



Tulalip Charitable Contributions Funds Distribution Report

NAME OF AGENCY: WestSide Baby

DATE OF AWARD: 2017 Q1

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GENERAL GOALS: We are the only social service agency in West King county area that collects, inspects and distributes free diapers, clothing, cribs and safety gear for babies and children. More than 114 local social service agencies, including shelters and food banks, rely upon us to provide critical necessities for low-income families.

SPECIFIC USE FOR THIS AWARD:

This award went towards programs and operational expenses.

For more information please read the attached report from WestSide Baby.



REPORT TO THE TULALIP TRIBES CHARITABLE FUND

Q1 2017 14.2

Submitted by WestSide Baby

May 25, 2018

Website: www.westsidebaby.org

WestSide Baby is deeply grateful for the Tulalip Tribe Charitable Fund's generous gift last spring of [REDACTED] in support of our ongoing service to the community. As you know, WestSide Baby provides low-income, homeless and refugee families in western King County with the essential material goods they need to meet a child's basic needs for healthy development. We fill a glaring gap in federal social safety net programs that force low-income, refugee and homeless parents to skip meals, borrow money and work additional jobs in a constant struggle to care for their children. Our exclusive focus on the large-scale distribution of free diapers and pre-owned children's goods defines WestSide Baby's unique niche within western King County's Human Service System.

WestSide Baby serves the community in three essential ways: first, by providing the tangible, material items necessary to meet a child's basic needs for healthy development; secondly, by strengthening key "protective factors" to support effective parenting; and thirdly, by linking families to critical community resources and caring adults.

Thanks to supporters like Tulalip Tribes, WestSide Baby continues to serve as a gateway to strength and stability for the fragile families of our region. The following report summarizes our growing impact in the community and the many ways in which your gift helped struggling families over the past twelve months.

Our Work in 2017

Last year WestSide Baby **distributed 1.42 million diapers along with 997 car seats; 407 cribs; and 7,089 bags of clothing.** We set and surpassed many of our ambitious 2017 goals:

- \$3,399,101 worth of children's goods were distributed last year exceeding our goal of \$3.2 million.
- 175 diaper drives were organized, surpassing our goal of 148.
- 366,372 individual diapers were donated by the community. We set a goal of collecting 370,000 in 2017.
- 47% of all requests for car seats were filled. This number is just shy of our goal of 48%.
- 63% of all requests for cribs and other safe sleep options were filled. Thanks to a successful "safe sleep" initiative we were 21% ahead of our goal of 42%.
- 2,300 volunteers donated 21,295 hours of their time inspecting and sorting children's goods and filling orders for families. These numbers are well above our goals for the year.

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To Date in 2018

We are proud to report that as of late April, WestSide Baby had served 10,677 children. We have set an ambitious goal of serving 45,000 children in 2018. In addition:

- \$976,869 worth of children's goods have been distributed to date in 2018.
- 708 car seats have been donated to families (an increase of 180% over this time period last year!). A new partnership with Dorel Industries has made this possible. We have a goal of distributing 2,500 seats this year.
- 74% of all requests for car seats were filled in the first quarter of 2018. This is a significant increase over last year (as noted above).
- 303 cribs/safe sleep options have been distributed to date. We have a goal of distributing 715 cribs this year.
- 2,066 clothing bags have been donated to date to families in need.
- 352,990 diapers have been distributed. This is a 10% increase over our first quarter last year. We have a goal of distributing 1.6 million diapers in 2018.

Challenges Ahead

WestSide Baby is extremely proud of our success in 2017, however despite distributing over 1.4 million diapers, we have a long way to go to end diaper need on our community.

- In 2017, 23% of King County children lived in families who found it difficult to afford diapers.
- Families living in south King County are disproportionately impacted by diaper need at 13% higher than average.
- 61% of families who identify as Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander experience diaper need.
- Families who spoke Somali at home and families who speak primarily Spanish were 56% and 15% more likely to struggle with diaper need.

Our work to meet the demand for car seats also continues. Though we increased car seat distribution by 13% last year, the number of requests for seats greatly exceeded our supply. In 2016 we filled 43% of all requests for car seats; in 2017 we filled 47% – less than half of all families requesting this expensive safety equipment received a seat.

On a positive note, we have seen a significant increase in the number of key items such as car seats, strollers and diapers donated through corporate partnerships. We continue to build in-kind relationships with corporate partners to sustain our increase in distribution and supplement our community collection of children's items.

Client Stories

A public health nurse for Federal Way Public Health called his client, a single dad with a six-month old baby, to let him know that he had a donated pack-n-play (portable crib) from WestSide Baby to give to him. The man burst into tears. His baby spent most of every day in an infant stroller. Aside from being held or riding in a car seat, the baby had no safe place to sleep or play. He napped in the stroller and slept there at night. This grateful parent wanted WestSide Baby to know that finally having a safe bed and play space for his son relieved an enormous stress and helped him feel good about being a dad.

Linda Carr of the Children's Therapy Center, an early intervention program serving low income families in South Seattle, served the mother of very young twins and a pre-school aged child, who received a stroller and front pack from WestSide Baby. Before receiving the donation, "Amira" was confined to her apartment and socially isolated. She had no way of safely taking

her three young children out of her apartment. Once she had a way to transport the kids, Amira began attending playgroups at the Center and connecting to other moms. Her life, and the lives of her children, was transformed.

Emilia is a single mother living in Federal Way. Her youngest daughter, Regina, was born with a heart condition which required surgery when she was just a few months old. Because the baby requires full-time care, Emilia is unable to work. Donated diapers and children's clothing provided by WestSide Baby enables Emilia to keep her children safe and healthy.

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