

Dear SWFAC Members and Fiber Enthusiasts,

The Southwest Women's Fiber Arts Collective (SWFAC) was founded in March, 2005. We are a grassroots, all-volunteer, non-profit 501 c (3) organization with the goal of stimulating and supporting successful cottage industry in the southwest. Our mission is to celebrate fiber art and realize its economic potential. To accomplish this, we nurture and empower both novice and skilled artists and enrich the community by fostering opportunities to experience, learn and earn.

We have a successful history of providing means to earn income in our remote community. To date we have helped our members earn more than \$165,000! We initially participated in fiber art shows sponsored by the NM Women's Foundation. This was followed by opening The Common Thread, a fiber art gallery to provide a year round venue to our members. Additionally we held biennial fiber art festivals and a fashion show. Like many volunteer run non-profit organizations in our community, finding sufficient volunteer coverage had become challenging. We closed the gallery at the end of 2015. We did not close SWFAC!

SWFAC will continue to serve the fiber arts community by providing a means to earn income. We will be offering two sale events each year. We have many ideas of how to offer a smaller version of fashion show, for developing educational boards to display at all SWFAC events to stimulate interest in the fiber arts, and new ideas for classes.

Please contact us at [information@fiberartscollective.org](mailto:information@fiberartscollective.org) if you are interested in becoming a leader and board member of SWFAC. We would enjoy talking with you!

SWFAC Board