



TulalipCares.org

Tulalip Charitable Contributions Funds Distribution Report

NAME OF AGENCY: Schools Out Washington

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GENERAL GOALS: Our mission is to foster productive partnerships that create inspiring opportunities for Washington's youth to learn, grow and thrive, because what's good for our youth is good for our future.

SPECIFIC USE FOR THIS AWARD:

This award went to operational support for the "Feed Your Brain" program.

For more information please see the attached report from Schools Out Washington.



2016 Feed Your Brain Executive Summary

What is Feed Your Brain?

The goal of Feed Your Brain is to increase the number of children who participate in literacy enrichment activities and receive nutritious meals during the summer in rural communities where the poverty level is high and the choice and supply of summer programs are limited. To work towards this goal, grants of up to \$5,000 are awarded to schools or community-based organizations in rural areas that run summer programs with a focus on literacy and enrichment activities while participating in the Summer Food Service Program. Since 2001, School's Out Washington has awarded over 203 Feed Your Brain grants to schools, community organizations and/or tribes providing a total of over 22,765 children in with summer literacy activities and serving over 435,000 free meals.

Feed Your Brain 2016 Program Impact

In 2016, School's Out Washington awarded 10 grants of up to \$5,000 each to programs totaling \$41,000. With 14 applicants and limited funding, we decided to prioritize those who most depended on our grant to operate a program in the summer. For many of the 2016 programs, the \$5,000 Feed Your Brain grant made up over half of the total summer program budget.



The 10 Feed Your Brain programs **impacted a total of 2408 young people** through the literacy and meal programs. Feed Your Brain programs provided literacy and enrichment activities to 1084 children and youth, almost twice the number than in 2015. The 10 funded programs impacted 15 communities due to the expansion of services by grantees to additional areas in their region. **Children and youth recorded a total of nearly 9506 hours spent reading and writing during the summer program and 599 children kept reading logs and a combined total of 7594 books read.**

In line with our racial equity focus, we continued to serve a high number of youth of color this summer. The demographic breakdown of children served is: 3% Native American/Alaska Native, .5% Asian, .5% African-American, 40% Hispanic or Latino, 18% White, and 18% Multi-Racial with the rest marked as other or unknown.

For the 11th year, we required programs to administer the San Diego Quick Assessment evaluation tool which assesses the change in children's reading levels over time. For the first time, in 2016, programs were provided with an alphabet test which could be administered to children who were pre-readers. Results from both assessments showed compelling data on the importance of summer programs in helping children and youth stay engaged and learning during the summer months. The evaluation results showed similar results from the independent and frustrated reading levels of Q4 2015 14.2

95% of students either maintaining or improving by at least one grade level in reading. Children taking the alphabet test increased their ability to read both lower and upper case letters by 97%. The evaluation data combined with narrative reports demonstrate that the Feed Your Brain project plays an instrumental role in funneling needed resources into rural communities that ultimately help kids return to school in the fall ready to learn.



“The fact that students didn’t want the program to end was the biggest kudo. Secondly our summer program could almost be certified “worksheet free”. Virtually all foundational skills practice is done through games.” - Gess Elementary/Chewelah School District, Chewelah

“One student was so excited to work through the alphabet that he would arrive each day and proudly and excitedly announce what letter the group was on that day”– Jefferson County YMCA, Pt. Townsend, Quilcene, Brinnon, and Chimacum.

Summer Meals

The Feed Your Brain project also aims to address hunger in high-poverty rural communities of our state by requiring all grantees to run the Summer Feeding Service Program through USDA. Children and youth in the 10 funded communities had access to at least 2 free meals 4 days/week for a minimum of 4 weeks that programs were required to operate. The 10 programs served a total of over 32,880 meals over the entire summer. This is great news that programs are reaching youth not only in their literacy summer program but also in the community. Partially through the efforts of the Jefferson County YMCA program spreading to five locations we were able to increase the number of meals served in 2015 by 10,000.

For the past several years, School’s Out Washington has participated as a member of a statewide summer meals workgroup. Through this partnership led by the Children’s Alliance, School’s Out Washington has worked beyond the Feed Your Brain project to increase access to and participation in the summer meal program. Members of the workgroup have also served as resources for outreach and targeted recruitment of Feed Your Brain grant applicants.



Training & Technical Assistance

We again partnered with Page Ahead, a Washington State non-profit organization that provides new books and develops reading activities that empower at-risk children. Page Ahead provided each Feed Your Brain program with four new books per student served that were age-appropriate and available in Spanish as requested by the program. The Feed Your Brain programs were incredibly grateful for the books, to which they attributed much of the academic success and enjoyment of reading experienced by students.

“A big change I noticed is how into books our kids got. Receiving the books from Page Ahead really helped to change some of the kids from readers to book lovers. Books were going home and being brought back and the kids were really enjoying reading at school and at home.” Grand Coulee Dam SHARP Kids Summer Program, Coulee Dam

For the third year we contracted with Page Ahead to provide additional technical assistance through a Summer Reading Specialist focused on lesson planning and curriculum development for the literacy programming. We selected Children’s Home Society in Walla Walla, Ocosta School District and Foundation for Academic Endeavors in Mt. Vernon to participate in this enhanced technical assistance based on their Feed Your Brain grant application and an identified need for assistance with developing and implementing a literacy-based curriculum for the summer.

Community Partnerships

Every year, we encourage Feed Your Brain programs to foster partnerships to bring in additional resources and support programs. This year, Feed Your Brain programs established 86 local partnerships with a variety of community resources including local libraries, food banks, parks and recreation, colleges/universities, newspapers, state and national park service, local government, businesses, sports teams, and a wide array of other community support.

“Examples of partnerships include housing the program on the Skagit Valley college campus. The t-shirts worn by staff and children included a phrase coined by our Latino college interns, ‘Aprende en tu Colegio’ which means ‘Come and learn in your college’. This innovation builds bridges between children, families and the college.....” - *Foundation for Academic Endeavors, Skagit Valley*



2016 Feed Your Brain Sites

Children's Home Society of Washington	Walla Walla
Gess Elementary School	Chewelah
Grand Coulee Dam School District	Coulee Dam
Jefferson County YMCA	Chimacum, Pt. Townsend, Brinnon, Quilcene
Ocosta School District	Ocosta
Foundation for Academic Endeavors	Mt. Vernon
ROOF Community Services	Rochester
White Salmon Valley School District	White Salmon
United General Hospital	Concrete
Youth and Family Link	Kelso