



Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization:
Friends of Youth

Address:
13116 NE 132nd St
Kirkland, WA 98034

Contact:
(425) 869-6490
<https://www.friendsofyouth.org>

Organization's General Goals:
Friends of Youth envisions all youth having every opportunity to succeed. We partner with youth and families to provide the relationships, resources, and skills they need to attain personal growth and success.

Date of Award:	Level:
2020 Q4	\$500 to \$2,500

For more information, please read the attached report from Friends of Youth.

8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip, WA 98271
TulalipCares.org



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September 27, 2021

Marilyn Sheldon, Director
Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions
8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip, WA 98271
Dear Marilyn,

Friends of Youth is grateful for the ongoing support of the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions. Together, we provide life-sustaining resources to youth facing homelessness and crisis in King County.

We are pleased to share this year-end report with you detailing our recent successes and achievements. In our fiscal year 2021, New Ground Bothell Family Transitional Living Program provided 6,886 bed nights of safe shelter and supportive housing to 22 young families. Our organization as a whole serves more than 2094 unique children, youth, young adults, and their families from ages 0-25 across 24 program sites in 18 cities.

Your continued partnership strengthens us as we serve the most vulnerable young people in our community – thank you!

Should you have any questions about Friends of Youth or our programs, please let me know. I can be reached by phone at 425-869-6490 (ext. 313) or via email at paul@friendsofyouth.org.

In service to youth,

Paul Lwali
President and CEO





**Grant Report to the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund
September 2021
Q4 2020 14.2**

Friends of Youth is deeply appreciative of the generous and ongoing support of the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contribution. Your investment helps us operate the New Ground Bothell Family Transitional Living Program, which serves young families experiencing homelessness.

The families we serve are experiencing crisis and each one deserves to be safe, healthy, and supported. The services provided at New Ground Bothell are a lifeline for youth who have young children, providing stability, meeting basic needs, encouraging independence, and offering vital resources and training during the most challenging times these young families face.

Program Description: New Ground Bothell

New Ground Bothell Family Transitional Living Program (TLP) serves young families with children experiencing homelessness by supplying 14 units of safe, stable housing. We also provide residents with case management, Healthy Start home visiting, education and employment support, life skills support, safe housing, mental health substance use counseling, and connections to community resources. As the cost of living continues to rise in our region, many have found it challenging to maintain stable housing and young families are especially vulnerable.

We offer supportive services to ensure our residents can develop the skills they need to exit homelessness, live independently, and care for their small children. This program is specifically designed to be developmentally appropriate for parents ages 18-24 who are working toward self-sufficiency and financial independence. Because we focus on youth and young adults, we provide specialized services others don't, including parenting skills and instruction on navigating social service systems.

The young people we serve are often first-time parents who are still developing the skills necessary to care for themselves. This is a vulnerable stage for both the young parents and their children. While staying in our Family TLPs, residents work with our Case Managers to establish an Independent Living Plan, utilizing a strengths-based approach to help residents identify their goals for independent living and the steps they should take to achieve them. Residents meet regularly with Case Managers to work toward these goals, track progress, and receive specialized support. Our Case Managers help residents improve their life skills by providing youth-specific parenting classes, home visiting supports, early childhood development education, and other opportunities so our residents can build and implement the skills they need to maintain a healthy family and stable home. Life skills are taught in weekly groups, with topics including budgeting, laundry, debt collection, building and maintaining good credit, car maintenance, healthy relationships, and other skills necessary for independent living.

2021 Use of Funds and Impact

Friends of Youth invested your generous ██████ grant in the New Ground Bothell Family Transitional Living Program. With your support, we provided 22 young families with 6,886 bed nights of safe shelter and holistic care. The grant from the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund helped ensure we could continue providing case management, Healthy Start Home Visiting, and employment support for our residents at New Ground Bothell.



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As the cost of living continues to rise in our region, young families with children find it challenging to maintain stable housing. All Home's Seattle/King County Point-In-Time Count of Individuals Experiencing Homelessness found that 32% of those experiencing homelessness were families with children, for a total of 3,743 individuals.¹ The Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contribution's grant helped us provide continuous support to some of these young and vulnerable families and mitigate this ongoing crisis.

Continuing Need for 2022

Friends of Youth humbly requests a renewed grant from the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contribution to support the rising number of young families experiencing homelessness and housing instability.

Research conducted by the organization Children's HealthWatch concludes that "there is no safe level of homelessness [for children]."² This is due to the harmful effects that toxic stress has on children's growth and development when parents and children experience homelessness, effects that can follow children throughout their lives.³ Intervention is key to work done at New Ground Bothell as we provide stability and skills that will benefit both the youth and their young children even after they exit our program to permanent housing. Early intervention of developmentally-appropriate services for young families experiencing homelessness is critical to preventing compounding traumas that can occur on the streets, such as sexual assault, commercial sexual exploitation, bullying, physical assault, substance abuse, suicidality, and mental health challenges.⁴

The COVID-19 pandemic heightened the need for the supports our TLPs provide. Our young parents were among the first to lose jobs that, for many, represented a significant step in their path to financial stability. These impacts will have a long-term effect on our clients and community, including increased demand for our housing and support services. We have also seen and anticipate a continued increased demand for behavioral health supports including mental health therapy and substance use disorder treatment as the pressures felt by the pandemic - including anxiety, depression, social isolation, and economic hardships - continue to impact our already vulnerable population. The young people we serve are struggling to make ends meet, as many have lost employment or income. Your support allows us to purchase meals, hygiene supplies, face masks, disinfectants, diapers, and other essential items to ensure families can survive and continue safely during this challenging time.

¹ King County RHA, "Count Us In 2020," Point-in-Time (PIT) Count (Seattle, Washington: All Home, July 1, 2020), <https://kcrha.org/king-county-point-in-time-count/>.

² Megan S., Richard S., and Lisa S. "Compounding Stress" *Children's HealthWatch*. (June, 2015).

³ Ibid.

⁴ Guy Johnson and Chris Chamberlain, "From Youth to Adult Homelessness," *Australian Journal of Social Issues* 43, no. 4 (2008): 563–82, <https://doi.org/10.1002/j.1839-4655.2008.tb00119.x>.



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A continued grant from the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund will enable our doors to remain open to provide housing, case management, and transition planning for families exiting homelessness as our community strives to recover.

Recent Success Story

Valerie* and her daughter Dani* came to New Ground Bothell after experiencing homelessness and staying at an emergency shelter in the Kent area. Staff at New Ground Bothell helped Valerie find and access grocery stores that carry foods from her culture and connected her to doctors and medical offices that respect her and her daughter's ethnicity. Her support staff partnered with other service providers who helped her reach her goals of obtaining her GED, learning to drive, and taking steps towards entering the workforce as an EMT or 911 call center operator. Valerie has recently joined the New Ground Bothell resident manager on a run. Even a small step like this showed an increase in her positive mental health and her ability to bond with supportive networks. She is looking forward to making these runs into a routine, not only to improve her physical and mental health, but to participate in a healthy community and form a lasting rapport.

The Importance of Your Support

We are so grateful for the many years of support from the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund. Thank you for helping us create a community where all youth have every opportunity to succeed. Your continued generosity will ensure that youth and young families in crisis have the opportunity to build life skills, gain housing stability, and achieve positive long-term outcomes for themselves and their young children. With a renewed grant from the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund, Friends of Youth can continue to provide a safe and welcoming refuge for young families facing homelessness and instability

