

THE GIVING FUND GRANTS \$24,000 TO AREA NON-PROFITS

By **DICK GANDER**, Tahoe Donner Giving Fund Committee Chair

Thanks to the generosity of our members, the Tahoe Donner Giving Fund was able to make grants to eight non-profits totaling \$24,000 this year. That represents an 84% increase over our grants in 2016!

In keeping with our grantmaking policy, all of the grants were made as part of the Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation's consolidated grant process. Sixty-seven organizations applied for 71 separate grants in this process, together asking for more than \$600,000. The Giving Fund, along with the Community Foundation, the Nature Fund, the Martis Fund and the Queen of Hearts Fund, granted a total of \$329,175 to 45 different non-profits serving our greater community. Imagine the impact Tahoe Donner can have when we meet our goal of granting \$100,000 per year! There are substantial unmet needs out there that you can help fulfill with even a small contribution to the Giving Fund.

2017 TAHOE DONNER GIVING FUND GRANT RECIPIENTS

Aim High for High School (\$4,000) Free multi-year academic summer learning and enrichment program serving middle school students in communities with limited options. This grant supports efforts to narrow the achievement and opportunity gaps for 140 low-income Tahoe-Truckee students so they can make a smooth transition to high school and be ready and eligible for college.

Choices Transitional Services (\$2,500) Specialized programs for adults with developmental disabilities, promoting independence, personal development and self-sufficiency. This grant helps fund a series of workshops conducted with established artists that will teach various forms of art to program participants, culminating in a public art show.

Church of the Mountains' Emergency Warming Center (\$2,500) Provides a warm, dry space for homeless neighbors in need on the most severe weather nights of the year. They also seek to connect clients with services to help in the long-term. This grant helps support stipends for key roles that supplement volunteers, ensuring the success of the program.

North Tahoe Arts (\$2,000) Operates the North Tahoe Arts Center in Tahoe City, which supports local artists. This grant supports their Children's Art Program.

Sierra Senior Services (\$2,500) Bringing vital services and human connections to homebound seniors, such as Meals on Wheels, health and kinesthetic classes, and welfare checks. This grant will help them build better awareness of their services.

Sugar Pine Foundation (\$2,500) This forest restoration program supplies sugar and white pine seedlings for volunteers to plant in the Tahoe Basin, including Tahoe Donner, and educates students and the community on forest issues. This grant will help them achieve their goal of planting 5,000 sugar pine seedlings, restoring 80 acres of forest and involving 300 children in their efforts.

Truckee Community Theater (\$5,000) Supporting theatrical performances and training residents of all ages through plays, workshops, camps and classes. This grant provides funding for a new portable digital sound board to support their productions.

Truckee Trails Foundation (\$3,000) Trail planning, building and general advocacy for hiking and biking trails, as well as maintenance to keep trails safe and sustainable. This grant helps to fund the improvement of trails in Coldstream Canyon, together with the U.S. Forest Service.



Please look for our insert in your Annual Assessment letter coming in November, which you can use to send in a contribution to next year's grant. Or visit the website to make an online contribution now: tahoedonner.com/giving-fund.

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.