Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization: Cocoon House

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Organization's General Goals:

Founded as an emergency shelter for youth in 1991, Cocoon House has grown to include a continuum of programs designed to prevent and end youth homelessness. Cocoon House offers short- and long-term housing, street outreach, and prevention services aimed at strengthening families. Together, these programs represent a network of services that improve outcomes for youth and families in Snohomish County.

Date of Award: 2021 Q4 Level: \$2,501 to \$5,000

For more information, please read the attached report from Cocoon House.



8802 27th Ave NE Tulalip, WA 98271

TulalipCares.org

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<u>Cocoon House</u> <u>Report to The Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund</u> <u>May 2023</u>

Cocoon House is grateful to The Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions Fund for your generous investment in our housing, outreach and prevention programs that support young people throughout Snohomish County. With your help, youth have graduated, signed first leases, reunified with family, and are building key resiliency and life skills that will benefit them for years to come. We are pleased to submit this report highlighting our activities and successes over the past year. We are grateful for the positive impact your partnership has made on the lives of young people experiencing housing instability and crisis.

Outreach Programs

The Outreach program includes both street outreach and a drop-in center for youth and young adults (ages 12-24); the ultimate goal of this program is to transition youth from the streets to a safe and secure housing arrangement and to provide them with low-barrier access to basic necessities. We support youth in the community by providing basic needs items, housing resources, and

connections to community services such as response, health care, and legal support. At our U-Turn drop-in center, young people can access warm meals and snacks, showers and laundry, recreation, case management, and community resources; youth also have access to recreational activities such as a technology center and music recording studio.

In the past year, Cocoon House has focused on identifying and meeting increased youth needs and implementing creative solutions to help support that work. Outreach and recruitment strategies have included weekly information sessions, community meetings and presentations, engagement with school district staff, outreach to community organizations and business, and participation in events throughout the county to increase awareness of our services. Because of this continued effort, our U-Turn drop in facility has served 557 youth and totaled 3,940 drop-in visits in the last year. And, throughout the entirety of



our outreach services, Cocoon House's team has distributed 10,670 basic needs items to young people in need.

Housing Programs

Cocoon House's residential programs provide specific and individualized housing opportunities for young people depending on their age, safety, and circumstance. Our low-barrier emergency shelter program focuses on reunification, family counseling, and other prevention-based services to meet



the diverse needs of youth and families, strengthen families' ability to meet future challenges, and mitigate risk factors for long term homelessness. Our long-term transitional program for teens focuses on supporting youth in their transition to independence. This program offers therapeutic counseling, substance use disorder treatment, and medical care while working to build and strengthen independent living skills. From January to December of 2022, 33 Snohomish County young people were served through our Transitions programming.

Cocoon House's Connections is a host home program designed to offer flexible, short-term, place-based housing opportunities provided by volunteer host individuals and families in the community. Host individuals and/or families

offer a room in their home for a young person as well as play a vital role in creating a safe and stable environment for them to thrive. Ultimately, the goal of the host home is to reengage and reconnect the young person with schooling, reunify with their family when possible, and help create a healthy support system. In the last year, the Connections Host Home program has served 14 young people, with 100% of youth transitioning from a short-term host home to safe and full-time housing, and 75% receiving mental health services and enrolling in school at exit.

Prevention Programs

Cocoon House's prevention programs focus on familial relationships and conflict resolution. Working to resolve conflict is the most critical and effective strategy for reducing and preventing youth homelessness. We provide a wide range of prevention services that address challenging family environments that may lead to youth becoming homeless. Classes, workshops, consultations, and

family case management services help parents and guardians increase their understanding of their developing teen. The ultimate goal of these programs is to help build and safe and structured environment for teens and families to flourish.

Over the last year, Cocoon House has served 98 individuals and 54 families through our case management services, specifically designed to assist youth in navigating their unique circumstances. This includes supporting caregivers, navigating family conflict, setting appropriate goals, and providing resources to stabilize a young person's situation. Our Way Out program, for example, is an interactive 2-day seminar designed to build trust and communication between teens and their caregiver. This program can resolve conflict and build lasting communication strategies that prevent familial conflict that can lead to youth homelessness in the future.



The Impact of Your Partnership



Generous funding from The Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions Fund has helped to ensure the sustainability of critically needed housing, outreach, and prevention services for vulnerable young people in Snohomish County. Your investment has helped youth thrive during the past year, supporting them with the care and resources they need to remain safe, advance toward stability, and realize their full potential.

Young people like Lucia, who recently entered *Transitions*, our long-term residential program

for teens. She was disengaged with school and had no social supports. After receiving mental health counseling as well as case management around education and employment goals, she is now attending in-person school, is employed, has developed healthy support systems, and has made incredible gains in her self-confidence and ability to meet her goals. She continues to receive ongoing case management support.

We are very grateful to The Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions Fund for sharing a strong commitment to fostering and supporting success for young people in crisis throughout Snohomish County. We appreciate your valuable investment to help ensure that youth and young adults can remain safe, stable, and learn the skills they need to break the cycle of homelessness. Thank you for your generous partnership.