



**CHARITABLE
CONTRIBUTIONS**

8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip, WA 98271

TulalipCares.org

Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization:
Northwest Youth Services

Address:
1020 North State Street
Bellingham, WA 98225

Contact:
(360) 734-9862
<https://www.nwys.org>

Organization's General Goals:
Northwest Youth Services collaborates with at-risk, runaway and homeless youth to foster self-reliance.

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| Date of Award: | Level: |
| 2018 Q2 | \$2,501 to \$5,000 |

For more information, please read the attached report from Northwest Youth Services.

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



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May 29, 2019

Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund
8802 27th Avenue NE
Tulalip, WA 98271

RE: Grant Report - Vocational Case Management at NWYS' Skagit Transitional Living Program

To the Directors of the Tulalip Charitable Contributions Fund,

On behalf of Northwest Youth Services' staff and youth, thank you again for your [REDACTED] grant support of our Skagit Transitional Living Program and its vocational components over the past year. Northwest Youth Services (NWYS) would like to offer the following grant report in recognition of the Tulalip Fund's impact in the 2018-19 year.

Program Operations and Impact

The Transitional Living Program and its vocational components support a young person's journey from homelessness into a safe and stable living environment. Along that journey, it is NWYS' goal that young people acquire financial self-sufficiency, permanent connections in their community, and the life skills, education and employment necessary for their success. By pairing housing and vocational programming, we help young people recognize the barriers they face and gain the skills and knowledge to overcome them.

Northwest Youth Services used best practices, such as Positive Youth Development tools and a Trauma-Informed Care approach, to help youth gain vocational and educational skills in an accessible and non-triggering environment.

During the June 1, 2018 to May 31, 2019 grant period, NWYS' Skagit-based programs housed 28 youth and young families experiencing homelessness in Skagit County.

Relating to proposed outcomes, the program helped 94% of the youth served exit into safe housing situations and 41.2% youth exit into permanent and stable housing situations. A total of 76.5% of youth increased in employability by gaining two or more vocational or educational skills. These skills strengthen young people's ability to create resumes, establish identification, reenroll in school in order to complete a GED or high school diploma, or acquire other skills that

improve their chances of securing employment. Of the 28 youth served, 94% completed a housing safety plan and 94% of youth increased their independent living skills.

The Skagit Transitional Living Program's vocational efforts have grown over the past few years as the subprogram secured designated funding. It now operates as a specific agency effort: the "Skagit Vocational Readiness Program." This vocational program is a distinct part of NWYS' Skagit-based services for youth, ages 16-24, whether housed or unhoused.

The program provides approximately ten hours of case management to youth every week, meeting with youth one-on-one to support them in their vocational goals. These can be in areas of educational attainment and employment readiness, including assistance accessing education systems, searching for jobs, submitting job applications, crafting cover letters, building resumes, and preparing for interviews. Services are provided by the Skagit Vocational Coordinator (0.5 FTE) who provides case management, advertises vocational services and hosts vocational workshops for youth, collaborates with community agencies engaged in vocational services, and grows the vocational program as a whole.

Moving Forward for Skagit Youth

Throughout 2018 and into 2019, Northwest Youth Services has also been looking at ways to thoughtfully expand our impact in Skagit County through outreach. We have been exploring opportunities to integrate outreach into our programming and work more collaboratively with the Oasis Teen Center (operated by the Skagit Valley Family YMCA). In this way, we hope to take steps forward as a targeted resource addressing the needs of Skagit youth.

Optimally, Northwest Youth Services would like to be providing Skagit-based job placement opportunities, additional skill-building activities, and having the community connections necessary to refer youth and address a broad spectrum of youth needs.

Update on Northwest Youth Services' Operations

As of May 1, 2019, NWYS has successfully completed a shift in Executive Directors. In December 2018, Riannon Bardsley transitioned from her nearly ten year role as NWYS' Executive Director and took a position with the Washington State Office of Homeless Youth. Following approximately six months under the leadership of a board-appointed Interim, the NWYS' Board of Directors announced the appointment of Emilio Vela, Jr. as the new Executive Director. Emilio comes from a Behavioral Health background, having led the Washington State Independent Living Council and working extensively with young people and adults who experience chemical dependency or struggle with mental illness.