



TulalipCares.org

Tulalip Charitable Contributions Funds Distribution Report

NAME OF AGENCY: LifeSPAN

ADDRESS: 16315 NE 87th St, B-7, Redmond, WA 98052

CONTACT: (425) 883-9867; <http://www.lifespan-wa.org/>

GENERAL GOALS: To support families in developing a safe, secure and quality future for their relatives with disabilities.

SPECIFIC USE FOR THIS AWARD:

This award was used as support for operational expenses and programs.

For more information please read the attached report from LifeSPAN.



LifeSPAN (Lifetime Secure Personal Assistance Network)

**Report on our August 2015 Grant
Grant Report #Q2 2015 14.2**

**Respectfully submitted to:
Marilyn Sheldon, Director
Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund
8802 27th Avenue NE
Tulalip, WA 98271**

We are grateful to the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund for helping us to support families to develop safe, secure and quality futures for relatives with disabilities. We are honored to have received support from Tulalip in 2010, 2012, and, most recently your August 2015 gift of [REDACTED]. We recognize that our report was due in fall 2016 and trust that you will accept our apologies for the delay.



As we mentioned in our application, this type of future visioning and family support begins with deep listening, experiential learning, and planning. It then transitions into setting up the components of a “Good Life” for the individual with a disability. This includes: safety, security, a welcoming home, a place in the community and a network of friends. Ultimately, this work is thoughtfully adapted to the specific situation of each “Focus Person” and family so that the plan and network is sustainable after the death of the parents or other primary caregiver.

With the help of Tulalip, we are continuing our journey together as parents and siblings of adult men and women with disabilities (age 21 to 65 plus), most of whom have special needs that require support with activities of daily life. We are now entering into 17th year and our “second generation” of family leadership, education and facilitation of Personal Support Networks.

As a family led organization, we engage with both our own families and with others in our region. We offer both workshops and small group discussions centered on creating a shared vision and plan for the future. As families choose to move forward with a Personal Support Network, LifeSPAN trains and hires Network Facilitators, and then gathers family, friends and volunteers to be part of the network. Our family lead organization is supported by a team of contracted facilitators who are guided by a part-time Facilitator Coordinator who continues to monitor networks and support Network Facilitators.

We have a lot of work to do around tracking our success, but here are some numbers (as of November 2016) that reflect the impact of your financial support:

- ☐ **18 Personal Support Networks.** The individual with a disability is referred to as our “person at the center” or our “focus person.” These individuals range in age from their mid-twenties to their mid-sixties. (Some of our networks have been in existence for 10-15 years.)
- ☐ **Our networks are continuing through the passing of parents and other life transitions:**
 - ☐ 33% of our networks have no parent. (No parent or sibling – 2 networks; sibling only – 4 networks). One of these networks is for a man who aged out of the foster care system and has no family support. Community members have surrounded him.
 - ☐ 28% of our networks have only one parent (5 networks).
 - ☐ 39% of our networks have two parents (7 networks).



Featured above: Network Facilitators (2015)

Here are some supporting statistics:

- Volunteers/network members: Approx. 250 – 300.
- Contracted network facilitators: 12-14.
- Part-time Network Coordinator: 1.
- Part-time Operations Manager: 1.
- Office space at the Together Center in Redmond and we also work remotely.
- Additional support from professional payroll, bookkeeping, and CPA services.

Tulalip's support not only helped to offset operating costs, but, as important, it gave us space to breathe: We are so grateful for your unrestricted support as it helps us adapt and learn as we enter our second generation of developing family education programs and sustainable Personal Support Networks. We have the strong support of our families through both time and financial support, but it is truly the type of support that Tulalip provides that gives us the extra boost to make it all possible.

Other information we would like to share: As you will recall, LifeSPAN is modeled after and affiliated with an award-winning program in Vancouver, B.C. called PLAN (Planned Lifetime Advocacy Network). Through this relationship we are connected with many other affiliate groups (primarily across Canada). As such, we continually and intentionally learn from each other and share resources.

In March, our affiliate friends in Toronto (Partners For Planning) created a free, Ted Talk inspired webinar entitled **"The Art of Belonging."** It featured six extraordinary individuals talking about the power of belonging and community. We would like to share two of these presentations with you. The first is entitled, **"How Disability Changed the World," by Ted Kuntz**, a father and returning President of PLAN. The second is entitled, **"Feeling at Home, in Our Own Home: Reconciling Indigenous Belonging," by Jessica Bolduc**. It is our understanding that Jessica is Anishinaabe kwe from Sault Ste. Marie, ON, Batchewana First Nation.

Click on -- <http://www.planningnetwork.ca/en-ca/Resources/24407/Art-of-Belonging>

It is also our understanding that PLAN is undertaking some work to better adapt its future planning and network development approach within the First Nations community. We look forward to sharing more information on this as we learn more ourselves.

Closing: In 2000, we were a dream of parents in our region, who were asking themselves, "What will happen to my son or daughter with a disability when I die?" In 2005, we had grown to supporting 6 Personal Support Networks for individuals with disabilities. Now, as we celebrate our 17th anniversary in 2017, we have proven Personal Support Network model and approximately 300 volunteers. Most importantly, with the help of caring funders like Tulalip, we've become an extended network of families and concerned citizens who are reaching out to other families in need with a tested and flexible approach to future planning.

We are grateful to you. Thank you.

With warm regards from our Board of Directors and our families,

Sue Willey, Chair
LifeSPAN Grants and Major Gifts Committee