



Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization:
The Mockingbird Society

Address:
2100 24th Ave S, Ste 240
Seattle, WA 98144

Contact:
(206) 323-5437
<https://www.mockingbirdsociety.org>

Organization's General Goals:
Our mission is to transform the foster care system and end youth homelessness. Mockingbird creates, supports, and advocates for racially equitable, healthy environments that develop young people at risk of or experiencing foster care or homelessness.

Date of Award:	Level:
2021 Q1	\$2,501 to \$5,000

For more information, please read the attached report from The Mockingbird Society.

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

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May 25, 2022

Ms. Marilyn Sheldon
Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund
8802 27th Ave. NE
Tulalip, WA 98271

Re: Q1 2021 14.3 Grant Report
URL: <https://www.mockingbirdsociety.org/>

Dear Ms. Sheldon:

In 2021 in Everett, we engaged one foster and homeless youth, aged 13 through 26, empowering them to tell their stories and step up, speak out, and advocate for systemic change. Unfortunately, due to unexpected staff turnover, challenges adapting to a remote-only format during the pandemic, and the subsequent redevelopment of our regional chapter model, our engagement with Snohomish County (and across the state) youth was limited. I am happy to report that we are now actively recruiting youth in Snohomish County and making progress toward rebuilding our program, thanks in part to your ongoing support of our work.

Activities included:

- Identifying the following problem statements for reform:
 - Tribal youth and especially young people in tribal foster care are at increased risk of becoming homeless because of shortages of tribal housing and cracks between tribal and state systems.
 - Siblings aren't able to visit one another frequently enough because sibling visits aren't being upheld and enforced.
- 2 Chapter Meetings where youth discussed new creative and innovative reform ideas, developed advocacy strategies, and met with expert policy advisors.
- 19 statewide Chapter members attended our annual Leadership Summit to present their systemic reform ideas to the state Office of Homeless Youth (OHY), the Washington Supreme Court Commission on Children in Foster Care, and 100+ child welfare and youth homelessness experts.
- 1 Everett Chapter member and 13 other Chapter members attended the annual Youth Advocacy Day in Olympia during the legislative session, during which they and their fellow Mockingbird Society participants from around the state will meet with 40+ policy makers.

[mockingbirdsociety.org](https://www.mockingbirdsociety.org)
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Across all chapters, our youth participation survey showed that we exceeded our outcome goals:

Annual Survey Results: Percent who agreed that...	Goal	Results
I advocated for change and was listened to.	80%	94%
Participating with Mockingbird helped them see themselves as a leader.	80%	94%
Working with others through Mockingbird increased their ability to make change.	80%	86%



Youth Advocacy Day 2021 – Gallery photo of Mockingbird youth participants, staff, and board.

As we acclimate to new conditions, we are moving forward with a hybrid model that will reach more youth than when our chapters were strictly in an in-person format. Currently, our Youth Programs is focusing on rebuilding our youth networks – we recently held a successful open house with many youth-facing organizations in attendance. As David Buck, our former Youth Programs Director and alumni of Youth Programs has shared:

"I started at Mockingbird as young person experiencing homelessness with a history in foster care. Since that time, I have earned my Master’s degree and am now working towards my PhD. If it weren't for the Mockingbird experience, I don't think I'd be where I am now. When you give youth the opportunity to engage in advocating on matters they care about and they see their



voice create change, they become empowered. They become leaders, not only in programs, but in their own lives.”

Thank you for your support during arguably the most difficult time for non-profits and businesses alike. We look forward to what we can continue to do together to transform the foster care system and end youth homelessness.

In partnership,

Peter Bloch Garcia
Interim Executive Director

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