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PRESS RELEASE  
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## DOCENTS NEEDED FOR TAHOE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION CENTER

INCLINE VILLAGE, NV — Lake Tahoe Basin residents with an interest in helping people learn about the region's environmental assets and challenges are needed to serve as volunteer docents at a new public education center.

The Thomas J. Long Foundation Education Center is now open for business inside the Tahoe Center for Environmental Sciences, on the Sierra Nevada College campus in Incline Village, Nev. The education center is a program of the UC Davis Tahoe Environmental Research Center (TERC), and is funded by a \$2 million gift from the Thomas J. Long Foundation.

"We are expecting that thousands of children and adults will tour the Long Center exhibits each year, and we need informed, enthusiastic docents to help them get the most out of their visits," said TERC education coordinator Heather Segale.

"We already have some wonderful and committed docents, however, we will need more active volunteers to help cover all the shifts without spreading our volunteers too thin."

Visitors to the center are expected to include school groups from the greater Tahoe region as well as area residents and basin visitors, she said.

Four 3-hour training classes are planned to give the new docents all the instruction they will need to discuss local environmental issues, the ecological history and geology of the Lake Tahoe Basin, and the status of scientific research in the region. Those classes will be held at the center from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on four consecutive Mondays, in May and June:

Training sessions will be held at the Tahoe Center for Environmental Sciences

Session 1 (May 14, 6-9 p.m.): Program Overview, Lake Tahoe 101, TCES Tour

Session 2 (May 21, 6-9 p.m.): Research at Lake Tahoe, Past and Future

Session 3 (June 4, 6-9 p.m.): Geology, Working with Youth, Group Activities

Session 4 (June 11, 9 or 11 a.m.): Field Research/Boat Trip on Lake Tahoe

Additional Workshops:

Hands-On Activities: May 16, 2-4 p.m.

View From Space Special Exhibit: May 23, 2-4 p.m. or 6-8 p.m.

For more information about the docent program, please contact TERC education coordinator Heather Segale at (775) 881-7562, or e-mail [hmsegale@ucdavis.edu](mailto:hmsegale@ucdavis.edu).