



TulalipCares.org

Tulalip Charitable Contributions Funds Distribution Report

NAME OF AGENCY: WACAP (World Association for Children and Parents)

ADDRESS: 315 S. 2nd St. Renton WA 98057

CONTACT: Mary Duncan
Mary.Duncan@wacap.org

GENERAL GOALS: WACAP is a champion for children, finding and preparing permanent families, and offering lifelong support after adoption.

SPECIFIC USE FOR THIS AWARD:

To find permanent adoptive families for children currently living in foster care in Western Washington.



July 11, 2016

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

Report code: Q4 2015 14.2

www.wacap.org

Dear Marilyn,

Thank you for your support of WACAP and our US Kids Adoption Program in fiscal year 2016. I would like to take this opportunity to share some of our successes with you and your colleagues.

It has been a year of growth and positive change for the US Kids Adoption Program. In order to better serve youth in foster care, we hired a full time Director for the US Kids program. In the past, the US Kids Adoption Program was overseen by the Vice President of Adoptions, who also oversaw several other programs. This year we were able to hire a staff member who can focus solely on the US Kids program, and we are already seeing an increase in the number of children we are able to serve.

This year in the US Kids Adoption program we were able to serve a total of 35 children, exceeding our goal of 27. 22 children were placed in foster to adopt homes, and 13 children had their adoptions finalized in court. In the "A Family for Me" component of the program, 95 children received personalized advocacy services. Since 2012, 80 children have joined permanent families after being served by this program!

Children who were adopted through the US Kids Program have benefitted from finding a loving family that will help them develop their full potential and advocate for any special needs they may have. The children placed in foster/adoptive families were able to live in a stable and caring home environment while child welfare authorities and judges decided where they would ultimately live. Children served through the "A Family for Me" program benefitted from the broad exposure to a larger pool of potential adoptive families.

A recent success

One of our highlight stories this year is Anthony, a 12 year old boy on the autism spectrum whose video aired in October. Anthony loves cars, and the Lemay America's Car Museum in Tacoma generously provided a venue for his video. By January, he was matched with a single Dad who happened to be a fellow car enthusiast, saw Anthony's video, and felt a connection. In June, we were able to attend Anthony's finalization ceremony. Now 13, Anthony exudes confidence and a great sense of humor! You can see more of Anthony's story [here](#).

Seeing the long term picture

Over three years ago, "A Family for Me" featured Tavares, a 13 year old who was living in Washington state foster care. Tavares was later adopted by a family in Florida. We touched base with his two Dads this June and this is what they said, "He has just been amazing and everyone loves him! Tavares has been such a joy in our life and we love that anyone else can hear our story and know that adoption and foster care can be a wonderful experience."



Tavares, now 17, wants to be a professional musician and he is enrolled in his school's Music Conservatory. He is also a member of the Florida Symphonic Youth Orchestra of Orlando. After the attack in Orlando, Tavares and his Dad played a piano/viola duet at their church's memorial service for the 49 people killed. It is so inspiring for us to hear about a former foster child who is not only extremely talented but compassionate as well.

We are so grateful to the Tulalip Charitable Fund for your generous support of WACAP and other non-profits in the Puget Sound region. Thank you for the work you do.

For **every** child,

Greg Eubanks
WACAP
President and CEO