

## **Vallecitos Mountain Refuge**

(Taos, NM)

**Total Award: \$100,000 over 1 year**

### *Taking Vallecitos off the Mountain*

To support Taking Vallecitos Off the Mountain, a two-part contemplative retreat experience that aims to build a strong environmental activist alumni network and take the Vallecitos experience into the communities served by retreat participants and to provide Vallecitos in this time of transition with capacity building resources. The contemplative retreat will consist of a seven-day retreat in 2005 at Vallecitos Mountain Refuge, followed by three weekend urban retreats. The retreat at the ranch will bring together 20 environmental activist alumni, half in their 20s and 30s, to focus on building and strengthening Vallecitos' alumni networks and taking the experience "off the mountain." The initial retreat will be followed by three additional meetings in New York, Washington DC, and San Francisco, and intensive interviews with the participants. The capacity building and development work will 1) create a core post-graduate alumni curriculum to enrich and sustain the retreat experience, 2) build and mobilize the Vallecitos Alumni Association, and 3) provide board and staff training and development.

### ***Program Contribution Breakdown:***

**\$50,000** Jewish Life and Values/Contemplative Practice Program: *Goal II, Objective 1*

**\$50,000** Environment Program: *Objectives I, Strategy 1*