



The well-attended groundbreaking for the new \$1.1M Taos Clinic for Children and Youth was held September 9. The clinic project is the direct result of a 4-year collaborative effort among many private, public, and governmental organizations, and is being funded through a \$1M appropriation from New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson's discretionary fund and \$100,000 from State Representative Roberto J. "Bobby" Gonzales' discretionary fund.

Earthwork is underway, with the goal of being under roof by the beginning of December, weather permitting. The 6470-square-foot building, which includes 14 exam rooms, 2 therapy rooms, a new lab, and a well-baby room, is expected to be ready for occupancy in May 2010.

In addition to improving the community's ability to serve the need for pediatric and prenatal medical services in the Enchanted Circle area, Wayne Rutherford, President and owner of Wayne Rutherford General Contractor, Inc., the winning bidder for the project, notes that the project has a direct, positive impact on the local economy. "More than half of the project's direct costs are going to local subcontractors, suppliers, and employees," he stated. "And, studies show that each dollar that stays in this community will actually recycle through the local economy a total of 6-7 times, generating sales taxes at each turn. This is a win-win situation for all, and I am proud to have been selected to make the clinic a reality."

In the very near future, you will be able to keep up with progress on the clinic's construction by visiting the Taos Pediatric Clinic project page on our website.