Los Alamos National Laboratory Impacts and Investments in Taos County

Taos County is home to 138 LANL employees and contractors. As of February 2013, $9,341,197 in annual base salaries was being paid to LANL employees (excluding contractors and craft employees) in Taos County.

Taos is one of seven northern New Mexico counties identified in the Lab’s maintenance and operations contract with NNSA that is targeted for education, economic development, and charitable giving programs through the LANS, LLC Community Commitment Plan.

Education

The Laboratory’s goal in education is to enhance regional Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) education and enrichment initiatives through Workforce Development, Student Internships, Teacher and Faculty Professional Development, and Public Understanding of Science.

Employee involvement: In FY12, LANL employees gave 831 volunteer hours to various STEM initiatives in Taos County. Students and teachers from the Taos and Penasco School Districts participated in one or more of LANL’s regional education programs.

Los Alamos Employees’ Scholarship Fund: Taos County

The 2012 Los Alamos Employees’ Scholarship Fund” Gold” Recipient is George Torres from Taos High School. The amount of the scholarship is $20,000. Additionally, 17 students from Taos, El Prado, Peñasco, Questa, Ranchos de Taos, and Tres Piedras were awarded a total of $54,000 in academic scholarships through the Los Alamos Employees’ Scholarship Fund.

Previous scholarship funds provided:
- $29,000 in 2007
- $30,000 in 2008
- $44,000 in 2009
- $39,000 in 2010
- $66,000 in 2011

Bradbury Science Museum: Since 2012, more than 1300 Taos County students and teachers have participated in science education programs offered by the Laboratory’s Bradbury Science Museum. In addition to hosting school visits at the Museum, our science educators take presentations to students in their own schools through our Science on Wheels program.

Accelerate Technical Job Training Program: A regional technical training and job placement workforce development program to prepare people of all ages and educational backgrounds for enhanced employment opportunities. Participating colleges include: Luna Community College, New Mexico Highlands University, Northern New Mexico College, Santa Fe Community College, University of New Mexico-Los Alamos, and University of New Mexico-Taos. The first students involved in this program will be graduating in May 2013.
**Northern New Mexico Inquiry Science Initiative:** A regional program to improve K-6 student academic achievement in science, math, and literacy, and to meet or exceed state requirements. The investment in this program has benefited seven northern New Mexico school districts (including Penasco), 28 schools, and more than 8,500 students.

**School Supply Drive:** In 2012, Lab employees filled 50 back packs with school supplies for elementary and middle-school students in Taos County to help prepare them for the academic year.

**Student Support:** LANL Laces is a year-round Laboratory employee-giving program designed to purchase shoes for children who need them. Our most recent shoe drive generated $1,950 to purchase 78 pairs of shoes for students in Taos, Penasco, and Questa.

Sube, Inc., a small business in Taos, is partnering with LANL to implement an online STEM education challenge in honor of the Laboratory’s 70th Anniversary this year.

**Economic Development**

The Laboratory has been involved with the Taos business community as a member of the Taos Chamber of Commerce since 2004 and as a strategic partner with the Taos Entrepreneurial Network since it was launched in 2008.

Los Alamos Connect is the principal economic development investment of Los Alamos National Security, LLC and Los Alamos National Laboratory. It is comprised of coaching, networking, research, technical assistance, and investment programs designed to help businesses reach the next level of success and create an entrepreneurial culture in northern New Mexico. Since 2006, 83 Taos County businesses were assisted through this program.

In 2012, 46 Taos businesses received assistance from one or more of our Northern New Mexico Connect economic development programs:

- 365 Days of Wellness
- A Beautiful Brain
- Accord Meditation Services
- Acupuncture Associates of Taos
- Administrative Solutions of Taos
- Avalyn’s Paw Spa
- Baby Gorilla Tree Service
- Budget Host Inn
- Care to Give Care Giver Coach
- Cooking Studio Taos
- Critters Grooming
- Dazzling Delights
- Enchanted Circle Fair
- Enchanted Cross Country Ski Area
- Freshies Juices
- Happy Life Healing
- The Health Mill
- Heritage Trust Company of New Mexico
- Illuminated Manuscripts
- Improvcloth
- Life at Hand
- Mermejo Catering Services
- Mesa Green Guide
- Midiwing
- New Mexico Unidos, LLC
- Old Martina’s Hall
- Old Masters Maroger
- Om Hatha Yoga
- OptiMysm
- Ross and Associates
- Solstice
- SuniSacs
- Taos Alive
- Taos Jerky
- Taos Mountain Energy Bars
- Taos Peddler
- Taos Pharmacy
- Thrive Taos
- Training and Care Services, LLC
- Treats and Sweets
- Vapour Organic Beauty
- Waterbird Labs
- Watermelon Productions, LLC
- Willow Bakery and Market
- Women’s Wellness
New Mexico Small Business Assistance Program: This resource enables LANL to provide assistance at no cost to small businesses facing technology challenges. Since 2008, these Taos County businesses have participated in the program:

- ThermaSun, Inc.
- Paradise Power Company, Inc. dba PPC Solar
- Private Label Select, Ltd. Company
- Lucky Corridor, LLC
- PNI Institute
- Valverde Energy, Inc.
- Sube, Inc.
- Green Gadgets
- Orsen, LLC
- Doug Scott Art
- Plenish Skincare

Community Giving

Los Alamos National Laboratory is committed to giving back to its northern New Mexico neighbors. Our Community Programs Office manages a variety of giving programs to provide opportunities for LANL employees and retirees to make gifts of time, talent, and money to improve the quality of life of our neighbors.

LANL Annual Employee Giving Campaign: Lab employees have donated to these organizations with programs in Taos County—Self Help, Inc., Rocky Mountain Youth Corps, Las Clinicas del Norte, and the Hogs and Heifers Motorcycle Club:

- $9,255 in 2008
- $7,400 in 2009
- $17,962 in 2010
- $13,744 in 2011
- $23,832 in 2012
- $9,268 in 2013

Los Alamos National Security, LLC Community Grants:

- Men Engaged in Nonviolence, Inc- $6,000 in 2008
- Men Engaged in Nonviolence, Inc- $9,500 in 2009
- Bridges Project for Education- $3,000 in 2009

LANL Vecinos Volunteer Program Recognition Event –LANS, LLC donations to organizations supported by LANL employees/retirees:

- David Westphall Veterans Foundation - $500 in 2008
- Goldstar Animals Helping People, Inc. - $85 in 2008
- Goldstar Animals Helping People, Inc. - $85 in 2009
- David Westphall Veterans Foundation - $500 in 2010
- David Westphall Veterans Foundation - $500 in 2011

Los Alamos National Laboratory Drives in 2012:

Holiday gift drive – LANL employees donated 113 holiday gifts to Taos children and adults in partnership with the Taos office of the New Mexico Children, Youth and Families Dept., Taos Adult Protective Services, and Taos Housing Authority.