

News & Updates



9th Annual Adopt-A-Family program another success!



Each year the community pulls together to warm the hearts and help assist over 200 families during the holiday season. Families are provided with trees, meals, decorations and gifts thanks to the generosity of local community members and businesses.

To start off the holiday season, in November Bill Finn and Discount Security Store donated 30 turkeys and Kiwanis held a Thanksgiving luncheon at the Women's Center. In December Kiwanis members and Santa Claus provided lunch and gifts to our shelter/transitional clients in conjunction with Sandy from Sessions Nail Salon. The Meyers Environmental Magnet School conducted a food drive and Harrah's donated turkeys while the Library, Presbyterian Church and Sam's Place had "Giving Trees" at their locations where donors

could pick up ornaments, which listed the holiday wishes of a special child working with the Women's Center. The Lake Tahoe South Shore Chamber of Commerce held their annual Holiday Mixer at Riva Grill on December 11, collecting a busload of toys and wrapping supplies from the generous Chamber members. The Elks Club provided \$1,500 in Grocery Outlet credit, which was used to provide \$50 gift certificates to families participating in the holiday program so they could purchase ingredients for their holiday meal. The Elks Club also took 15 of our child clients to Kmart to shop for Christmas! Tahoe Douglas Rotary hosted their 16th Annual Children's Christmas Party with Santa, dinner, dancers and holiday "shopping" for 20 children and families receiving services and Optimist Tree Lot generously donated ten Christmas trees.

The following businesses and groups adopted families this year, purchasing items on each family's specific wish list or an assortment of gifts: Ritz Carlton Highlands Lake Tahoe, SLT Garden Club, Design Workshop, Lake Tahoe Wedding and Honeymoon Association, Marriott Timber Lodge and Grand Residence Club, Starbucks at Heavenly, Mathisen Auto, The Ridge Resorts, EDC Jail, TRPA, Girl Scout Troop #56, Unity Church, STMS AVID Class, the Post Office, STHS, Aramark Lake Tahoe, Embassy Suites, Lake Tahoe Cruise, Sears, Chase International and Harrah's Cashier and Credit Dept. The following individuals adopted families: Sheila Sloan, Marian White, Laurie Gallagher, John Wlcek, Terri Snyder, Diane Yarrow, Allison Monroe, Elizabeth Tatersall, Shannon Norrgard, Jane Lau, Mairi Leining, Jim Dalton, Liz Higgins, Lee Ann Stigers Genasci, Larry Tognolini, Brett Franklin, Kathy Williams, Kristin Obendorf, Barbara Gibson, Sherri and Mark Acri, Cindy Greco, Jeanie Cerceo, Carolyn Wright, John Plumer, Judy Mittino, Dr. Carol Habaradas, Cynthia Castillo, Steve and Cindy Mogus, Sarah Harville, Donna Janaczek, Marianne Wike, Pam Lueder and Angela Swanson.

HAPPY NEW YEAR! THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT!

January Is National Stalking Awareness Month

Stalking is the willful, malicious and repeated following and harassing of another person that affects 3.4 million victims a year. Although stalking is a crime in the US it is often found to be difficult to recognize, investigate, and prosecute. Unlike other crimes, stalking is not a one time, easily identifiable crime but a string of acts or behaviors directed at a specific person that causes that person fear. Stalking may take many forms, such as assaults, threats, vandalism, burglary, or animal abuse, as well as unwanted calls, gifts, or visits. Victims often report that their stalker uses technology, such as computers, GPS, or hidden cameras, to track their activities. Victims may suffer from anxiety or severe depression, and may lose time from work or move as a result of the victimization. South Lake Tahoe Women's Center offers assistance to victims of stalking in the form of peer support, assistance with harassment orders and the free legal program. For more information please contact the Women's Center at (530) 544-2118 or log on to www.stalkingawarenessmonth.org and www.ovw.usdoj.gov.