

# MEDIA ADVISORY

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## Freeport-McMoRan Foundation Announces 2022 Ajo Social Investment Grant Recipients

PHOENIX, AZ, December 21, 2022 — Freeport-McMoRan is pleased to announce the Freeport-McMoRan Foundation has awarded nearly \$2.9 million to 41 projects in Arizona, Colorado and New Mexico through our Community Investment Fund, including \$150,000 in Ajo.

Recipient organizations will receive their monetary awards and be recognized by Freeport-McMoRan during grant presentations this winter.

“The Freeport-McMoRan Foundation aims to provide resources, of which funding is only one part, to support communities and organizations as they focus on actions they can take to build resilience and the range of skills that may be needed to respond to opportunities and challenges,” said Tracy Bame, President, Freeport-McMoRan Foundation.

The Freeport-McMoRan Foundation works to create a funding process that supports applicants and encourages them to think about the impact that will come from an investment in their work. This moves beyond reporting on outputs, but rather thinking through what change can occur from the work that will be done.

“Throughout 2022, we continued conversations with community stakeholders and partner organizations about the path to increasing resilience in their local communities. While the unknowns of a post-COVID reality persisted as an ongoing threat to resilience, partners also explored other topics that have and will affect their future well-being, such as the energy transition and climate change, mine transitions, economic diversification, and the changing future of work,” Bame said.

Since 2012, more than \$1.7 million has been invested through the Freeport-McMoRan Foundation in Ajo. The funds have been awarded to programs and projects that build community resilience and capacity. In 2022, \$150,000 was awarded to the following grant recipients:

**Ajo Gibson Volunteer Fire Department  
Equipment Upgrade – \$25,000**

Funding will provide the fire department with upgraded equipment to help ensure the safety of the fire fighters and to allow them to provide more comprehensive support to the community.

**Ajo Historical Society  
Ajo Museum – \$25,000**

The Ajo Museum serves as an important cultural resource for the community. Funding will support needed building repairs and allow for the development of programming to encourage more visitors and activities.

**International Sonoran Desert Alliance**

***Kickstart Ajo: Building a More Resilient Local Economy – \$100,000***

By providing direct support to business owners and entrepreneurs, Kickstart Ajo will create, save and strengthen business enterprises in Ajo.

For more information about Freeport-McMoRan community investments and programs, please contact Rita Lloyd-Mills at [riloydmi@fmi.com](mailto:riloydmi@fmi.com) or visit [FreeportInMyCommunity.com](http://FreeportInMyCommunity.com).

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