# **Funds Distribution Report**

### Recipient Organization: Delridge Neighborhoods Development Association

Address: 4408 Delridge Way SW Seattle, WA 98106

Contact: (206) 935-2999 https://www.dnda.org

**Organization's General Goals:** Our mission is to pursue integrating art, nature, and neighborhood to build and sustain a dynamic Delridge.

Date of Award: 2023 Q3

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**Level:** \$500 to \$2,500 . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

For more information, please read the attached report from Delridge Neighborhoods Development Association.



8802 27th Ave NE Tulalip, WA 98271

### TulalipCares.org

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<sup>-</sup>DS-44875

### Tulalip Tribes Charitable Contributions 2023 Grant Report for Delridge Neighborhoods Development Association

### Q3 2023 14.2

Number of recipients impacted through programming, volunteer events, and housing (for FY 2023): 2,799

Delridge Neighborhoods Development Association URL: <u>https://dnda.org/</u> Funding partners URL: <u>https://dnda.org/about/partners/</u>

### Photos



# EcoArts Spring Nature Camp April 2024

DNDA's ninth annual EcoArts Spring Nature Camp. For five days, the kids explored the forests and trails of Camp Long The camp is hosted by DNDA's Art team, who connect youth with nature through art activities, as well as sports, group discussions, and adventures.



## Environmental Justice Summer Youth Program July 2024 - August 2024

DNDA hosted a five-week internship that stretched from mid-July to mid-August with 10 teens, ages 14-18, and primarily residents of Delridge and High Point. Each day, our program met at Roxhill Park. On Saturday, August 17, our teen interns took what they have learned over time and presented their community action projects to



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### Forest Restoration Work at EC Hughes Playground Park in the Longfellow Creek Watershed

During the 2023-24 school year, when we worked with 10 of the 12 classes at nearby Roxhill Elementary, facilitating walking field trips to participate in hands-on forest restoration activities and collaborative, nature-inspired artmaking led by DNDA's Nature and Arts teams.





# Earth Month - April 2024 Various Activites

We partnered with all three kindergarten classes from Louisa Boren STEM K-8 school – a total of 46 kids – continuing an annual tradition and partnership that blossomed in 2018. The students have moved buckets and buckets of wood chip mulch at our sites in the Longfellow Creek Watershed, helping encourage native plant growth and suppress weeds. The kids also got to partake in EcoArts activities led by DNDA Arts Program Manager Erin Kollar and local teaching artist Asha Helmstetter. They created nature sculptures using found environmental materials and air-drying clay.



# Community Arts in the Park at Roxhill Park Summer 2024

.Community Arts in the Park at Roxhill Park ran for three months during summer 2024, every Saturday, rain or shine, where DNDA's art team hosted drop-in art activities at Roxhill Park, facilitating connections between neighbors and their environment. The goal of this project was to utilize art making as a tool to connect community members to each other, to nature, and to Roxhill Park itself.



# EcoArts Mural Project at Croft Place Townhomes March - May 2024

The project provided eight youth aged 8 and up who reside at Croft an opportunity to design and install a mural in their community. Under the instruction of professional mural artist Myron Curry of M. Curry Designs, students met inside Croft's community room once a week for six weeks where they collaborated to create a vibrant and meaningful mural that reflected their appreciation for flowers, plants, butterflies, and affinity for retro Nike sneakers.

### More information about Programming and Recipients

#### **Neighborhood**

DNDA operates seven Affordable Housing Properties in the Delridge area, providing homes for 310 residents across 144 units, including seven units reserved for families transitioning from homelessness. These properties primarily serve communities of color, reflecting DNDA's commitment to addressing housing inequity and supporting those most impacted by gentrification in Seattle.

### <u>Nature</u>

Accomplishments from 2023-2024 - Urban Forest Restoration Program: DNDA's Restoration Program hosted over 100 volunteer events from Sept 2023 - Sept 2024 that engaged 1,846 total volunteers. Of this total, 783 were youth under the age of 18, and 889 were students. In addition to increasing the number of volunteers we engaged with from last year, the Restoration Program also expanded our partnerships with local school groups. This includes expanding our work with Roxhill Elementary at EC Hughes Park, where we engaged 10 out of the 12 classes present in the school this past year.

The Restoration Program also added a new restoration project site this past year. This site is the Duwamish Head Greenbelt near the northern tip of the West Seattle peninsula, providing visitors with up-close views of Puget Sound. DNDA was interested in expanding into this new site because it provided a unique opportunity for our program to discuss the connection between upland forests and the marine environment. This has added further dimension to our discussions on stewardship, allowing us to explore topics with volunteers related to interdependent ecosystems, habitat connectivity, and holistic stewardship.

In 2024, we enhanced the **Summer Youth Environmental Justice program** in the High Point community, a paid opportunity for 10 high school-aged youth, led by our Environmental Education Coordinator at Roxhill Park. The program provided participants with a comprehensive experience that included environmental monitoring and data collection, in-depth discussions on environmental justice, leadership development, and field trips to local natural spaces. During these outings, students connected with organizations dedicated to environmental justice, broadening their understanding of the field. Each participant also completed a community action project, applying their newly acquired knowledge to real-world challenges. Our goal is to provide hands-on learning experiences that not

only equip youth with valuable skills for future environmental careers but also empower them to become passionate advocates for their communities.

Accomplishments from 2023-2024 - Wetlands Restoration & Stewardship Project: In December 2023, DNDA completed construction of the Delridge Wetland Park. We are beyond excited to have this new park space available as an outdoor classroom and open for public use. Despite some elements of construction still underway at the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year, DNDA continued to provide Wetland STEM programing for the Louisa Boren K-8 STEM School. We engaged 141 students total, from the 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade classes, in lessons that provided hands-on activities based around topics of stormwater, watersheds, salmon, and the connection between community and nature.

In addition to the Wetland STEM programing, DNDA hosted 10 restoration volunteer events at the Delridge Wetland Park this past year, engaging 104 volunteers. This included one 7th grade class from Christ the King School and one kindergarten class from Louisa Boren STEM k-8 STEM School. All our volunteer events include a walking tour where we provide the site's history, information on wetland plants and environmental services and functions of urban wetlands. For the classes that participated, we also included an EcoArt activity during the events where DNDA's Teaching Artists guided students in being creative and connecting with nature in a thoughtful way.

#### <u>Art</u>

Accomplishments from 2023-2024 - EcoArts Program: Our newly introduced EcoArts initiative, Community Arts in the Park, offered 160 youth and adult participants once a week, hands-on, and integrated arts programming at West Seattle's Roxhill Park from April to June.

Our EcoArts at Croft program provided 15 Croft students with enriching and interdisciplinary art activities inspired by nature. Held once a week from February to May, the program exposed students to various visual arts disciplines. It also revitalized Croft's community garden through lessons on pollinator plants, and taught students during exploratory sessions to identify plants growing on their housing site and the nearby Croft Forest.

2024 Summer Youth Program connected 400 underserved youth residing in High Point, NewHolly, and Rainier Vista neighborhoods to arts, recreational, and outdoors activities at no cost to youth and families, serving 50 more students that last year's summer program and increased participation in arts and cultural programming, including painting, digital media design, and woodworking.

Our EcoArts Mural Project at Croft provided 12 Croft students with a new and meaningful experience by equipping them with professional instruction to install a mural in their housing site. Meeting once a week from March to May, these first-time student muralists painted a vibrant mix of trees, bushes, flowers, and butterflies in bright spring colors on the outside wall of Croft's community room. The mural project reflects our commitment to innovating our EcoArts Program to introduce students to new creative experiences and build upon their artistic skills developed through previous year's programming.

The EcoArts Program served 781 children and youth through in-person experiences, at multiple locations including:

- Seattle Housing Authority's High Point Community
- Seattle Housing Authority's Rainier Vista Community
- Seattle Housing Authority's NewHolly Community
- Camp Long
- Roxhill Park
- Pigeon Point Park
- E.C. Hughes Park
- Croft Place Townhomes
- Youngstown Cultural Arts Center

DNDA also manages the **Youngstown Cultural Arts Center**, a 65,000-square-foot facility that serves as a cultural hub for youth, low-income residents, and communities of color. Recent renovations, including upgraded seating, a new black box theater, and improved ADA compliance, have revitalized the space, making it a modern venue for performances, workshops, and community events.