



# Media Advisory

**ADDRESS:**

333 North Central Avenue  
Phoenix, AZ 85004

**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Linda Hayes  
(602) 366-7824

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## Freeport-McMoRan Foundation Announces 2024 Ajo Social Investment Fund Recipients

PHOENIX, AZ, January 27, 2025 – Freeport-McMoRan is pleased to announce its foundation has awarded \$3 million to 66 projects across its 12 U.S. operating communities in Arizona, Colorado, Iowa, New Mexico and Texas through its Community and Social Investment Funds.

“The success of our community investments depends on genuine partnerships with communities to identify opportunities, address potential risks to resilience and well-being, and collaboratively develop initiatives that strengthen communities for the long term,” said Tracy Bame, President, Freeport-McMoRan Foundation. “We deeply value our relationships with community partners, as these collaborations enable us to contribute effectively to projects and programs that deliver meaningful social benefits and build the foundation for resilience in a post-mining future.

“In 2024, we maintained ongoing dialogue with community stakeholders and partner organizations to drive progress toward greater resilience,” Bame said. “Partners continue to explore critical issues affecting their future, such as the energy transition, climate change, mine transitions, economic diversification and the evolving nature of work.”

The Freeport-McMoRan Foundation works with a range of committed partners throughout the investment process. These include True Impact, who helps organizations consider and measure the impact of their projects, and Better City, an economic advisory firm that helps host communities create Resilience Action Plans.

These plans involve a community-driven process to engage stakeholders in identifying and prioritizing risks, developing actionable strategies and finding resources for both short- and long-term actions. They are designed to fit with existing community plans and consider local resources and capacities.

The goal is to boost the community’s overall resilience and ability to respond to risks and opportunities, supporting long-term prosperity. The Foundation aims to support projects that align with these plans through its Community and Social Investment Funds.

Since 2012, nearly \$2 million has been invested through the Freeport-McMoRan Foundation Social Investment Fund in Ajo. The funds have been awarded to programs and projects that help foster sustainability and reduce dependency on any single industry. In 2024, \$151,000 was awarded to the following grant recipients:

### **Ajo-Gibson Volunteer Fire Department Concrete Slab Replacement – \$51,000**

Funds will be used to replace the Gibson Fire Department’s existing concrete slab to help ensure prompt emergency response, enhancing overall safety and security for firefighters and residents.

**International Sonoran Desert Alliance**

***Kickstart Ajo: Job Creation and Workforce Readiness – \$100,000***

Project funding will be used to increase the capacity of local businesses to create good, high-paying jobs, while simultaneously working to upskill the local workforce to fill available job openings.

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