

# TAHOE DONNER GIVING FUND DON'T WAIT, IT'S NOT TOO LATE, EVERY DONATION COUNTS!



## YOUR DONATION IS NEEDED NOW MORE THAN EVER BEFORE

Uncertainty about funding for social services and education at the national level inevitably translates to local concerns. Local communities like ours fear they will not be immune to funding challenges to the essential programs that serve our seniors, families, and the community life we treasure. That's why your donations are more important than ever before.

**As the Tahoe Donner Giving Fund marks its tenth anniversary this year, our mission has never been more important, and the need for Tahoe Donner member support has never been more critical.**

## RIGHT HERE, RIGHT NOW, ESSENTIAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES ARE AT RISK

Did you know that **Sierra Senior Services**, the Meals on Wheels provider for Truckee and North Lake Tahoe, faces a likely reduction in funding that would be devastating to the seniors they serve?

In a recent statement, Meals on Wheels America President and CEO Ellie Hollander expressed deep concerns about the House budget reconciliation bill passed this February, which puts at risk "critical funding for Meals on Wheels and other vital programs that help support older adults, such as the Social Services Block Grant program, SNAP and Medicaid."

*Tahoe Donner Giving Fund has supported Sierra Senior Services through grant awards for seven of the past ten years.*

Did you know that **Friends of the Truckee Library** is working to build a larger, modern library, when national support for libraries, traditionally viewed as an essential community resource, is wavering?

April Cole, executive director of Friends of the Truckee Library, wrote recently in Moonshine Ink, "Our current library was built 50 years ago to serve a population of 2,000. Today, more than 15,000 people hold library cards in Truckee." Originally built with a capacity for only 54 people, it now serves a community of 20,000 residents. The campaign to build a library that meets the needs of Truckee, today and tomorrow, needs support from the community it will serve.

*Tahoe Donner Giving Fund has supported Friends of the Truckee Library through grant awards for the past two years.*

Did you know that the **Boys & Girls Club** is the primary after-school program in our community? There is a greater need for services than there is the capacity to provide them, and there is a greater need for staffing, and those unmet needs are expected to continue growing.

Hedy Chang, who founded Attendance Works, a national nonprofit that seeks to combat chronic absenteeism in schools, spoke recently on National Public Radio about the importance of after-school programs — many of which may be on the chopping block of federal funding cuts. "After-school programs can connect kids to needed resources like food, nutrition," she said. "And make sure that they're connected to something that engages them, makes them excited about learning." For the children who attend them and the parents who rely on them, after-school programs are a vital part of daily life.

*Tahoe Donner Giving Fund has supported the Boys & Girls Club through grant awards for six of the past ten years.*

## GIVING TOGETHER, DOING GOOD

If you share the Tahoe Donner Giving Fund's mission "to inspire generosity and charitable giving among TD members in order to support deserving programs and youth in the greater Truckee community," then please give now — the need for your support has never been greater.

This summer, the Tahoe Donner Giving Fund 10th Anniversary Fundraising Campaign is reaching out to ask all Tahoe Donner homeowners and their families to join us by making a donation today. You'll feel good about doing good!

The Tahoe Donner Giving Fund is administered as an affiliate fund of the Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, EIN 68-0416404. All contributions are voluntary, irrevocable, and are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law. Tahoe Donner Giving Fund grants and scholarships are made through the Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation's annual review process. The Tahoe Donner Giving Fund Committee is chartered by the Tahoe Donner Board of Directors to carry out the mission of the Tahoe Donner Giving Fund: to inspire generosity and charitable giving among Tahoe Donner members in order to support deserving programs and youth in the greater Truckee community. The Tahoe Donner Giving Fund Committee thanks our founding partner, Elements Mountain Company, who has supported the Tahoe Donner Giving Fund since its inception in 2014, and the anonymous Tahoe Donner member who has generously funded the IMPACT Scholarships each year since 2019.



## GIVING FUND SUCCESS STORY: MEET STEPHANIE, 2025 IMPACT SCHOLAR



"As a first-generation Latina, navigating the realm of financial assistance for higher education was extremely difficult," Stephanie said. "While I had some avenues to seek more information, such as La Fuerza Latina college access program based locally, my family and I never truly understood the importance of seeking financial support for educational pursuits.

"The Impact Scholarship specifically addressed the financial gap I encountered when I began receiving college acceptance letters a few years ago: A gap that neither my family nor I could overcome without substantial loans or the consideration of attending a community college instead.

"This scholarship allowed me to attend the university of my choice — the University of California, Riverside (UCR) — and opened doors to networking and learning opportunities I could have never imagined."

She faced and overcame some adversities during her first year, including imposter syndrome and learning how to be independent while being miles away from her parents.

"I joined several organizations on campus, including Mujeres Unidas and the Latino Student Business Association. Through these groups, I built meaningful relationships with other students, developed a strong support network, and created lasting connections."

This June, Stephanie graduated UCR with a Bachelor's in Business Administration, a concentration in Marketing, and a minor in International Relations. She plans to pursue a Master's in Business Administration this fall. Stephanie has been accepted to UCR's graduate program and offered a guaranteed teacher's assistant scholarship for her second year. She is also waiting to hear back from other schools.

"I am so thankful to the Impact Scholarship's anonymous donor and the Tahoe Donner Giving Fund for making it possible for students like me to have the higher education we need to achieve our dreams," Stephanie said.

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