Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization: **TOGETHER!**

Address: 1520 Irving St SW, Ste A Tumwater, WA 98512

Contact: (360) 496-2230 https://www.watogether.org

Organization's General Goals: To advance the health and well being of all young people.

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Date of Award: 2021 Q3

Level: \$7,501 to \$10,000

For more information, please read the attached report from TOGETHER!.



8802 27th Ave NE Tulalip, WA 98271

TulalipCares.org

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⁻DS-41063



December 13, 2022

Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions ATTN: Ms. Marilyn Sheldon 8802 27th Avenue NE Tulalip, WA 98271

Re: Q3 2021 14.2

Dear Ms. Sheldon and Honorable Members of Tulalip Tribes Council Members,

TOGETHER! would like to express how grateful we are for your 2021 3rd Quarter Community Impact Funds support in launching our Host Homes Pilot Program. Your investment in our organization's mission to advance the health and wellbeing of all young people have gone a long way towards helping prevent and reduce unaccompanied and homeless youth. Thank you! With your investment of in 2022, we helped prevent and reduce adult homelessness by housing high school students actively

engaged in our Host Homes Program. TOGETHER! has directly impacted around 550 students and families who are engaged in our three programs (Host Homes, Club House, and Community Schools). Those students and families receive direct supports through our before and after school and summer programs in English and Spanish at no cost, 1:1 case management and resource navigation to ensure housing stability and advance educational justice.

Your funds helped to increase protective factors known to prevent youth from being chronically homeless as adults and reduce risk factors associated with being unhoused. Research shows that BIPOC and LGBTQ+ youth are overrepresented in our unaccompanied or homeless youth. With that in mind, we were able to create content for our program in both English and Spanish, work with community partners (schools, Pizza Klatch, and a local youth shelter), and train all staff in cultural competency, youth mental health, suicide prevention, LGBTQ+/gender identity, and provide staff with many opportunities for additional training and support. We have



Host Homes first Host family!

identified barriers to enroll in our program and worked on solutions to meet the needs of the communities that we serve. An example would be that Washington state requires a notarized authorization form from the student's legal guardian/parent, but many of the families who want to enroll their child are homeless or do not have a car. We were then able to have one of our staff become a notary so that we can meet the family where they are and decrease that barrier to apply.

With the help of your funding and other partners, TOGETHER! matched and housed 3 students in 2022 after launching in Spring of 2022. We have received five host applications with two who are currently housing students and three in the process of completing the requirements to welcome a student in

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Host Homes Program Director, Tami Lathrop & Program Manager, Michael Dennis passing out hygiene kits for TOGETHER!'s Community Schools "Back to Basics" event.

their home. In addition, we were able to hire and staff a full team to support the needs of our Host Homes Program. We were able to hire a Director, Program Manager, and Youth Case Manager which helped our ability to support participants, train both hosts and students, implement a strong outreach plan, recruit hosts, and receive referrals for students. We were able to support the needs of our students by purchasing a mattress, cell phone, Homecoming dress, and supply monthly youth stipends to help student's work on their financial independence. Along with our program staff, we also contracted a licensed mental health counselor to support and train our team and host participants.

When students enroll in our program, they are setup with a Youth Case Manager who completes an intake with the student to help identify their strengths, weaknesses, goals, academic needs, and create opportunities to build

independent living skills. We have assisted two youth getting their government I.D., three students set up their first bank accounts, and taught one student how to take public transportation. Host Homes Youth Case Managers will only have 10-12 students on their caseload which allows for them to invest in building a relationship with the youth and have the time to visit frequently, complete goals, assist with job related skills, and working towards independent living after they graduate our program.

Thank you again for your partnership to increase protective factors and prevent and reduce chronic homelessness in our community.

With Deep Gratitude,

TAMiMR

Tami Mason Lathrop TOGETHER! Host Homes Director E: <u>TLathrop@WaTogether.org</u> P: (360) 280-3286

TOGETHER! 501(c)3 tax ID number: 91-1465778