



Tulalip Charitable Contributions Funds Distribution Report

NAME OF AGENCY: Big Brothers Big Sisters of Island County
ADDRESS: 913 E. Whidbey Ave., Oak Harbor, WA 98277
CONTACT: (360) 279-0644; www.bbbsislandcounty.org

GENERAL GOALS: To mentor high-risk teen and preteen girls living in Island County.

SPECIFIC USE FOR THIS AWARD:

To mentor high-risk teen and preteen girls living in Island County through school based and community based mentoring programs.

One hundred percent (100%) of your funds were used to match vulnerable girls with caring adult women who model success and provide essential, one-to-one mentoring at a critical time in their lives. This program provides vulnerable girls with a strong and dependable female role model. These are children that might otherwise drift into negative and self-destructive behavior with potentially life-long consequences. We give special priority to services for girls that are developmentally delayed or that live with physical disabilities. A recent study found that an astonishing 68% of girls with disabilities are sexually abused before age 18.



For more information regarding the specific uses of the award, see the following pages from Big Brothers Big Sisters of Island County.



BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF ISLAND COUNTY

913 E. Whidbey Ave. · Oak Harbor, WA 98277

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October 2, 2015

Marilyn Sheldon, Director
Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions
8802 27th Avenue NE
Tulalip, WA 98271
msheldon@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov

RE: Q3 2014 14.2

Dear Ms. Sheldon

Please accept our report on the expenditure [REDACTED] awarded by the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund in November of 2014 for mentoring services for High Risk Teen and Preteen Girls. One-hundred percent (100%) of your funds were used to match vulnerable girls with caring adult women who model success and provide essential, one-to-one mentoring at a critical time in their lives. This program provides vulnerable girls with a strong and dependable female role model. These are children that might otherwise drift into negative and self-destructive behavior with potentially life-long consequences. We give special priority to services for girls that are developmentally delayed or that live with physical disabilities. A recent study found that an astonishing 68% of girls with disabilities are sexually abused before age 18.

We projected in our proposal that in calendar year 2015 we would provide mentoring services for approximately 75 high-risk teen and pre-teen girls. To date for 2015 we have served about 60 high-risk girls. Most of the high-risk girls we serve live in low-income homes. However, some qualify due to other compelling life factors that make the presence of a caring adult mentor in their lives a critical priority. These factors may include a history of domestic violence in the home, adult or sibling drug and/or alcohol abuse, severe mental or physical illness affecting parents or caregivers, a chaotic home environment, actual or potential sexual abuse and/or developmental or physical disability. Some of our girls experience a number of these factors.

Nothing will illustrate the work we do with high-risk girls more effectively than the story of one of our new and highly-successful matches.

Little Sister Sally (not her real name) is 13 years old and has been matched with her Big Sister since April of 2015. She was referred to the Big Brothers Big Sisters program by her middle school counsellor who hoped that she could resolve some of her personal and social issues through a positive mentoring relationship.

Sally was adopted at birth. Despite being raised in a healthy and stable home environment, she has been traumatized by the behavior of her biological mother. Sally's

adoptive mother allowed her biological mother to remain in contact through scheduled phone calls. However, Sally's biological mother does not call at the scheduled times with devastating consequences. In October of 2014, after Sally's biological mother missed three scheduled phone calls, she attempted suicide. Because of this, her adopted mother has eliminated contact with her biological mother until the contact problems can be resolved. Sally has never had any contact with her biological father.

Sally faces numerous behavioral challenges. She has been diagnosed with ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder), depression, and ODD (Oppositional Defiance Disorder). According to her adoptive mother, her trigger for depression is failed promises. When she feels let down she isolates herself, refusing to speak with others. Sally is overweight and is stigmatized by the other children, both for her weight and for other differences. While academically able, she does not turn her homework in on time, resulting in failing grades. Sally has been bullied by some of the other children and has responded by writing inappropriate letters to those who are picking on her. Her responses have led to in-school and out-of-school suspensions.

Sally's Big Sister is a professional Case Manager who works specifically with at-risk youth. Her Big Sister is an incredible asset. She has been professionally informed of the nature of Sally's issues and works hard to help her overcome her personal and social challenges. Little Sister and Big Sister enjoy walking their dogs together, swimming, and going to Starbucks to write creative stories.

With the help of her Big Sister, Sally is doing much better and this match has positively impacted her life. She recently told a BBBS staff member: "I like that I can be open and honest with my Big Sister and not be judged for my quirks. I am happy to have her as my friend".

Sally's story is only one example of many that we could relate describing the effectiveness of our mentoring program for high-risk teen and pre-teen girls. Each match that we develop between a vulnerable child and a caring adult is individual and distinct. However, the results and the benefits that that children receive can be seen in every aspect of their development.

Thank you again for your ongoing generosity. Your organization has been a loyal and generous donor to our effort to improve the lives and prospects of low-income and other vulnerable Island County children. If you require additional information about our mentoring services, please do not hesitate to contact me at (360) 279-0644 or pennyp@bbbsislandcounty.org. More information about Big Brothers Big Sisters of Island County can be found on our website at www.bbbsislandcounty.org.

Sincerely,



Penny Perka
Executive Director