

# Tulalip Charitable Contributions Funds Distribution Report

NAME OF AGENCY: New Beginnings

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GENERAL GOALS: New Beginnings' mission is to empower survivors and mobilize community

awareness and action to end domestic violence.

#### SPECIFIC USE FOR THIS AWARD:

The grant from the Tulalip Tribes Foundation has been used for general operating expenses to support all the programs that New Beginnings offers to women, children and men who are survivors of domestic violence, as well as their families.

For more information please read the attached report from New Beginnings.



# Q2 2016 14.2 TULALIP TRIBES GRANT REPORT

Thank you so much for the generous grant you gifted to New Beginnings in 2016. We are pleased to share with you the ways your support has made a difference in the lives of domestic violence survivors.

### **MISSION AND PURPOSE**

Founded in 1976, New Beginnings' mission is to empower survivors and mobilize community awareness and action to end domestic violence. We are the only full service agency in Seattle whose primary mission is to serve domestic violence survivors. On average, New Beginnings serves over 10,000 women, children, and men each year through one of our programs, which include an Emergency Shelter, a Community Advocacy Program, a 24-Hour Helpline, a Transitional Housing Program, and a Social Change Program.

## **USE OF FUNDS**

The grant from the Tulalip Tribes Foundation has been used for general operating expenses to support all the programs that New Beginnings offers to women, children and men who are survivors of domestic violence, as well as their families.

This grant helped to support many of our 2016 successes, including the following:

- 5456 crisis Helpline phone calls were answered by trained advocates and volunteers, connecting survivors to resources, finding them emergency shelter, and helping them to build safety plans;
- 78% of survivors who left our Transitional Housing Program last year exited to permanent housing;
- 109 women and 130 children received supportive services and 20,739 nights of safe sleep in our Shelter and Transitional Housing Programs;
- 451 survivors received information, referrals and assistance with protection orders, divorce, child custody, immigration and other cases through our Legal Advocacy;
- 64 survivors furthered their healing and resilience through our Mental Health Therapy;
- 1,130 community members increased their knowledge about domestic violence and where to turn for help through our Community Education and Outreach efforts;
- 703 youth learned about healthy relationships and the warning signs of abuse through our Prevention Education effort; and
- 91% of students in Owning Up, our prevention education class, showed increased knowledge of healthy relationships.

### **SUCCESS STORIES**

We are also happy to share the following two participant stories from 2016 that highlight two ways that the Tulalip Tribes Charitable Foundation has made a difference.

#### Romina

When Romina first called the New Beginnings' Helpline, she was scared. An undocumented immigrant, she worried that she would be deported and that her two children, both U.S. citizens, would be left behind with their abusive father. Our legal advocate quickly assured her that we could be there to help her through what felt like an overwhelming mess of legal issues.

Working with our advocates, Romini was able to obtain a Domestic Violence Protection Order for a year, as well as to break her lease without penalty. Romina and her children soon moved into a transitional housing program.

Romina's legal issues were complex: New Beginnings connected her with the Northwest Immigrant Rights Project for representation and helped her to create a self-petition under the Violence Against Women Act. Her petition was approved, giving her a work permit. New Beginnings was also able to pay for her medical exam for her green card, as well as cover some of her overdue bills.

Romina is now waiting for her green card and continues to work with New Beginnings to finalize her divorce from her husband.

## **Taylor**

Taylor, a 13-year-old middle schooler, came to her first Owning Up class only because her good friend Alyssa would be there. She sat at the first meeting in her signature black outfit and bleached pink hair hiding her eyes, speaking in a whisper and only to her friend.

When Alyssa stopped coming, our Prevention Education Coordinator was sure Taylor would also leave. But each week, she was there. Slowly she started to speak in class, sharing comments that ignited debates and sparked deeper conversation.

Taylor finally shared that she had a long-time boyfriend, and she was starting to see how she had lost much of her independence. She shared that he was jealous, didn't like her friends, and wanted to control her time and make her feel guilty to spending time without him.

The rest of the class was quick to reaffirm Taylor's understanding of her relationship, pointing out that her boyfriend should not be restricting her independence. For other girls in the class, Taylor's personal experience helped illustrate just how real this issue can be.

By the end of Owning Up, Taylor shared with the group that she and her boyfriend were breaking up; because of the unequal way he treated her, she didn't want to be with him anymore.