

# Funds Distribution Report

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**Recipient Organization:**  
**Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center**

**Address:**  
206 Prospect Street  
Bellingham, WA 98225

**Contact:**  
(360) 676-0122  
<https://www.whatcomdrc.org>

**Organization's General Goals:**  
The WDRC empowers thousands of people annually to resolve conflict, build skills, imagine peace, and know that day by day, it gets better.

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<b>Date of Award:</b>	<b>Level:</b>
2018 Q1	\$500 to \$2,500

For more information, please read the attached report from Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center.

8802 27th Ave NE  
Tulalip, WA 98271  
**TulalipCares.org**



# Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center

360.676.0122 | whatcomdrc.org | 206 Prospect Street | Bellingham, WA 98225

April 30, 2019

Marilyn Sheldon, Director  
Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions  
8802 27<sup>th</sup> Ave NE  
Tulalip, WA 98271

Subject: Grant Report Q1 2018 14.2

Dear Marilyn,

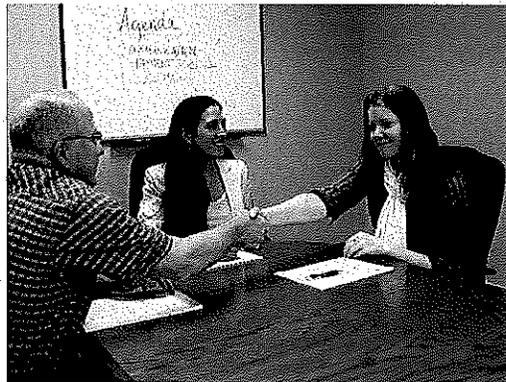
On the behalf of the Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center (WDRC), I would like to thank the Tulalip Tribes for supporting our efforts to provide free and low-cost neighbor-to-neighbor and community mediation to Whatcom County residents.

Community mediation empowers friends and neighbors to resolve interpersonal and civil disputes in non-litigious, creative, and healthy ways. In 2018, we were able to mediate 19 community cases, facilitating conversations between 51 participants to allow them to come to agreeable solutions peacefully. Of those participants, 74% said that mediation helped to improve the situation.

Here is an example of one of those cases (names and details have been changed to protect confidentiality):

*"Jane reached out to us because she had given her friend's boyfriend, Ben, a small business loan of \$10,000, but their repayment agreement had fallen apart. She had only received one payment so far, and she had begun reaching out to lawyers for council.*

*During mediation, the parties realized that Jane actually didn't have the correct contact information for Ben. All of the voicemails that Jane thought Ben had ignored, he had never received in the first place. Ben took responsibility for falling behind on his payments, his lack of communication, and the impact that the situation had had on Jane. He committed to making it right. They agreed to a new payment plan that was more compatible with Sam's modest business growth, and they ended the session with a heartfelt hug."*



Thanks to the funding provided by Tulalip Cares, we were able to facilitate conversations such as these between friends, neighbors, and community members in hopes of restoring and strengthening their relationships.

Unresolved conflicts with friends, family members, and neighbors can have long term negative impacts on peoples' health and well-being. Our community mediation offers a process and a place to address and engage in these difficult, uncomfortable, and common conversations in a meaningful, safe and empowering manner. Every conflict, no matter how big or small, takes energy to manage effectively. By participating in our mediation program, friends can restore and rebuild relationships, family members can feel supported in making challenging decisions, and neighbors can literally and metaphorically mend fences.



The Whatcom Dispute Resolution Center impacts more than 6,000 individuals per year through our many different programs. We've seen this number steadily rise each year, so that is why it is important to have funding such as yours to be able to continue providing our services at little or no cost to our clients. To learn more about the other services we provide, or about how your contribution was used, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you again for your support.

Warm Regards,

Moonwater, Executive Director

[director@whatcomdrc.org](mailto:director@whatcomdrc.org)

360-676-0122