



FAQs

What is a community foundation? According to the National Standards for U.S. Community Foundations, a community foundation is a tax-exempt, nonprofit, autonomous, publicity supported, nonsectarian, philanthropic institution with a long-term goal of building permanent, named, component funds. These funds are established by many separate donors for the broad-based charitable benefits of the residents of a defined geographic area, typically no larger than a state.

What is the role of the Martis Camp Foundation in the community? Our primary role is to assist the Martis Camp community by encouraging and administering philanthropy to benefit effective projects and charities throughout Martis Camp and the surrounding areas.

What are the main features of the Martis Camp Foundation? We make giving easy and effective, accepting a wide variety of gifts and providing donors the greatest flexibility. You may contribute cash, stocks, property, and bequests. You may establish an Unrestricted, Field of Interest, Designated, or Donor Advised Fund in your name or in the name of a loved one. Your gift will gain maximum tax advantage. Our staff has an in-depth understanding of the issues, opportunities, and resources that shape our community need – including education, youth development, human services and recreation. We can help you learn more about local agencies and programs that make a difference in the areas you care about most. Finally, we invest in the long term and bring people and organizations together, convening diverse voices to address local issues and opportunities. Our business is building community.

Where do the grants go? The MCF Community Grants are awarded to charitable organizations in the greater Truckee/Tahoe region. There are four focus areas: Education, Youth Development, Human Services and Recreation. We also offer scholarships to deserving Truckee and North Lake Tahoe high school seniors.

How much are the grants and scholarships? The Community Grant amount varies based on the available funds. In 2020, amounts ranged from \$2,000 to as much as \$50,000. There are three types of scholarships offered. The Denise Martinez Scholarship is a \$20,000 award paid over four years. The Ambition Scholarship is a \$20,000 award paid over four years. The MCCF Scholarship is dependent upon the college/university the student is attending and ranges from \$30,000 to \$60,000 over four years.

Who is eligible to apply for grants from the MCF? For Community Grants, charitable organizations from the greater Truckee/Tahoe region are eligible to apply for grants in the four focus areas of Education, Youth Development, Human Services and Recreation. For scholarships, high school seniors from the Truckee/North Lake Tahoe Unified School District who meet the defined criteria for academics, need and personal character are eligible to apply.

Who makes the decisions on awarding the grants? The Community Grants Committee vets each charitable organization that applies for a grant. In addition, committee members meet with the organizations, tour the facilities when applicable and evaluate how the grant money will be spent. After reviewing the applications, the Community Grants Committee recommends grant recipients and amounts to the MCF Board of Directors for consideration and approval. The Scholarships Committee uses an online scholarship program to evaluate all of the students who qualify for the scholarships offered. The Scholarships Committee reviews the applications in terms of goals, need and educational objectives. Qualified candidates are then submitted to the MCF Board of Directors for consideration and approval.

Does the MCF support Martis Camp Ambassadors? Ambassadors and their children are eligible to apply for MCF scholarships for primary, secondary, college and continuing education. Eligibility requirements must be met.

Can I direct my donation to my favorite Truckee/Tahoe nonprofit through the MCF? Please contact a board member to discuss.

Does the MCF place volunteers at charitable organizations? Not directly. Several Members of the Martis Camp community volunteer at various organizations but it is of their own volition. If a Member would like to volunteer in a specific area, the Community Grants Committee is always happy to make recommendations and introductions.