Boys & Girls Club of Gallup and High Desert QSR LLC a locally owned and operated franchise of Taco Bell will be hosting an event Aug. 28, in honor of local high school students who graduated in the Class of 2015. The event is made possible through a $13,000 grant from the Taco Bell Foundation for Teens.

“Graduation season is our favorite time of year. We’ve watched these young men and women in our community work so hard to get to this point and it’s a thrill to share in their joy of earning that diploma,” said James Rich, owner of High Desert QSRs LLC. “We are proud to recognize our new grads and we are committed to our future graduate right here in Gallup, NM”. Rich also stated that “This grant is confirmation that the $1 donations our guests made to the Graduate to GO program will stay local to help our local students at the Boys and Girls Club”.

“Taco Bell’s legacy is largely tied to teen empowerment. Our founder Glen Bell actually discovered his passion for food in his youth while helping his family during the Great Depression.” Said James Rich. “Over the years, Taco Bell, has witnessed our scholarship recipients, our teen customers and our teen employees truly achieve mas. The partnership between the Taco Bell Foundation for Teens and Boys & Girls Clubs of America is an extension of our steadfast commitment to see as many teens as possible graduate and go on to do great things”.

Locally, the partnership with the Taco Bell Foundation for Teens will help promote junior and seniors in high School to be enrolled in college at the same time; “dual enrollment, knowing that this has been shown to have the best direct impact on the number students who not only graduate, but continue their education in college. The Grant will be used to directly help students attend college orientation and assist graduates who are interested in the military to achieve a better test score on ASVAB tests.

VISIT: *www.bgca.org*

About Boys & Girls Clubs of Gallup

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Gallup serves nearly 1,200 members and has provided a safe and positive place for the kids of Gallup since 1999. The organization serves kids, ages 6-18, at three club locations around Gallup. The mission is to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. To learn more visit www.bgcm.org