



Funds Distribution Report

Recipient Organization:
Washington Vocational Services

Address:
111 SE Everett Mall Way
Bldg C Ste 100
Everett, WA 98208

Contact:
(425) 774-3338
<https://www.wvs.org>

Organization's General Goals:
Our purpose is assisting persons who have disabilities succeed in the workplace. We are dedicated to providing outstanding quality services that result in successful community involvement and employment.

Date of Award:	Level:
2024 Q2	\$2,501 to \$5,000

For more information, please read the attached report from Washington Vocational Services.

8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip, WA 98271

TulalipCares.org

Disclaimer: This report may be a summary of content provided by the recipient, not always complete quoted material.



Summer Camps 2024 – Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions Grant Report

Report Code: **Q2 2024 14.2**
WVS’s URL: www.wvs.org

of Camper Slots: 90 spaces
Grant Amount: \$ [REDACTED]

Washington Vocational Services (WVS) would like to extend our sincere thanks to the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions for your generous support of our 2024 Summer Camps program. With your support, we were able to make significant improvements this year and provide an even more enriching experience for our campers. Last year, we served 19 individuals, and this year we are thrilled to report that we served **29** students across 90 spaces during seven weeks of camp. These enhancements allowed us to expand our reach and impact within the community, creating more opportunities for social engagement, skill development, and fun for our campers.

The 2024 Summer Camps program was held in various outdoor and community settings, providing an engaging and inclusive environment where campers participated in a wide range of activities, including adaptive physical activities, theater production, environmental learning, gardening, and creative science projects. All activities were designed to help campers retain critical social skills, maintain relationships, improve fine and gross motor skills where possible, be physically active, and stay connected with their community.

Feedback from Participants and Families was overwhelmingly positive. Last year, participants expressed a strong desire for the continuation of Summer Camps in 2024, with requests to extend the number of days and times that camp would be offered. We are pleased to report that we successfully addressed this feedback by expanding our program from six weeks in 2023 to seven weeks in 2024. This extension allowed us to serve more campers and offer an even broader range of activities and experiences. Many families highlighted the variety and quality of the activities offered, noting how much their children enjoyed participating in different themes each week.

“I enjoyed playing the games and I liked the bead hunts.” - Adam Bates (Camper)

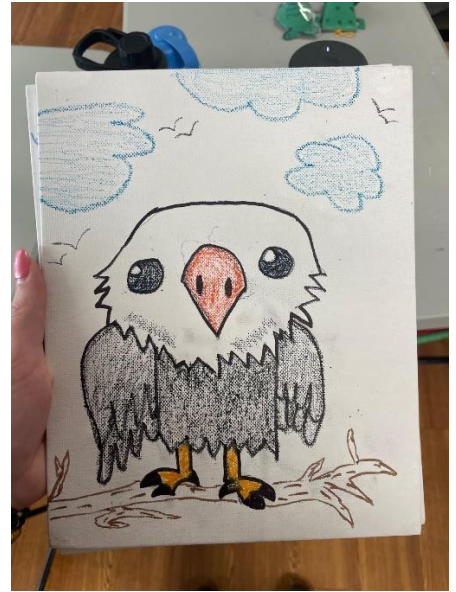
“It’s great to have this available to our young adults in the community. There’s a fine balance of learning and creating fun that helps keep [campers] engaged, regardless of their skill level.”
- Casie Caughlin (Family Member)

“Being involved in WVS summer camp was one of the greatest experiences for me as a special educator. I got to be a part of a truly inclusive and neurodiversity-affirming program. Campers of all support needs had the opportunity to learn new things, build social skills, and most importantly, have fun in safe and supportive environments!”
- Julia Grout (WVS Staff)

Based on our post-camp survey, the most popular week among campers was the final week of Backyard Games at Riverfront Park, which included the camp wrap-up celebration. Some of the favorite activities mentioned by campers included scavenger hunts, backyard games, and beach crafts. Survey respondents rated the camp experience highly across several areas on a scale from 1 to 5, with overall communication scoring a perfect 5, and both the days of camp (Monday to Thursday) and the length of each camp day scoring an impressive 4.7. The overall price of the camp also received a perfect score of 5, indicating strong satisfaction among participants and their families.

Week 1: Outdoor Adventures

The 2024 Summer Camps program kicked off with **The Great Outdoors** at Donovan Park from June 24-27. Campers explored the park through scavenger hunts, creek exploration, games, crafts, and other outdoor activities. This week emphasized teamwork, environmental stewardship, and outdoor skills, allowing campers to connect with nature and each other through fun and engaging experiences.



Two left: Campers participating in a yard art beading craft.

Right: Artwork made by a camper from a follow the steps video.



Camper participating in a very popular ABC Nature scavenger hunt.

Week 2: The Theatre

From July 8-11, the focus shifted to **Theatre** at Burlington-Edison High School. Campers had the unique opportunity to participate in creating a live theatre production. They learned about all aspects of theater-making, from set building and lighting to acting and directing. This week encouraged creativity, teamwork, and self-expression, allowing campers to build confidence and connect with their peers through the joy of performance.



Campers practicing being on stage with an audience in an ice breaker to show their skills.



Left: Campers working on coloring sheets to enhance their set with their own personal touch.

Right: Campers performing on stage in their live production.



The entire crew after their successful live performance.

Week 3: Padilla Bay

The program continued with a week at the **Padilla Bay Interpretive Center** from July 15-18. Campers engaged in exploring the Salish Sea and its surrounding natural environment. They enjoyed close-up experiences with sea creatures, guided hikes, and educational sessions focused on local ecology and conservation. This week provided hands-on learning about marine biology and environmental science, sparking curiosity and respect for nature.



Left: Campers volunteered to cut and remove an invasive thistle plant.

Right: Campers went on a “mudflat safari.” They were given the tools to explore the plants and creatures that live in the Salish Sea mudflats.



Left: Campers went on an upland trail hike to explore the nature above the bay.

Middle: Campers doing their daily entry of leaf pressing in their hand-made nature journals.

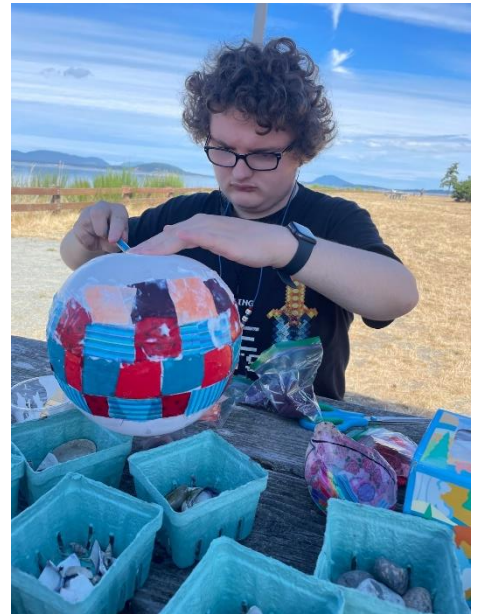
Right: Campers got the opportunity to go to the Interpretive Center aquarium to look, feel, touch, and smell the creatures that live in the Salish Sea.

Week 4: Color Wars

The next week, July 22-25, featured **Color Wars** at Bayview State Park, where campers came together for a week filled with team spirit and friendly competitions. They participated in various beach games, crafts, and exploration activities that encouraged cooperation, physical activity, and strengthening both new and existing friendships.



Campers and staff participating in fun, friendly competitions.



Between fun activities and competitions, campers expressed their creative skills in crafting with rocks, yarn, and other materials.

Week 5: Nature's Wonders

From July 29-August 1, campers experienced **Nature's Wonders** at Christianson's Nursery. This week was all about gardening and nature exploration, where campers planted seeds, crafted with natural materials, and toured the nursery. These activities offered a hands-on approach to understanding plant science and environmental education, helping campers connect with the natural world in creative ways.



Campers engaged in scavenger hunts to explore and learn about the different plants and features of the nursery.



Campers engaged in garden related crafts to express their interest and abilities revolving around nature!

Week 6: Creativity Through Science

The following week, August 5-8, was dedicated to **Creativity Through Science** at Carter's Building in Burlington. This week focused on the integration of science, technology, and art. Campers expressed their creativity through hands-on experiments, crafts, and collaborative challenges, which were designed to inspire innovation and curiosity in a fun and engaging way.



Campers were able to participate in a variety of science experiments including chemical reactions, building and launching rockets, and much more!



Mount Vernon City Library joined as a guest speaker to provide opportunities that included Virtual Reality, Ozzobots and other ways to explore technology and robots.

Week 7: Backyard Games

Finally, from August 12-15, the camp concluded with **Backyard Games** at Riverfront Park. This week celebrated the end of the camp season with classic backyard games, park activities, sports, and a BBQ. It provided a wonderful opportunity for campers to reflect on their experiences, enjoy a sense of community, and celebrate the friendships they had formed throughout the summer.



Riverfront Park's playground was popular amongst all campers.



Campers participated in a variety of backyard games and challenges.