

Elevating Generosity

Impact Report 2025



TAHOE
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

MISSION

Cultivating community philanthropy
to enhance and preserve the quality
of life at Tahoe.



Dear Friends of the Community Foundation,

Reflecting on 2025, we remember that behind every number is a story of partnership, trust, and shared commitment to the people and places that make Tahoe special. While we cannot fully capture the depth, momentum, and meaning of a year of community impact, we are excited to share with you an important glimpse into how Tahoe Community Foundation continues to steward generosity with intention and care.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors and the strength of our nonprofit partners, Tahoe Community Foundation granted \$27.7 million in 2025 alone, bringing our total grantmaking to \$165 million since our inception. We approach this work with a strong sense of fiscal responsibility, ensuring that every dollar is managed prudently and aligned with both immediate community needs and long-term sustainability.

The stories and highlights in this report reflect moments from 2025, but they are part of a much larger, ongoing effort. Every year builds on the previous, strengthening a philanthropic ecosystem that is uniquely Tahoe: deeply connected, highly collaborative, and driven by a shared love for this place and its special community.

We are profoundly grateful to our donors for their trust, to our nonprofit partners for their tireless work, and to our community for believing in what is possible when we Elevate Generosity. Together, we are not just responding to today's needs, we are investing in Tahoe's future.

With gratitude and confidence in what lies ahead,

Ron Alling, Chairman Claudia Andersen, CEO

Ron Alling *Claudia Andersen*

How Community Foundations Work

Every Community Needs a Strong Foundation

Community foundations are public charities focused on improving the quality of life in a specific region. They bring together the generosity of individuals, families, and organizations to support local causes and respond to changing community needs.

Across the U.S., more than 900 community foundations actively invest in their communities through grantmaking, endowments, and partnerships with nonprofits. By managing charitable funds responsibly and strategically, community foundations help ensure that essential programs can continue, ensuring sustainability and responding during times of economic uncertainty.

Community foundations also offer donors a lasting legacy, creating endowed funds that grow over time and provide long-term support for the communities they care about.

At Work in Our Tahoe Community

Tahoe Community Foundation is an anchor institution serving the Tahoe region, dedicated to the well-being and future of our communities.

We inspire generosity and work closely with donors to make giving meaningful and effective, supporting strongly aligned programs that strengthen Tahoe. We also provide community leadership by addressing emerging issues and advancing long-term solutions.

Our work focuses on five key areas: **Arts & Culture, Community Engagement, Education & Youth Development, Environment, and Well-Being.** We connect donors with local needs and guide philanthropy with deep local knowledge and care.

Our team works year-round to listen closely to our community, build deep relationships with nonprofit partners, and guide philanthropy where it can do the most good. We take pride in the role we play—bringing insight, strategy, and stewardship to every grant and every fund. This work is thoughtful, collaborative, and we are confident in the value it brings to our region.

Since 1996, Tahoe Community Foundation has granted more than **\$165 million** to charitable causes.



Simplifying Generosity, Strengthening Impact

DONOR FEATURE: JULIE TEEL

For Julie Teel, philanthropy is guided by a simple but powerful commitment to strengthen her community, helping those in need at moments that matter most. Her giving is shaped by clear values including impact, transparency, strong leadership, and organizational stability, ensuring that each contribution is thoughtful, responsible, and effective.

As a fundraiser for decades, Julie understands that philanthropy must be approached with care and diligence, prioritizing organizations that demonstrate compliance, accountability, and a proven ability to make a difference. By focusing on need and measurable impact, she ensures her giving responds to real challenges and delivers meaningful outcomes for the community and beyond.

Through her Donor Advised Fund at the Community Foundation, Julie has found a way to make her giving both simpler and more strategic. The Community Foundation's staff supports her goals by vetting organizations, confirming good standing and compliance, and ensuring that all grants meet deductibility requirements. This partnership removes administrative complexity while giving Julie confidence that every grant aligns with her values and intentions.

Julie's philanthropic philosophy reflects the strength of donor advised giving that is intentional, driven by values, and focused on impact. By pairing her personal commitment with the expertise of the Community Foundation, she is able to give with clarity and purpose, knowing her generosity is making a meaningful difference across her community.



Photo courtesy of the Teel Family

Tahoe Ladies Social Fund

It began in June of 2022 as something simple and joyful: a social gathering of friends who wanted to connect, laugh, and meet other women in the Tahoe community. What started as a fun excuse to come together quickly became something more meaningful, and women from different walks of life found themselves around the same table, forming genuine connections.

Within two seasons, the group blossomed into **a community of more than 80 women, each bringing unique experiences, talent, and perspective.** As relationships deepened, so did a shared realization that this wasn't just a social circle; it was a group of thoughtful, capable, and deeply compassionate women who wanted to use their connection for something greater.

Rooted in friendship, trust, and a shared love for Tahoe, the **Tahoe Ladies Social Fund was created, reflecting the belief that community care starts locally, and that women supporting women can create meaningful change.**

Through partnership with Tahoe Community Foundation, the group channels its collective generosity toward neighbors who need it most, with a particular focus on **women and children in Lake Tahoe who are under-served or facing moments of crisis.** In the last two years of grantmaking, the Tahoe Ladies Social Fund has granted **to six organizations.**

In 2025 alone, the Tahoe Ladies Social Fund donated to three local organizations including **Sierra Community House to support the 24/7 Crisis Intervention and Emergency Shelter Program,** which provides crisis intervention and legal advocacy for women and children fleeing domestic violence. A grant was awarded to support the **Human Exploitation and Trafficking Operation (H.E.R.O) Unit with the Washoe County Sheriff's Office** offering immediate, flexible assistance for **survivors of human trafficking,** including safe transportation, emergency housing, and basic needs. And a grant was made to **Pet Network Tahoe** for life-saving **veterinary care that helps families stay together during crisis** by reducing financial barriers to treatment.

Together, these investments reflect a shared belief that small, **well-timed grants can create meaningful, lasting change,** especially when guided by **trusted partnership and a deep commitment to community care.** What began as a gathering of friends has grown into a purpose-driven community grounded in connection, compassion, and the simple idea that when women come together, they can uplift and impact an entire region.



Photos courtesy of Tahoe Ladies Social Fund and Sierra Community House



Photos courtesy of Scaredy Cats TNR

The Nevada Animal Fund

Across Nevada, animal welfare organizations work tirelessly to respond to the realities of pet overpopulation, addressing the lives of each animal with compassion, responsibility, and humane care where they are urgently needed.

Pete Bachstadt's dedication to animal welfare reflects a lifelong passion shaped by his conviction of humane care for animals well before these issues gained broader attention. When Pete and Theresa Bachstadt established the **Nevada Animal Fund**, they had a clear and compassionate purpose: **to reduce the suffering of animals caused by overpopulation and abuse**, the most urgent and preventable challenges facing domestic pets.

The Nevada Animal Fund was created as a Field of Interest Fund at the Community Foundation to focus on practical, life-saving solutions to protect the welfare of dogs and cats throughout Nevada. Established with the belief that humane care begins with responsibility, the Nevada Animal Fund provides grants to qualified nonprofit organizations for spay and neuter services and humane euthanasia for any animal in an emergency medical situation, including injured wildlife, ensuring animals receive necessary veterinary care.

Animal overpopulation and neglect continue to place immense strain on communities and animal welfare organizations, making The Nevada Animal Fund essential in **providing humane, practical solutions that prevent suffering and protect the dignity of animals** when they need care most.

The fund prioritizes ethical veterinary practices, transparency, and dignity for animals, while encouraging communities to confront difficult realities with care.

Through the Nevada Animal Fund, Pete and Theresa Bachstadt have created a lasting legacy rooted in empathy, responsibility, and action. Their generosity helps ensure that **fewer animals are born into hardship, more animals receive humane care, and the organizations on the front lines are equipped to respond when animals need help most**. This fund is a powerful reminder that meaningful impact often comes from meeting urgent needs with clarity, courage, and heart.

Lahontan Community Foundation Fund

The **Lahontan Community Foundation Fund** was created to make a meaningful difference in the Tahoe Truckee region by raising funds to support the good work of nonprofit organizations in North Lake Tahoe and Truckee. With Tahoe Community Foundation acting as its fiscal sponsor, Lahontan Community Foundation (LCF) benefits from strong financial stewardship, compliance, and operational support which allows them to focus fully on impact while knowing every dollar is managed with care and accountability.

In 2025, LCF surpassed \$3 million in cumulative grantmaking, having granted **more than \$3.1 million since its inception**. In 2025 alone, **LCF awarded \$295,000** to trusted nonprofit partners across the region, continuing their legacy of responsive and community-driven giving.

The grant stories highlighted here are just a few examples of the many ways LCF supports the region, often reaching families across generations through thoughtful grantmaking.

In 2025, they helped launch *Reading with Your Littles* at **Tahoe Family Solutions**, a program that **brought young children and their prominently Spanish speaking families together around books, language, and connection**. Designed to support early learning and school readiness, the program saw strong engagement. Families reported spending more time reading at home, and local kindergarten and pre-kindergarten teachers observed that participating children entered the classroom better prepared.

The effect across generations was especially clear through LCF's support of the **Adventure Risk Challenge (ARC)** Leadership Program at Truckee High School. Years after a local father completed the ARC Summer Immersion course, his son followed in his footsteps, learning the same lessons of responsibility, service, and leadership. Through continued support **ARC is strengthening families and shaping young leaders** grounded in shared experience and community connection.

Each year, LCF also provides **consistent funding to Sierra Senior Services**, ensuring **older adults across the region have access to essential nutrition and support**. In 2025, when SNAP benefit cuts placed additional strain on seniors, **LCF stepped in with an emergency grant to help fill the gap**. This timely response helped Sierra Senior Services continue serving vulnerable residents during a critical moment, reinforcing LCF's commitment to meeting both ongoing and emerging community needs.



Photo courtesy of Adventure Risk Challenge



Photo courtesy of Tom Rowland and Mary Fran Murphy

Tahoe Community Foundation Endowment Fund

Caring for our community means thinking not just about today, but about the generations who will call Tahoe home tomorrow, recognizing that the **health of our region depends on long-term stability, thoughtful planning, and trusted leadership**. At the heart of this work is the Community Foundation, whose role is not only to respond to today's needs, but to ensure Tahoe remains strong, resilient, and supported for generations to come.

Tahoe Community Foundation exists to provide that steadfast promise. Through careful stewardship and a long-term view of community needs, the Community Foundation helps ensure that generosity today becomes a lasting impact tomorrow. In a region uniquely shaped by change, economic shifts, environmental pressures, and evolving community needs, **the Community Foundation offers stability grounded in trust**.

Built through the generosity of donors who believe deeply in Tahoe's future, the Tahoe Community Foundation Endowment Fund provides a permanent source of support for the region, ensuring that community needs can be met now and for decades to come. Through careful investment and responsible oversight, the **Tahoe Community Foundation Endowment creates stability in an ever-changing world, allowing the Community Foundation to respond to emerging challenges while maintaining a strong foundation of support** for the nonprofit organizations and programs our community relies on.

For longtime donors Tom Rowland and Mary Fran Murphy, supporting the Community Foundation's endowment is a natural extension of their belief in giving back. "We feel very fortunate to share our good fortune with those in need, and believe our help strengthens our community," they shared. Tom and Mary Fran value the role the Community Foundation plays in **making philanthropy accessible and meaningful**. "We very much appreciate the Community Foundation, which has enabled us to make our charitable giving easier. We have full confidence in the integrity of the Community Foundation, its officers and employees, and the thoughtful consideration of those entities who request support."

By serving as a trusted partner, the Community Foundation helps donors align their values with community needs, offering guidance, insight, and stewardship that ensures every gift is used with care and intention.

Through the commitment of donors like Tom and Mary Fran, the Community Foundation's endowment becomes more than a financial resource. It becomes a promise to **protect what makes Tahoe special**, to support the people and organizations who serve this region, and to ensure that generosity continues to shape Tahoe's future for generations to come.

Leaving Your Charitable Legacy

TURNING YOUR GENEROSITY INTO A LASTING LEGACY

Your charitable legacy is more than a single gift. It is about values, intention, and the desire to **make a lasting difference that continues well beyond your lifetime.**

For brothers **Michael and Mitchell Marini, legacy giving grew from both gratitude and reflection.** “We have been lucky in our lives,” Michael shared, “and we want to be able to spread it around.” As they began thinking more intentionally about what they wanted to leave behind, philanthropy became a meaningful way to carry their values forward.

“When you get older, you start to think about your legacy and what’s important to leave behind,” he said. “Because it’s not all about you.” That perspective led the Marinis to include Tahoe Community Foundation as one of two organizations they plan to support beyond their lifetime. They have expressed that Tahoe Community Foundation is a “worthy organization and a great ambassador for the Tahoe basin,” **well positioned to steward their generosity for the long term.**

Their connection to Tahoe runs deep. Growing up, their family cabin in Camp Richardson played an important role in shaping how they think about care, responsibility, and legacy. Their father spent countless hours tending to the cabin, keeping it pristine for 30 years. That dedication left a lasting impression, showing them that **what you care for today can endure long into the future.**

That lesson carries through their approach to philanthropy. “You have to give things away when they are in good condition,” they noted, a belief that speaks to thoughtful planning and the importance of **building something that lasts and not leaving decisions to chance.**

Creating an endowed Legacy Fund at Tahoe Community Foundation is one way donors like Michael and Mitchell ensure their charitable intentions endure. Designed to provide support in perpetuity, a **Legacy Fund allows generosity to strengthen charitable passions year after year, generation after generation.** It becomes a permanent expression of what matters most, carried forward with care and purpose.

A Legacy Fund also offers flexibility. As your charitable passions evolve, your fund can evolve with you. **Adjustments can be made easily and thoughtfully throughout your lifetime, without disrupting your estate planning.** This allows you to remain engaged in your philanthropy, confident that your legacy will always reflect your values and priorities.

A Legacy Fund is not just about leaving something behind; it is about **building something meaningful and enduring,** rooted in values and shaped by intention that is carried forward for generations to come.

To schedule a personal meeting to discuss your charitable giving options, contact Claudia Andersen, CEO, at 775-298-0100.



Photo featuring Tahoe's future generation



Breaking Down Our Grantmaking

Tahoe Community Foundation serves the region through a variety of grantmaking programs designed to meet both immediate needs and long-term priorities. Here's how it works:

Community Impact Grants

Community Impact Grants support nonprofit organizations through an application process that identifies the most impactful opportunities to serve the Tahoe region. Grants are reviewed and awarded by the Community Impact Committee (CIC), a group of dedicated community volunteers. Donor Advised Fund advisors are invited to co-invest alongside the Community Foundation. By sharing summaries of grant proposals, donors gain insight into emerging community needs and are able to recommend grants from their own funds, expanding collective support.

Action Grants

Action Grants provide timely, targeted funding for specific one-time expenses or materials that help organizations and programs respond quickly to needs in the Lake Tahoe basin. Applications are accepted on a rolling basis and awarded quarterly by the CIC.

Community Partnership Grants

Community Partnership Grants are awarded when the Community Foundation participates by sitting at the table alongside other community leaders and organizations and contributing both financial resources and local insight to the development of regional solutions.

Donald W. Reynolds Community Nonprofit Center Grants

The Community Foundation continues to support nonprofits through the Donald W. Reynolds Community Nonprofit Center, which provides in-kind, grant-supported office, storage, and meeting space.



Photo courtesy of Pet Network Lake Tahoe

Managed Fund Grants

Managed Fund Grants are distributed from a variety of charitable funds, designed to reflect how each donor chooses to practice their philanthropy.

- Donor Advised Funds allow donors to recommend grants over time, offering flexibility and ongoing engagement.
- Designated Funds provide consistent, ongoing support to specific organizations selected by the donor.
- Field of Interest Funds focus on areas such as education, well-being, arts, or the environment, with grants aligned to donor intent and community priorities.
- Memorial Funds honor loved ones by supporting local causes in their name.
- Legacy Funds, often established through estate planning, provide enduring support that benefits the community for generations and creates donor legacy by following the donor's intent.

Emergency Grants

Emergency Grants allow the Community Foundation to respond swiftly when unexpected challenges arise. In 2025, Emergency Grants enabled the Foundation to step in when SNAP benefit programs were halted, providing critical support to nonprofit partners working to meet immediate food and basic-needs gaps for community members.

Through these grantmaking programs, Tahoe Community Foundation elevates generosity by responding to immediate challenges, fostering long-term resilience, and ensuring that charitable resources are thoughtfully aligned with both community needs and donor intent.

Providing Basic Needs

Ensuring Access to Nutritious Food

Grantmaking plays a vital role in addressing food insecurity across our region, particularly as rising food costs and policy changes may increase burdens on families and local hunger-relief efforts. As a community foundation, we are built to respond quickly to immediate and emerging needs, and in 2025, that capacity was especially critical.

When reductions to SNAP benefits intensified food insecurity across the region, the Community Foundation moved swiftly to help ensure families did not go without essential resources. Through **an emergency Community Impact Grant of \$25,000**, the Community Foundation stepped in to support **Sierra Community House**, providing **timely funding that allowed services to scale quickly and meet growing demand during a period of heightened need**. In addition to this emergency grant, the Community Foundation continued its longstanding commitment to Sierra Community House by providing office, storage, and meeting space. In 2025 alone, this in-kind support totaled **more than \$78,000 in grant-supported space**, reflecting both our commitment to immediate crisis response and to the long-term sustainability of critical community services.

Community nonprofits continued to meet immediate food needs while preserving dignity and nutritional quality. Grant support from the Community Foundation enabled programs like **Tahoe Food Hub's** Giving Box Program to **purchase produce from local regenerative farms and provide fresh,**



Photo courtesy of Bread and Broth

locally grown food each week to individuals and families in North Lake Tahoe and Truckee.

Additionally, with minimal overhead and strong volunteer engagement, organizations like Bread & Broth were able to direct resources where they have the greatest impact—putting healthy food directly into the hands of those who need it most. As rising food prices continue to threaten access to fresh, nutritious food for many households, the Community Foundation provided **\$28,000 in grant support to Bread & Broth** to purchase food for its B&B 4 Kids/Tots and Green Goal Initiative programs. These programs focus on **ensuring children, families, and individuals have consistent access to wholesome meals and healthy food options**, helping to reduce food insecurity while supporting overall well-being.

From urgent relief to sustainable systems, the Community Foundation's grantmaking reflects a commitment not just to feeding people today, but to cultivating a future where our community is stronger, healthier, and more resilient together.



Photos courtesy of Encompass Youth and Tahoe Food Hub

Preventing Homelessness Through Stability and Support

Stable housing is foundational to long-term well-being and opportunity. Preventing youth homelessness strengthens the entire community by helping young people transition successfully into adulthood with the support they need.

In 2025, a Community Impact Co-Investment Grant helped **Tahoe Youth and Family Services (TYFS) provide safety, stability, and hope to young people in South Lake Tahoe who were homeless or on the brink of homelessness**. The grant supported stable housing through TYFS's Transitional Living Program, along with mental health counseling, education support, and youth-led community connections, helping young people move from crisis toward independence.

While stable housing is a critical first step for people facing homelessness, long-term stability also depends on consistent relationships, guidance, and access to essential supports, especially for young

people navigating the transition into adulthood.

A Community Impact Co-Investment Grant given to **Encompass Youth helped provide stability, guidance, and hope to transitional-age youth in South Lake Tahoe** during one of the most uncertain periods of their lives. The grant supported young people ages 14–24 with basic and health needs, positive youth development activities, and trusted support from volunteer Navigators offering consistency, connection, and a pathway toward a safer, more stable future.

For transitional-age youth who have experienced trauma and instability, consistent support and safe relationships can mean the difference between continued crisis and the chance to build a stable, hopeful future.

Creating Resilient Tahoe Families

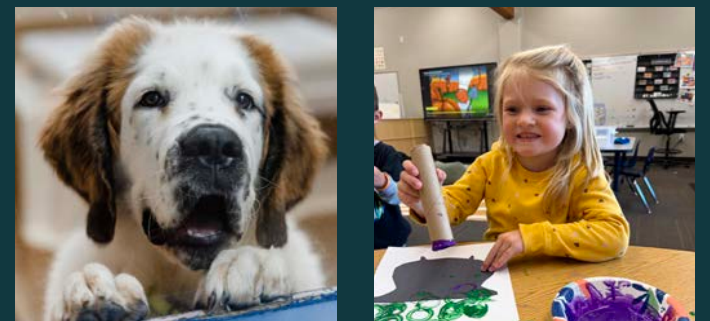
Caring for People, Pets, and Wildlife

Through its Community Impact Grantmaking process, the Community Foundation gained a clear, lake-wide understanding of the growing need for reliable after-school childcare for working families across Tahoe. By listening closely to nonprofit partners on both the North and South shores, the Community Foundation identified after-school care as a shared and urgent challenge. In response, **\$52,000 in Community Impact Grants** were awarded to the **Boys & Girls Club of North Lake Tahoe** and the **Boys & Girls Club Lake Tahoe** to **strengthen after-school programs that provide safe, structured environments for children while parents work**. This community-informed approach helped ensure families across the region had greater stability, peace of mind, and support during critical after-school hours.

The Community Foundation also recognizes that the need for family stability often begins even earlier, when caregivers need connection, guidance, and support the most. Through a Community Impact Co-Investment, the Foundation supported **Tahoe's Connection for Families**, which provides a vital lifeline to caregivers and young children during the most formative and vulnerable years of life.

That same commitment to care extends to pets and the families who depend on them. In the Lake Tahoe region, access to advanced animal care is limited, leaving families vulnerable during medical emergencies. Through its grantmaking, the Community Foundation recognized this gap and directed **more than \$37,000 in grant support** to strengthen local capacity at Pet Network Lake Tahoe. Their revitalized Medical Treatment Area and Surgical Suite now houses **advanced diagnostic and lifesaving tools** including a CT scanner, ultrasound, endoscope, ventilator, and veterinary Intensive Care Unit (ICU) ensuring animals could receive critical care close to home. This investment helped meet an urgent community need, improving outcomes for animals and providing peace of mind to families across the Tahoe Basin.

Caring for the Tahoe community also means protecting the natural environment and the wildlife that share this place with us. Through an Action Grant, the Community Foundation supported **Lake Tahoe Wildlife Care** in strengthening its ability to respond quickly and compassionately to wildlife in crisis. **Funding for critical upgrades to the organization's Mew building improved care conditions for injured and orphaned animals**, ensuring timely intervention when it matters most and helping preserve the delicate balance between our community and the natural world.



Photos courtesy of Boys and Girls Club Lake Tahoe and Pet Network Lake Tahoe



Photos courtesy of Tahoe Family Solutions and Send It Foundation

Expanding Access to Mental Health and Support Services

Through its Community Impact Grantmaking process, Tahoe Community Foundation recognized another critical lake-wide issue emerging across applications: the growing need for accessible mental health support for individuals and families throughout the Tahoe Basin. Nonprofit partners from both the North and South shores shared stories of parents seeking help for anxious teens, families navigating grief, and residents in need of culturally and linguistically appropriate services—underscoring that mental health challenges are shared across every community around the lake.

In response, the Community Foundation **awarded \$52,000 in grant funding** to expand mental health services through **Tahoe Family Solutions** and the **South Lake Tahoe Family Resource Center**. This support helps reduce barriers to care by **increasing access to licensed therapists, expanding bilingual counseling services**, and ensuring families can find support close to home. These investments reflect the Community Foundation's commitment to recognizing emerging community needs and responding with a coordinated, lake-wide approach that strengthens well-being for all who call Tahoe home.

These grants reflect the Community Foundation's belief that healing takes many forms, and that meeting people where they are is essential to building a healthy, resilient community. The Community Foundation's grantmaking supports programs that respond to both urgent needs and the longer journeys of healing faced by individuals and families across the Basin.

Through the Community Impact Grant program, the Community Foundation awarded funding to **Send It Foundation** to support the launch of Send Days, a locally focused program serving young adults navigating cancer in the Lake Tahoe region. **Send Days provides single-day outdoor experiences**, such as hiking, paddling, biking, and skiing, that offer opportunities for connection, healing, and joy close to home.

Designed to remove financial, logistical, and emotional barriers, the program covers all participant costs and adapts activities to meet individual medical and physical needs. By investing in Send It Foundation's work, the Community Foundation helped expand access to **community-based support for young adults who often fall between pediatric and traditional adult cancer services**, strengthening connection, resilience, and well-being across the Tahoe region.

Developing Future Generations Through Education and Mentorship

The Community Foundation believes that investing in education and mentorship is essential to developing future generations and strengthening the long-term health of our community. Through strategic grantmaking, the Community Foundation supports programs that expand opportunity, inspire learning, and help students thrive at every stage of their educational journey.

As part of this commitment, the Community Foundation awarded **more than \$26,000** to the **Incline Education Fund (IEF)** to strengthen student learning across Incline public schools. Building on measurable success over the past three years, this funding supports a comprehensive, **multi-school approach to STEM and Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math (STEAM) education, including makerspace learning, cross-curricular art integration, math and reading enrichment**, and alignment across elementary, middle, and high school curricula. An additional Action Grant provided high-quality headphones for students at Incline Middle School, **enhancing students' ability to focus, engage with instructional technology, and fully participate in classroom activities**. Together, these investments strengthen learning environments and support meaningful educational experiences for Tahoe students.

Community Impact Grants also supported **SOS Outreach**, a youth development program that uses skiing and snowboarding to build social-emotional skills, resilience, and connection for diverse youth across the Tahoe region. Through mentoring, leadership development, and community service, SOS Outreach **helps young people access outdoor spaces and experiences that foster confidence, belonging, and long-term well-being**.

A Community Impact Co-Investment Grant enabled **Tahoe Alliance for Safe Kids (TASK)** to expand the Soul Shoppe social-emotional learning program to all four Lake Tahoe Unified School District elementary schools. This funding supports consistent, school-wide delivery of evidence-based lessons **that help students build coping skills, manage emotions, and resolve conflict**, ensuring every elementary student has access to shared social-emotional language and tools that support learning and resilience.

The Community Foundation also awarded an Action Grant to support the Revolutionary Reading project, **providing new, age-appropriate books on the American Revolution to local school libraries**. Led by the **Lake Tahoe Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution**, the project funds the purchase of 478 books for students in grades K–12 in recognition of the nation's 250th anniversary in 2026. These books are being distributed to school libraries, expanding access to high-quality historical resources and enriching students' understanding of American history.



Photos courtesy of SOS Outreach and Incline Education Fund



Photos courtesy of Achieve Tahoe and Tahoe Nordic Search and Rescue

Ensuring Everyone Can Experience Tahoe Through Outdoor Recreation

Tahoe's outdoors belong to everyone—and through targeted grants in 2025, the Community Foundation helped ensure that more people could experience the healing, connection, and opportunity found in our region's natural spaces.

Ensuring access to Tahoe's outdoors also means ensuring people can explore them safely, especially when the unexpected occurs. When lives are on the line, preparation matters. In 2025, through **more than \$14,000** in Community Impact and Co-Investment grants, the Community Foundation supported **advanced wilderness medical training for volunteers at Tahoe Nordic Search and Rescue**, equipping them with the skills required to respond quickly, safely, and efficiently in life-threatening situations.

Through a Community Impact Co-Investment grant, the Community Foundation provided unrestricted funding to support **Sierra State Parks Foundation's** core operations—helping cover **educational programs, park visitor support, and the tours and events** that connect people to Tahoe's State Parks. Complementing this flexible support, an Action Grant ensured the organization was **prepared for the reopening of DL Bliss State Park, supporting a new point-of-sale system and essential technology needs** for staff and strengthening visitor experiences.

That same commitment to readiness and safety extended to youth recreation. An Action Grant was awarded to **Tahoe Crew** to support **essential equipment for its Speedcoach rowing devices**, helping ensure safe, effective training for youth athletes. This investment strengthens Tahoe Crew's ability to deliver high-quality recreation programs while maintaining the equipment standards necessary for athlete development and on-the-water safety.

Ensuring access to Tahoe's outdoors also means removing barriers for individuals of all abilities. Through an Action Grant, the Community Foundation supported **Achieve Tahoe's** adaptive paddle sports program by funding **critical equipment needed to meet growing demand**. Addressing equipment wear caused by a 124% increase in participation since 2022, this investment expands access to safe, inclusive kayaking and paddleboarding—allowing **individuals with disabilities to experience Tahoe's waters through high-quality adaptive instruction** while strengthening the long-term sustainability of this essential program.

Stewarding and Sustaining Our Natural Environment

Caring for Tahoe’s environment requires both collaboration and action—across land, water, and the trails that connect them. Rooted in a shared love for Tahoe’s mountains and outdoor spaces, the Community Foundation supported partners working together to protect the places of Tahoe.

Through **\$28,000 in Community Impact and Donor Advised Fund co-investment grants**, organizations joined forces to restore trails, educate visitors, and deepen environmental stewardship across the region. Funding for the **Lam Watah Trail Interpretive Redesign Project**, led by the **National Forest Foundation** in partnership with the **Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit and the Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California**, will transform the trail into a culturally rich, educational experience that **honors the Washoe Tribe’s ancestral connection** to the land. Additional support for the **Tahoe Rim Trail Association**, including a **\$7,000 Community Impact Grant**, ensured **critical trail maintenance and restoration** could continue, keeping Tahoe’s trails safe, accessible, and meaningful.

Protecting Tahoe’s landscapes also means restoring the forests that sustain them. Through an **Action Grant of \$2,430**, the Community Foundation supported **The Sugar Pine Foundation** with funding for **nine additional backpack sprayers to help water newly planted tree seedlings** on the North Shore and in Truckee. Building on prior Community Foundation support for the same equipment, this grant recognized a proven, practical solution that significantly improves seedling survival in challenging terrain. By equipping staff and volunteers with durable, field-ready tools, this investment helps ensure thousands of native trees planted each year have the care they need to take root and strengthen Tahoe-area ecosystems for the long term.

From forests and trails to Tahoe’s iconic blue waters, the Community Foundation also invested in protecting the lake itself. Through a **\$25,000 Community Impact Grant to Keep Tahoe Blue** (the League to Save Lake Tahoe) **and a \$21,100 grant to Clean Up the Lake**, the foundation advanced critical programs safeguarding Lake Tahoe’s clarity and health. These investments strengthened hands-on lake cleanups, Aquatic Invasive Species education and monitoring, restoration efforts, and initiatives to combat pollution and litter, empowering the community to actively care for Tahoe and preserve its waters for generations to come.



Photos courtesy of Keep Tahoe Blue and Clean up the Lake



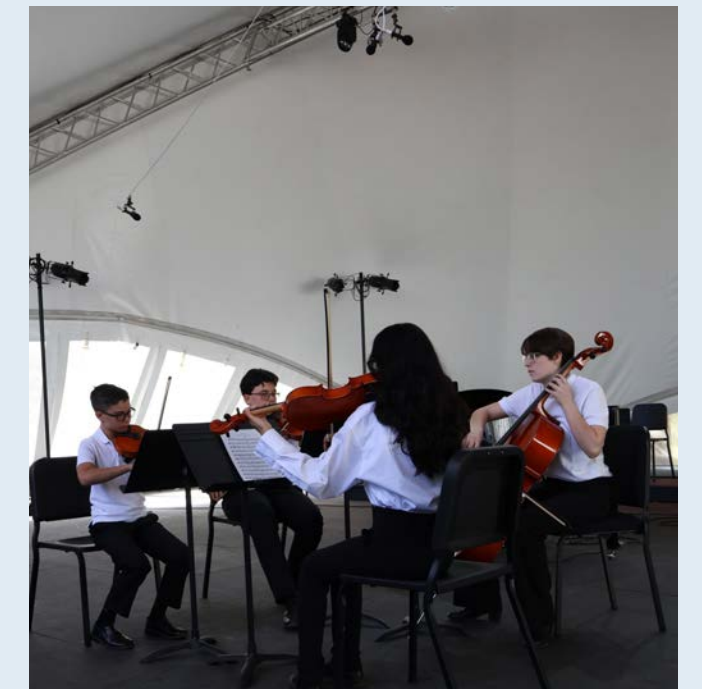
Photos courtesy of Classical Tahoe, Tahoe Truckee School of Music, and Tahoe Literary Festival

Celebrating and Enhancing Arts and Culture

Expanding access to arts and culture across the Tahoe region means meeting people where they are: at school, in community spaces, and through shared creative experiences. Through **\$26,000 in Community Impact and Co-Investment grants**, the Community Foundation supported the **Tahoe Truckee School of Music** in strengthening its Community Engagement Music Initiative, which brings **free, beginner-friendly music education into local schools and community settings**. By removing financial and social barriers, this investment helps youth of all backgrounds build confidence, creativity, and connection through music, strengthening both individual expression and community well-being.

The commitment to creative access begins early. Through a Community Impact Grant, the Community Foundation also supported **Classical Tahoe**, in partnership with the **Boys & Girls Club of North Lake Tahoe**, to bring the **Music, Movement, and Literature summer program to young children ages 4–7**. Blending live and recorded music, storytelling, singing, and creative movement, this immersive program **introduces early learners to classical music** in engaging, age-appropriate ways. Led by Classical Tahoe’s education staff and local musicians, the program nurtures creativity, self-expression, and a lifelong connection to the arts—especially for children who might not otherwise have access to high-quality arts education.

Creative expression continues beyond music, through the written word and shared storytelling. Through an **Action Grant of \$5,000**, the Community Foundation supported the **Tahoe Literary Festival**, in partnership with its fiscal sponsor, the Nevada County Arts Council, to strengthen the festival’s visibility and long-term sustainability. Funding for professional photography and videography helped capture the energy, creativity, and impact of this growing literary gathering. By elevating awareness and understanding of the festival, this investment supports **diverse voices, inspires readers and writers, and ensures that literature and storytelling remain a vibrant part of Tahoe’s cultural landscape**.



Strengthening Tahoe's Front Line for Wildfire Resilience

As wildfire risk continues to shape life in the Lake Tahoe Basin, the Tahoe Community Foundation **remains deeply committed to advancing fire prevention, safety, and response efforts that protect the people and places of Tahoe.** Recognizing that effective wildfire resilience requires coordination, trust, and sustained leadership, in 2025 the Community Foundation invested in the long-term capacity of the **Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team (TFFT)**, the region's primary collaborative working to reduce wildfire risk across the Basin.

For more than a decade, TFFT has served as the backbone of Tahoe's wildfire resilience efforts, bringing together over 20 federal, state, tribal, local, and nonprofit partners to align strategies, coordinate funding, and implement fuels reduction and forest health projects across multiple jurisdictions. In a landscape defined by complexity, no single agency has the capacity or jurisdiction to do this work alone. **TFFT exists to ensure that wildfire mitigation efforts are not fragmented, duplicative, or disconnected**, but instead unified, strategic, and effective.

For years, TFFT relied heavily on volunteer leadership to manage coordination, communications, and project tracking, but wildfire risk, public expectations, and funding opportunities have continued to grow. In response, TFFT established its first dedicated staff position in 2024 to support daily operations, communications, and partner engagement. Having dedicated staff capacity has already transformed the collaborative by **stabilizing leadership, strengthening basin-wide coordination, modernizing public information efforts, and improving transparency** and accountability for partners, funders, and the community.

Through the Community Foundation's Tahoe Fire Safe Initiative, the Tahoe Community Foundation provided **vital gap funding in 2025 to sustain TFFT staffing during a critical period, helping to stabilize operations, align funding cycles, and give TFFT the runway needed to secure long-term public and philanthropic support.** This investment ensures that Tahoe's wildfire resilience work remains coordinated, credible, and forward-moving, reinforcing the Community Foundation's commitment to protecting the Basin for generations to come.

The Tahoe Fire Safe Initiative is the Tahoe Community Foundation's dedicated effort to protect people and property by investing in the most urgent and high-impact wildfire prevention, preparedness, and resilience needs across the Tahoe Basin. Through this initiative, the Community Foundation works with local experts to identify critical gaps where coordinated funding can make the greatest difference for community safety and wildfire prevention.



Photos courtesy of Tahoe Fire and Fuels Team/Tahoe Douglas Fire Protection District/South Lake Tahoe Fire Rescue



Photos courtesy of Foundation 36

Preserving Tahoe's Historic Places Through Lasting Investment

Nonprofit investment and endowment funds held at Tahoe Community Foundation provide organizations with a powerful way to protect the places and missions they care about today and into the future. Through disciplined investment management, strong governance, and deep regional knowledge, these funds create permanent sources of support that help nonprofits plan ahead, steward resources responsibly, and sustain impact for generations.

Nonprofit Investment Funds

The Tahoe–Nevada Heritage Fund, an investment fund held at Tahoe Community Foundation, established to advance Foundation 36's mission to preserve Nevada's natural, historic, and cultural treasures. The fund underwrites preservation projects across the state, supporting both iconic landmarks like Thunderbird Lodge and lesser-known heritage sites that tell Nevada's rich and layered story. Its purpose is enduring: to ensure these places remain part of the landscape for future generations.

Foundation 36 selected Tahoe Community Foundation as its partner because of its deep roots in the region, strong investment stewardship, and understanding of place-

based philanthropy. Beyond managing assets, the Community Foundation focuses on building them, pairing long term investment growth with perspective and guidance that helps evaluate opportunities, connect with aligned partners, and extend impact well into the future.

"Places like Thunderbird Lodge hold more than history, they hold meaning," said Bill Watson, curator of Foundation 36. "Ensuring their care requires foresight and stewardship that extends well beyond any one generation. Partnering with a community foundation helps make that kind of lasting preservation possible."



Photos courtesy of Sierra State Parks Foundation

Nonprofit Endowment Funds

Approaching stewardship with a focus on permanence is reflected in the endowment funds established by Sierra State Parks Foundation and held at Tahoe Community Foundation to protect some of Tahoe's most treasured historic landmarks. Vikingsholm in Emerald Bay and the Hellman Ehrman Mansion at Ed Z'berg Sugar Pine Point State Park are among Tahoe's most treasured historic landmarks. Maintaining and preserving structures of this significance requires ongoing care and long-term planning. To ensure these iconic sites remain protected for future generations, the Sierra State Parks Foundation established the Vikingsholm Endowment Fund and the Hellman Ehrman Estate Endowment Fund as permanent sources of support for continued maintenance, preservation, and restoration.

Recognizing the value of partnering with a community foundation that could provide deep investment expertise, sound

governance, and long-term stability, Sierra State Parks Foundation partnered with Tahoe Community Foundation. "Tahoe Community Foundation stood out for its strong reputation, trusted relationships across the region, and proven experience stewarding endowments," said Michael Myers, Executive Director of Sierra State Parks Foundation. "Their history of solid investment performance and thoughtful administrative approach gave us confidence that our investments would be well cared for over time."

Nonprofit Investment and Endowment Funds at Tahoe Community Foundation demonstrate how thoughtful investment and local stewardship can preserve the places that define our region, building their assets today, and ensuring their legacy endures well into the future.

VISION

We envision a thriving community
created through meaningful philanthropy,
thoughtful communication, and the willingness
to explore possibilities together.



**Giving
For Good**

Each year, the Community Foundation's **Giving for Good** campaign brings people together to invest in the community programs that meet the greatest needs of the region we love. At the heart of this work is **our commitment to providing lasting, sustainable support for our community. Every person who participates in Giving for Good becomes part of that impact.**

Our **generous sponsors help lead the way**, fueling this collective effort and making meaningful change possible. We are deeply grateful for their leadership and their belief in the power of **Giving for Good** to strengthen our community.

**Leaders in
Philanthropy**

FREEL PEAK
Cristi Cristich-Milazzo and John Milazzo
Robert Felton and Lindsay Wallis
Cass Maller

MT ROSE
Ed Boleky and Sandra Scarsella
Linda and Alvaro Pascotto
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Tahoe Community Foundation's Commitment to Trust

TURNING YOUR GENEROSITY INTO A LASTING LEGACY

Looking ahead, the future of **Tahoe Community Foundation** is grounded in trust: confidence from our community that every dollar entrusted to us is handled with care, intention, and accountability. Our promise is that **your generosity is honored through thoughtful stewardship and disciplined financial management**; and that when someone gives, their gift is doing exactly what they hoped it would do.

In times of uncertainty, that trust matters even more. Communities look for stability, clarity, and leadership they can rely on. **Tahoe Community Foundation exists to provide that steadiness, ensuring resources are available to support Tahoe today while also protecting the future.** We take seriously our role as a long-term partner to this region, managing funds with care so that generosity continues to serve the community through changing or uncertain times.

Fiscal responsibility is central to who we are and how we serve this community. We believe that strong financial stewardship is one of the most meaningful promises we can make to those who place their confidence in us.

Our commitment to grantmaking ensures that resources flow directly into the programs that strengthen the Tahoe region, providing stability, support, and opportunity for the community. And that commitment can be measured through dollars. In 2025, **97 cents of every dollar given was intentionally directed to programs.** When you give to the Community Foundation through Giving for Good, you are giving to action, to impact, and to the sustainable wellbeing of this region.

As we look to the future, our commitment remains clear. **We will continue to operate with integrity, transparency, and fiscal responsibility.** We will continue to honor every gift with care and to direct that gift where it matters most. And we will continue to ensure that when people invest in Tahoe Community Foundation, they can do so with confidence, knowing their generosity is creating real, meaningful change and **Elevating Generosity** across Tahoe and beyond.

Your Community Foundation

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For further details and financial information, please visit www.TahoeCF.org





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