

Application Potrero Nuevo-Tides Foundation

AMD&ART is a non-profit organization that is artfully transforming environmental liabilities into community assets in Southwestern Pennsylvania. The AMD&ART process is one that combines public art, environmental improvement and community engagement in treating abandoned mine drainage (AMD), the most widespread environmental, economic and social problem of the Appalachian region. Using multidisciplinary intervention and wide public participation, AMD&ART has created a holistic approach to re-creating place that incorporates recreational elements, artful spaces, educational opportunities, historic reminders and restored wildlife habitat into designs for passive AMD treatment systems. This approach honors a past of hard work and community building, bringing that same civic engagement and hard work to the design and construction of treatment systems that reach people, restore nature and revitalize abandoned spaces.

Our first site is in the Borough of Vintondale, Pennsylvania, a small coal patch town in Cambria County, some 15 miles northeast of Johnstown, nestled deep in the Blacklick Creek Valley. Vintondale is a community whose history is defined by underground mining and vast surface works, yet the tangible reminders of this proud past are beginning to fade away. In the 1960s, the last deep mine in Vintondale closed forever. As the procession of miners across the footbridge of the coal complex ceased, so did the sounds of the tippie, the smoke from the railroad, and the nighttime glow of the coke ovens.

What was once a bustling mining center with multi-story buildings is now silent, covered with boney, the past rendered invisible. But, this vacant field of scrubby grasses and stunted trees is currently in the process of transformation into a large-scale work of environmental art. The 35-acre site in Vintondale offers a manageable AMD discharge in a location central to the community, with high visibility due to the popular Rails-to-Trails hiking and biking trail that borders the site.

Today, the riverbed is blanketed with orange sediment from abandoned mine drainage, and the streets are lined with dilapidated houses. Vintondale's population of 582 is a quarter of what it was at the height of the mining industry, and 61.9% of families with children live in poverty. The per capita income is \$10,957, and only 7.7 % of the population over 25 has a college degree. What statistics cannot show is that hope is still very much alive in Vintondale, and residents of the Blacklick Creek Watershed are working to clean their waterways and revitalize their communities.

The AmeriCorps and VISTA volunteers of AMD&ART are the core of outreach and capacity building for the AMD&ART team, and are the critical link between concept and reality, artist and community. People of all ages have worked with the AMD&ART team to move the Vintondale project forward, from school kids to seniors. What they are building is more than just a park or a treatment system; they are building connections between generations and families that will make their community more cohesive and resilient. AmeriCorps volunteers work directly in service to the communities we serve, organizing volunteers and coordinating community participation. VISTA volunteers work to increase civic engagement and to build the institutional capacity of AMD&ART. The work of both allows AMD&ART to create our pilot site in Vintondale and then to expand our efforts to the 34-square mile watershed of Dark Shade Creek.



May 2, 2002

Mr. T. Allan Comp
Founder
AMD&ART, Inc.
411 Third Avenue
Johnstown, PA 15906

Dear Mr. Comp:

I am happy to inform you that the Tides Foundation, on the recommendation of the Potrero Nuevo Fund, has decided to give your organization a \$12,000.00 grant. This grant is for your organization's sponsorship of three VISTA Volunteers for their Vintondale project. We are enclosing a \$12,000.00 check as complete payment. By endorsing and depositing the enclosed check, you accept and agree to all the terms and conditions set forth in this letter. In addition, we request that an officer of your organization sign in the space provided below and return the original copy of this agreement letter to Tides. The second copy is for your files.

The conditions of this grant are as follows:

Any portion of this grant (#TFR02-01067) not used for the stated purpose must be repaid to Tides by your organization.

Your organization agrees to submit to Tides a progress report (preferably a two page narrative and financial report) by February 1, 2003 describing the use of the funds and activities undertaken as a result of this grant. Use the attached checklist for reporting requirements. Please email your progress report to Jason Sanders, Donor Services Officer at Tides, jsanders@tides.org and to Potrero Nuevo at fund@potreronuevo.org.

Your organization agrees to show these grant funds separately on its books; however, your organization is not required to segregate these funds in separate bank accounts. All expenditures made for the purposes of the grant shall appear on those books, and your organization agrees to make such books and records available to the Tides Foundation at reasonable times upon request. Your organization also agrees to keep copies of all books, records, and reports to Tides for at least four years after completion of the use of the funds.

www.tides.org

TIDES FOUNDATION

info@tides.org

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T 212.509.1049 F 212.509.1059



The Presidio P.O. Box 29903 San Francisco, CA 94129-0903
T 415.561.6400 F 415.561.6401

Your organization agrees not to use any portion of the granted funds to: carry on propaganda or to attempt to influence specific legislation either by direct or grassroots lobbying; influence the outcome of any specific voter registration drive; make grants to individuals on a non-objective basis; or support any non-charitable or non-educational purpose.

If this grant is made for the purchase of capital equipment or for capital endowment, your organization agrees to submit reports to Tides, for this taxable year and for your organization's two succeeding taxable years, describing the use of the principal and income (if any) derived from the granted funds.

If you have occasion to announce or acknowledge this grant publicly, please indicate that support was provided by the Potrero Nuevo Fund of the Tides Foundation.

Our Grants Administrator, Mary Clare Hubert, is available to answer any questions you may have regarding this transaction, and can be reached at 415-561-6351.

Sincerely,



Idelisse Malavé
Executive Director

Grant Agreement: TFR02-01067

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Grant Agreement is signed

on May 20, 2022 for AMD+ART, Inc.

By B. Jeanne Gleason