

2019 TWCF Grant Recipients

1. Focus Grants -

a. Poverty, Housing, or Basic Needs Recipients

Tahoe Youth & Family Services (\$7000)

Tahoe Magic, Inc (\$10000)

Tahoe Coalition for the Homeless (\$10000)

Tahoe Prosperity Center (\$10000)

b. Mental Health & Wellness Recipients

Juvenile Service Council (\$10000)

NAMI El Dorado County (\$10000)

2. Impact Grants -

a. Children & Youth Recipients

Suicide Prevention Network (\$4000)

CASA El Dorado (\$4000)

Lake Tahoe Conservation Fund (\$3281)

b. Community, Arts or Culture Recipients

Bringing Arts to School (\$3719)

Tahoe Arts Project (\$4000)

c. Education & Literacy Recipients

Bijou Community School PTA (\$4000)

HERO Scholarship Fund, Inc (\$1000)

LTCC Foundation (\$3000)

Focus Grant Summaries for Poverty, Housing or Basic Needs

1. Organization: Tahoe Youth & Family Services

Project/Program: Tahoe Youth Transitional Living Program: Basic Household Essentials

Requested Amount: \$7000

Project Summary:

Tahoe Youth & Family Services (Tahoe Youth) is requesting \$7,000 to purchase basic household necessities for a two-to-three-bedroom apartment that Tahoe Youth will rent for its newly implemented Transitional Living Program (TLP), Rapid Re-housing Program (RRH) and Prevention Services (PS) for transitional aged youth (TAY) 18-24 years old. The newly acquired HEAP funding only covers the cost of rent and utilities, but not necessary household essentials. Every youth that enters the TLP/RRH will have aged out of or our emergency shelter program or will be homeless with absolutely nothing to their name aside from the clothes on their backs. For the TLP/RRH to be successful and help participants thrive, Tahoe Youth will need to provide all basic household necessities that make a house a home: a bed, clean sheets and pillows, kitchen tools, basic bathroom items, a dining room table and living room furniture. The items we will purchase will provide TAY with a comfortable home life that is essential for them to transition from homelessness to a stable living environment to achieve long-term self-sufficiency. The TLP/RRH will be participant-driven with a strength-based approach that will actively engage youth by creating a goal-setting environment based upon what the client wants from the program. Case management will provide comprehensive and individualized services that will include community and mainstream resources, employment services, vocational assistance, education programs, support groups, substance abuse treatment, as well as health and behavioral health resources all designed to help homeless youth make a successful transition to sustainable living.

2. Organization: Tahoe Magic, Inc.

Project/Program: One Time Family Emergency Housing Help Fund

Requested Amount: \$10000

Project Summary:

Tahoe Magic is requesting \$10,000 for its **One Time Family Emergency Housing Help Fund** which provides our lowest income families experiencing a specific crisis that results in financial stress, one time funding of up to \$800 for their housing payment. The emergency is determined by the referring agency which authenticates the need and contacts Tahoe Magic. Tahoe Magic does not work directly with clients, but works in conjunction with LTUSD and the McKinney Vento Homeless program, Barton Hospital, all of the local social service non-profit providers, El Dorado County Head Start, Public Health, Behavioral Health and Child Protective Services. These one time housing funds are the difference often between a family with children being evicted or being able to stay in their housing. Each recipient is screened by the referring agency as to the need and how they will be able to pay their rent in the future after getting this one time assistance.

3. Organization: Tahoe Coalition for the Homeless

Project/Program: South Lake Tahoe Warm Room

Requested Amount: \$10000

Project Summary:

Tahoe Coalition for the Homeless is requesting \$10,000 for its Warm Room project in South Lake Tahoe which supports our neighbors experiencing homelessness by partnering with our community to promote awareness, provide warm beds, and encourage self-sufficiency. Because of the harsh alpine environment, being homeless in Tahoe in winter is particularly difficult and life-threatening. For this reason, our organization was founded and operates an emergency winter shelter, the South Lake Tahoe Warm Room. During the winter, the Warm Room provides a safe and warm environment for adult men and women who are experiencing homelessness. The Warm Room is a safety net, providing reprieve for people in crisis. Guests are provided with shelter, food, clothing, showers, and a sleeping mat. They also meet with social workers and case managers to connect to local resources, find employment, obtain long-term housing, and schedule appointments for medical and mental health services. Families with children under 18 are provided with emergency motel rooms. Since our inception in 2015, the Warm Room has been open for over 400 nights and provided over 8,000 shelter bed nights. We have served over 300 clients and provided motel rooms for emergency shelter for 13 families. In the winter of 2017-18 we sheltered 28 women and 81 men in the Warm Room, including 13 veterans. With the assistance of our staff, 19 people found housing. Additionally, 2 veterans were reconnected with family. This project moves us closer to our vision of ending homelessness on the South Shore.

4. Organization: Tahoe Prosperity Center

Project/Program: Housing Tahoe's Locals

Requested Amount: \$10000

Project Summary:

The Tahoe Prosperity Center is requesting \$10,000 to build new, local, affordable workforce housing. We lead the Housing Tahoe Partnership which is a collaborative effort to build housing that is affordable for our local workforce. Our vision is transforming local housing options so that residents and workers can live, work, and thrive in Lake Tahoe. We want nurses, teachers, bus drivers, restaurant managers, and grocery store clerks to all live where they work. We want the 300 families living in motel rooms or in rundown and dangerous apartments to find healthy, safe homes. We want it to be profitable for developers to build housing for Tahoe workers and not more 10 bedroom second homes. We want South Lake Tahoe to be a place where our community lives, thrives, and is prosperous. Tahoe Prosperity Center will keep working with our community partners to ensure we solve the housing crisis now. We will get housing built for local workers. We will ask residents what their needs are (in both Spanish and English) so that developers build what is needed. We will get new, local, affordable workforce housing built so no one has to live in a motel room, a cold, damp trailer, an unsafe apartment or in the Warm Room in the winter.

Focus Grant for Mental Health & Wellness

1. Organization: **Juvenile Service Council**

Project/Program: Healthy Pathways to the Future

Requested Amount: \$10000

Project Summary:

The Juvenile Service Council (JSC) of El Dorado County, an all-volunteer 501c3 non-profit, is requesting \$10,000 for our “Healthy Pathways to the Future” project. The project focuses on the mental health and wellness needs of some of our community’s most at risk, vulnerable, and often forgotten youth. These are the 250 young people ages 14-18 who are involved with, or are at high risk of becoming involved with the Juvenile Justice system; are detained at the Juvenile Treatment Center (JTC) here in South Lake Tahoe: are on probation; and/or are involved with the Child Welfare System (Foster care, homeless, and emancipated youth in particular). The project provides and supports outcome-based programs, activities, and experiences that help these young people overcome the affects of the Adverse Childhood Experiences that have created complex and serious mental health and related physical health issues that they must endure. The trauma and chaos that has filled their lives includes abuse, neglect, abandonment, incarcerated parent, poverty, homelessness, and substance abuse.

The project strives to empower the youth with the skills, knowledge, and resources they need to transition successfully to adulthood. The components highlight building healthy relationships; support to manage their depression, anxiety, anger and other mental health conditions; academic support; building their capacity for social and emotional skills; development of life skills; and breaking intergenerational cycles of addiction and violence. The \$10,000 investment we are requesting assists the youth in discovering their resilience and self-worth in order to achieve a productive and healthy future.

2. Organization: **NAMI El Dorado County**

Project/Program: NAMI in SLT support for Tweens, Teens, Young Adults and Family Caregivers

Requested Amount: \$10000

Project Summary:

NAMI El Dorado County (in South Lake Tahoe for the Southshore Community) is requesting \$10,000 to reach tweens, teens, young adults and family caregivers broadly. We want to bring our evidence-based NAMI Ending-the-Silence 50 min program to the middle school and high school and community college (as well as to the public) offered at no cost to anyone. Part of this program is live presentation and a very short video and may include young adult presentors (age 18-35) living with a mental health condition AND a NAMI family caregiver leader. Free of cost to schools and communities: includes warning signs, facts and statistics and how to get help for themselves or a friend. Research has shown that NAMI Ending the Silence for Students is effective in changing middle and high school students’ knowledge and attitudes toward mental health conditions and toward seeking help! NAMI Ending the Silence for School Staff: 1-hour presentation for school staff members that includes information about warning signs, facts and statistics, how to approach students and how to work with families NAMI Ending the Silence for Families: 1-hour presentation for parents and primary caregivers that includes warning signs, facts and statistics, how to talk with your child and how to work with school staff . This grant will also support our community outreach limited to Southshore only, with high quality leave behind materials and brain stress balls.

Impact Grants #1: Children & Youth

1. Organization: Suicide Prevention Network

Project/Program: Teen Workshops focused on Mental Health Awareness and Suicide

Requested Amount: \$4000

Project Summary:

Suicide Prevention Network is requesting \$4,000 to host ongoing teen workshops focusing on mental health awareness and suicide. Workshop presenters are a diverse group of local professionals from the community who are volunteering their time to speak with youth because they understand there is an increase in suicide ideation, the seriousness of today's depression epidemic and how our local youth are being affected. This series of workshops will be geared towards high school teens and is aimed at ending stigma, providing education and support and creating a safer campus and community that will in turn provide a better learning environment.

2. Organization: CASA El Dorado

Requested Amount: \$4000

Project Summary:

Our goal is to ensure that every child in our community has the right to live in a safe and permanent home by acting as the eyes and ears of the court. We accomplish this by recruiting, training, and supervising volunteer Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASAs). We currently have 141 volunteer advocates serving the needs of some 199 abused, neglected, or at-risk children who have been removed from their home and placed into foster care throughout El Dorado County. Of these, 26 volunteers are in the South Lake Tahoe region, serving 29 children.

3. Organization: Lake Tahoe Conservation Fund

Granted Amount: \$3281

Project Summary:

Tahoe Fund is partnering with Boys and Girls Club of Lake Tahoe, SOS Outreach and Tahoe Area Mountain Biking Association to purchase Specialized mountain bikes for BGCLT and SOS Outreach youth to enjoy the nearby Bijou Bike Park and Kirkwood Mountain Resort. Riding bikes for just 20 minutes a day three times a week has shown to significantly improve physical and mental health among youth, leading to better outcomes in school and life. The bikes will also be available for physical education classes at South Tahoe Middle School, SOS Outreach for their summer biking program and the STMS/STHS NICA Mountain Bike Team.

Impact Grant #2: Community, Art or Culture

1. Organization: Bringing Arts to Schools (BATS)

Requested Amount: \$3,719

Project Summary:

Bringing Art to Schools (BATS) is requesting \$3719 to purchase a "Meet the Masters" portfolio of 9 artists. We have been accumulating these portfolios for 3 years and currently have 23 of 35 artists available in this series. The "Meet the Masters" series is an improvement to our existing program in that it includes lesson plans, power point presentations, fine art prints, and detailed art project instructions. These teaching tools enable our 100 volunteers (many of whom have no formal art training) to go into the classroom to teach art appreciation lessons and to create related hands-on art projects.

2. Organization: **Tahoe Arts Project (TAP)**

Requested Amount: \$4000

Project Summary:

Tahoe Arts Project (TAP) is requesting \$4000 to support performing arts education in our local schools and community. Funds will be earmarked for our 2019-2020 season which will consist of school shows for over 4,500 K-12th grade students and public performances. TAP was established in 1987 to meet the need of performing arts education that is lacking in the individual schools. For the majority of our local children, TAP provides their only exposure to live performing arts from various cultures. The community sees TAP as the purveyor of quality arts programming for all ages.

Impact Grant #3: Education & Literacy

1. Organization: **H.E.R.O. Scholarship Fund, Inc**

Requested Amount: \$1000

Project Summary:

H.E.R.O. stands for Honoring Excellence and Rewarding Optimism. The H.E.R.O. Scholarship Fund, Inc. was set up for those students at STHS and LTCC who have overcome seriously difficult obstacles to graduate. H.E.R.O. pledges scholarship awards each year to 8-10 STHS graduating seniors who have plans to continue their education and 2 LTCC students who are transferring to a four year university or college. We would like to request a \$1,000 grant to support our program.

2. Organization: **Bijou Community School PTA**

Requested Amount: \$4000

Project Summary:

“Drumming Forward” is a youth empowerment program designed to encourage personal growth through self-reflection and relationship-building. The program brings together diverse groups through rhythm with team building workshops. Tahoe Valley and Magnet school have both completed this program and Sierra House will this spring. A TWCF grant would enable Bijou students to participate as well. The program provides not only musical instruction, but also a strong Social Emotional Learning element -- much needed at our school. Through drumming and discussion, the instructor demonstrates how skills needed to create a successful, cohesive drum circle also help create a successful life.

3. Organization: **LTCC Foundation**

Requested Amount: \$3000

Project Summary:

Research often suggests that promoting the idea that higher education is attainable begins at a young age. The purpose of this project is to encourage a college-going culture for elementary-aged youth. This Lake Tahoe Community College student-led project will invite 4th and 5th graders from the Lake Tahoe Unified School District to participate in a weekly after school program. This no-cost “Outside the Box” Program will provide activities that highlight departments/subjects to inspire educational or career interests. A key component of this program will be promoting the healthy development of mentorships with LTCC students to further inspire the youth that