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TEACHFORAMERICA

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DANIELS FUND AWARDS \$900,000 TO TEACH FOR AMERICA TO EXPAND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR LOCAL STUDENTS

Funds to Help Teach For America Partner With Tribal Communities to Increase the Number of Teachers in High-Need Schools in Northwest New Mexico and Northeast Arizona

GALLUP, New Mexico, July 9, 2014—Teach For America announced today that it has received a \$900,000 Daniels Fund grant to help expand efforts to provide educational opportunity to students in northwest New Mexico and northeast Arizona. This financial commitment from the Daniels Fund will help Teach For America-New Mexico recruit, train, and provide ongoing support for teachers in local communities.

Bill Daniels, a cable-television pioneer and visionary business leader, was known for his unwavering commitment to ethics and integrity, as well as for his kindness and generosity to those in need. Upon his death in 2000, his \$1 billion estate was transferred to the Daniels Fund, making it one of the largest private foundations in the Rocky Mountain region. The Daniels Fund provides grants to highly effective nonprofits and college scholarships to traditional and nontraditional students in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming. To date, the Daniels Fund has awarded more than \$72 million in grants and scholarships in New Mexico.

Teach For America recruits top college graduates and professionals to make an initial two-year commitment to teach in urban and rural public schools and become lifelong advocates for educational equity. Among the founding regions in Teach For America's [Native Alliance Initiative](#), Teach For America-New Mexico is deeply engaged in the effort to recruit more American Indians into teaching, build stronger relationships with tribal communities, and ensure that all teachers are employing culturally responsive teaching techniques.

Some 78 Teach For America corps members and nearly 180 alumni—including 35 teachers and 19 school or district leaders—work in New Mexico. Corps members are teaching in more than 52 schools in eight districts statewide. In northwest New Mexico and northeast Arizona, Teach For America teachers serve the Navajo Nation, Zuni Pueblo, Pueblo of Laguna, and the towns in between.

"We're thrilled to receive support from the Daniels Fund that will enable us to take important next steps in our partnerships with districts," said Nate Morrison, executive director of Teach For America–New Mexico. "We are eager to increase our impact as part of the broader efforts to expand educational opportunity and excellence for all of our local students."

Research indicates that Teach For America corps members have a positive effect on student achievement—particularly in STEM classrooms. Between 2009 and 2013, statewide studies in [North Carolina](#), [Tennessee](#), and [Louisiana](#) concluded that Teach For America is among each state's top teacher-preparation programs. A [recent Mathematica study](#) found that, on average, students taught by Teach For America teachers gained an additional 2.6 months of learning in math annually.

About Teach For America

Teach For America works in partnership with communities to expand educational opportunity for children facing the challenges of poverty. Founded in 1990, Teach For America recruits and develops a diverse corps of outstanding college graduates and professionals to make an initial two year commitment to teach in high-need schools and become lifelong leaders in the movement to end educational inequity. Our corps in the 2013-14 school year included 11,000 teachers in 48 urban and rural regions across the country. Today, our 37,000 alumni are working across sectors to ensure that all children have access to an excellent education. For more information, visit www.teachforamerica.org and follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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