

Tulalip Charitable Contributions Funds Distribution Report

NAME OF AGENCY: LAW Advocates

DATE OF AWARD: 2016 Q3

ADDRESS: P.O. Box 937, Bellingham, WA 98227

CONTACT: (360)671-6079, https://www.lawadvocates.org

GENERAL GOALS: LAW Advocates assists people with low income in a

variety of legal matters.

SPECIFIC USE FOR THIS AWARD:

This award went to supporting programs and operational expenses. For more information please read the attached report from LAW Advocates.





Providing access to justice for low-income Whatcom County residents since 1987

November 13, 2017

Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions 8802 27th Avenue N.E. Tulalip, WA 98271-9694

Sent via email to: Marilyn Sheldon, Director msheldon@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov

Re: 2017 Grant to LAW Advocates Domestic Violence Parenting Plan Clinic—Closing Report Grant No. Q3 2016 14.2

Dear Marilyn:

On behalf of our clients, staff and board of directors, I thank you again for awarding us a grant of to help support our Domestic Violence Parenting Plan Clinic. For reasons of confidentiality and safety of our clients, we cannot share photographs of our clients or program activities. However, I can share with you the news that thanks to your generous contribution we have been able to open 72 new cases in the clinic so far this year and have closed 34 cases. Those numbers will increase in the last couple of months of the year, and this will have been one of our busiest years for the program.

As described in our grant application, the clinic assists domestic violence victims who need to establish court-ordered parenting plans to protect themselves and their children. This program includes both regular workshops to educate people about the general process involved in securing a parenting plan, and one-on-one attorney assistance in our office for those needing it. Our contract attorney and volunteer staff help clients draft pleadings and prepare to present their cases in court.

The clients of this clinic face some of the most desperate situations we see in our office. They and their children often are under active abuse from their spouses/partners, lack financial resources to cover basic needs, and may be on the verge of homelessness. Fortunately, our DV attorney, staff and volunteer attorneys and non-attorneys are available to get legal protections in place and to refer the clients to other services of our organization and to other organizations in the community, which provide domestic violence counseling, safe housing, and other critical assistance.

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> Dani Turley Programs Assistant

Please pass along our thanks to everyone involved in providing us this grant. Your contribution was integral to furthering our mission of providing civil legal assistance to the residents of our community regardless of their ability to pay.

Sincerely,

Michael Heatherly Executive Director

