

Soroptimist International of Tahoe Sierra 2016 Grant Recipients

1. Bijou Community School / Books for Bijou
Funds will be used to buy books in English and Spanish for students at Bijou Community School with the goal of promoting literacy and instilling a love of learning.
2. El Dorado County Habitat for Humanity (A Brush with Kindness)
Funds will be used toward providing exterior home improvements to a woman homeowner in our community who needs support to perform repairs and maintenance on her home.
3. Firefly Yoga
The funding will be designated to offset expenses associated with the drop in trauma informed yoga class. The trauma informed yoga class benefits adults in the Lake Tahoe area who are suffering symptoms of trauma, such as post traumatic stress disorder, depression, anxiety, chronic pain, insomnia, addiction/substance abuse, and other mental, physical, and emotional health concerns.
4. Friends of the Library of El Dorado County - SLT Chapter
Summer Reading Program 2016
The summer reading club helps children retain and enhance their reading skills over the summer. The grant will be used to purchase reading incentives, and educational and culturally relevant programming.
5. Juvenile Services Council
The Juvenile service Council is an all volunteer group of adults committed to ensuring that the youth who are detained in the Juvenile Treatment Center in SLT are provided enriching activities that help them to build relationships, self esteem, and gain social and emotional skills. The grant will be used toward the Drumbeat Program (a research based program that improves social-emotional well being, as well as developing tolerance, acceptance, and understanding, program supplies, and educational expenses.
6. Kiwanis Community Organization/ Coats for Kids
The funds will be used to purchase new jackets for children in South Lake Tahoe whose families are in financial need.

7. Lake Tahoe Shining Stars

The funding is used to provide dance scholarships, costumes, and shoes for children who would not otherwise be able to participate in dance due to their families financial circumstances.

8. LTUSD - Homeless Advocacy

The grant will be used to provide funds for public transportation for families who are homeless and where transportation is an issue. Reliable transportation in the form of the city bus removes one more barrier from the families who are trying to make positive life changes. Being able to access the services they need will help make them become more stable and in turn will improve the homeless youth program overall.

9. South Lake Tahoe Cancer League / Limited Financial Assistance grant

The funds will provide two women who are permanent residents of the SLT area and undergoing cancer treatment with monetary assistance. Those stricken with cancer, not only experience great physical hardship, but often have an additional financial burden.

10. South Lake Tahoe Family Resource Center/Bijou Community Garden

The Bijou community Garden Project will offer participants in the FRC summer Program the opportunity to cultivate, harvest, and document a community garden. Participants will share the bounty with their families and others in the community who are in need. The funding will be used to purchase writing journals, garden tools, seeds, supplies, and a small garden shed.

11. South Lake Tahoe Humane Society/ My Reading Buddy

My Reading Buddy is a canine assisted literacy program that helps children improve their reading skills by reading aloud to a non judgmental, friendly dog and handler-tutor. The grant will be used toward books, evaluating and certifying new dog teams, incentives for readers, paper supplies.

12. South Tahoe High Booster Club / Homeless Youth Food and Clothing Room

Funds will be used toward stocking room at STHS with food, clothing, hygiene items, bus tokens, and emergency supplies for students who are homeless.

13. South Lake Tahoe High School Avid Junior Class

AVID is a college prep course that helps students get the support they need in order to be eligible for a four year university right after high school. Funds will be used toward a trip to tour several colleges in California that students would not otherwise be able to see.

14. Tahoe Arts Project

Funds will be used to support TAP's 2016-2017 season of performing arts in our schools and community.

15. Tahoe Coalition for the Homeless

Tahoe Coalition for the Homeless operates The Warm Room, providing overnight wintertime refuge for the South Shore's Homeless. Funds will be used toward purchasing shower vouchers from the City of South Lake Tahoe for use during the off hours at the Recreation center, Emergency motel rooms for families with children, food supplies, and hand warmers.

16. Tahoe Magic, Inc. /Young Tahoe Smiles

Tahoe Magic works in partnership with Dr. Mireya Ortega to execute the Young Tahoe Smiles Program for children 5 and up that have no other dental insurance available to them. The grant will allow Tahoe Magic to serve an additional 20 children who would not receive dental care without this support. These funds will go toward emergency visits, ongoing dental care, and orthodontia visits.

17. Tahoe Turning Point / Healthy Bodies = Healthy Minds

Tahoe Turning point's Healthy Bodies=Healthy Minds program is designed to ensure that at risk youth have access to facilities and equipment that ensures they get exercise to keep fit, that results in multiple lifelong positive outcomes. The grant will go toward purchasing gym passes at Kahle community Center and buying sports equipment to be used at the group homes.

18. Tahoe Valley Elementary School / Hear Us Roar

The funding will be used toward purchasing lavalier microphones for use with the schools Performing Arts Program. The microphones will be used for years to help students develop their speaking and acting abilities and allow the public to hear their performance.

19. Tahoe Valley Elementary School / Performing Arts-Disney's Lion King Kids

The grant will be used toward funding the materials for costumes and props needed for the production of Lion King Kids.

20. Tahoe Valley Elementary School/ Reading Across the Grade Levels

The funding will be used to purchase Accelerated Reader Classroom libraries for grades 2 and 3.

21. Tahoe Valley Elementary School/ Sutter's Fort Environmental Living Program
This is a year- long project that includes integrating California history into the classroom and culminating in an overnight Environmental Learning Program at Sutter's Fort. The majority of the school population at Tahoe Valley consists of low socioeconomic families. The grant will go toward the fees associated with the educational opportunity at Sutter's Fort.

22. Zephyr Cove Tennis Club Foundation/ Kids Tennis Clinics
Funding will go toward purchasing junior tennis rackets, large tennis balls, and providing scholarships for children in grades first through twelfth to participate in the tennis clinics.