

# LOS OJOS DE LA FAMILIA

## SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION



### **Description of Accounting Method**

Los Ojos de la Familia's finances are maintained in a QuickBooks company file, specifically designed for non-profit organizations, which is reconciled monthly by a certified public accountant. All accounting services are donated by REDW, a local accounting firm affiliated with members of the LODLF board. All donations that come into the charity - whether cash, check, credit card, or PayPal - is documented in a separate transaction, with the name and contact information of each donor, in the QuickBooks company file.

There is no overhead. Every penny that comes into the organization goes back to the community, in the form of scholarships, and general financial assistance – see sections on General and Emergency Assistance. There are no bills or wages paid; all time, resources, and material costs are donated on behalf of the charity.

### **Los Ojos de la Familia – About Us**

Los Ojos De La Familia was established in December of 2009 by Michael Montoya and his wife along with some friends and family who wanted to do more, this was a way to be involved and actually see where the money that they were raising was going to. All of the money raised for Los Ojos goes right back into the community there is no overhead every board member volunteers there time and all fund raising events are sponsored with donations. All assistance that is provided is voted on and no checks are made out to individuals, they are made out to landlords to help with rent or utility companies or gift cards are given to help buy household goods or groceries or medical facilities to help with bill payments. All of our scholarship checks are made out to school of choice and all students are required to maintain their GPA's , scholarships are also voted on by the board.

Los Ojos De La Familia strives to provide assistance to those who need a hand in time of difficulties, and to those who wish to further their education but may not be able to.

### **WEBSITE**

Please visit our website [www.losojosdelafamilia](http://www.losojosdelafamilia) to see video, photos and newsletters from the past four years. The faces of the hundreds of families and individuals that have been helped by Los Ojos de la familia speak volumes to the power of community coming together.

Please also find us on Facebook  for another way we stay in touch with the community.

### **Educational Assistance**

As part of our mission, to support the educational development in our community, Los Ojos De La Familia provides scholarship opportunities to students. Our scholarship programs award students based on financial need, school and community activities, and academic achievement. Los Ojos de la Familia offers two types of scholarship opportunities for qualifying students:

The **General Scholarship** is a \$500 award given out to 5-10 students each, per semester.

General criteria for this scholarship include: New Mexico residency, GPA of 3.0 or higher, enrollment in accredited technical/vocational school, community college or university, at least one non-relative reference, and a commitment to volunteer with the charity for at least four hours. However, the primary consideration for this scholarship is the character of the applicant, and each application includes an essay written by the student, describing themselves and how hope to give back to the community.

The **H.O.P.E. Scholarship** is a \$3,000 award, which may be awarded once each semester. This scholarship is awarded to a student who has a high level of academic achievement, exhibits high levels of determination and drive, possesses strong leadership skills, and is actively involved in the community. Qualifying criteria include: New Mexico residency, GP of 3.5 or higher, minimum score of 25 for ACT or 1250 for SAT, acceptance as a full time student into public two- of four-year college or accredited technical vocational school, and at least 30 hours of community service over the last year.

### **General Assistance**

General assistance applications are reviewed each quarter. Criteria for assistance is determined on a case-by-case basis, and the board votes on whether to distribute funds. Each application includes a section describing why and how help is needed. If selected, the method of disbursement is determined based on what is most suitable to ensure ethical authentication. Each application includes one character reference with contact information. Types of assistance have historically included: assistance with rent, utility bills, car repairs, medical bills, school trip contributions, and Walmart gift cards for daily necessities. The average award is between \$200 and \$300, not to exceed \$500; in this way, we can help as many deserving people as possible.

### **Emergency Assistance**

From time to time, Los Ojos de la Familia receives urgent requests for help from members of our community in distress. When a board member sponsors such an emergency request, our board quickly votes, within days, to determine if and how we can best give assistance to these deserving pleas for help. If assistance is approved, the appropriate method of disbursement is determined and distributed in a timely fashion.

### **Athletic Youth Development Group**

Los Ojos de la Familia launched the Athletic Youth Development Group last year, to help children excel and succeed through sports, and to become healthy, productive members of society. LODLF partners with local athletic organizations in lower income neighborhoods, to give kids a healthy and safe outlet. The program pays half the dues, quarterly, of each qualifying child, and the child and family commit to their portion; each child must maintain good grades, write a letter each quarter about school performance and progress, and commit to volunteer. Currently we work with Warrior Boxing and Ishin Ryu Karate Club. We hope to sponsor many more children in our community, to promote the core values of health, discipline, commitment, and fellowship. This cooperation help children, families and local organizations, to create and maintain relationships within our community, and all of this works toward the mission of LODLF: to make a difference in the New Mexico community by providing educational development and quality of life assistance.