

CAUSES THAT MATTER



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Empowering Immigrant Voices

Flexible Grantmaking for Wyoming Communities

LEK Endowment Fund

Voices Jackson Hole began to “Activate and actualize immigrant community members to become leaders,” says Board Chair Isabel Zumel. With a network of eighteen community leaders and over 400 immigrant families, Voices has evolved from a small group of dedicated folks to a full-fledged nonprofit making a difference.

There is a large immigrant population in Jackson Hole who are eager to make a difference in their community. They want to share their unique perspectives and experiences but are rarely offered the leadership roles to be a changemaker.

Thanks to your support, Voices is empowering immigrant voices and has helped place leaders into public roles in eight organizations across the Teton region.

Voices runs several programs to encourage future leaders. They started the Latina Empowerment Circle, a three-month program where Latina women in the community met regularly to share space and support one another, which has since found a new home at the Community Safety Network. In Fall 2023, Voices launched the Crecimiento (*Growth* in English) Workshop series to support the success and resilience of Latine young professionals in their nonprofit, government, and business roles.




Voices encourages everyone to get involved and learn more about the immigrant communities in your own towns. Building those connections will create opportunities statewide.

“We will bring someone in for one of our leadership programs who is super shy and quiet at first,” says Director of Voices, Jordan Rich. “Within a year or less, they’re the most outspoken, assertive, strong voices in our team. Seeing that confidence blossom as they step into their voice and power is what’s so meaningful to me.”

The community Voices has grown will continue to be an asset in their area. Thanks to donors like you, we can all help Voices reach their goals and influence others.

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STATS & FACTS

Over **400**  immigrant households served in the Teton region

9 community mobilizers who speak 10 distinct languages

Voices has placed leaders in **8 organizations** in the region. 

Flexible Grantmaking, also known as Unrestricted Grantmaking



These types of funds support nonprofits through long-term solutions, immediate needs and everything in between across Wyoming’s charitable community.

Your State's Future Stewards

Empowering Wyoming's Future Economic Drivers

Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom Agency Endowment Fund

Imagine you are a student in a 4th grade Wyoming classroom. Your teacher asks you to design your own ranch. But then a drought hits the area! Now you need to keep your ranch running through the drought with shortages of water or grass. A predator is spotted in the area—how do you protect your animals? For students outside of Wyoming, this may seem unusual. But these are real-life problems ranchers face. By teaching students to problem-solve today, they learn to care for Wyoming in the future.

Because of the hands-on activities Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom (WAITC) provides teachers, these lessons are very real (and fun) for students across the state.

Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom is a nonprofit that helps students learn about Wyoming industries – natural resources, agriculture, and outdoor recreation – so they become our future problem-solvers. WAITC believes the best way to do that is by getting into classrooms and supporting educators.

“Kids need to know where their food comes from, how to be a good steward of the land in Wyoming, and about all the industries which support that,” says Andrew Joannides, Executive Director of Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom.

WAITC’s stewardship-based curriculum is Wyo Wonders. They also have other

STATS & FACTS

WAITC Curriculum was in **182** classrooms last year operating in almost every county in Wyoming

Other programs include:



Bookmark & Beyond

as well as an award for

Educator of the Year



programs such as Educator of the Year and Bookmark and Beyond. Teachers and districts can opt in to these programs and all are free for use.

“Teachers and students can get excited about the lessons,” says Andrew.

“Educators can use this to supplement their curriculum or add in what they choose. They are passionate about it and students enjoy learning about things that are fun.”

Wyoming Agriculture in the Classroom created an endowed fund with WYCF over 20 years ago to ensure educators, youth, and families can enjoy hands-on learning about Wyoming for years to come.

“The fund with WYCF gives us flexibility to operate,” says Andrew. “We can travel, print materials for teachers, and meet with people and have conversations about our programs.”

Endowed funds like this, fueled by generous donors, help ensure that WAITC’s mission is met for the long-term.

The ranch you imagined might not be real for you, but our youth may need to fix these problems when they grow up. Because of your support, Wyoming students will feel confident and ready to solve real-life problems for Wyoming as adults.



To showcase their understanding and appreciation of Wyoming's essential resources, students from grades 2-5 create a bookmark illustrating a Wyoming resource message. Approximately ten winning designs get printed and distributed around the state!

Sparking Curiosity: Educating Students in Cyber Security

STEM Education in Wyoming Classrooms

Pinkham Unrestricted Fund

When you think of cyber security, you probably think about long and complicated passwords. They can seem annoying, even when you know they keep you safe. The CyberWyoming Alliance knows how important it is for all Wyoming citizens to learn about cyber safety, even the youngest Wyomingites.

Thanks to your support, CyberWyoming received a grant for youth to learn about cyber security through LEGO kits.

CyberWyoming Alliance's LEGO kits include LEGO buildings, lighting systems, a small computer called a Raspberry Pi, a wireless router or a switch, and an attack and defense laptop. Laura Baker, Director for CyberWyoming Alliance, knows these topics can seem scary.

"LEGOs aren't scary, but cyber security can be," says Laura. "It makes it less intimidating to see how everything works together using LEGO sets."

Students can learn skills that help them explore future IT career paths because of your support.

Schools in Wyoming now have to teach units about cyber security, but they need help. Your support means that CyberWyoming can share their lesson plans with teachers statewide. They offer activities for kindergarten through 12th grade that keep kids engaged, including the new LEGO kits.

Teachers can check out a LEGO kit for the entire semester, free from the CyberWyoming Alliance. When students first get their hands on the kits,

they learn engineering, circuitry, and networking. They then break into two teams – defenders and attackers – and set up their laptops. Defenders must keep the lights on in the LEGO building, while attackers try to shut the lights off.

The kits help students connect to the real world. The buildings are hospitals, fire stations, ski slopes, or small businesses that can be found in nearly every Wyoming community.

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Above: Students got to play attacker or defender with the LEGO kits at the Wyoming Air National Guard's STEM Discovery Day. Below: The LEGO kits are shipped in suitcases to classrooms statewide. The models can break in transit, so students get to test their engineering skills to rebuild them.



STATS & FACTS

7 LEGO kits available
for checkout

Curriculum
available for
K-12th grade



1,400+
students engaged
with LEGO kits

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The desire for an inclusive community is not one-sided. “The community institutions have been so hungry and welcoming of our work,” Jordan says. “The immigrant community has a deep desire to step into new spaces, and the power sources have been just as eager to embrace those partnerships to create a more inclusive and equitable Jackson Hole.”

Voices Jackson Hole has been so thankful for the support of early investors like the Wyoming Community Foundation.

Because of donors like you, Voices has been able to grow and expand over the last few years. The ability to use their grant for general operating has turned them into a powerful nonprofit in the Jackson area.

Moving forward, the staff and board at Voices want to expand beyond Teton County. They hope to help other communities have the resources they need in good times and in bad.

“I want to see how Voices can be a model for doing things differently,” says Isabel.



Seeing the trajectory of people's lives change for the better inspires Voices to keep amplifying their community members.

“Cyber Security” continued

“It’s a hands-on learning experience that is so much better than sitting in front of a computer. The kit simulates the interconnection of physical security and cyber security,” says Laura.

Your support gives students hands-on experience and the curiosity to keep learning.

“If I’d had this in high school, I would have been much more engaged,” says Brooke Malone, Program Coordinator for CyberWyoming. “It could have sparked my interest to pursue something like cyber security or STEM in college.”

Thanks to you, this grant will help other students pursue this in the future.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Register now for the 2024 Wyoming Nonprofit Conference
MAY 14-16, 2024



Ramkota Hotel and Conference Center Casper, WY
Visit wynonprofit.org/conference or scan the QR code to register.

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Wyoming Afterschool Alliance
Summer Fellows Program
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wyafterschoolalliance.org

MAY 16
Wyoming Women’s Foundation
2024 Self-Sufficiency
Standard Release
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Thank you! You’ve helped Wyoming communities thrive.

To learn more about how YOU can make a difference today and for years to come, contact Jerrica Becken, Director of Philanthropy at jerrica@wycf.org

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