

GIVING FUND GRANT RECIPIENTS THE EMERGENCY WARMING CENTER + TRUCKEE COMMUNITY THEATER

By **LOIS ERMAK** and **DICK GANDER**, Tahoe Donner Giving Fund Committee

Two of the eight non-profits receiving grants from the Tahoe Donner Giving Fund are featured in this article. The first, the **Emergency Warming Center (EWC)**, received a \$2,500 grant from the Giving Fund as a match to a similar amount from the Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation to support their mission. The EWC is currently in its third winter of serving our community. It is open from 6PM to 7AM for those in need when the weather meets the criteria set by our local town council. The criteria are 15 degrees or less for four or more hours, and wet, blustery nights.

According to Cathie Foley, EWC coordinator, the EWC was open last winter for 35 nights, serving 44 individual guests and 4 dogs overnight. Many guests stayed more than one night, so in total the EWC provided 174 nights of shelter. The center also provided food in a secure, warm place to share dinner, and supported individuals with sleeping bags, blankets, warm clothing and other basic necessities.

Volunteers are integral to the EWC, and 255 of them came together to support this effort. They dedicated over 1,155 hours of time, provided meals, and donated supplies and finances to help make this project a success.

"Through the Giving Fund, the Tahoe Donner community is providing monetary support for this vital program to our vulnerable neighbors," Foley says. "Thank you!"

The second grant recipient was the **Truckee Community Theater (TCT)**. The mission of the TCT is to "create opportunities for community participation in the theatrical offerings of the highest possible quality presented to audiences at affordable prices. We are dedicated to providing training to residents of all ages through plays, workshops, camps and classes, to offer arts education that promotes life-long learning,



to collaborate with other local arts organizations, and to celebrate the power of theater to illuminate our common humanity."

Courtney Simson, executive director of TCT, describes the impact of the Giving Fund's \$5,000 grant: "It provided us with a brand new sound system of handheld and over-the-ear microphones for our actors that are digital rather than analog. The old mics would constantly go out during a show, as the airwaves would clog with other groups using the same channel locally. These new ones are crystal clear, sound great and will never drop out! Thank you so much to the Tahoe Donner Giving Fund for this wonderful new equipment!"

The photos are from the recent production of *On Golden Pond*. "The production quality of *On Golden Pond* was excellent," says Dick Gander, chair of the Giving Fund Committee. "We will definitely attend more of their shows!"

Show your support for the greater Truckee community with a gift to the Giving Fund. You can use the insert included in your Annual Assessment letter, or go to tahoedonner.com/giving-fund to make a contribution today.

The Tahoe Donner Giving Fund is chartered by the Tahoe Donner board of directors. All contributions are voluntary tax-deductible gifts from Tahoe Donner members and friends. The Giving Fund is administered through the Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation. For more information on the Giving Fund or to make a contribution, visit our web page at tahoedonner.com/giving-fund. Contact tdgf@tahoedonner.com with questions or to volunteer for the committee.

