



Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization:
Powerful Voices

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Organization's General Goals:

Powerful Voices creates brave spaces with girls of color (or those who identify or socialize as a girl) to take charge of their own power as leaders, igniting their abilities to confidently express themselves, build community, and act against injustices affecting their lives.

Date of Award:	Level:
2018 Q1	\$400 to \$2,500

For more information, please read the attached report from Powerful Voices.

8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip, WA 98271
TulalipCares.org

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Final Report to Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund

December 2018

We are grateful for the generous support from Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund, which provided essential funding for Powerful Voices' core programs and services. Powerful Voices' programs include our middle school program, our high school program, our case management program, and our juvenile justice program for girls who are in and out of the juvenile justice system. Your support also allowed us to host a number of girl-led, social-justice focus community engagement events where girls had opportunities to raise their voice and raise awareness about issues that impact them on a daily basis. Throughout all of the events, programs, and services we offered, we reached 314 girls and 200 adults.

Program Highlights

Middle School Powerful Choices program: 34 girls participated in our middle school programming in the past year. This included three cohorts throughout the year (spring, summer, and fall). Through our spring cohort, eighth-grade girls from South Shore K-8 middle school met weekly in April all the way to June. In June, we hosted a celebration with girls' families and friends, where girls had an opportunity to perform a spoken word poem they created together during the program.



2018 #BlvckGrrlsRising Cohort and Facilitators

In the summertime, we piloted a new program - #BlvckGrrlsRising - in partnership with Reel Grrls in Seattle (the spelling of "grrls" is meant to be inclusive of gender non-conforming and transgender people). This project offered young people a two-week intensive day-camp experience to explore the intersection of media and social justice and how girls can use arts and culture as forms of facilitating social change and promoting self-expression, self-advocacy,

self-care. The purpose of this project was to encourage black girls to create a more racially equitable future by gaining technical skills so they can be the next generation of digital storytellers. The two-week program culminated in a video that the girls created and produced—a two-minute video about a social justice issue that impacts them. Girls presented their videos at a celebration event in August for friends, families, and community members. We expect to offer this new opportunity again in the future.

High School Employment Readiness program: 32 girls participated in our high school programming in the past year. High school girls – Activistas – who participated in the spring cohort of our Employment Readiness program had the opportunity to meet weekly with peers and adult allies. They collaborated to develop, lead, and facilitate workshops at our annual Girlvolution conference on issues that are important to them--issues that impact their daily lives such as sexual assault, food and health, immigration policy and discrimination, sexism in the media, etc. Of the girls who participated in this 12-week program:

- 100% reported that they were proud of the work they did as an Activista;
- 71% reported that Activistas helped them feel better about their future;
- 86% reported that after being an Activista, they are prouder of who they are;
- 86% reported that they increased their understanding of power, privilege and oppression;
- 86% reported that Activistas helped them become better leaders.

Case Management program: 45 girls benefited from year-round, one-on-one support and mentorship from Powerful Voices case managers. Girls built skills in goal-setting, self-care and self-advocacy. An example of this program's impact on girls is JaNaya's story, a young woman involved with our Case Management Program. During an interview, JaNaya stated the following:

"... This program is what kept me above water when I had no one to turn to. When the system is working against me, and my family is struggling, Cata was there to support and guide me through the obstacles that I was facing. Case management programs is [sic] important for girls like me who are unable to access the resources that we need to survive because people do not want to acknowledge our needs and work to support us."



JaNaya with her family and Powerful Voices case manager

"My favorite moments are when I meet with Cata and we talk through life together. We talk about everything and it makes me feel better that someone is listening, and understanding what I am going through."

Juvenile Justice program: 48 girls who were at the King County Juvenile Court Youth Services Center were served by Powerful Voices. The Powerful Voices team provided 6 trainings and facilitated on topics

such as relationships, healthy resolutions, communications, and current event topics like the #metoo movement.

Other Successes

One priority for Powerful Voices' is to elevate the voices of girls and women of color in spaces where historically we have not been given a platform to share our experience and be heard. One strategy we are undertaking is to reach across different channels and lead in our community as bridge-builders by partnering with who some may think of as unlikely partners. An example is the recent Seasonal Salon we hosted with Plymouth Church in downtown Seattle. This Salon provided a chance for us to bring our communities together—communities that may not have had a reason to engage in the past—to build understanding, elevate the leadership of girls of color, and promote racial and gender justice.

More than 40 people attended representing a mix of Plymouth Church congregation members and Powerful Voices board members, donors, participants, and community partners. Girls of color from the high school and middle school summer programs spoke about their own experiences and shared poems and videos they created. Plymouth Church's pastor, Reverend Dr. Kelle Brown, a woman of color, kicked off the event and closed it out with song. Our executive director Kate Tibone, also a woman of color, spoke as well. We also heard from Briana Herman-Brand and Dr. Benjamin Danielson who presented on the impacts of trauma on girls of color and how community institutions are working to address this directly. It was an inspiring and informative event that created new connections within our community among people who share a passion for social justice, racial equity, and gender justice.

We also hosted our first "Self-Care Day." When we think of self-care, it is often marketed as expensive, individualistic, and inaccessible for certain communities. For the girls of color we work with, self-care is not always a priority when girls are tending to their families' immediate basic needs. At Powerful Voices, we believe that self-care is necessary for everyone. It is a right. As part of our "Self-Care Day", women stylists of color volunteered their time to care for fellow young girls and women of color. Young folks had the opportunity to get haircuts, styling, maintenance, makeup, nail art. Girls also engaged in fun, self-care activities like tarot reading, making cards, games, and dancing. Our Self-Care Station was open, and young folks were able to "shop" through free, donated hygiene products, make up, clothing, shoes, accessories, and more. We will be hosting this event again on MLK Day 2019.

THANK YOU!

Your support allows Powerful Voices to provide tools, space, skills development, and ally-ship to amplify girls' voices and elevate their leadership. This work is essential to a healthy, strong, inclusive, just community. Thank you for your meaningful partnership in 2018!

