

# No Child Left Inside Grants Awarded 2019



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## **Benton County** **Grants Awarded: \$25,000**

### **Benton City** **Grant Awarded: \$25,000** **Helping Youth Kayak, Hike, and Standup Paddle**

Benton City will use this grant to provide 472 youth, ages 10-19, with kayaking, standup paddle boarding, and hiking trips. Water activities will start from Sportsman Park, paddling on the Yakima River. Hikers will trek on three nearby public trails. The city will buy kayaks, paddleboards, paddles, life vests, and a trailer. The grant will help cover transportation and staff. The project will promote healthy lifestyles, outdoor safety, positive social relationships, and lifelong recreational skills. This program is the only outdoor programming not tied to team sports in Benton City, where 64 percent of the Kiona-Benton School District's 1,500 students are eligible for free and reduced lunch, and 18 percent of families with children under the age of 18 live in poverty. The City will contribute \$18,030 in cash and donations of materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1123)

## **Chelan County** **Grants Awarded: \$4,200**

### **Cascadia Conservation District** **Grant Awarded: \$4,200** **Getting Kids in the Creek and Forest**

Cascadia Conservation District will use this grant to help more than 300 10th-grade students and 1,500 8<sup>th</sup>-grade students connect with natural resource management professionals to study the health of local streams, collect samples, and better understand forest health and wildfire history. Following field trips with forest experts, students will use playdough to build their own forests, incorporate slope steepness, dry or wet soils, and dense or sparse tree stands. Working with instructors and a local fire department, the students will learn about wildfire risk and forest fires. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1071)

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## Clark County

**Grants Awarded: \$15,100**

### **Lifeline Connections Enhancing Outdoor Education at Camp Mariposa**

**Grant Awarded: \$15,100**

Lifeline Connections will use this grant to buy hiking boots, socks, digital cameras, water bottles, daypacks, hiking guidebooks, and transportation for kids ages 9-12 as part of six, 2-day weekends at the Lewis River Campground in Yacolt and Moulton Falls Regional Park. The weekend workshops will provide kids the knowledge, tools, and coping skills to prevent substance use disorder and encourage problem-solving, teamwork, and physical and mental health. Activities will include hiking, nature photography, and sleeping in rustic cabins. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1207)

## Cowlitz County

**Grants Awarded: \$24,998**

### **Youth and Family Link Program Helping Kids Explore the Outdoors**

**Grant Awarded: \$24,998**

The Youth and Family Link Program will use this grant to serve more than 600 underserved students in Longview, Kelso, and Cowlitz Counties as part of its Outdoor Explore project. The program combines outdoor recreation with lessons in science, technology, engineering, and math to help students develop new skills and a lifelong passion for outdoor activities. Students will spend an average of 16 hours a week in the summer and 4 hours a week in the school year doing activities like kayaking, orienteering, outdoor cooking, archery, swimming, canoeing, geocaching, fishing, and hiking. The Youth and Family Link Program will contribute \$22,151 in a state grant and donations of cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1179)

## Grays Harbor

**Grants Awarded: \$9,160**

### **Ocean Shores Providing Fun Summer Opportunities for Ocean Shores Youth**

**Grant Awarded: \$9,160**

The City of Ocean Shores will use this grant to buy tablets, backpacks, compasses, binoculars, safety vests, rain ponchos, magnifying glasses, field books, and other supplies to help 80 elementary school kids participate in outdoor programming. The 3-week program will incorporate science, technology, engineering, and math with outdoor recreation, community service, and

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cultural enrichment opportunities. With support from the Coastal Interpretive Center, the program will include field trips to local beaches, Damon Point, a local hatchery, and the Quinault Rain Forest. The program will help youth gain leadership and socialization skills, inspire self-esteem, learn, and provide an enriched outdoor experience. The City will contribute \$39,395 in cash, in-kind services, and donations of labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1181)

## Jefferson County

**Grants Awarded: \$49,980**

### **Camp Beausite NW Helping Youth with Disabilities Experience Camp**

**Grant Awarded: \$25,000**

Camp Beausite NW will use this grant to create six to eight overnight camps, each for 20 youth aged 6-19 with disabilities, at its camp in Chimacum. Camp Beausite NW's programs help youth with disabilities swim, beachcomb, ride horses, explore trails, visit Fort Worden State Park and other parks, and go on field trips to learn about the Salish Sea, study the night sky, and watch wildlife. Camp participants also will do nature-based arts and crafts, make birdhouses, take part in scavenger hunts, and talent nights on the camp's outdoor stage. Campers also will be visited by Discovery Bay Wild Bird Rescue to learn about birds. The camp will coordinate mini camps focusing on plants for birds, bees, and butterflies; astronomy; nature-based theatre, and the northwest marine environment. Camp Beausite NW will contribute \$16,000 in in-kind services and donations of equipment, labor, and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1059)

### **Northwest Watershed Institute Fostering Environmental Stewardship in Olympic Peninsula Young Leaders**

**Grant Awarded: \$24,980**

Northwest Watershed Institute will use this grant to help 20 underserved students from rural Olympic Peninsula spend at least 90 hours each serving as a youth crew leader for ten natural-resource groups in east Jefferson County. Teens will attend a weeklong, overnight leadership camp at Fort Flagler State Park, where they'll explore marine, freshwater, and forested environments with professional natural resource experts. At two new outdoor sites each day, students will hike in forests, wade streams, explore wetlands, dig for shellfish in tidelands, and paddle on a lake. During the school year, teens will earn high school graduation credits by serving as crew leaders on their mentors' projects. The Institute will contribute \$29,900 in in-kind services and donations of labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1301)

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## King County

**Grants Awarded: \$446,970**

### **King County Helping Kids Get Out and Learn**

**Grant Awarded: \$17,770**

The King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks' White Center Teen Program will use this grant to help 100 local youth participate in its Get Out and Learn (GOAL) program between this fall and the summer of 2021. The program includes outdoor education at the White Center Community Center and ten field trips to parks, where youth can hike, camp, bike, kayak, snowshoe, and watch wildlife. The program teaches youth about leadership, problem-solving, teamwork, water safety, environmental awareness, and nutrition. The County will contribute \$20,000 in equipment, staff labor, materials, and in-kind services. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1267)

### **Young Women Empowered Connecting Young Women to Nature**

**Grant Awarded: \$75,000**

Young Women Empowered will use this grant to fund its Nature Connections program, which provides women ages 12-18 with outdoor recreation, environmental education, and stewardship activity programs. About 70 percent of Young Women Empowered participants are first- or second-generation immigrants and 85 percent are minorities. As part of Nature Connections, youth and mentors will learn about the natural world as they hike, rock climb, backpack, camp, snowshoe, kayak, garden, engage in hands-on stewardship, and more. Young Women Empowered provides expert guidance, safety, cultural respect, transportation, and meals for all activities. Young Women Empowered will contribute \$136,356 in other grants and donations of labor and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1135)

### **Greenplay Northwest Developing the Willow Project for Homeless Children**

**Grant Awarded: \$25,000**

Greenplay Northwest will use this grant to develop and implement The Willow Project, a nature-based program for homeless children up to 6 years old and their caregivers. Mentors will meet with 60 children and their caregivers, who are living in shelters in southeast King County, once a week to facilitate outdoor activities such as nature immersion, sensory play, walking and wandering, guided nature art, and story and songs. The goal is to mitigate the harmful effects of negative childhood experiences by connecting homeless kids to the many benefits provided by spending time in nature. The mentors also will provide rain boots and educational resources on

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the benefits of nature play to reduce the barriers for homeless children to get outside. Greenplay Northwest will contribute \$9,000 in another grant and donations of cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1254)

## **Peak 7 Adventures Expanding the Seattle Rock Climbing Program**

**Grant Awarded: \$4,200**

Peak 7 Adventures will use this grant to fund expansion and continuation of the Seattle Rock Climbing program, providing guide services, gear, and trip scholarships to organizations serving low-income and marginalized youth in King County and surrounding areas. Populations served include youth in treatment for addiction; in correction programs; who are homeless; who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning; who are refugees; and who are low-income. Most participants are 11 to 18 years old. Peak 7 Adventures teaches beginning climbing techniques, encouraging respect for the environment and emphasizing lessons from the activity that apply to daily life. The goal of the program is to break down barriers that prevent kids from getting outside by offering low-cost, high-quality outdoor climbing trips. The rock climbing trips provide an adventure experience that builds self-confidence, fosters community growth, and boosts mental and physical health through exercise and connection to nature. Peak 7 Adventure served 265 participants in 2018, and has served more than 1,700 since it started in 2010. Peak 7 Adventures will contribute \$9,826 in donations of cash and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1288)

## **The Mountaineers Offering Mountain Workshops**

**Grant Awarded: \$150,000**

The Mountaineers will use this grant to offer Mountain Workshops, which provides outdoor experiences for at-risk and low-income youth, ages 6 to 20, who otherwise could not afford outdoor adventures. Mountain Workshops offer year-round outdoor activities such as rock climbing, hiking, camping, cooking, and snowshoeing in state and national parks. The Mountaineers partner with local youth-serving agencies to deliver single- or multi-day experiences. The Mountaineers will contribute \$54,075 in a private grant and donations of labor and materials. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1074)

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## **North Seattle Family Resource Center** **Grant Awarded: \$25,000** **Offering a Summer of Outdoor Activities for Minority, Low-income Kids**

The North Seattle Family Resource Center will use this grant to offer its summer outdoor recreation program for 230 minority, low-income youth. The Center will offer camping, kayaking, hiking, cooking outdoors, beachcombing, and nature walks in state parks. The goal is to empower youth by giving them the tools to boost self-esteem, become leaders in their communities, improve their grades, and overcome fears of outdoor recreation. The North Seattle Family Resource Center will contribute \$7,895 in staff labor and in-kind services. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1278)

## **YMCA of Greater Seattle** **Grant Awarded: \$150,000** **Offering Outdoor Leadership Programs**

The YMCA of Greater Seattle will use this grant to offer outdoor leadership development programs (OLD). The boys' BOLD and the girls' GOLD is expected to serve 2,000 youth and takes place in the summer, during the school year, and on weekends. Participants benefit from unique recreational experiences such as backpacking, camping, rock climbing, kayaking, orienteering, river rafting, mountaineering, art, yoga, music, and creative writing—with environmental outdoor educational components woven into each adventure. The mission of BOLD & GOLD is to inspire leadership, courage, and friendship in young people from different backgrounds through outdoor adventures. The program has helped youth develop tools to resist or leave gangs, reach out for help with mental illness, and stay in school. The YMCA will contribute \$1.7 million in donations of cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1029)

## **Mason County** **Grants Awarded: \$136,490**

### **Hood Canal School District** **Grant Awarded: \$136,490** **Offering B.O.O.T.S. and Riparian Enhancement Program**

The Hood Canal School District will use this grant to offer its Bringing Outdoor and Occupational Teaching to Students (BOOTS) and Riparian Enhancement Program. The yearlong, program exposes students to the region's natural beauty and resources through hands-on learning. The program combines adventure-based activities, such as hiking, wilderness backpacking, kayaking, and climbing with a place-based outdoor environmental science curriculum. Each program holds the guiding principle that direct experience in nature, with a strong experiential component, is inherently motivating and rewarding to youth. The school

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district will contribute \$106,504 in a state appropriation and donations of labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1014)

## **Pierce County**

**Grants Awarded: \$144,962**

### **Catholic Community Services Tacoma**

**Grant Awarded: \$25,000**

#### **Helping Youth Who Live in Foster Homes Explore Washington**

Catholic Community Services Tacoma will use this grant to help 250 youth who live in foster homes to explore the world around them. Youth will take day trips to parks, learn about salmon spawning, and visit Snoqualmie Pass to experience the snow. Students will kayak at Boston Harbor, learn about marine life on the Puget Sound, and visit Northwest Trek to learn and experience wildlife. The trips will include environmental education, water safety tips, and an introduction to environmental stewardship principles. In addition to an increased awareness of the outdoors, kids also will gain improved physical and mental well-being and opportunities to grow their self-esteem. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1156)

### **Multicultural Child and Family Hope Center**

**Grant Awarded: \$25,000**

#### **Investing in Kids' Outdoor Experiences in the Tacoma Area**

The Multicultural Child and Family Hope Center will use this grant to help about 300 children participate in its Tacoma Outdoor Learning Opportunities program. The program runs from June to August and focuses on serving children of parents in substance abuse recovery or mental health services, kids in its summer preschool program, and elementary school age kids, including those in foster homes and staying with other family members. The program encourages social and emotional development, a healthy lifestyle, and enthusiastic learning, and models how to invest in their environment. Activities include outdoor experiments, field trips, and family activities. Students will be educated about, exposed to, and then provided opportunities to help care for developed, marine, and historical locations. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1328)

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## **Hope Inspired Change Helping Girls Find Therapy in Biking**

**Grant Awarded: \$25,000**

Hope Inspired Change will use this grant to support its Therapy on Wheels program, which will serve 10 girls of color ages 12 to 17 for 36 weeks, starting in June. Therapy on Wheels introduces girls to cycling, improves their physical well-being, teaches them road safety, and bike maintenance, all while exploring their community and the world around them. Girls will learn leadership skills, build self-esteem and confidence, and learn how to become productive citizens while engaging positively with adults and peers. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1329)

## **Pierce County Parks and Recreation Giving Rural Pierce County Youth Access to the Outdoors**

**Grant Awarded: \$69,962**

Pierce County Parks and Recreation Services will use this grant to provide court-associated youth in rural Pierce County access to nature and outdoor recreation experiences. Teens, ages 13-17, will participate in six, 7-hour sessions once a week throughout the program. Sessions will focus on environmental education, leadership, hands-on stewardship service projects, and activities such as rock climbing, canoeing, fishing, hiking, etc. Five sessions will occur in a regional park in the youth's local community, with one week at a state-park destination. The County will contribute \$87,260 in in-kind services. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1112)

## **San Juan County**

**Grants Awarded: \$24,963**

## **Lopez Island Family Resource Center Getting Lopez Island Youth Outside**

**Grant Awarded: \$24,963**

Lopez Island Family Resource Center will use this grant to help 300 underserved youth, ages 2-18, living on Lopez Island participate in its Youth Outdoor Education program. Year-round programming includes after-school activities and summer workshops outside that teach conservation, orienteering, and awareness of the Salish Sea and surrounding environment. The program aims to improve youth self-esteem, community involvement, and environmental stewardship. The Center will contribute \$60,865 in donations of cash and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1076)



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## **Skagit County** **Grants Awarded: \$25,000**

### **The Salish Sea School** **Grant Awarded: \$25,000** **Investing in the Future Salish Sea Stewards**

The Salish Sea School will use this grant to help 65 high school youth participate in its Guardians of the Sea program, a boat-based, marine conservation ecology program. The program includes five, 4-day excursions in the summer; eight, 2-day weekends the rest of the year; and additional seasonal 8-hour adventures. Lessons will include Salish Sea history, citizen science, and mindfulness in nature techniques. The Salish Sea School will contribute \$71,807 in cash, a state grant, and donations of cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1050)

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## **Snohomish County** **Grants Awarded: \$20,958**

### **Edmonds School District** **Grant Awarded: \$20,958** **Expanding Edmonds School District Learning Outside**

Edmonds School District will use this grant to serve 28 at-risk, low-income students annually as part of its Interdisciplinary Studies Environmental Program. Students will head outdoors to learn about environmental science, social studies, physical education, English, health and art, while also improving attendance, teamwork, and self-esteem. A credit-baring program is held during the spring quarter and a year-round extracurricular club further supports the program. Activities include hiking, backpacking, and camping while teaching students about civic engagement, native plant identification, first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, camp skills, and teamwork. Students will enjoy journaling, sketching, and reading. On average, students participate in 360 hours of programming annually. The school district will contribute \$69,362 in a state appropriation, in-kind services, and donations of cash, equipment, and labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1025)

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## **Spokane County** **Grants Awarded: \$104,580**

### **Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Inland Northwest** **Grant Awarded: \$17,261** **Empowering Youth through Mentorship**

Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Inland Northwest will use this grant to support its region-wide initiative, "mPOWER," which combines lifelong benefits of 1-to-1 mentoring with outdoor

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recreation, group activities, access to equipment, and case management services. Big Brother Big Sisters of the Inland Northwest has found that in its more than 50 years serving Spokane and its surrounding rural communities, the time children spend with their mentor is often the first and only chance they have to get outdoors. Big Brothers Big Sisters will contribute \$56,880 in donations of labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1026)

### **Camp Fire Inland Northwest Council Helping Spokane County Kids Come to Summer Camp**

**Grant Awarded: \$62,337**

Camp Fire Inland Northwest will use this grant to create access to Camp Fire's outdoor activities for 1000 low-income Spokane youth ages 5-14 over 2 years. The goal of this program is to get kids outside and expand youth leadership and environmental education. Children will participate in camping, hiking, boating, swimming, fishing, archery, pacing, orienteering, knife safety, whittling, fire building, and camp cooking. Children enrolled in other summer and after-school programs in the community also will attend two Camp Fire camps and Riverside State Park. About 450 children will attend Camp Dart-Lo summer day camp in Spokane County and 60 children will attend overnight summer camp at Camp Sweyolakan on Lake Coeur d'Alene, just outside of Spokane County. During the school year, 490 children will benefit from programming at Dart-Lo and Riverside State Park. The Camp Fire Inland Northwest Council will contribute \$55,786 in in-kind services and donations of cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1139)

### **Eastern Washington University Educating Cheney Youth about the Palouse Prairie Environment**

**Grant Awarded: \$24,982**

Eastern Washington University will use this grant to engage about 700 4<sup>th</sup> to 8th grade students in Cheney in outdoor education curriculum on native ecological systems as part of its Palouse Prairie Restoration and Education Program. The program will include field trips to Steptoe Butte State Park and Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge. Students also will grow native plants and contribute to a 150-acre Eastern Washington University Palouse prairie restoration site. The program develops students' understandings of and appreciation for native ecological systems through hands-on outdoor activities. Most students in the Cheney community don't receive outdoor environmental education in elementary and middle grades. Despite living near state and national parks, there are no outdoor field trips and many teachers haven't worked with outdoor environmental curriculum. With 98 percent of Palouse prairie habitats transformed into farmland, it is critical to educate future generations on the importance of preserving native

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ecological systems. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1063)

## **Thurston County**

**Grants Awarded: \$149,931**

### **Garden-Raised Bounty**

**Grant Awarded: \$75,000**

#### **Cultivating Youth and Food in the South Sound**

Garden-Raised Bounty will use this grant to engage more than 200 youth in agriculture-based dropout prevention and re-engagement programs in Thurston and Pierce Counties. With their hands in the soil, youth find greater self-esteem, self-care, academic confidence, and a profound sense of environmental and civic responsibility. This project will engage more than 80 youth in 7 weeks of farm-based job training and outdoor experiential education over two summers, earning \$1,000 and one technical education credit in sustainable agriculture. It will engage more than 120 middle and high school students in up to 720 hours of outdoor farm-to-school classes during two school years, and more than 70 students in 140 hours of farm-based job training, leadership development, and General Education Development degree attainment in a new program in the next two school years, earning up to \$1,000. Garden-Raised Bounty will contribute \$594,000 in a state appropriation. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1084)

### **Nisqually River Foundation**

**Grant Awarded: \$74,931**

#### **Helping Nisqually Tribal Youth Explore and Connect**

The Nisqually River Foundation will use this grant to help up to 100 students from the Nisqually Indian Tribe's Youth Services Program and up to 40 students from the Wa He Lut Indian School access environmental education in their home watershed. Youth will gain new exposure to outdoor recreation, traditional foods, outdoor survival skills and the power of their treaty rights. The program will include a combination of stewardship and recreation with a minimum of monthly meetings year-round. Activities will include hiking, camping, river rafting, horseback riding, snowshoeing, traditional cultural knowledge, and local food sources. The foundation will contribute \$63,387 in in-kind services and donations of labor. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1094)

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## **Whatcom County** **Grants Awarded: \$124,200**

### **Burlington-Edison Schools** **Grant Awarded: \$4,200** **Sending Kids to Mountain School**

Burlington-Edison Schools will use this grant to send 154 fifth-graders in the Burlington Edison School District to Mountain School, a 3-day, 2-night outdoor program of the North Cascades Institute. Mountain School is an opportunity for students, many of whom are non-native English speakers, to develop a sense of place in the Skagit Valley and learn more about the outdoors. Led by professional educators, masters of education students, and park rangers, the program gives students a new understanding and appreciation for the outdoors and a renewed sense of self-confidence. The school district will contribute \$34,566 in in-kind services. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1127)

### **North Cascades Institute** **Grant Awarded: \$120,000** **Fostering Youth Leaders in the North Cascades**

North Cascades Institute will use this grant to help underserved youth participate in Youth Leadership Adventures, which includes a series of 8- and 12-day backcountry courses, the Northwest Youth Leadership Summit, internships, and mentorship. The program culminates with trips in North Cascade National Park, national forests, and state parks. During backcountry courses, students canoe, backpack, and participate in stewardship work while receiving training in recreation, leadership, science, and communication. Designed for students who have no prior outdoor experience, the North Cascades Institute provides all gear, food, and transportation. The Institute will contribute \$310,318 in other grants and donations of cash. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1196)

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## **Yakima County** **Grants Awarded: \$43,510**

### **Yakima Valley Farm Workers** **Grant Awarded: \$43,510** **Using After-School Programming to Get Kids Outdoors**

Yakima Valley Farm Workers will use this grant to support after-school programming that gives meaningful outdoor experiences to youth who have little or no access to Washington's State and national parks. The program focuses on providing services to underserved, low-income, at-risk youth in the lower valley area of Yakima County. Activities include hiking, camping, swimming, backpacking, outdoor cooking, and environmental outdoor education. Each adventure is the culmination of a place-based curriculum emphasizing physical health as well as

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academic, social, and emotional growth. Yakima Valley Farm Workers will contribute \$70,468 in a federal grant. Visit RCO's online Project Snapshot for [more information and photographs of this project](#). (19-1072)