

GIVING FUND GRANT RECIPIENTS NORTH TAHOE ARTS, CHOICES TRANSITIONAL SERVICES + AIM HIGH

By **JEANETTE FAGERSKOG** and **LOIS ERMAK**, Tahoe Donner Giving Fund Committee



This month, the Tahoe Donner Giving Fund is pleased to feature three of the eight non-profit organizations that received grants in 2017.

AIM HIGH

Aim High was awarded a grant for \$4,000. Aim High provides under-resourced middle school students in North Lake Tahoe and Truckee with a free summer learning program designed to narrow the achievement gap between low-income youth and their more resourced peers.

Students in Aim High spend summers building academic skills, exploring enrichment activities and learning about the path to college. When they return to school in the fall, participants feel more confident and are better prepared to succeed. Since launching in Kings Beach in 2012, Aim High has partnered with the Tahoe Truckee Unified School District to serve more than 220 students (74% of whom are poised to be first generation in their family to graduate college) and train more than 75 educators. The grant from Tahoe Donner Giving Fund will help 135 students participate in the program this summer.

CHOICES TRANSITIONAL SERVICES

Choices Transitional Services was awarded a \$2,500 grant from the Tahoe Donner Giving Fund. Choices provides the developmentally disabled with the opportunity to uphold individual dignity while promoting a healthy, independent life-style. They do this by providing their clients with vocational training, community integration, self-advocacy, self-expression and functional living skill programs.

Choices is the only program serving adults with developmental disabilities in the North Lake Tahoe area. Each day they struggle to transport clients to and from the program due to lack of reliable transportation. This year they have been working toward the goal of purchasing a van to transport the people served in and around Truckee.

"Without the help of the Tahoe Donner Giving Fund, we would not have been able to make this happen" says Kimberly Whittington, program manager at Choices. "We are so very thankful to have such a supportive community. It would not be possible without donors like you!"




NORTH TAHOE ARTS

North Tahoe Arts received a \$2,000 grant from Tahoe Donner Giving Fund. North Tahoe Arts is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization with a mission to support the arts in the North Tahoe area through exposure, education and participation. The grant will be used to help rent and renovate a new meeting and gallery space to use for their year-round Kids Art Saturday program as well as their summer Kids Art Camp, which has partnered with the Boys and Girls Club of Kings Beach to reach more children.

"North Tahoe Arts (NTArts) is very grateful for the grant from Tahoe Donner Giving Fund," says Kim Snyder, NTArts executive director. "Art education and experiences are invaluable. Art of course is fun, and it allows for self-expression, but it also teaches discipline and independent critical thinking. These children will learn to be innovative thinkers who will be our leaders of tomorrow. We can't wait to see the pride in our Kids Art Camp students' faces when they have their own exhibit in a real gallery. Tahoe Donner Giving Fund, thank you for making that possible."

The Tahoe Donner Giving Fund is chartered by the Tahoe Donner board of directors. All contributions are voluntary tax-deductible gifts from TD 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. Thank you to our Founding Partner, Elements Mountain Company, for their continued support.

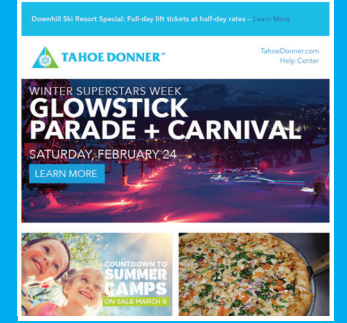


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