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Tulalip, WA 98271

TulipCares.org

Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization:
Byrd Barr Place

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Organization's General Goals:
Building Pathways to self-sufficiency. We offer essential services food, shelter, warmth and financial tools – for neighbors in Seattle's Central District by building pathways to stability and self-sufficiency.

Date of Award:	Level:
2020 Q3	\$2,501 to \$5,000

For more information, please read the attached report from Byrd Barr Place.

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www.byrdbarrplace.org

Major Accomplishments (2000 Characters)

BBP has successfully operated the Community Food Bank for 45 years, and Mobile Food Bank for 42 years. As we have done since the beginning, and in 2021 we continued to improve and enhance these core programs to consistently meet the changing needs of our community. Keeping our diverse client populations healthy means providing food that they can cook, eat and enjoy. Like most food banks we have historically relied on donated food which often results in a random selection of many small grocery remnants, usually close to expiration or high in sodium and sugar. Food shortages during the COVID-19 pandemic exasperated long standing issues of food access. Given our commitment to providing access to culturally appropriate food, as well as the sense of dignity, empowerment, and ownership that comes from selecting food and planning meals, BBP has continued over the past year to prioritize purchasing more food directly through our partnerships with local farms as opposed to relying solely on in-kind food donations. We also focused on purchasing lean meats and fishes to increase the healthy proteins available because some months we would get little to zero protein donated, and we heard daily requests for more proteins. The Food Bank has also concentrated on forming partnerships to expand our food distribution network and reach more than just the people walking up for onsite bags of food.

Steps Taken (2000 Characters)

We continued purchasing directly from BIPOC farms to increase access to fresh locally grown healthy food while also increasing the viability and success of small farmers. In 2021 after a year of building strong relationships with the farmers we were able to pay them upfront at the start of the growing season and request specific foods that our clients ask for the most. This helped the farmers plan out their growing season, and also helped BBP anticipate our own supply of food so that we could maintain a steady selection of healthy choices to support our clients in eating a complete and balanced diet.

In 2020 we increased the number of households participating in our home grocery delivery program, in 2021 we maintained that growth and even added 6 more to bring the total to 97 households. We have a very small paid staff at the food bank, so it is because of the sincerely dedicated cohort of 25 volunteers that we are able to serve so many senior and homebound clients in our neighborhood.

We continued our partnership with the Pedaling Relief Project, a group of dedicated cyclists who help distribute and deliver food to and from the food bank. Every week these folks complete our grocery rescue pickups and restock food three times a



week at 36 Little Free Pantries in the Central District and International District neighborhoods.

In 2020 we packed thirty backpacks each with seven meals to ensure students had enough to eat over the weekend, over the past year we doubled the count to sixty bags to send to immigrant families at the World School. We also expanded our support of Seattle Public Schools to include houseless and low income high schools students and added service to five public high schools. We supply the pantries with shelf stable and ready to eat food items so students can shop for food to eat outside of school hours.

Measurements Used

BBP monitors and evaluates success through programmatic metrics gathered through client intake, follow-up appointments and written surveys including:

- Number of clients served
- Client demographics
- Type of services provided
- Number of inter and intra-agency referrals
- Client satisfaction rating of BBP programs

The Food Bank weighs all food that goes in and out of the food bank. We track and count all bags of food given at the door during our three in person distribution days, bags packed for home delivery, and all bags sent out to our partners at schools and churches.

We are unable to track who or how many people are served through the 400 pounds per month sent to the Little Free Pantries program or the 700 pounds per month sent to the Seattle Public Schools pantries.

Challenges or Setbacks

In 2021 we experienced difficulty maintaining reliable dedicated staff in the food bank who possessed the cultural competency necessary to perform the work. We have also noticed a stark decline in the amount of protein we receive through our in-kind donations, we believe this is due to the high cost and supply chain disruption. Our clients regularly request meat and eggs because we know it is difficult for them to purchase in stores.

Addressing Setbacks



Our food bank coordinator who has managed the food bank since 2019 has been able to sustain professional consistent food bank operations, despite high staff turnover for the entry level food bank assistant role. To address the staffing issue we have returned to filling support positions through AARP. Previously, we utilized the AARP Senior Community Service Employment Program and provided job training to low-income seniors, but we lost these service members at the start of the pandemic because AARP no longer allowed their seniors to engage in direct service to protect them from COVID-19. Since the fall of 2021 we have hired two AARP seniors who continue to be a bright and productive light for the Byrd Barr Place Food Bank, building relationships with volunteers and clients and maintaining the safe and welcoming environment that we strive for.

We are using private food bank donations, like that of Tulalip Tribe to purchase fish and lean meats to make up for the lack of donations.

Unexpected Results or Key Insights

The food bank coordinator is mentoring two Seattle University Nursing students, together they assessed the BBP community needs and created a plan to address wound care for houseless clients. After creating a budget they assembled kits with bandages, ointments, cleansing wipes and included a resource pamphlets with additional locations for free wound care, shelter and food resources. The kits have been in tremendously high demand, now we are working on additional sources for in-kind donations or funds to buy more supplies to maintain a reliable supply to support health and wellness for the houseless community.

Additional Comments

We promote healthy eating habits by supplying food that is fresh and culturally relevant. We believe improving the quality of food available enhances the experience of shopping at the food bank and further reduces the stigma of being a food bank client. We are always working to diminish any shame of shopping at a food bank and focus on customer service to create a dignified shopping experience. The building renovations of Firehouse 23 are almost complete, we are preparing the food bank operations to move back to our building at the end of July. We are very excited to begin service out of the brand-new food bank space designed to mimic a grocery store shopping experience like that of PCC or Whole Foods.

Stats

In 2021 we distributed over 700,000 pounds of food through our in person grocery model, home delivery and through partnerships around the City to over 5,100 individuals. We supplied 46,789 bags of food to clients, 63% of who are 55 years or older. 21% of our clients live in multigenerational households or have children under



the age of twelve, 25% report a disabling condition and 11% report no permanent address.

Funding

The Albertsons Companies Foundation	\$ 50,000.00
Snoqualmie Tribe Fund	\$ 25,000.00
Puget Sound Energy Foundation	\$ 25,000.00
PCC Community Markets	\$ 7,198.00
American Heart Association Inc	\$ 25,000.00
Fales Foundation	\$ 5,000.00
Matson Foundation	\$ 5,000.00
Snoqualmie Tribe Fund	\$ 50,000.00
Conagra Brands Foundation	\$ 20,000.00

