



Blue Skies for Children

Raising Hope and Self Esteem in Young Hearts and Minds

ANNUAL ISSUE

2017

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Want to give back to the community? Are you thinking about joining a non-profit board? Blue Skies for Children needs you! We are looking for two passionate individuals to join our dedicated board.

2016 Annual Report

This last year has brought many new changes to Blue Skies for Children, the majority of which were highly celebrated.

We doubled our office space by opening a suite next to ours, and increasing our organizational work space by 50%.

We formalized our Back-to-School Backpack program and distributed brand new backpacks to 410 homeless,

low-income and foster children.

We said a wistful good bye to Samantha Stanley who served as our Program Coordinator for the past four and a half years, and we warmly welcomed Robyn Johnston.

Our board of directors was pleased to welcome six new board members, but also sadly said good bye to two directors.

Blue Skies created a brand new transactional website through FlipCause, www.blueskiesforchildren.org.

We established brand new partnerships with Christ the King Church, Thrivent Financial, and Bellingham Festival of Music.

And, lastly, because of your support, the number of children we served in Whatcom County, grew by 20%, to over 1200 served.

2016 Blue Skies Programs and Services

Sponsored

(7,189) Enrichment Sessions
(126) One-Time Little Wishes
(33) Loaned Musical Instruments

Distributed

(3,126) Coats, hats, gloves, scarves and blankets
(535) Pairs of brand new shoes
(410) Back-to-School Backpacks

Other Programs

(10) Driver's Education Scholarships
(16) Children participated in swim lessons and swim team.

We Thank our Community

A big Thank You to all who have donated to Blue Skies in 2016. Our success is because of you and your support. We could not do what we do without our community of individuals, business sponsors, third party fundraisers, those who Sponsor-A-Child,

and those that donate and attend Blue Skies annual fundraisers.

Major Inkind Donors:

Sleep Train USA, / Mattress Firm, The Zumiez Foundation, Woodland Park Zoo and Soles4Souls.

Major Community Fundraisers:

Slo'Pitch
The Dance Studio
Thrillingham
North Coast Electrical

Thank You to our 2016 Grantors

Gifts Over \$1,000

Bellingham Bay Rotary, Baker/Boyle Pelo Foundation, Bellingham Festival of Music, The Dorothy Collins Brown Charitable Foundation, The Hafer Foundation, Lummi Indian Business Council, The Norcliffe Foundation, Swim to Live Foundation, The Pless Foundation, Superfeet, Ticket To Dream Foundation, Tulalip Tribes, Thomas & Martina Horn Foundation, Whatcom Community Foundation, Women Sharing Hope, Whatcom Educational Credit Union.

Mission: To raise hope and self-esteem by sponsoring enrichment activities and other essentials for homeless, low-income and foster children.



2016 Financial Highlights

For year ended December 31, 2016

Cash Donations \$224,670

In-kind Donations \$ 81,241

Program Expenses: \$227,393

General Expenses: \$ 60,413

Fundraising Expense: \$ 20,624

Total Expenses: \$308,430

Total Assets: \$196,941

Total Liabilities: \$ 4,471

Net Asset Balance: \$192,470

Administrative Expense Ratio: 20.96%

We Love Our Community Partners

We are excited to have welcomed three new community partners in 2016

The Bellingham Festival of Music

Has sponsored five children taking music lesson this year, in addition to supporting our musical instrument loaner program.



For more information go to
www.bellinghamfestival.org.

Christ The King Church

Has committed to a long term partnership with Blue Skies, as one of eight organizations they have chosen in the local community, to provide both financial support and volunteers.

For more information please contact
wendyp@ctk.church



Thrivent Financial

We are honored to have been chosen by Thrivent Financial, a fortune 500 investment firm as a local non-profit eligible for Thrivent Choice grants. For more information contact Adrain J. Brodeur at 360.752.3386 or email adrain.brodeur@thrivent.com



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