

# NORTH TAHOE-TRUCKEE

## Community House Overview



Community Update  
2015

### Community House: Aligning Critical Needs Services for our Residents

Crisis rarely happens in only one aspect of a person or family's life. In a region made up of several small communities widely spread apart, it is often a challenge for community members to know what services are available to them and to be able to reach them. This is especially true for people who lack dependable access to transportation. To receive the critical services that a person or family needs is a complex challenge that often leaves them without all the resources available.

Four years ago, longtime collaborators North Tahoe Family Resource Center, Project MANA, and Tahoe SAFE Alliance wanted to bring their partnership under one roof. However, they needed a larger working space to host their programs to create more significant impact. With very little affordable commercial options conducive to an integrated service environment, they reached out to their community partners for help.

Under the leadership of Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation (TTCF), donors and organizations came together to plan, construct, and implement the Community House. A massive effort was put forth by numerous people and agencies; the Community House was completed in 2014 in Kings Beach, one of the most poverty-stricken communities in North Lake Tahoe.

Today, North Tahoe Family Resource Center, Project MANA, and Tahoe SAFE Alliance provide safe and confidential spaces, one-on-one and small group counseling, workshops, and community gatherings. The beautiful and professional space invites other agencies and counselors to integrate their services and provides a safe and central location for community members to receive all of the critical services they need.

### Why Community House?

**27%** of Tahoe Truckee residents are living under 200% of the poverty level.\*

**42%** of community members receiving Project MANA services indicate it as their primary source of food.

**62%** of working residents are employed by tourist-related jobs.

Community House is serving **60% more** individuals/families since opening its new space.

*Data from U.S. Census Bureau*  
**\*2010 Federal Poverty Level, family of 4:**

100%: earning less than \$22,050

200%: earning less than \$44,100

Before



After



### Collaborating Partners



# Serving our Communities



## Personalized Approach

Tahoe SAFE Alliance served a mom who recently came for support for domestic violence. During her visit, **Community House** team recognized a need for stable housing and hunger relief. This mom, along with her children, was able to experience wraparound support with additional services from Project MANA and North Tahoe Family Resource Center.

## Customized Community Support

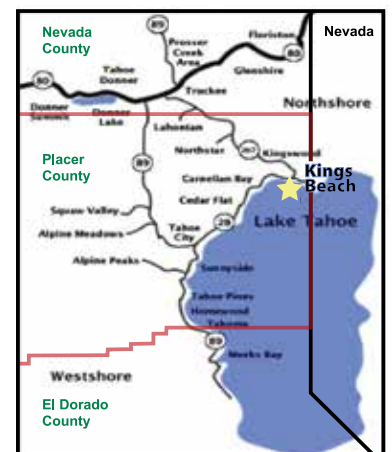
A one-time workshop, addressing the subject of depression, was hosted at **Community House**. More than 50 community members attended, and made their need heard. **Community House** continues to host an ongoing depression support group co-facilitated by a promotora (through Tahoe Forest Hospital District) and a bilingual therapist from Sierra Mental Wellness Group. Clients served by all three agencies attend.

## Simplified Access to Services

Recently, a preventative care dental clinic was offered for children in our community who do not normally have access to dental care. It was held on a Saturday which made it easy for working parents to bring their children without taking off work. Truckee dentist Dr. Gustafsson and his staff volunteered their time and served the community in partnership with promotoras supported through the Tahoe Forest Hospital District. More than 30 children were served. The event was such a success that this will now be available every six months at **Community House**.

## Additional Services Through Partners

- **WIC/Placer County** providing access to WIC benefits, CalFresh, MediCal, CalWorks, and Sierra Mental Wellness Group.
- **Tahoe Forest Hospital District:** serving moms with high risk pregnancies.
- **Family Resource Center of Truckee** Legal Program providing free legal assistance.
- AARP tax program with free tax preparation assistance.
- **Adventure Risk Challenge** serves at risk children in our community.



Community House is a project of Tahoe Truckee Community Foundation. Seed money and vision were provided by the S.H. Cowell Foundation, First 5 Placer, and Placer County. Generous donors from throughout the region made the project a reality.