



Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization:

Hopelink

Address:

8990 154th Ave NE
Redmond, WA 98052

Contact:

(425) 869-6000
<https://www.hopelink.org>

Organization's General Goals:

Since 1971, Hopelink has served homeless and low-income families, children, seniors and people with disabilities in King and Snohomish counties; providing stability and helping people gain the skills and knowledge they need to exit poverty for good.

Date of Award:

2016 Q2

Level:

\$2,501 to \$5,000

Specific Use for This Award:

For more information, please read the attached report from Hopelink.

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.



hopelink
hopelink.org

Willow Creek Corporate Center | Suite 275
10675 Willows Road NE | Redmond, WA 98052

t 425-869-6000
f 425-869-6035

August 22, 2017

Marilyn Sheldon, Director
Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions Fund
8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip WA 98271-9694

RECEIVED
AUG 28 2017
BY: BN

Dear Marilyn,

Hopelink's theory of change for our clients is rooted in two primary outcomes: first achieving stability and then equipping clients to exit poverty. Stability is addressed and accomplished first through the provision of basic needs such as shelter and food. Only after they have stabilized can they acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to exit poverty.

The Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions Fund made a generous grant [REDACTED] to support Hopelink's stability programs, Community Services, in September 2016 (Q2 2016 14.2). We served 20,061 unduplicated clients in the program in fiscal year 2017. All funds were expended as described in the proposal. We are pleased to provide you with this final report on the use of your donation.

Thank you once again for your generosity. If you would like additional details regarding our programs, please contact me or Elaine Srinivas, Grant Writer, at (425) 869-6029 or esrinivas@hopelink.org. Our website is www.hopelink.org.

Sincerely,

Lauren L. Thomas, CPA, PHR
Chief Executive Officer

Enclosure



Report to the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions Fund on Hopelink's Community Services Programs

Hopelink's Theory of Change states that clients must first stabilize in their homes before they can acquire the skills to exit poverty. Financial, energy, and food assistance are our Community Services that bring stability to our clients' lives and have the additional outcome of freeing up funds from clients' limited incomes for other essentials. In September 2016, the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions Fund made a gift [REDACTED] to support Hopelink's Community Services programs. This final report highlights our accomplishments and challenges during fiscal year 2017.

Forest lives in a King County Housing Authority development and works with the YMCA's Next Step Program to help stabilize his housing. When Forest lost his job, he was unable to cover his rent and utility bills for the month. Forest's YMCA Case Manager referred him to Hopelink and he came in for financial assistance. Hopelink was able to help Forest with his energy bills through both the federal LIHEAP and the local PSE Help programs as well as assist him with his rent. While working with Hopelink, Forest found a new job! He continues to meet with the YMCA to stabilize his housing and get back up on his feet.

Financial Assistance

Hopelink provided 1,875 individuals from 878 families with \$491,919 in total financial assistance. Out of that, 450 households received \$448,610 in rental assistance to avoid homelessness.

Financial Assistance Program Update

In the past, the financial assistance program has been somewhat rigid requiring a client come to us in full-crisis mode with a utility shut off bill or Three Day Pay or Vacate notice in hand before we could consider financial support.

In order to better serve our clients, we are piloting ways to make this program more flexible and proactive beginning in the fall. At one service center, we will offer financial assistance for basic needs before financial instability hits. For example, if a client has an unexpected medical or car repair bill that will threaten his ability to make rent, we can

step in with eviction prevention dollars earlier. At another service center, we will also pilot this more flexible program coupled with short term Case Management. This Case Management will include a more complete needs assessment, budgeting, and goal setting. We will connect the client with other Hopelink programs like food assistance and employment counseling where appropriate. We can also help clients sign up for community benefits such as SNAP, commonly called food stamps, or an ORCA LIFT card for reduced fare transportation. We will meet repeatedly with the client over a few months to determine if the client is reaching his goals and if our pilot is effective.

Energy Assistance

10,371 individuals from 4,549 households stayed warm with \$3,016,273 in energy assistance. 92 of those households made emergency appointments for lack of heat.

Energy Assistance Program Updates

In order to meet the need for energy assistance, we have been performing outreach to both lapsed and new clients. We have held energy appointments off-site at King County Housing Authority developments and sent application packets to lapsed clients. We also started an incentive program in which current participants, who refer a new client, will receive a priority appointment next fall when the energy season re-opens. We are reaching out to ensure that all who are eligible for this service receive it. Next fall, we will hire more seasonal help to process additional client appointments.

Food Assistance Program

Our Food Assistance program served 13,740 unduplicated individuals from 5,976 households with 2,065,422 meals.

Within those numbers, our food banks served 12,656 people from 5,185 families with 135,148 individual visits to the food bank and 3,523,895 pounds of food.

We distributed 6,367 emergency bags of food (E-bags) to 2,439 hungry people.

Hopelink Harvest gleaned 99,110 pounds of fresh produce through 70 gleaning events at local farms.

Twenty six people participated in 6-week Cooking Matters classes with 81% completing the course.

Announcing the Opening of Ronald Commons and the new Shoreline Food Bank

Hopelink, Compass Housing Alliance, and Ronald United Methodist Church joined together to create Ronald Commons. This innovative partnership houses a 12,000 sft Hopelink Integrated Service Center, 60 units of permanent affordable housing operated by Compass Housing Alliance, and a renovated church facility which will host a variety of community services offered by partner agencies. This new service center more than doubles the previous Shoreline Facility, allowing Hopelink to move to a grocery-style food bank model as well as expand our services to help community members become equipped to exit poverty. This includes additional Case Management and Employment services as well as education classes in the new community meeting space. Ronald Commons has a demonstration garden and pea-patch garden plots that provide nutrition education and access to fresh produce for residents and clients.

Darryl had been a Food Bank client for over 3 years when he announced that his next visit would be his last. Through Hopelink's Employment Services, he had just been hired for a full time position. Darryl told us how much it meant to him to attend the Food Bank during his time of need. He told us how when he first become unemployed, it felt like his life spiraled out of control and when he started coming to the Food Bank he had one less thing to worry about and that at least he wasn't experiencing hunger. He told us that without the Food Bank and Employment Services he is sure it would have taken him longer to get back on his feet.

Thank you

As you can see, we have accomplished a lot in this past year. Hopelink doesn't do this all on its own. This is a joint effort and your gift helped have a major impact on our community. Thank you once more.