



**CHARITABLE
CONTRIBUTIONS**

8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip, WA 98271

TulalipCares.org

Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization:

Page Ahead Children's Literacy Program

Address:

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Seattle, WA 98117

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<https://pageahead.org>

Organization's General Goals:

Literacy is essential to lifelong success. Our goal is to close the literacy achievement gap experienced by Washington students who live in historically disadvantaged or oppressed communities and are furthest from educational opportunity.

Date of Award:

2021 Q4

Level:

\$2,501 to \$5,000

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

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November 28, 2022

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. 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. Read on to find out what you've made possible.

Grant details

Amount: [REDACTED]

Date awarded: March 2022

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 2021–22, Page Ahead gave 888 Snohomish County students 11,484 books for their home libraries; statewide, we reached 19,216 students at 111 schools with 244,990 books.



The Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund helped build home libraries for these College Place students in Edmonds—and many more!

School	K	1	2	Total Kids	Total Books
Cedar Valley Community School (Edmonds)	67	56	61	184	2,394
College Place Elementary School (Edmonds)	65	70	70	205	2,657
Liberty Elementary School (Marysville)	65	75	100	240	3,094
Quil Ceda Tulalip Elementary School (Marysville)	89	94	76	259	3,339

Happily, this past year saw a total return to in-person book fairs, during which the kids got to actually touch and flip through books to see what they wanted to pick (unlike in the previous couple years when we had to produce online book fairs.) Their selections were then bagged up, along with 12 special bookplate stickers they could write their names on and put on their books, and stored at school until the last week of the year, when 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 its “learning loss” and extreme disruptions to children’s lives, 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.

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 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. Vickie Provenza, a teacher at Seattle’s Broadview-Thomson K–8 School, captured the program’s beneficial impact well: “I love this program. My students are so excited, and they love that they get to select the special books for reading in the summer. What an amazing gift this is to my students and their families, **many of whom would not have such an extensive library at home if it were not for this program.** Thank you so much for this amazing gift of literacy to my students and their families.”



College Place Elementary readers shop—for free—for 12 books at their Book Up Summer book fair in spring 2022

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, and we don't expect to receive new data until later this winter.

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.

Moreover, looking at general data from the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, it seems that access to books through Book Up Summer has at least functioned as a protective factor during the pandemic, which has knocked back students at all levels. Seattle low-income fourth graders who had participated in Book Up Summer in their K–2 years have slid back nearly four points *less* in their reading scores than their statewide low-income peers (a drop of 9.7 points for Seattle Book Up Summer students vs. 13.3 points for statewide low-income students).

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 2022 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 2022, 69 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 62 percent thanks to Book Up Summer.