



**CHARITABLE
CONTRIBUTIONS**

8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip, WA 98271

TulalipCares.org

Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization:

Homes First

Address:

5203 Lacey Blvd SE
Lacey, WA 98503

Contact:

(360) 236-0920
<https://www.homesfirst.org>

Organization's General Goals:

Formed in April 1990, Homes First grew out of a task force concerned about the homeless, whose members joined with other community residents concerned about the problem of affordable housing. Homes First works with community partners to increase the supply of affordable housing for community members in need in the South Puget Sound region.

Date of Award:

2019 Q3

Level:

\$2,501 to \$5,000

For more information, please read the attached report from Homes First.

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

Grant Report 2020 Homes First

December 4, 2020



Q3 2019 14.2

In December 2019, The Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund contributed [REDACTED] to Homes First and our mission. Because of your investment, we were able to house more than 275 low-income tenants in 110 rental units.

2020 has been a difficult year with COVID restrictions as it has been for everyone throughout our community and state. With your support, Homes First is celebrating a milestone 30 years of providing safe, permanent and stable affordable rental housing for our community members most in need. Because of record unemployment due to COVID 19, the US is facing an eviction tsunami. Now more than ever, Homes First plays a key role in providing stability in our community. We are working diligently to support our tenants during this uncertain and challenging time.

With COVID-19 upon us, Homes First needed to make immediate and systematic changes in operations and program delivery to ensure that we stay safe and respond appropriately. We adopted a stringent COVID-19 policy following all safety protocols to protect our tenants and staff as our Housing Team continues to work on and off site, taking calls for repairs, responding to tenants' concerns and needs, and providing support to the families and individuals we serve.

In early spring, at the beginning of the COVID emergency, we distributed masks to all our tenants for each member of their household. These masks were donated to us by South Salish Mighty Masks. Right at a critical time in the pandemic, when we didn't know what was ahead of us to protect staff and tenants, we were grateful to be proactive in ensuring our tenants' safety.

On June 25th through a partnership with Farm to Families, we distributed 80 Baskets of food at Merritt Manor. Half of the baskets were distributed to both Homes First and Merritt Manor tenants in a COVID safe delivery model in their parking lot. It was an all staff effort supported by key volunteers as well.

In September, a community member, Chef Khurshida donated meals to our tenants. Tenants signed up on our website and then picked them up in our office parking lot for a COVID safe delivery. Through this effort we were able to provide hot meals to about 40 of our tenants!

Sally's Story:

Our newest tenant landed at our door in November 2020 through a maze of experiences, determination, hard work, and a little bit of luck. "Sally" came from California a number of years ago, leaving behind domestic violence, being a victim of human trafficking, a less-than-supportive family and multiple addictions. Sally has worked very hard to stay clean and sober,

despite more family in this area who are not supportive of her sobriety, and is now 7 1/2 years in recovery. She was lucky enough to have her number drawn for a housing voucher and even luckier to find Homes First.

She is beyond content to be in her own home and expresses gratitude and thankfulness for all of the people, organizations and resources who have helped her along the way. "I would be on the street if it were not for Homes First." As a survivor of human trafficking and addiction, **Sally is a testament to the resilience and the renewal of the human spirit.**

Your donation enabled our staff to do all the work necessary to get her **permanently** housed, and keep her connected with any support services she needs to stay in her home. Thank you Tulalip Tribes.

