## **Funds Distribution Report**

Recipient Organization: **RE Sources** 

**Address:** 2309 Meridian St Bellingham, WA 98225

Contact: (360) 733-8307 https://www.re-sources.org

## Organization's General Goals:

RE Sources promote sustainable communities and protect the health of northwestern Washington's people and ecosystems through application of science, education, advocacy and action.

Date of Award: 2018 Q4

Level: \$2,501 to \$5,000

**Specific Use for This Award:** For more information, please read the attached report from RE Sources.



8802 27th Ave NE Tulalip, WA 98271

## TulalipCares.org

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2309 Meridian St Bellingham, WA 98225 (360) 733-8307 <u>re-sources.org</u>

April 8th, 2020

Marilyn Sheldon, Director Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions 8802 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue N.E. Quil Ceda Village, WA. 98271-8063

Dear Ms. Sheldon:

Report Back on 2019 Grant Award – Q42018 14.2

I am pleased to report that the award from the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions program filled a critical gap in funding for our Green Classrooms elementary schools program and made our accomplishments, detailed below, possible. We were able to fully meet our central goal of making sure students understand the implications of their actions on the environment and recognize the responsibility they have to protect the natural resources we all depend on. This was achieved through a combination of classroom lessons, a classroom pledge to implement conservation- focused behavior changes—for instance, turn off the lights when you leave a room—and service projects like litter clean-ups, installation of recycling stations, and water use audits.

As hoped, the students we taught all pledged to do one or more of the following—conserve water, recycle bottles, cans, plastics, paper and food waste, and use energy more efficiently. Teachers played a pivotal role in reinforcing these behavior changes and praised the lesson plans and instructional materials that we provided. In the end, both teachers and students made strong commitments to protect the environment, and to model their new conservation behaviors to others at school and at home.

With generous support from the Tulalip Tribes, our efforts resulted in the following:

- An estimated 1,250 students participated in the program with 86% participating in both our lessons workshops and the action project.
- Sixty-three teachers from 20 different schools throughout Whatcom County participated in the Green Classrooms (GC) program.
- Post program teacher and student surveys showed that students continued to practice what they learned in the GC program thus saving energy, reducing waste, and conserving water resources.
- Through art projects, students demonstrated their understanding of why protecting the earth's resources is so critical.

Page 2

🗰 CLEAN ENERGY 💧 CLEAN WATER 🗳 RESTORE 🍏 SUSTAINABLESCHOOLS 🤌 LOW CARBON LIVING

Student bookmark – 5<sup>th</sup> grade, Cascadia Elementary School, Ferndale





Informational poster - 1st grade Columbia Elementary, Bellingham



Upcycled jars - 1st grade Roosevelt Elementary, Bellingham

• 84% of students who filled out pre and post surveys, showed a measurable increase in knowledge in their responses to post-survey questions, while 95% of students circled "yes" when asked if they promise to carry out their green classroom pledge.

Moreover, this is what teachers had to say about the Green Classroom program:

"Great program, great presenters, and very relevant." -5th grade teacher at Cascadia Elementary. Page 3

"Thank you for your program. It is a wonderful opportunity for students to learn about helping their community." -1st grade teacher at Roosevelt Elementary.

"The instructor, Chelsea, included the kids in the discussions and made it really engaging!" -3rd grade teacher at Irene Reither Elementary.

"She did a wonderful job keeping my class engaged and actively talking about the topic. The kids were very receptive and excited to apply the ideas to their daily lives." -3rd grade teacher at Cordata Elementary.

Lastly, one key aspect of the program is to ensure science standards are incorporated into lesson plans and met. Teacher survey feedback make it clear that our Green Classroom program helped them meet these national standards—Next Generation Science Standards—in a creative real-world inquiry-driven way.

We hope you are as pleased with these results as we are. Not only did the generous grant from the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions program advance the crucial goal of providing free environmental education in the classroom but provided elementary students and their teachers the opportunity to learn more about how they can safeguard natural resources through simple, effective, and lasting behavior changes that can be carried out at school, at home, and in the larger community.

Thank you again for making this valuable work possible and for helping RE Sources build the next generation of environmental stewards and leaders.

Sincerely,

Ghen Wright

Shannon Wright, Executive Director, RE Sources

