This year, DreamTree worked with the PASEO outdoor art festival to connect shelter youth with Ori Alon, a 2019 PASEO artist. Ori’s work centers around the Empowering Clerks Network, an international web of individuals connected by their ability to create more joy in the world through playful paperwork.

First, Ori led a workshop with DreamTree shelter youth, in which they created Certificates of Recognition for one another. They asked one another their personal strengths and documented them using fountain pens on official certificates, which they then framed. The activity gave youth the opportunity to articulate their strengths, and to help one another put into words the ways in which they are great.

Then, Ori worked with the youth to administer his Empowering Clerks Network table at the PASEO festival. One youth in particular, Max,* was enthusiastic about the work. He not only helped on his shift the first night of the festival, he also returned the next night, filling out Joy Permits, Forgiver’s Licenses, and other forms of playful paperwork with Taos community members. It was great fun for everyone involved!

~ Irene Loy, Development Outreach Coordinator

Taos Festival of Trees

Help DreamTree celebrate the Yuletide season. This year we are bringing back the Taos Festival of Trees to benefit DreamTree.

To participate in the event, email events@dreamtreeproject.org, call 575 425 0239, or purchase tickets at 708 Felicidad Lane.
From the Director

I am honored to share that this year, DreamTree Project received a gift from Nina’s Fund, which was established to honor Nina Elizabeth Nilssen.

These funds will be used to support young people who are survivors of violence, with a focus on survivors of human trafficking. We are so grateful for the faith and support of Nina’s Fund and all of our donors: you make bright futures possible for our young people.

DreamTree successfully competed for two U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Runaway and Homeless Youth grants for three years: Basic Center Program and Street Outreach Program. Taken together, these two grants total over $1 million in federal grants to help end youth homelessness in the northeast region of New Mexico.

DreamTree was also awarded a $34,000 planning grant through the New Mexico Commission for Community Volunteerism. Through this grant, we are working with other local nonprofits to create AmeriCorps placements for youth to gain employment experience in social work, outreach, and other efforts to help others exit poverty.

While these funds are significant, our youth have many needs that are not met by these grants. We need your help; you can make a significant difference for youth in our community, by sending a contribution to DreamTree Project.

DreamTree Project: By the Numbers

This past year we served over 100 youth, including more than a dozen babies and toddlers with teen & young adult parents.

We helped over 85% of these youth move into safe and stable housing.

**INCOME / EXPENSES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SEP ’18 – AUG ’19</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>INCOME</strong></td>
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<td>Grants, Contracts</td>
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<td>Donations</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL INCOME</strong></td>
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<td><strong>EXPENSES</strong></td>
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<td>Wages &amp; Benefits</td>
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<tr>
<td>General, Insurance, Repairs, Utilities</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td>1,497,884</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THANK YOU TO ALL OUR 2019 DONORS FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!

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FOR HELP, CALL US 24/7 AT 575-758-9595 OR TEXT 575-770-7704. OUR EMERGENCY TEEN SHELTER IS LOCATED AT 128 LA POSTA RD. IN TAOS, NM.
Recently, I helped Tony,* a DreamTree youth who is on the autism spectrum, fill out his first ever job application.

I felt proud of him for attempting it. I sat with him and spelled out the letters for each word, and he listened very carefully. I gave constant encouragement. For example, I made observations about how neat his handwriting was.

After the application was complete, we spent some time appreciating what a good job he had done. We turned it in at the grocery store and he got the job! I feel very proud of Tony.

— RHONA MEEKS, TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAM (TLP) CASE MANAGER

*name has been changed to protect the anonymity of this youth.