



Tulalip Charitable Contributions Funds Distribution Report

NAME OF AGENCY: Mary's Place Seattle

ADDRESS: 1830 9th Avenue, Seattle, WA 98101

CONTACT: (206) 621-8474; <http://www.marysplaceseattle.org>

GENERAL GOALS: Empowering homeless women, children and families to reclaim their lives by providing shelter, nourishment, resources, healing and hope in a safe community.

SPECIFIC USE FOR THIS AWARD:

Mary's Place is a leading voice for homeless women, children, and families in emergency situations. We empower women to reclaim their lives by offering community, acceptance, hope and dignity. Our work keeps struggling families together and provides practical tools and resources that help women find housing and employment. We inspire the community to support homeless women and families through advocacy, partnerships, volunteerism and philanthropy.

For more information see the attached pages from Mary's Place.





2014 PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT

In 2014, Mary's Place served more women families than ever before. We met our financial goals for the year, expanded programming, and strengthened our board and staff leadership. We expect to continue to grow in 2015 as we strive to empower women, children, and families to reclaim their lives and keep them inside and safe at night.

Mary's Place was founded more than 15 years ago to provide supportive services to homeless women, and single women continue to be a central focus of our mission. As family homelessness has increased dramatically in our region, we have added services and shelter to keep homeless families together, and for the first time we are welcoming single fathers with children.

Because single women and families have distinct needs, in 2015 we will be adding a second Day Center for single women to provide services, groups, and support specifically for them.

In May, we opened Bianca's Place, our fourth Crisis Response Family Shelter, and in December, we opened our first winter shelter, both in the South Lake Union neighborhood. We plan to open another temporary winter shelter in the Chinatown/International District next month. These two temporary shelters will operate during the cold weather months when the need for shelter is especially acute, supplementing our four permanent shelters.

Last year, our Day Center welcomed 1,870 single women and 992 parents and children. 345 families were served at our night shelters. In total, we served 2,862 unduplicated individuals. In 2014, we provided:

- 40,794 overnight stays in our crisis response shelters
- 36,572 individual visits at our day center
- 149,798 meals
- 10,572 showers
- 4,044 loads of laundry

Additionally,

- Approximately 1,200 volunteers donated 27,760 hours of service.
- Our nursing team treated 2,552 medical conditions.

- Of the families served at our night shelters, 52 families moved into transitional housing; 59 to permanent housing; 27 returned to live with family or friends; 8 moved to a hotel/motel.

In addition to meeting the basic and immediate survival needs of our women and families, we also provided services designed to provide long-term solutions to homelessness and poverty. Our staff and volunteers assist our participants to apply for transitional and permanent housing, navigate the housing system, and address the barriers to housing, like lack of identification. Thanks to a generous grant from Building Changes, in 2015 we will have additional funding for move-in assistance, including first and last months rent, deposits, and housing application fees. We provide assistance with employment searches and employment readiness skills, including an internship program; connect our participants with resources and services they need, such as continuing education and health care; and we make sure our children stay on track with school and offer summer programs with enhanced learning opportunities.

Most importantly, Mary's Place provides these services in a community setting that prioritizes the innate dignity and worth of every human being. Charlotte, one of the mothers that we serve, wrote last year:

I have two sons, James and Michael, 6 and 4 years old. We moved from New Mexico and when we settled in Seattle everything was going well. But then my husband started having serious health complications. When his severe spinal issues started, that is when our lives began spiraling downward. We started sleeping in our car while my husband was visiting the emergency room on and off. Eventually he was admitted to the hospital and while he was receiving care I lost my job. I wasn't able to look forward because I had to care for my two sons. Around the time I lost my job we started seeking help at Mary's Place.

I have found that Mary's Place is a community of hope that helps my family greatly. My sons are now both in school and child care, and my husband is staying with us at one of the two-parent family shelters. I feel like I have been getting the assistance I need and am extremely grateful for the services that have been available to me.

Today, Charlotte and her family have moved into permanent housing. Mary's Place provided them with move-in assistance, Charlotte has a new job, her husband is continuing to recover, and they boys are doing well in school.