



Tulalip Charitable Contributions Funds Distribution Report

NAME OF AGENCY: Sean Humphrey House

ADDRESS: 1630 H Street, Bellingham, WA 98225

CONTACT: (360) 733-0176; <http://www.seanhumphreyhouse.org>

GENERAL GOALS: Sean Humphrey House is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in Bellingham, Washington whose mission is to optimize the quality of life for low-income individuals living with HIV/AIDS, who may also suffer from other diseases and disabilities, and who are unable to live independently.

SPECIFIC USE FOR THIS AWARD:

Funds have been used to purchase new bedding, towels and personal clothing, as well as to maintain and upgrade the aging facility.

For more information, please see the attached report from Sean Humphrey House.



October 23, 2015

Marilyn Sheldon, Director
Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions
8802 27th Avenue NE
Tulalip, WA 98271-9694

msheldon@tulaliptribes-nsn.gov

RE: Q3 2014 14.2

Dear Ms. Sheldon:

Please accept our update on the expenditure of a [REDACTED] grant from Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions awarded in November of 2014 for Residential Services for extremely low-income adults living with the HIV/AIDS. Over the years your organization has been a generous donor to Sean Humphrey House, and we are truly grateful for your support. Every dollar you have contributed has supported direct residential care for impoverished adults living with HIV/AIDS, including basic costs like food, clothing, and utilities. You have also contributed funds for capital improvements to our aging facility. These contributions also benefit residents by keeping our facility safe and in compliance with current state and local codes for group family homes. Not one cent of the funds that you have donated has ever been used administration, fundraising or any other expense not related to direct client care.

Sean Humphrey House (SHH) is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization providing residential services for very low-income adults living with HIV/AIDS. Our care is focused on those who have no other options for assistance. Residents come to us from hospitals, shelters, and often from the streets. SHH offices and our six-bed group family home are located in a quiet residential neighborhood in north Bellingham. Our facility opened in 1996 following the death of R. Sean Humphrey, in accordance with his final wish. Sean envisioned a peaceful place that would provide housing, nutrition, medication, and support to people with HIV/AIDS without regard to economic or personal circumstances. In almost 20 years of continuous operation we have gained a reputation as a can-do, forward-thinking agency with sound fiscal management, highly-trained and dedicated staff, and dynamic leadership. In 2014 we provided clients with 2,157 bed-nights of housing, 8,030 courses of medication, 6,471 nutritious meals, and 3,235 healthy snacks. To date for 2015 we have provided clients with 1,770 bed-nights of housing, 6,490 courses of medication, 5,310 nutritious meals, and 2,615 healthy snacks.

Most of the clients we serve are “multiple diagnosis.” In addition to infection with the HIV virus, they suffer from numerous mental and physical conditions and disabilities that make it impossible for them to function outside of structured housing. Were Sean Humphrey House to close it would be difficult to find places in other facilities for our clients. Those we serve usually have a history of homelessness. Without the care we provide some would again be homeless. For those with immune systems compromised by HIV, life on the streets is especially perilous, and mortality rates are very high.

Given that our clients are vulnerable, we continue to work on improvements to our aging facility. Sean Humphrey House has been continuously occupied by six residents and care staff since we opened our doors almost 20 years ago. Since 2008 we have secured almost \$125,000 in grant funding to repair, remodel and upgrade our residence. In 2015 we have already received \$2,000 from the Norman Archibald Charitable Foundation to purchase new commercial-quality washer and dryer. Clean bedding, sheets, towels and personal clothing for residents are an absolute necessity. HIV compromises the immune system and even a small skin infection or a common cold can be a serious matter. We also have several grants currently in review to replace the open flame gas heaters in each of the six client rooms. The cost is about \$20,000, but this is one of those “must do as soon as possible” projects.

These heaters are now 20 years old and inefficient by modern standards. They represent a constant safety, health and fire risk. The presence of an open flame wall heater, especially an aging open flame heater, in a room occupied by a person with mental and physical disabilities constitutes a serious fire hazard. In the past we have found clients attempting to adjust the heaters themselves with kitchen implements. Worse, if these heaters malfunction they can generate carbon monoxide which is a deadly gas without color, odor or taste. Finally, the open flame heaters mean that we cannot house any clients who require oxygen for respiratory or coronary problems. Ours is an aging population. If one of our long-term clients requires oxygen, we will not be able to house them. We cannot take on any new clients who need oxygen. We have had excellent success in securing capital funding in the past, and we are confident that we will be able to replace these aging heaters by the spring of 2016 with new, high efficiency units that do not require an open flame to operate.

Once again, thank for your extraordinary generosity. If you need additional information about Sean Humphrey House or the services we provide, please do not hesitate to contact me at (360) 733-0176 or directorshh@comcast.net.

Sincerely,



Joshua Grubb

Executive Director