



**CHARITABLE
CONTRIBUTIONS**

8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip, WA 98271

TulalipCares.org

Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization:

Page Ahead Children's Literacy Program

Address:

1130 NW 85th Street
Seattle, WA 98117

Contact:

(206) 461-0123
www.pageahead.org

Organization's General Goals:

To close the literacy achievement gap experienced by at-risk children in Washington State.

Date of Award:

2020 Q4

Level:

\$2,501 to \$5,000

For more information, please read the attached report from
Page Ahead Children's Literacy Program.

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

November 30, 2021

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

Dear Ms. Sheldon,

We are honored to have your continued partnership for our work in Snohomish County. The last year (and then some!) has not been business as usual for us or our school partners, but thanks to the support of funders like the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund, we've been able to put books in the hands of Washington students furthest from educational justice.

Grant details

Amount: [REDACTED]

Date awarded: March 2021

Project funded: Book Up Summer, Snohomish County

Completed project summary

Book Up Summer is a book fair-based three-year program to help build literacy skills and home libraries for kids furthest from educational justice. Delivered to kindergartners, first graders, and second graders at elementary schools in majority low-income communities, Book Up Summer is based on proven research that shows when you give kids the chance to pick free, brand-new books for summer reading at book fairs, they are less likely to experience the “summer slide” of learning loss.

Through Book Up Summer 2020–21, Page Ahead gave 828 Snohomish County students 9,936 books for their home libraries; statewide, we reached 17,272 students at 109 schools with 207,408 books.



The Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund helped build this home library for this Cedar Valley Community School student in Edmonds—and many more!

School	K	1	2	Total Kids	Total Books
Cedar Valley Community School (Edmonds)	68	74	63	205	2,460
College Place Elementary School (Edmonds)	70	78	74	222	2,664
Liberty Elementary School (Marysville)	45	71	62	178	2,136
Quil Ceda Tulalip Elementary School (Marysville)	80	82	61	223	2,676

Unlike in “normal” years when the book fairs take place at the schools, most of our book fairs last school year were remote. Snohomish County students browsed a mix of online and in-person book fairs in spring 2021 (Liberty Elementary was in person, while our other three Snohomish schools were online) and picked twelve books. Books were then bagged up, along with 12 special bookplate stickers they could write their names on and put on their books, and shipped to the schools. At the end of the school year, the children took their books home for summer reading.

Benefit to the community

Summer slide accounts for two-thirds of the literacy opportunity gap experienced by children from families in majority low-income communities. Much of the reason for this problem, according to researchers, is due to lack of easy access to books in the home. The pandemic, with extended school and library closures, has only made the problem worse. But Book Up Summer ensures children have literally fingertip access to books – books that they got to choose themselves, and that reflect their interests and reading levels.



Liberty Elementary readers shop—for free—for 12 books at their Book Up Summer book fair in spring 2021

“These are books we wanted at the [school] book fair but could not afford. They had to do with his interests . . . perfect!!!”

—parent of a kindergartner
Liberty Elementary, Marysville

Book Up Summer benefits the whole family, too. In collaboration with Page Ahead, partner schools hold a literacy night prior to the BUS book fair (done all online last year, of course) where parents and their children come to learn about the program. This ensures that families are aware of the purpose of the twelve books. They are better informed and can better support their child’s reading efforts at home.

Because of funding like yours, Book Up Summer served as a crucial pipeline of high-interest reading materials for many children who otherwise had extremely limited or no access to new books. Veronica Eldridge, instructional coach at Arlington Elementary in Tacoma, captured the program’s beneficial impact well: “Book Up Summer brings joy to students. That joy helps to promote a love of reading. When giving out the books recently, I had a fifth grader remind his younger sibling of the summer they sent reading in their backyard with his books. They were both excited to read this summer together the younger sibling’s books. It builds community and a love for books.”

Evaluation results

The Department of Education–funded study on which Book Up Summer is based demonstrates that three years of program participation are necessary to show significant reading progress.

Unfortunately, that progress is tracked in part by data from standardized testing, which has been significantly disrupted (or canceled altogether) since the pandemic began. However, we know the program works: 2018 testing data from Seattle students participating in Book Up Summer show an average improvement in reading skills of 2.63 points over the summer for rising first graders and 1.84 points over the summer for rising second graders. Since students from majority low-income communities typically slide back in the summer, to see them actually gaining reading skill is exciting and a powerful endorsement of our work and this summer-reading model.

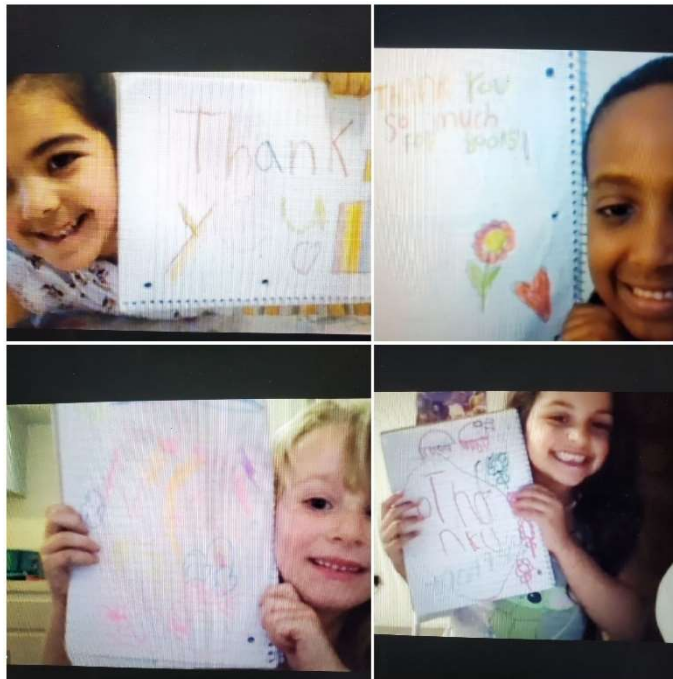
We also use surveys as an evaluation resource.

Each school that participates in Book Up Summer is invited to complete an evaluation on how the program worked, what improvements they suggest, and what they observe from the results of the program; 98 percent of teachers responding to our survey in spring 2021 agreed that Book Up Summer helps to build a culture of reading for their students' families, 99 percent agreed that it makes a positive impact on their students' attitudes toward reading and fosters engagement with

reading, and 100 percent agreed it increases their students' access to books in the home. For the first time last year, we also asked our school partners to send surveys to their families. In spring 2021, 73 percent of families responded that Book Up Summer would increase their family time spent reading together; they also reported that the size of their children's home libraries grew by an average of 61 percent thanks to Book Up Summer.

"The biggest difference I've seen [thanks to Book Up Summer] is in book engagement. They all come into first grade knowing that they have a pile of books at home, and that they have read them recently. When spring comes, they say, 'Oh, yeah, we did that in kindergarten!' and the excitement grows!"

—Rynae McKinney, first grade teacher
College Place Elementary, Edmonds



These remote learners at College Place Elementary in Edmonds loved their Book Up Summer books!