



For Immediate Release

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Friends of Youth and Nature receives West Elk Community Fund Grant to Get North Fork Kids Outside

November 11, 2022, Hotchkiss, CO – Friends of Youth and Nature (FOYAN) has been awarded \$2,500 from the West Elk Community Fund (WECF) to help get North Fork youth outside. WECF responds to a range of community issues by helping nonprofits with special projects or expanding their programs to meet the need of the communities of Paonia, Hotchkiss, and Crawford.

“We are thrilled to receive these funds which will be used for activities promoting youth development through outdoor recreation. FOYAN provides scholarships and transportation assistance for North Fork youth to attend summer camps, nature learning field trips, and various outdoor activities,” said Anita Evans, FOYAN chair and co-founder. “There is a need in our communities to help youth in elementary through high school develop confidence, resilience, and endurance as well as relieve stress and anxiety as they mature,” she added.

Friends of Youth and Nature (FOYAN) is a non-profit created in 2018 that promotes opportunities for youth and families to get outside, experience outdoor activities, and explore nature. “Our efforts are focused in Mesa, Delta, Montrose and Ouray Counties. In 2022, we helped engage over 6,700 youth in outdoor programs. We encourage parents, teachers and youth leaders to visit our website (www.friendsofyouthandnature.org) to learn more about how we facilitate our mission and the opportunities FOYAN provides,” added Evans. We are also encouraging you to make “Give Where You Live” donations through Coloradogives.org to help Friends of Youth and Nature continue our mission.

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