



# Funds Distribution Report

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**Recipient Organization:**

**Treehouse**

**Address:**

2100 24th Ave S, Ste 200  
Seattle, WA 98144

**Contact:**

(206) 767-7000  
<https://www.treehouseforkids.org>

**Organization's General Goals:**

We envision—and strive to create—a world where every child who has experienced foster care has the opportunities and support they need to pursue their dreams and launch successfully into adulthood.

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**Date of Award:**

2023 Q1

**Level:**

\$2,501 to \$5,000

For more information, please read the attached report from Treehouse.

8802 27th Ave NE  
Tulalip, WA 98271

**TulalipCares.org**

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**Treehouse FY23 Final Report: Graduation Success – Snohomish County**

**Funder: Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions**

**Report Code: Q3 2022 14.2**

**Date: 8.15.23**

**Treehouse URL: <https://www.treehouseforkids.org>**

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August 15, 2023

Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions  
Attn: Marilyn Sheldon  
8802 27<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE  
Tulalip, WA 98271-9694

Dear Marilyn and our friends at Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions,

From all of us at Treehouse, we would like to thank Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions for the generous donation of [REDACTED] received on December 5, 2023 for Treehouse's Graduation Success program in Snohomish County. Support from Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions provided much needed support for high school youth in foster care so they can pursue their educational and career goals and graduate from high school.

During our recent 2022-23 program year, Graduation Success students returned to in-class instruction while others continued to attend school online or through hybrid learning. Education Specialists worked with youth in Snohomish County as they navigated towards returning to the classroom fulltime along with adapting to changes experienced after attending school online during the pandemic. Throughout the year, Education Specialists provided the support students in Graduation Success needed to not only stay on track and complete their schoolwork but also encouraged youth to participate in activities such as sports and peer events that were not offered during the pandemic. They also inspired youth to explore career options and map out their plans and goals through high school graduation and beyond, including plans to attend college or earn a post-secondary career credential. During the first half of our 2022-23 program year, Graduation Success served 1207 high school youth in foster care in over 300 schools across Washington State, including approximately 86 youth in foster care in Snohomish County. According to a survey completed by 808 youth enrolled in Graduation Success during the first semester of our recent program year:

- 35% Paid job, internship, volunteered
- 71% of youth are engaged with their school community
- 48% Developed an incentive plan
- 78% New or continued commitment to their education
- 84% Demonstrated self-advocacy skills.

As mentioned in our grant application, Treehouse has been working to complete the statewide expansion of its Graduation Success program. We are excited to announce that as of April 2023 Treehouse completed not only the statewide expansion of its Graduation program, but the expansion of all programs Treehouse offers to youth in foster care throughout Washington State. Statewide expansion of Treehouse's programs means all youth, including youth in Snohomish County, who are eligible to enroll or are enrolled in our programs can receive services no matter where in the state their foster care placements take them. For our Graduation Success program participants, Treehouse can now provide services to high school youth in foster care regardless of their school or home location. Statewide completion of our programs has been a long-held dream for Treehouse. By achieving this goal, we are fulfilling our commitment to equity and to be a reliable resource for youth in foster care

and their families no matter where they live. Statewide expansion is also an essential step towards achieving our 2027 goal of a 90% high school graduation rate for youth in foster care in Washington State.

Treehouse currently partners with the Washington Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) to determine the graduation outcomes of youth in foster care in Washington. With the completion of our 2022-23 program year, we are congratulating not only Treehouse's 2023 Graduation Success graduates but also OSPI's Class of 2023 cohort of 4-year high school youth in foster care graduates in Washington State. A strength of Graduation Success is our program's support of student progress towards high school completion for as long as they are willing to stay engaged in the program. At the completion of our 2021-22 program year, we not only celebrated an increase in OSPI's 4-year graduation rate for youth in foster care in Washington State from 48.2% in 2021 to 53.3% in 2022 but also our Graduation Success graduates' determination and persistence to work towards and reach their educational and career goals. In addition to our Class of 2022 4-year graduates, we celebrated 17 Class of 2021 graduates, 6 Class of 2020 graduates, 7 Class of 2019 graduates, and 1 Class of 2018 graduate. We are looking forward to the release of OSPI's Class of 2023 4-year graduation rate of youth in foster care in Washington State later this year which we can provide along with our report of Treehouse's 2022-23 program year to Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions when it becomes available.

As we look forward to our upcoming 2023-24 program year, Treehouse is focusing Graduation Success and other programs through an equity lens by building its capacity to engage with special foster care populations, such as youth in Tribal care and youth involved in the juvenile justice system. Under the direction of Kateri Joe, our Co-Director of Graduation Success, Treehouse is developing trusting relationships and partnerships with the tribes and their schools to provide effective services and strengthening its competency to work with and advocate for Native American youth. With the hiring of an Institutional Education Policy Specialist, we are also focusing on policy, practice, advocacy, organizing, public education and other systems change strategies related to ending the foster care to prison pipeline. Our Program Manager for Dual Systems Involved Youth is working to design and implement a new program model to ensure young people who are involved in both foster care and juvenile rehabilitation system have the support and educational advocacy they need to complete their high school education with plans for the future.

In closing, we greatly appreciate our partnership with Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions. The donation Treehouse received during our 2022-23 program year not only helped our Graduation Success students but also helped our Education Specialists continue to establish relationships with schools in Snohomish County. We look forward to hopefully continuing our partnership with Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions as we work towards improving outcomes for youth in foster care. If you and anyone at the Tulalip Tribes have any questions or would like additional information on Treehouse and our programs, please do not hesitate to contact me or our grant writer Mary Bordenave-Birchfield.

Sincerely,



Linda Hunter - President | [linda.hunter@treehouseforkids.org](mailto:linda.hunter@treehouseforkids.org) | 206.767.7000



06.21.2023

## Meet Treehouse's Class of 2023!

**Graduation is an important milestone in every young person’s life, especially for youth in Treehouse’s Graduation Success program.**

To celebrate their achievement, here are some of Treehouse’s 2023 graduates. See what graduating means to them and what their hopes are for their future.

We are so proud of them!

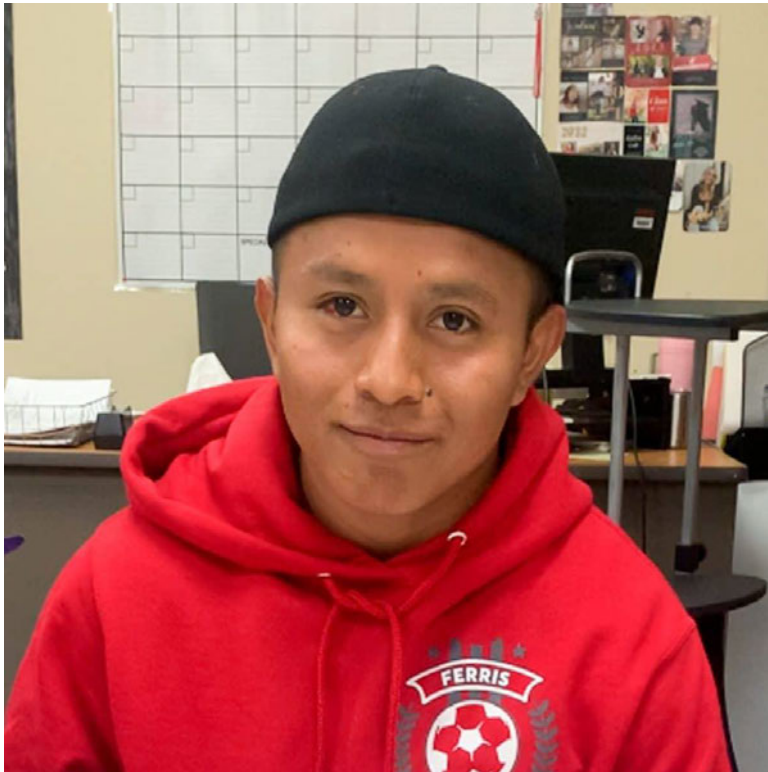


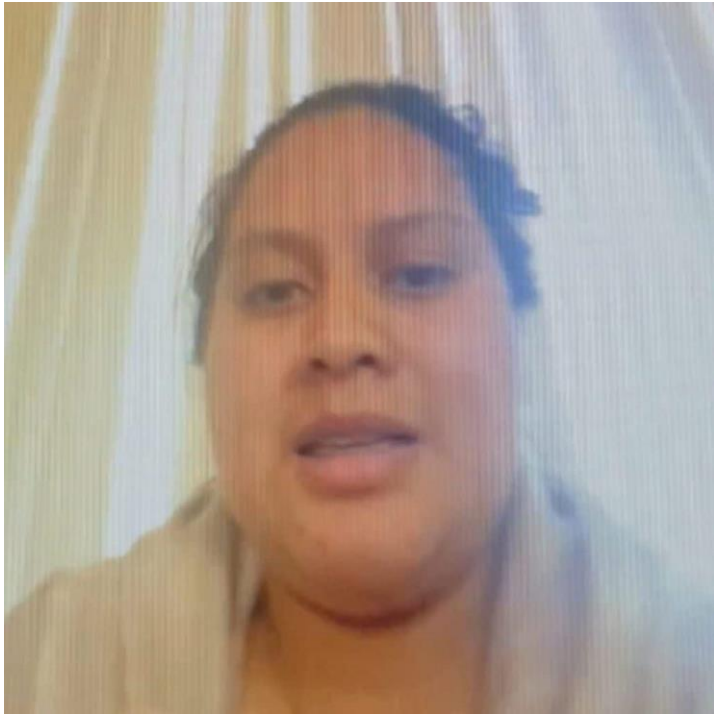
**Aleyda, Shorewood High School**

“Graduating is important to me because it means I met the goal that I set for myself even before I came to the United States. I’m happy actually, and really proud that I did it. In 10 years, I see that I’ll have my own place and working in a job that I actually like. And I might have my own family. Thank you. One word to describe how graduation makes me feel is like I did something really big.”

## Henry, Ferris High School

“Graduating is important to me because I came here to this country to finish high school, get a diploma and go to college. In 10 years, I want to be a PE teacher and coaching football and soccer, maybe baseball. Graduating makes me feel powerful.”





**Lucy, Renton Technical Community College**

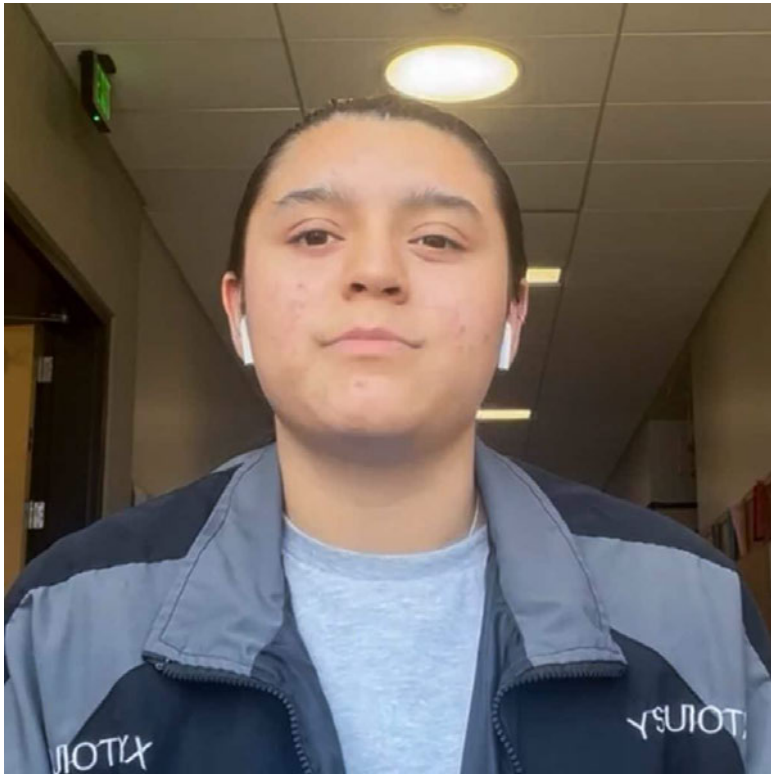
“It’s very important for me. It’s one of my goals moving forward. Also, I want continue them and finish it. In ten years, I see myself as a seller. It makes me very proud of myself.



**Alyssa, Shadle Park High School**

“Graduating is important to me because it makes me feel like more independent and more mature. And in 10 years, I see myself doing something with like the FBI, the VAU or the CIA. Graduating makes me feel... I feel very happily. I meant happy! I feel very accomplished with my life and like all of school is worth it and stuff.”



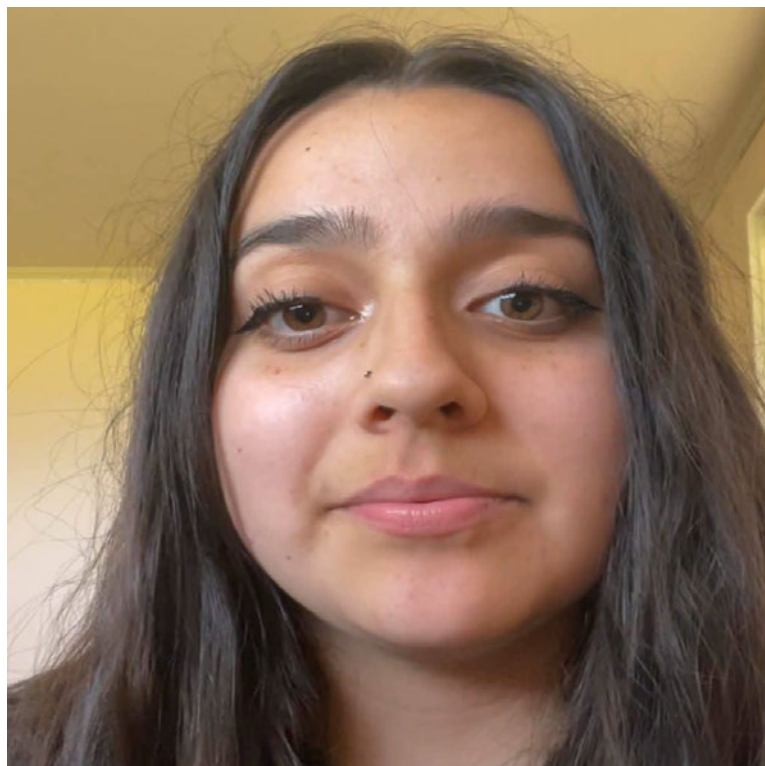


**Arianna, Shorecrest High School**

“Graduation is important to me because I’m the first in my family to graduate instead of getting my GED or just doing something else. In 10 years, I see myself being successful and living away from probably family and friends. And enjoying life. One word to describe how graduating makes me feel is probably chaotic because of everything that’s going on and with family.”

**Emilee, Renton High School**

“Graduating is important to me because I will be the first in my family to have made it this far. In 10 years, I see myself being a forensic psychologist or a crime analyst. One word to describe how graduating makes me feel is bittersweet.”





**Jacob, Sanger High School**

“Graduating is important to me because it makes me feel like I am accomplishing one of my lifetime goals that I’ve been working toward my whole life. In 10 years I see myself working a positive-impacting job and living an independent and homely lifestyle. One word that describes how graduating feels to me is accomplished. I’ve overcome many obstacles over the past couple of years.”

## Izzy, Evergreen High School

“Graduating is important to me because my mom will be proud. In 10 years, I see myself working towards getting a house, or maybe a lake house that I’ve been really looking forward to. One word that describes how it makes me feel is I’m very proud.”





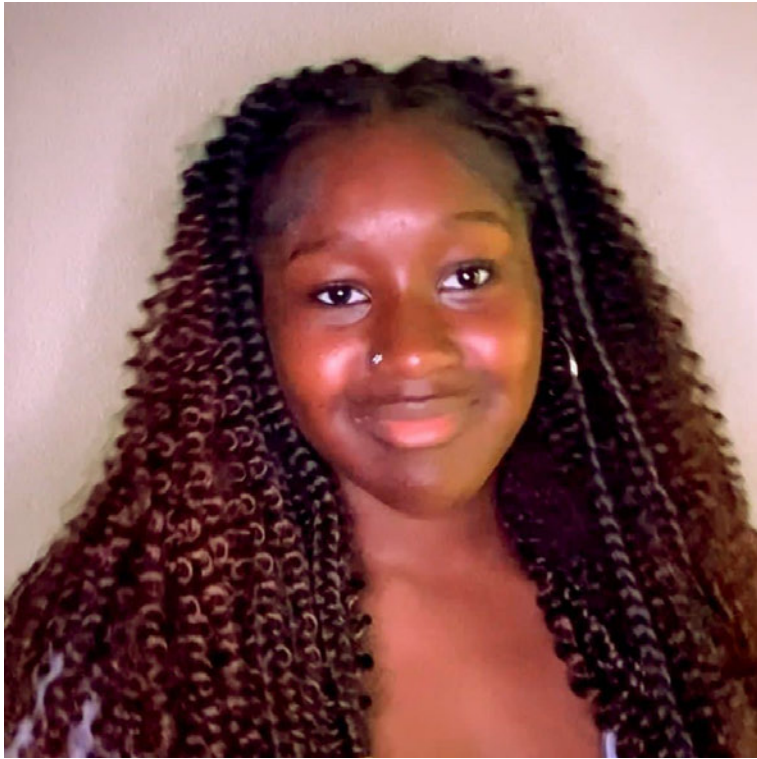
**David, Mariner High School**

“It is important for me to graduate because it makes me feel successful in life. In 10 years, I see myself being a therapist for kids in foster care and helping out others that have been in similar situations as me. And honestly, one word to describe how it makes me feel is nervous but yet excited at the same time for many reasons.”

## **Carissa, Ferris High School**

“Graduation is super important to me because it makes me feel really independent and like I value myself and my morals. In 10 years, I hope to see myself counseling other youths or even maybe counseling young adults. I think my voice can be really helpful to anyone who is in need or needs any support. I feel like I’m very successful, that I’ve succeeded in what I want to accomplish.”





**Aminata, Evergreen High School**

“Graduating is important to me because all that hard work, from my kindergarten year to my senior year, finally makes me feel like I have completed. In 10 years, I see myself having a successful business in the culinary field. One word to describe how graduation makes me feel is accomplished.”

Congratulations, 2023 graduates! You are part of **1,000+ students** who have completed high school since we launched Graduation Success 10 years ago!

We are so proud of all you have accomplished and can’t wait to see what you do next!