



**BANK
OF THE
SIERRA**

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Sierra Grant Supports Sequoia Mountain Rescue

Porterville, CA —Bank of the Sierra is pleased to announce a Sierra Grant in the amount of \$1,000 has been awarded to the Sequoia Mountain Rescue. Sequoia Mountain Rescue is a search and rescue team consisting of 25 volunteer members. Each member trains an average of 20 hours per month and must pass several nationally recognized certifications for technical rescue. Rescue services are provided to lost, stranded and injured visitors of the Central Sierra Nevada wilderness area. The grant funds will be used to help purchase new safety gear, such as ropes, carabineers and webbing which have a short life span.

The Sierra Grant Program is designed to improve the quality of life for the families, especially the children, who reflect the diversity within Bank of the Sierra branch communities. The Sierra Grant Program is focused on three areas: community services, park preservation, and education. Anyone involved in a non-profit program that is interested in a Sierra Grant can pick up an instructional brochure at any Bank of the Sierra branch, or visit the bank web site at www.bankofthesierra.com.

About Bank of the Sierra

With over \$1.3 billion in assets and strong performance ratios, Bank of the Sierra is the largest independently owned community bank headquartered in Southern San Joaquin Valley's Heartland. The bank serves 15 different communities with 25 branches, two Ag Centers and one SBA Center. For more information visit the web site at www.bankofthesierra.com or call (888) 454-BANK.

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