GRANTMAKING
Through our competitive grantmaking program, grants are offered in six fields-of-interest including economic and workforce development. The overarching theme 'access to economic opportunities' aims at moving the needle towards prosperity for more residents.

Great Grant
South Valley Economic Development Center (SVEDC) provides facilities, resources and training for new and expanding small businesses, with an eye towards job creation and fostering the economic revitalization of the South Valley Community. A $15,000 grant will help create a new program to develop classes, mentorship and resources for English and Spanish speaking business owners in the South Valley.

ACCESS TO ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES

MAYOR’S PRIZE
Built from a partnership between the City of Albuquerque, the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation and the Albuquerque Community Foundation, nonprofits contributing to Albuquerque’s entrepreneurship ecosystem compete for $200,000 annually.

BOLD IDEAS THAT CREATE AND GROW NEW COMPANIES IN ALBUQUERQUE

WESTT-Creative PIE
Creative PIE will provide creative entrepreneurs with support services, tools and training to assist them in not only making a living with their art form, but also in growing their business while creating high-quality, economic based jobs. The University of New Mexico’s 2014 BBER report on the creative economy of New Mexico reports that 1 in every 18 jobs in New Mexico is in the creative industry. With an $85,000 Mayor’s Prize, Creative PIE will provide low-cost workshops and training to plug creatives into a network of support that includes financial literacy and business development training as well as marketing support and access to a comprehensive resource network.

Technology Ventures Corporation (TVC)
The start-up scene has received a lot of attention in recent years and multi-tiered levels of support have supported steady growth. But what happens when start-ups grow up? With a $100,000 Mayor’s Prize, TVC will extend its resources to second stage companies as they look to grow into new markets and create jobs here at home. While there is no single formula to help a company to succeed, TVC’s plan is to focus on guided practice, sitting in the seat next to the owner while confronting new challenges together.

IMPACT INVESTING
A movement is afoot that represents a significant opportunity to drive social value. By allocating a percentage of the Foundation’s assets to investments that generate positive social impact in addition to a financial return, we have the potential to create enhanced value for both for the Foundation and for society.

Through an Impact Investment, the Seattle Community Foundation financed 187 rental housing units as part of a larger neighborhood redevelopment project in a neighborhood that is more than 70% low-income and minority.

The Albuquerque Community Foundation has not yet made any Impact Investments but will in 2016.

Individuals, businesses and membership organizations are invited to join with the Foundation and those who believe that together, we can change our community. As illustrated in the three innovative programs mentioned here, our economic development efforts are not business as usual. It is time to recognize that permanent, real change requires job growth along with education and training for the careers of the future. We must produce jobs and educate our citizens to be prepared to work in those jobs in order to reduce the number of people living in poverty, thus, minimizing the reliance on government programming.

GENERATE MEASURABLE SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ALONGSIDE A FINANCIAL RETURN