Funds Distribution Report

CHARITABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

8802 27th Ave NE
Tulalip, WA 98271

TulalipCares.org

Recipient Organization:
Washington Vocational Services

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

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

Organization's General Goals:
Washington Vocational Services is dedicated to providing outstanding quality services that result in successful community involvement and employment. The purpose of this agency was and continues to be assisting persons who have disabilities succeed in the workplace. We likewise believe diversity drives innovation and strive to build a team that represents the communities we serve.

Date of Award:
2025 Q4

Level:
$2,501 to $5,000

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

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

Summer Camps 2026 – Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions Grant Report

Report Code: Q4 2025. 14.2 **# of Campers:** 26

WVS's URL: www.wvs.org **Grant Amount:** [redacted]

In 2026, Washington Vocational Services was able to serve 26 young adults with disabilities in Skagit County, connecting them to recreation, the outdoors and their peers at five different local parks and nature centers. Over the five-week camp, individuals participated in adaptive physical activities, crafts, games, and educational projects, engaging campers with the natural environment. Each activity provided a different form of engagement that helped campers retain or gain critical social, physical, and developmental skills that benefit them year-around. The individuals who participate in the camp experience less skill regression and an increased willingness to try new things when they return to school in the fall.

Each week of camp takes place at a different location and provides new activities based on the theme of the week. In 2026, the themes were, *Natures Wonders at Christianson's Nursery, Fun and Games at Maiben Park, Exploring the Salish Sea at Padilla Bay Interpretive Center, The Great Outdoors at Donovan Park and Science Exploration at Riverfront Park.* At the start of camp, each student makes a necklace and is able to earn beads for their attendance, participation in activities and unprompted interactions; these interactions include kindness beads (doing something nice for another person), trash beads (cleaning up trash) and other engaging tasks. The first week allows campers to explore the nursery, participate in a scavenger hunt, create crafts with flowers, and learn about different habitats and plants through games like relay races and bead hunts. The second week engages campers physically with water activities at the splash pad, line dancing with instructors and an Amazing Race. During the third week, staff from Padilla Bay donate time to teach campers how to view nature through microscopes, create nature journals, and lead an interactive aquarium tour. Additionally, campers explore the Letterbox trail where they learn about native plants and species in and around the estuary. At Donovan Park campers explore the creek, create crafts and the Skagit Fisheries volunteers to lead lessons about local fish. These activities are crucial for youth and young adults with disabilities to experience outdoor summertime activities, learn about outdoor spaces that are accessible to them and make connections about why nature is important to everyday life.

With Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions we were able to maintain tuition-free attendance for all campers and make two purchases to help the everyday functions of camp. The purchase of a new canopy allows us to continue to utilize free public spaces and local parks while still providing protection from the elements. We were also able to purchase a portable printer that allowed us to print agendas, student activities, instructions for experiments and crafts and camper logs to track participant hours.



Camper learning about local fish from the Skagit Fisheries crew. This lesson taught campers about the salmon spawning process, how many eggs female salmon have and how many typically survive. The stuffed fish has fake eggs inside to provide a physical example for campers. The sign in front of the camper is about microorganisms and bugs, which the campers then search for in the water. The containers around her are what campers use to catch those bugs to look at them up close before releasing them.



Campers beginning Upland Letterbox Trail Hike



Camper taking tour of Aquarium at Padilla Bay



Camper exploring the creek at Donovan Park. This camper is blind so instructors guided him to the water so he could feel the stream and listen to the sound of the water.

(Pictured in the background is the canopy we were able to purchase with this grant)



Camper building a "Newton Cradle"



Camper learning about sea life at Aquarium with the Touch Tank