

Soroptimist grants enrich South Shore



Recipients of Soroptimist International Tahoe Sierra's 2016 community grants. Photo/LTN

Students sleeping in cars, kids in need of a winter coat, food for the weekend. Those are some of the basic needs that aren't being met on the South Shore. The extras, like being able to take a dance or tennis lesson, to have performing arts in their school – those are also hard to come by.

These needs and wants will be better met thanks to Soroptimist International Tahoe Sierra. Today the service club handed out \$13,000 to 22 recipients.

At the March 24 breakfast meeting representatives from each entity talked about how they are going to spend the grant. They are:

- **Bijou Community School** – Books to promote literacy.
- **El Dorado County Habitat for Humanity-A Brush with Kindness** – Paint, tools and supplies.

- **Firefly Yoga** – Provide yoga for those who have sustained a traumatic event.
- **Juvenile Services Council** – To continue drumbeat program.
- **Kiwanis Coats for Kids** – More than 600 coats were bought this winter for youth.
- **Lake Tahoe Shining Stars** – Dance scholarships.
- **Lake Tahoe Unified School District-Homeless Advocacy** – Bus passes for homeless to get to appointments.
- **South Lake Tahoe Cancer League** – Financial grants to those with cancer.
- **South Lake Tahoe Family Resource Center** – Community garden at Bijou.
- **South Lake Tahoe Humane Society** – Books for My Reading Buddy program.
- **South Tahoe High Booster Club** – Money to help stock room with food and clothing for teens in need.
- **STHS Avid Junior Class** – Money to send kids on college scouting trip.
- **Tahoe Arts Project** – Bringing performing arts to the schools.
- **Tahoe Coalition for the Homeless** – Money for shower vouchers at South Lake Tahoe Recreation Center.
- **Tahoe Magic** – Money for Tahoe Smiles, which provides dental care to youth.
- **Tahoe Turning Point** – Gym passes at Kahle Community Center and buying sports equipment.

· **Tahoe Valley Elementary School** – Equipment for performing arts programs; and separate grant for reading materials; and a grant to take kids to Sutter Fort.

· **Zephyr Cove Tennis Club Foundation** – Scholarships for junior tennis program, expansion of program and to purchase equipment for kids to use.

The money for the grants comes from SITS' annual **Elegant Evening** fundraiser. This year's event is April 23 at Harrah's Lake Tahoe.

– *Lake Tahoe News staff report*