



Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization:
Common Threads Farm

Address:
810 Halleck Street
Bellingham, WA 98225

Contact:
(360) 927-1590
<http://commonthreadsfarm.org>

Organization's General Goals:
We actively seek out partnerships with community organizations that target services to low-income youth, and continuously ask ourselves what the next innovation or collaboration might be to most effectively engage children's curiosities and passions for developing life-long healthy eating habits.

Date of Award:	Level:
2017-Q3	\$2,501 to \$5,000

Specific Use for This Award:
This award was used for administrative and program expenses. For more information, please read the attached report from Common Threads Farm.

8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip, WA 98271

TulalipCares.org

Disclaimer: This report may be a summary of content provided by the recipient, not always complete quoted material.



November 1, 2018

Dear Marilyn,

In 2018 Common Threads was honored to receive [REDACTED] from the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions (Q3 2017 14.2.) Your support made it possible for us to:

- **Offer school-based cooking and gardening programs to 6,389 students across 21 schools in Whatcom County.** Our partner schools now span 4 districts (Bellingham, Mt. Baker, Ferndale, and Lynden.) Since we last spoke, Common Threads has also forged new partnerships with Oxbow Farm and Conservation Center, Lower Columbia School Gardens, Coupeville Farm to School, and Concrete Farm to School to host a [team of 20 AmeriCorps service members](#), who are now connecting kids with healthy food in a growing number of communities across Washington State. We are already seeing how shared resources and programming is elevating the standard of food education for all of us.
- **Launch and begin to refine a [Kids Supper Club](#) in low-income apartments.** As we expected, bringing our cooking programs to kids' home spaces has removed yet another barrier (geography/transportation) to serving our community's most vulnerable members.
- **Increase our efforts to measure impact and understand community needs so that we can best align our programming with those needs.** The parent listening sessions that we launched last spring, guided by [Dr. Anna Ciao](#) at WWU are on-going (this work was slowed a bit by her pregnancy last year and we expect to have more to report in the coming year.) Additionally, we have forged a new partnership with [Insight for Action](#), a Portland based firm that is helping us to measure changes in kids eating attitudes and behaviors as well as the socio-emotional benefits of gardening and cooking programs across our new statewide partnership sites. We were recently invited by the Washington Service Corps to join in their Project Impact training in 2019 - which they describe as a "rigorous mixed-method outcome evaluation" that will put us at the CNCS preliminary evidence level. Thank you again, Marilyn, for the impact/evaluation nudge that you gave us when you last visited our site. We have very much taken your feedback to heart!

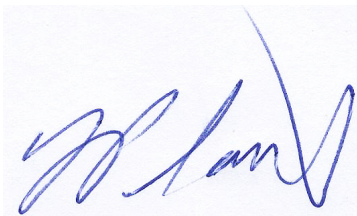
Portable D, Whatcom Middle School 810 Halleck 360-927-1590 info@commonthreadsfarm.org

While not explicitly part of our proposal to the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions, several other accomplishments this past year that would not be possible without the support of organizations such as the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions (and that we hope will make you smile) include:

- **Refinement of [garden scope and sequence](#)** aligned with NGSS science standards. Our lessons continue to meet with overwhelmingly positive feedback from teachers.
- **Close to 100% *voluntary* teacher participation in K-5 lessons** - Food Education is becoming an integrated and expected component of the curriculum at most partner schools.
- **Deepening collaboration with Bellingham School District Food Service and Wellness Programs - including roll-out of the district's [Garden to Cafeteria Toolkit](#)** which facilitates more school garden grown food making its way into the cafeteria.
- **Food Bank** - Recognizing that *tasting* an unfamiliar vegetable or seeing how easy it is to prepare can remove a barrier for food bank clients, we continue to collaborate with the Food Bank's mobile pantry program at both Alderwood Elementary and Christ the King Church.

Thank you for helping us to grow a generation of healthy, happy children! We simply couldn't do this work without the support of funders like the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions related to this report.

Warmly,



Laura Plaut
Executive Director

p.s. You've hopefully already received a hard copy in the mail, but here is a copy of our most recent [Gratitude Report](#).

