



Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization:
Seattle Public Library Foundation

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Seattle, WA 98124

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Seattle, WA 98104

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<https://www.supportspl.org>

Organization's General Goals:

Our mission is to inspire the community's philanthropic support of, advocacy for, and pride in the library. The Seattle Public Library and the Foundation share a vision of a vibrant community where imagination and opportunity thrive.

Date of Award:	Level:
2023 Q3	\$2,501 to \$5,000

For more information, please read the attached report from Seattle Public Library Foundation.

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

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The Seattle Public Library Foundation

August 8, 2024

Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund
Attn: Marilyn Sheldon
8802 27th Avenue NE
Tulalip, WA 98271

Dear Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund Trustees,

On behalf of The Seattle Public Library Foundation, I want to thank you for your support of The Seattle Public Library's Raising A Reader program with a grant of [REDACTED] for the 2023-24 year (code Q3 2023 14.2).

The Raising A Reader (RAR) program, a key initiative within The Seattle Public Library's Youth & Family Learning Programs, works with early learning centers and home care providers to support low-income and immigrant families of color in building strong reading practices and cultures in their homes. RAR's mission is to work with low-income families, especially those who do not speak English, to develop pre-reading skills and promote daily "book cuddling" between parents or caregivers and their children.

The program serves as a connector between children and their families and their local library branches. The program encourages attending Library story times, which are offered in English, Spanish, Somali, Chinese, and other world languages. In response to the pandemic, story times have been offered virtually, with in-person or hybrid models now resuming.

In the 2023-24 program year, 1,432 children, ages 18 months to 5 years, participated. Enrollment is up over last year and is continuing to increase back toward pre-pandemic program numbers. More than 1,600 books were purchased for the program, with extra copies being distributed to siblings when they attended, and multilingual children receiving two books in their end-of-year bags – one in their home language and one in English.

Ultimately, all program goals were met: books were put in the hands of children and families, and parents/caregivers participated in reading aloud and virtual story times. Materials were distributed to increase parental knowledge of child development and to share tips on building book sharing routines.

With a commitment to equity and a desire to meet the needs of every Seattleite, the Library strives to listen to the public and allow them to shape what services they want to see. As part of this commitment, parents and caregivers who participate in RAR are surveyed throughout the program, with follow-up calls made as needed. Surveys continued to be offered in 15 languages, and multilingual surveys were available online.

Highlights from the 2023-24 post-program survey included:

- 68% of parents/caregivers reported attending at least one library literacy event at their child's early learning program
- 73% of parents/caregivers reported reading daily with their child

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- 62% of parents/caregivers reported an increase in knowledge of early literacy practices and ways to support their child in learning

Partner and participant feedback from the survey included:

- “I really like how the collections are different in each classroom. As a mom of twins enrolled in the program, it was so nice to have different books for each of my kids to read.” – Parent, Launch Learning at Miller Community Center
- “This program means so much for our families. We are able to bring books to our home visits in their language. My families are so excited to see the red bag each week.” – ParentChild+ Home Visitor, El Centro de la Raza
- “I have been implementing Raising A Reader since the very beginning and I love how much the collection has improved over the years. Thank you SPL!” – Teacher, Launch Learning at Madrona Elementary
- “The new social-emotional collection was really great. I was able to not just send these books home to the children, but also incorporate them into a few of my daily lesson plans. I can’t wait to see what new is added next school year.” – Teacher, James Baldwin Head Start

We are most grateful for the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund’s generous support as the Library continues serving our community’s youngest readers. If you have further questions about this report, please let me know. Many thanks for your investment in the Library’s Early Literacy Programs!

Sincerely,

Kara

Kara McDonald

Senior Director of Philanthropy and Planned Giving

www.supportspl.org (Foundation) / www.spl.org (Library)

Due to privacy concerns, no photos from the 2023-24 Raising A Reader program were made available. We apologize for the inconvenience.

