



Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization:
Cocoon House

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Everett, WA 98201

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Organization's General Goals:

The mission of Cocoon House is to empower young people, families, and the community to break the cycle of homelessness through outreach, housing and prevention. This mission supports the belief that every young person deserves a home and the opportunity to achieve their fullest potential.

Date of Award:	Level:
2017 Q4	\$7,501 to \$10,000

Specific Use for This Award:

This award was used towards programs of outreach, housing, and prevention services, resulting in exceptional care and positive outcomes for the homeless youth and families we serve. For more information, please read the attached report from Cocoon House.

8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip, WA 98271

TulipCares.org

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Cocoon House
Report to the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund

February 2019

Q4 2017 14.2

www.cocoonhouse.org

Cocoon House is grateful to the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund for its generous [REDACTED] grant to help break the cycle of youth homelessness. In the past year, Cocoon House has continued to strengthen our continuum of outreach, housing, and prevention services, resulting in exceptional care and positive outcomes for the homeless youth and families we serve. We are delighted to share with you our recent activities and accomplishments.

Outreach

Cocoon House's Street Outreach Program responds to the emergency and long-term needs of homeless teens utilizing both mobile and stationary outreach efforts. Mobile outreach consists of trained staff traveling throughout the county to connect with street dependent youth. Stationary outreach takes place at Cocoon House's drop-in center (U-Turn) in Everett. These strategies offered a variety of supports last year, including: critical survival supplies, referrals to needed professional assistance, and connections to shelter and other lifesaving programs.

Housing

Cocoon House's Housing Program serves youth through two short-term emergency shelters (Monroe, Everett) and two long-term transitional homes (Everett, Arlington). Our short-term shelters meet the immediate needs of youth in crisis, with the goal of family reunification or obtaining safe housing, as well as creating additional protective factors against homelessness. The long-term housing program provides housing for young people in Everett, as well as pregnant/parenting young mothers and their babies in Arlington. In the past year, Cocoon House provided 210 homeless youth with safe and stable housing, therapeutic counseling, family reunification support, substance abuse treatment and medical care, while also working to build the self-sufficiency skills necessary for future success, including independent living, education, and employment services.

Prevention

The goal of Cocoon House's prevention services are to keep families intact and to keep youth off the streets by addressing the underlying family issues that commonly lead to a teen becoming homeless or engaging in other risky behaviors. Cocoon House offers therapeutic phone consultations, parent education, and supportive programming to parents and guardians to increase their knowledge and ability to raise their developing teen or pre-teen. We are pleased to report that will be expanding our parenting classes in additional regions this year, including Darrington, Granite Falls, and Sultan to help meet growing needs throughout the county. We are partnering with Sno-Isle libraries to host workshops, with topics designed specifically from feedback received in each community, such as *Understanding and Preventing Substance Abuse in Teens*, *What's Going on in My Teen's Brain?*, and *A Parent's Guide to Teen Depression*.

Specific agency outcomes included:

Outreach	Housing	Prevention
5,831 visits to the drop-in center by 798 individual youth	210 youth sheltered	73 parents completed Project Safe phone consultations
1,822 mobile street outreach contacts	86% exited to safe/stable destinations	229 family members participated in WayOUT seminars, with 86% of parents reported increased parenting skills
200 young people enrolled in ongoing case management services	83% enrolled in an educational opportunity or made progress toward educational goal	34 Project Safe follow up calls, with 71% of children reported as still in the home

Leadership Update

Cocoon House is committed to ensuring that our new youth center opening in April in Everett provides expanded opportunities for advancing success in the youth and young adults we serve. In support of these efforts, Cocoon House recently appointed Rachel Mathison as the new Director of Programs to provide oversight and consistency across all agency activities. Rachel joined Cocoon House as the Director of Housing in 2017, after 17 years of trauma-informed work in housing and shelter programs. She is currently working to develop new programming at the youth center, as well as coordinating and streamlining the full roster of agency services. Rachel is working closely with Joseph Alonzo, who was appointed CEO last year. Joe joined Cocoon House in 2013 as the Chief Program Officer and had been the Interim CEO for 8 months before becoming CEO in April 2018. Joe has more than 16 years of experience in developing effective services for youth, participating in valuable community coalitions, and is a proven leader and collaborator.

Program Development

Cocoon House is currently developing a new housing program for young people ages 18-24. It has been estimated that 150 young people in this age group are waiting for housing at any given time in Snohomish County. While we have been providing services for this population through our current outreach and drop-in center programs, the young adult housing component at the youth center will be a new Cocoon House initiative, and will provide easier access to critical services. The youth center will also include a new computer and technology center to help support the academic success and employment readiness of youth and young adults. Ten workstations will be accessible to youth ages 12-24 served through housing, outreach, and prevention.

Additional Supports

In the coming year, Cocoon House will draw on a number of new initiatives designed to strengthen and enhance the quality and effectiveness of our outreach, housing and prevention programming. We are excited to see the direction these initiatives take and the value they will bring to our services.

- Cocoon House is delighted to be working with the Snohomish County Continuum of Care to participate in Housing and Urban Development’s *Youth Homelessness Demonstration Project (YHDP)*. The goal is to reduce the number of youth experiencing homelessness, and to implement innovative new project models to end youth homelessness. The initiative supports community collaborations focused on rapid rehousing, permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, and innovative programs such as host homes. YHDP efforts include creating environments where authentic inclusion of young people help influence and contribute to the work of ending youth homelessness, and where cross-systems partnerships serve as the foundation of building a sustained community response to youth homelessness.

- Cocoon House has launched an internal *Trauma-Informed Leadership Team*. The mission of the team is to design and implement agency-wide policies, practices, and ongoing assessment strategies that ensure our work – with youth and families, staff, and community partners – reflects a data informed, culturally responsive, and respectful approach to trauma-informed care and establishes these efforts as a consistent, lived experience at Cocoon House.

Looking Ahead

In addition to the capital project, Cocoon House is also concluding work on our four-year strategic plan that began in 2014, and rolling out new goals that will drive our work over the next two years. These goals will focus on developing new programming, transitioning into the new facility, and growing the agency budget. Cocoon House will revisit a new four-year strategic plan after the transition is complete. We look forward to keeping the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund updated on our progress as we move into Cocoon House's exciting next phase. Thank you for so generously supporting the work of Cocoon House and your commitment to breaking the cycle of homelessness.

