



TAHOE DONNER GIVING FUND AWARDS \$10,000 GRANT TO FRIENDS OF THE TRUCKEE LIBRARY

BY BETSY NOONEN, TAHOE DONNER GIVING FUND COMMITTEE VOLUNTEER

"A Friend in Need is a Friend Indeed" is a well-known English proverb that emphasizes the value of true friendship. Widely used since at least the 11th century, this sentiment remains true today.

A recent example is the announcement of Tahoe Donner Giving Fund's \$10,000 grant to support Friends of the Truckee Library (FOTL). The grant was funded through donations to the Giving Fund's 2024 fundraising campaigns. It will contribute significantly to the development of the new Truckee Regional Library.

April Cole, Executive Director of the FOTL, states, "We appreciate Tahoe Donner not only for the generous grant but also because many of our FOTL volunteers are Tahoe Donner residents. I find that so many Tahoe Donner members show up for the community. It's both refreshing and impactful."

The existing library was built in 1975 to meet the needs of a community of just 2,000. Truckee's population has grown to 20,000, with more than 15,000 residents holding library cards. The town needs a larger, more versatile space to offer an array of programs and a building that provides increased functionality.

The new Truckee Regional Library is designed to cover a sprawling 20,000 square feet and promises to be a knowledge and community engagement hub. Located in the Truckee Regional Park, near the

popular farmers market site, the library's design is both modern and inviting. It will feature dedicated areas for children, teens and adults and will be equipped with the latest technology and resources to support learning and creativity. A new-to-the-community Emergency Response Center will provide a physical space for real-time information and backup power supplies during emergencies such as wildfires.

The groundbreaking is targeted for 2027 and is dependent on meeting fundraising goals. A multi-stream approach to raising the necessary funds includes the FOTL, the Town of Truckee, Nevada and Placer counties, grants, bonds and in-kind support so that the full financial responsibility is not on just one source.

Community engagement has been the cornerstone of the Friends of the Truckee Library's efforts to raise funds and create an inviting space. The commitment to inclusivity and accessibility is reflected in the meticulous planning and thoughtful design of the new library. This facility will not only serve as a traditional library but also as a community center that caters to the diverse interests of Truckee residents.

According to Cole, a main obstacle in rallying support and raising money is the perception that libraries are antiquated and possibly obsolete. "This couldn't be further from the truth," she states. "Libraries are gathering spaces for people to connect, communicate and offer so much more than the important function of lending books. Our library tailors to the personality of Truckee by lending snowshoes, bird-watching backpacks, board games, music and movies."

As the Truckee Regional Library project moves forward, the Friends of the Truckee Library will continue to engage with the community, ensuring the new facility meets the highest standards of functionality and design.

For more information about Friends of the Truckee Library, visit truckeefol.org. For more information about the Tahoe Donner Giving Fund, visit 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) 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.

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