!

After four years of planning and persistence, the new Lost Canyon Bike & Skate Park at Joe Rowell Park is finally open!

Built in just six weeks through a true community effort, the park stands as a testament to what Dolores can accomplish together. The Lost Canyon Bike & Skate Club, an Onward group member, local volunteers, and generous donors all pitched in—from fundraising and design to shoveling dirt and painting rails.

The club has also committed to helping with ongoing maintenance and future improvements, ensuring the park keeps evolving with the needs of local riders.

Stop by Joe Rowell Park and see the results of Dolores' hard work, grit, and hometown pride!





FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

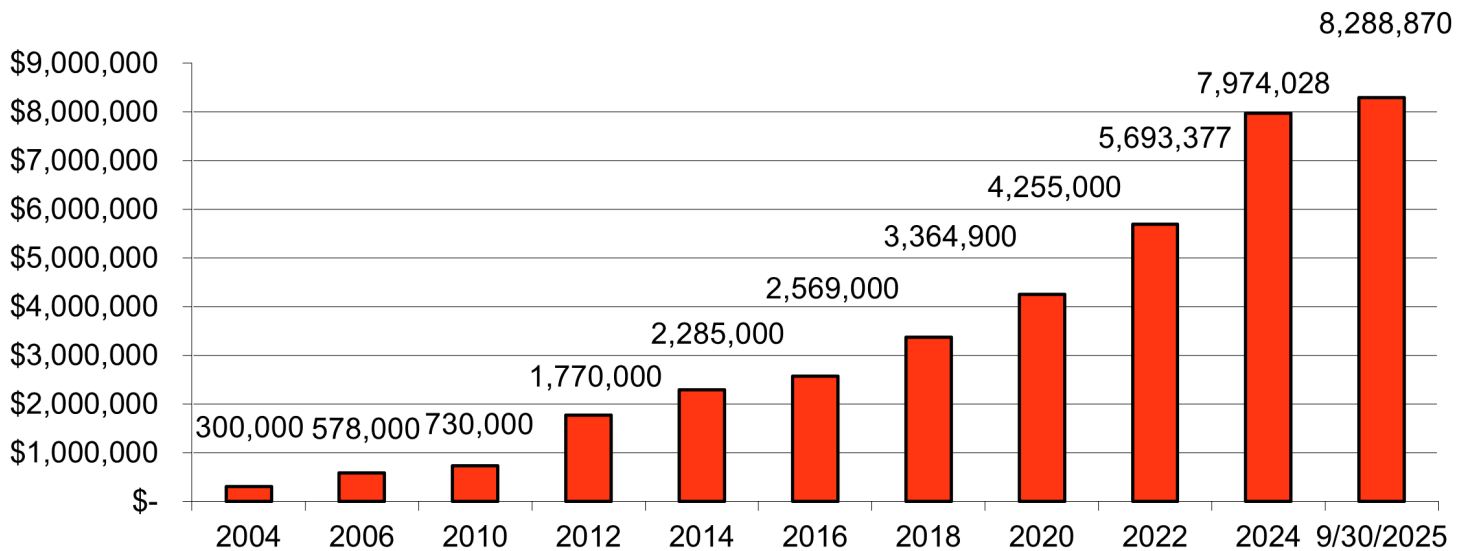
Statements of Financial Position

	12/31/2024	9/30/2025
Assets		
Cash	\$ 1,614,889	\$ 1,263,909
Current assets	550,544	503,787
Fixed assets, net	935,753	1,164,910
Investments	4,872,842	5,356,264
Total assets	\$ 7,974,028	\$ 8,288,870
Liabilities		
Current liabilities	\$ 237,325	\$ 186,629
Agency funds	555,787	588,516
Total liabilities	793,112	775,145
Net assets	7,180,916	7,513,725
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 7,974,028	\$ 8,288,870

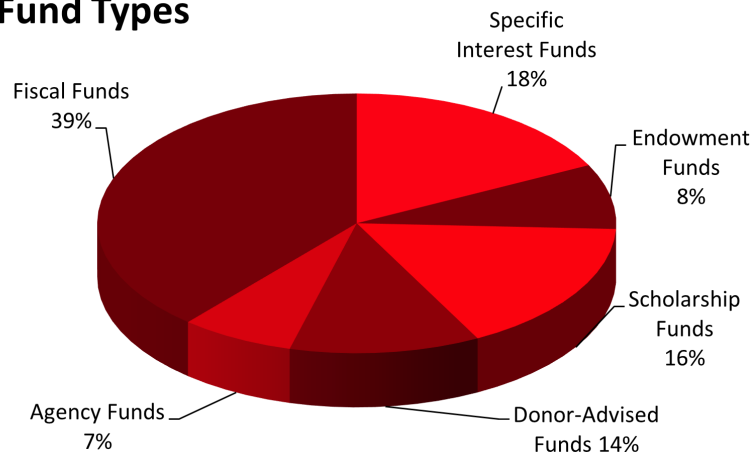
Statements of Activities

	Year Ended 12/31/2024	Nine Months Ended 9/30/2025
Support and revenue		
Contributions	\$ 451,179	\$ 340,230
Fundraising	112,941	92,696
Grants	3,550,359	2,550,546
Investment earnings	575,780	433,515
Management fees	224,083	167,574
Program fees	339,331	251,534
Total support and revenue	5,253,673	3,836,095
Expenditures		
Fundraising	31,770	30,384
Grants	450,792	507,048
Payroll/Contract Services	2,037,261	1,826,911
Programs/Scholarships	797,318	641,725
Support services	583,359	464,491
Total expenditures	3,900,500	3,470,559
Increase in net assets	\$ 1,353,173	\$ 365,536

Year-End Total Assets Since Inception



Fund Types



Audited financial report available upon request from the Onward! A Legacy Foundation office or found online.

ONWARD!

Onward! A Legacy Foundation



P.O. Box 26
33 N. Chestnut
Cortez, CO 81321

Is a community foundation fund right for you?

Onward! A Legacy Foundation offers the opportunity for all individuals and groups to generate income for their important causes. Partner with Onward! to:



Simplify philanthropic giving



Avoid the expense and complexity of creating a private foundation or separate non-profit organization



Pool assets for higher yields and lower administrative costs



Utilize a dedicated volunteer board of directors who assures that its investment strategies are prudent and operates in an effective and efficient manner



Employ the insights of the highly experienced professionals on our financial advisory committee to monitor your investments



Support your favorite cause in a variety of ways: through a gift in your will, gift of cash, donation of stock, gift of insurance, or donations of land or other property

Build Your Legacy