

Lake Tahoe Community College Donor Investment Report

Education – A Gift that Lasts a Lifetime!

Spring 2020

Generous Nevada Donor Perpetually Endows New LTCC Scholarship Opportunities

Last fall, J. Stuart Haldan generously gave the Lake Tahoe Community College (LTCC) Foundation \$1 million for an endowment to provide scholarships for tuition, fees, and books to full-time students from both the California and Nevada shores of Lake Tahoe. Mr. Haldan's gift is especially helpful for Nevada students who pay higher tuition at LTCC. The Haldan family has a long history of philanthropic giving to LTCC and the Tahoe community. The new J. Stuart Haldan Scholarship will be offered in addition to the \$160,000 in scholarships that donors provide annually for continuing and transferring LTCC students.

Student Success Grants Fund Technology To Make Learning Accessible

Generous donations allowed the LTCC Foundation to award Student Success grants that provide education-enhancing equipment and experiences. This year, the Disability Resource Center (DRC) received a grant to make learning more accessible for students with disabilities. With the grant, the DRC purchased eight iPads equipped with accessible software unique to students with disabilities.

"Students really appreciate the access to advanced technology upgrades like the iPads which keep students interested in our disability-related programs. The iPads give students an opportunity to learn and practice skills to help pass classes, learn disability-related coping skills, and gain skills that increase employability after college," says Kellie Greiner, Director of the DRC.



Donor funds purchased eight iPads equipped with accessible software unique to students with disabilities.

Student Success Grant Sends Students to the Annual Umoja Conference for an Inspirational, Empowering and Unifying Experience

The annual Umoja Conference inspired and motivated five LTCC students and gave them the opportunity to network with fellow students from all over California. Umoja promotes student success and improved lifetime outcomes for all students through a curriculum that is responsive to the legacy of the African and African American Diasporas. “We felt empowered and united at the Umoja Conference, regardless of age, ethnicity, and background,” says Tonisha Wesley, a Psychology student at LTCC. During the three-day conference in Oakland, CA, keynote speakers shared important messages about the value of education, self-improvement, and creating a joint relation among all people. Students participated in a variety of creative workshops

where they explored hip hop, spoken word, and open mic as techniques for defining goals and giving meaning to their campus experiences.

Students returned from the conference eager to use the skills and connections that they gained to promote unity and empowerment on campus.



Kamal King, Chileshe Nsofu, Evelyn Rincon, Petra Dominguez, and Toni Wesley feel empowered and united from their inspirational experience with Umoja family at the October 2019 conference.

With Demand Doubled, Donations to the Equity Food Pantry Provide Essential Items To Students In Need

The support of generous donors like you is making a difference for the increasing number of students who need the food pantry services. More than 100 students have signed up to receive food and essential items through LTCC’s Equity Food Pantry, a 61% increase in sign-ups compared

to last year. Through LTCC’s food pantry, students receive Safeway gift cards each month and bags of groceries every other week. Grant funding covers the cost of food, and gifts from our donors are used to purchase essential items, such as shampoo, soap, tampons, and toiletries. The grant period

ends soon, so students are relying on donated funds to provide both food and essential items. By making a gift to LTCC’s Annual Fund, you will provide students in need with food, toiletries, and other essential items during this difficult time.

Student profile – Alize Hernandez

Alize Hernandez is a first-generation college student majoring in nursing at LTCC. Thanks to LTCC's Lake Tahoe College Promise, she is on-track to complete her degree at LTCC at no cost and receives bookstore credit, financial aid, and career and academic support from LTCC's team of Promise and Equity mentors.

"Knowing how extremely hard and overwhelming life can be for my single mother and my family, I will take every chance I get to better my future," explains Hernandez.

Hernandez says that LTCC has helped her with her career plans tremendously. When she enrolled at LTCC last fall, the College Promise counselors immediately reached out and helped her choose classes to put her on track to earning the transfer credits necessary to continue her education. Through the Equity program, she is able to borrow textbooks with ease and convenience to enable her to succeed. Promise and Equity program counselors continuously provide her with academic help and support throughout the school year.

"Staff and mentors from LTCC constantly reach out and keep me informed, and I am thankful that they are going above and beyond to give me materials I need to succeed."

During the COVID-19 pandemic, LTCC has reached out to support Hernandez and other students and families who are struggling during these difficult times. Through the Equity Food Pantry, Hernandez receives groceries and Safeway gift cards that have been very helpful for herself and her family. The Equity program has also offered personal hotspots and Chromebooks to help students access Wifi and computers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

On campus, Hernandez is involved with LTCC's H.O.P.E. club, which promotes equity for all students, development of cultural change on campus. She loves how the H.O.P.E. club works to raise money for scholarships for DACA students and gives students aspiration and confidence to achieve their goals.

"Being a first generation college student is tough, but I believe that the Promise and Equity Program have given



Alize Hernandez is a first-generation college student who believes that LTCC's College Promise and Equity programs gave her valuable tools to support her in her education and life goals.

me valuable tools and support to help me — not only in my education, but in life."

After graduating from LTCC, Hernandez plans to continue her education at Sacramento State, where she will complete her nursing degree and take the next step in pursuing her dream career.

Each year, the Foundation gives out \$2,500 in Faculty Awards to promote excellent education opportunities for LTCC students. This year, due to COVID-19, LTCC's Faculty asked the Foundation to give the \$2,500 to the LTCC Equity Department's Food Pantry in lieu of the awards. Thank you, generous LTCC Faculty!

Student Profile – Benjamin Goldey

Benjamin Goldey, a Computer Science and Studio Arts major, credits the Lake Tahoe College Promise as the reason he decided to enroll at LTCC.

“The financial barrier of higher education was a large one for me, but when I learned about the Promise program I had a change of heart,” explains Goldey.

When Ben enrolled in LTCC he worked with counselors and Peer mentors provided by College Promise to design an education plan that would enable him to use his time at LTCC to help him achieve his career goals. In exchange for fulfilling his education plan, College Promise covers the cost

of Ben’s full-time tuition, fees, counseling and books to enable him to successfully graduate within two years.

At first, he chose to major in Studio Arts because of his deep interest in photography. He then decided to pursue a double major in Computer Science, because this field always interested him.

“My time at LTCC has really helped me realize what I would like to do with my life and with my education,” says Goldey. A Palo Alto native, Goldey plans to continue his education at UC Berkeley, where he will study Computer Science and continue to develop his photography portfolio.



Benjamin Goldey, Computer Science and Studio Arts major and aspiring photographer, credits LTCC’s Lake Tahoe College Promise as the reason he decided to pursue his education.

Your support can be the single most important factor in students’ success

Each quarter, students attend LTCC with hopes and dreams of realizing their potential, and your support can be the single most important factor in their success. By continuing your compassionate, caring support of LTCC students, you can provide LTCC students with the tools they need to become independent and successful, not only in school, but also in their careers. Your gift to LTCC supports student scholarships, the Equity Food Pantry, Emergency Book Fund, the Lake Tahoe College Promise Program, and other LTCC programs with the greatest need.

Give today to invest in the future of LTCC students!



The health and safety of our donors and partners is our top priority. Due to COVID-19, Taste of Gold will not be held in 2020.

Thank you to generous sponsors who are continuing with their donations ranging from \$500 to \$7,500 despite the event’s cancellation!

You can donate for a chance to enjoy Taste of Gold remotely! For each \$25 donated, you will be entered in a drawing to win beer, wine and restaurant gift certificates from our generous vendor partners!