



Tulalip Charitable Contributions Funds Distribution Report

NAME OF AGENCY: Peace Community Center

ADDRESS: 2106 South Cushman Avenue, Tacoma, WA 98405

CONTACT: (253) 383-0702 ; www.peacecommunitycenter.org

GENERAL GOALS: To support educational opportunities for youth.

SPECIFIC USE FOR THIS AWARD:

To help prepare low income high school students for post-secondary education with Readiness Seminars.

Four College Readiness Seminars were held this year; one for each grade level starting with the freshmen in the winter, followed by the sophomores and juniors. Each session was two and a half hours long and ended with a shared meal. The senior seminar was held the week after graduation with each session lasting three hours and concluding with lunch together.



For more information regarding the specific uses of the award, see the following pages from Peace Community Center.



**Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions
Report, July 2015
Q4 2014 14.2**

Name of Organization Peace Community Center
Web Address www.peacecommunitycenter.org
Name of Project Hilltop Scholars: High School College Readiness Seminars
Project Dates September 2014-June 2015
Project Leader Contina Kemp, College and Career Director

Project Status

Four College Readiness Seminars were held this year; one for each grade level starting with the freshmen in the winter, followed by the sophomores and juniors. Each session was two and a half hours long and ended with a shared meal. The senior seminar was held the week after graduation with each session lasting three hours and concluding with lunch together.

2014-2015 Hilltop Scholars High School Seminars

	# of Students in Hilltop Scholars	# of Students Attending	% of Students Attending	# of Sessions
9th Grade	26	13	50%	11
10th Grade	19	10	53%	10
11th Grade	17	11	65%	8
12th Grade	16	11	69%	3
Total	78	45	58%	32

The High School College Readiness Seminars have two objectives. The objectives and the progress made on them in the 2014-2015 year are set out below.

Build college awareness in high school students

One way that college awareness was built for the students was through actual experience with colleges. Many students are the first in their family to attend college, so they are not familiar with college or a college campus. Freshmen explored Pacific Lutheran University campus by participating in a scavenger hunt on campus. Both the sophomores and the juniors went on actual college visits. The sophomores visited Tacoma Community College and UW-Tacoma. The juniors toured the University of Puget Sound.

There are many aspects of college beyond the place itself and in high school seminars, students explored and discussed several of them. Students discussed the independent nature of studying in college and they learned skills to help them with academics, including the importance of listening, their individual learning style, time management and goal setting. Students also talked about how relationships in college are different than in high school. A TCC college professor explained how she relates to students and how that is different than interactions with a high school teacher.

Students also explored areas outside of the school aspect of college. They discussed the additional responsibility that comes with college attendance. For example, the seniors heard from a panel on Life after High School where people in their early-twenties discussed and answered questions about relationships, work, responsibility, and things that they would do differently.

Explore the relationship between education and access to college and career opportunities

Students explored the relationship between education level and career in a variety of ways. They researched careers and the education required to obtain them, and played College Jeopardy where they learned miscellaneous facts about famous people and their education experiences. Students also learned the importance of grit, staying focused on long term goals, and the impact of today's choices on their future.

The juniors explored many dimensions of career by interacting with a career panel. They learned about various careers, the education backgrounds of the participants and how they came to be in their particular field. Panelists shared that a career is more than working for a paycheck, requires a variety of skills, and that many factors influence one's happiness and feelings of success. One student stated, "I learned to love what you want to do and be punctual, honest, and organized. Always do your best."

The seniors participated in an activity that provided them a very concrete example of the relationship between education and career. The students first created a budget based on their desired future life style, then learned about the impact of education level on income. Each student, based upon the color of their paper, was told their "assigned" education level and its average income. Some students had plenty of money and others did not.



High school students listen to professionals discuss their work and required education for their profession at the Career Panel in the multi-purpose room at Peace Community Center.



Two high school students interview a young professional about her career as part of this year's Career Panel.



High school seniors listen to post-high school advice from a Hilltop Scholars alum during Senior Seminar the week after graduation.