



TAHOE DONNER GIVING FUND \$5,000 GRANT TO TRUCKEE NAVIGATION CENTER, PROVIDING SERVICES FOR OUR UNHOUSED NEIGHBORS

12 YEARS IN THE MAKING

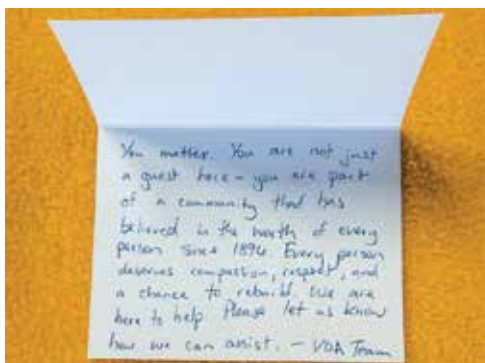
The Navigation Center, a one-year pilot program, opened its doors on Feb. 25 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house. This is the first shelter of its kind in Truckee and will provide a range of year-round services for the area's unhoused population. The center is a monumental accomplishment due to the tireless commitment of the Tahoe Truckee Homeless Action Coalition (TTHAC), led by co-chairs Truckee Councilmember Jan Zabriskie, Nevada County Supervisor Hardy Bullock, and volunteer Cindy Basso. TTHAC comprises 11 local agencies and non-profits working to end homelessness in the Tahoe Truckee region. Funding received, with major contributions from the Town of Truckee, Tahoe Forest Hospital District, Nevada and Placer Counties and the Tahoe-Truckee community, for this center is the first step toward bringing this objective to fruition.



THE NAVIGATION CENTER

The center is open 24/7 and consists of 16 beds: six for year-round interim housing and 10 for congregate emergency shelter. Drop-in services for both residents and non-residents will be available Monday through Friday. A range of essential resources includes showers, meals, laundry, mail services, storage and case management. This model will truly provide stability in people's lives by creating a safe and supportive place for our unhoused neighbors

and a sense of community. Management of the center will be professionally operated by Volunteers of America (VOA), which was founded in 1896. As Cindy Basso states, "VOA's staff have the skill set and heart for this kind of work, helping people move forward." There is already a wait list for the congregate beds at the Navigation Center.



FELLOWSHIP OF COMPASSION MINISTRIES

The Fellowship of Compassion (FOC), founded by Cindy Basso, is proud to be a leader in the development of the Navigation Center Pilot Program. This congregation took the lead on Community Fundraising, focusing on ensuring that every person who finds refuge at the Navigation Center is not only provided comprehensive support services but also rediscovers hope, dignity and the belief that change is possible. FOC is a community united by a shared belief in the transformative power of love, grace and service to all people, especially those who are marginalized, forgotten and oppressed. FOC continues to fundraise to ensure stability beyond this pilot year.

Collective Empowerment, an "arm" of FOC, is an initiative designed to build meaningful connections and foster a sense of belonging within our community. This mentor-advocacy program pairs recently housed individuals with FOC members and the broader

neighborhood, creating an environment of support, empathy and empowerment. Participants gather monthly over coffee in a welcoming and casual setting to share stories, experiences, and encouragement. The goal is simple: to offer a listening ear, a helping hand, genuine care and friendship, and a reminder that no one is alone in their journey. Collective Empowerment hopes to bridge the gaps between neighbors, foster understanding and inspire lasting change rooted in compassion and community solidarity. FOC welcomes volunteers who have a desire to uplift one another and celebrate the shared strength that comes from supporting each other's growth through this mentor-advocacy program.

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

— Margaret Mead

To learn more, visit the following websites:

- Tahoe Truckee Homeless Action Coalition Navigation Center
tthomelesscoalition.org/navigation-center
- Fellowship of Compassion
fellowshipofcompassion.org
- Tahoe Donner Giving Fund
tahoedonner.com/giving-fund

The Tahoe Donner Giving Fund is administered as an affiliate fund of the Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit 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 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.

