



# Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

<https://pchomeless.org/> - [info@pchomeless.org](mailto:info@pchomeless.org)

Chat from the January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Coalition to End Homelessness Provider Meeting

00:15:46 Amber Beers: yes it was easier and thank you Nate for telling me!!!

00:16:03 Nathan Blackmer: I gotcha Amber!

00:16:48 Amber Beers: your the greatest! we need to touch base about you guys coming here again soon

00:17:40 Theresa Power-Drutis: Thank you Rosemary and Maureen!

00:18:48 Sherrilla Bivens: Sherrilla Bivens Elijah Barrel Food Bank

00:19:10 Amber Beers: heyyyyyy Jen!!!

00:19:38 Theresa Power-Drutis: We love having Puyallup representatives

00:19:38 jenifer palm: hey amber

00:19:58 Theresa Power-Drutis: Yes, medical folks!

00:20:07 Cynthia Stewart: Could everyone please mute when not talking? There is way too much background noise. Thanks.

00:22:17 Gerrit Nyland: I've posted the transcript, recordings, commitment list and such from Monday's Safe Shelter Summit on the website: <https://pchomeless.org/MeetingMinutes/Details?id=550>

00:24:49 Stephen Pagan: I haven't been able to reach my contact at the encampment in Garfield Park to check in with her about their willingness to take vaccines. I'll keep trying to get in touch with her.

00:25:53 Paula Anderson: Sea Mar CHAT team often participates with New Hope's Mobile Unit, with their Nurse Practitioner...good partnership.

00:28:17 Theresa Power-Drutis: Theresa Power-Drutis, New Connections 253.534.5402 (have 4 mats)

00:28:43 Valeri Knight: Pierce County has released a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for Emergency Solutions Grant Coronavirus (ESG-CV) Program.

Application and required attachments are due by 4:30 pm on February 19, 2021. All materials can be found on the Pierce County Human Services website at:

<https://www.piercecountywa.gov/2779/Solicitations-and-Competitive-Bids>

00:32:17 Gerrit Nyland: Yay Carlos!

00:32:20 Carlos Castanon: Thanks Maureen!

00:33:04 Carolyn Read: He was like a professional DJ! Thank you Carlos!

00:33:44 Gerrit Nyland: email [gnyland@pchomeless.org](mailto:gnyland@pchomeless.org) if you would like to be added to the Friday Steering committee invites

00:34:49 Theresa Power-Drutis: Jan- you rock!

00:36:35 Rob Huff - MDC (he/him): Here is the link to the commitments that were made at Monday's summit: <https://coalitionfiles.blob.core.windows.net/files/Summit/Safe%20Shelter%20Summit%20-2021-01-25%20-%20Commitments.pdf>

00:37:31 Theresa Power-Drutis: Maureen's brainchild! Thank you!

00:39:38 Gerrit Nyland: Thank you Maureen - the Steering Committee is actually on Wednesday at 3pm - email [gnyland@pchomeless.org](mailto:gnyland@pchomeless.org) if you are interested.

00:40:10 Sherri Jensen: Have another meeting coming online. Bye everyone!!!

01:01:45 Sheri Waller: stepping away briefly for a fire drill/alarm(?)

01:02:25 Kevin Glackin-Coley: We raised the possibility of working with past Inclement Weather shelters to see if they would be open to being Safe Parking sites. Also whether there are volunteers available who could help staff an inclement weather shelter at a local church.

01:02:38 Cynthia Stewart: The Coalition has no staff! Only volunteers, for which we owe huge thanks.

01:03:05 Jeffrey Boyce: I would like to put together a group of Chaplains



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- 01:03:20 Rosemary Powers: commitment to advocating with Pierce County Council to devote resources to permanent supportive housing and to develop new approaches to publicly funded housing for low income and extremely low income folks.
- 01:04:01 Jennifer Palm: I wonder if we could create a social platform for us professionals to advertise who we are and what services we offer that would help us connect the dots. Also to post our ideas new trends if you have extra supplies... new resources you know about ect.
- 01:04:02 Paula Anderson: New Hope will commit to adding more medical services to the mobile unit. Also, New Hope proper will commit to being open to building relationships with city of Puyallup to assist those experiencing homelessness.
- 01:04:20 Irene Morrison: Tacoma Housing Now continues to work for permanent supportive housing. FEMA is now reimbursing 100% for non-congregate shelter, so there are no more excuses the city/county/state can make.

In addition FnB Tacoma continues to do street medic work including harm reduction, weekly hot food, and other supplies. Mostly we are serving bridge camps down by the port right now. One of which is under threat of eviction today, so we have been kind of busy.

- 01:04:26 Theresa Power-Drutis: New Connections will formalize and expand our freecycle program for Pierce County nonprofits to make it available to any programs engaged in the work of ensuring shelter for all.
- 01:04:33 Al Ratcliffe: Invite organizations and politicians that make commitments to join this meeting periodically to report their progress - to be proud rather than just be accountable. Positive reinforcement works! <https://www.thenewtribune.com/news/local/news-columns-blogs/matt-driscoll/article248515845.html>
- 01:05:19 Verna Lilly: MRC Trauma Resilience Team will investigate opportunities to support
- 01:05:24 Sarah Rumbaugh: We talked about access to same day treatment and hotel vouchers for those waiting to get into treatment
- 01:07:10 Gerrit Nyland: CC - yes - we really need lived experience there. spot on.
- 01:07:44 Theresa Power-Drutis: Dependent on available funding, New Connections will establish a house to use a permanent low-income shared housing for formerly incarcerated people.
- 01:09:29 Gail Misner: I will definitely attend in the future
- 01:10:18 Paula Anderson: I would be supportive of this twice a year! Love the idea of the awards Gerrit!
- 01:11:27 Theresa Power-Drutis: Great idea CC
- 01:12:33 Verna Lilly: Is there a way to hook those landlords up with other landlords who are thinking about helping but need information and reassurance?
- 01:12:44 Janet Runbeck: Can we invite the landlord liaison folks to come here?
- 01:13:30 Kevin Glackin-Coley: Does someone have contact information for the Landlord Liaison group?
- 01:13:49 Sarah Rumbaugh: Yes, it is through Associated Ministries. Will get for you.
- 01:14:24 Theresa Power-Drutis: <https://www.landlordliaisonprogram.com/>
- 01:14:27 Carlos Castanon: Well said, Michael.
- 01:15:08 Michael Yoder: Tina McLeod is director of LLP and often attends this meeting
- 01:15:14 Nathan Blackmer: I agree with Mike on needing to celebrate good landlords. It makes a huge difference in how things go with our clients in the future.

We also need to share information as a coalition about the landlords that are being exceptionally scummy. I understand that everyone keeps their own informal blacklist, and why they don't publicize them, but I think if we're serious about protecting our clients from victimization in the system we need to also know places not to house them.



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- 01:16:25 Irene Morrison: yes, bad landlords to need to get called out!
- 01:16:28 Michael Yoder: Agree, Nathan
- 01:17:15 Irene Morrison: I've never seen a purple bag, just mountains of trash, at the camps we serve.
- 01:18:14 Carolyn Read: what is heather's email?
- 01:18:44 Valeri Knight: [heather.moss@piercecountywa.gov](mailto:heather.moss@piercecountywa.gov)
- 01:23:36 Cynthia Stewart: Heather, will the approval needed occur by April, per the ordinance creating the behavioral health tax?
- 01:24:19 Valeri Knight: as requested: John Barbee [john.barbee@piercecountywa.gov](mailto:john.barbee@piercecountywa.gov)
- 01:26:35 Erica Azcueta: I can't stay long but I want to give a few updates: the NorPoint and Salvation Army shelters opened this week, An employment opportunity on our homeless outreach team was posted today.
- 01:26:43 Rob Huff - MDC (he/him): Here is the Open Pierce County website: <https://open.piercecountywa.gov>
- 01:27:26 Erica Azcueta: The cleanup for the WSDOT property on Bay Street will take place on Tuesday. Please feel free to reach out to me if you have questions.
- 01:27:39 Rob Huff - MDC (he/him): Thank you, Erica
- 01:29:04 Irene Morrison: Erica, I can't private message you. Are you saying that the eviction Food not Bombs is out there today to try to stop is not taking place today, but instead taking place on Tuesday?
- 01:29:39 Rob Huff - MDC (he/him): Irene, it looks like Erica had to leave the meeting. That would appear to be what she said.
- 01:30:24 Gerrit Nyland: Matthew Jorgensen - can you answer Irene Morrison's question?
- 01:31:42 Irene Morrison: We are on site now also trying to test everyone for COVID because we learned that one person down there was positive. We are very concerned about where they are going to go and community spread.
- 01:32:49 Nathan Blackmer: We need clarity on when this sort of thing is happening, and the constantly shifting dates for sweeps/evictions/cleanups/whatever we're calling them currently make supporting our homeless citizens really tough. Can we get a single point for information about these?
- 01:33:50 Rob Huff - MDC (he/him): It looks like \$26.5 million
- 01:34:29 Valeri Knight: Tacoma, Lakewood, Puyallup, University Place, and Pierce County
- 01:35:46 Rob Huff - MDC (he/him): Moving shelter closer to where people are actually from and live is a huge leap.
- 01:38:59 Matthew Jorgensen: For questions regarding scheduled encampment cleanups please feel free to contact Erica at (253)591-5015 or [eazcueta@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:eazcueta@cityoftacoma.org)
- 01:40:17 Maureen Howard: Thanks for reviewing FEMA
- 01:40:32 Janet Runbeck: Well done, Heather.
- 01:41:13 Verna Lilly: Thanks Heather!
- 01:41:30 Laurie Davenport: Really clear presentation, thank you!!
- 01:41:33 Gerrit Nyland: If there are any things the Coalition can do to support the County's work to analyze the FEMA funding, please let us know.
- 01:42:53 Kevin Glackin-Coley: Thanks Heather. I want to echo Theres'as comments.
- 01:43:13 Cynthia Stewart: The behavioral health tax is not a done deal yet, since it is contingent on a state action by April.
- 01:43:19 Kevin Glackin-Coley: Carolyn - from your lips to God's ears,
- 01:44:04 jenifer palm: we are on board.... NWIH
- 01:46:50 Jeffrey Boyce: Thank you Heather Moss
- 01:47:33 jenifer palm: team work makes the dream work
- 01:51:55 Irene Morrison: Amen thanks Maureen



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- 01:52:41 CC Mendoza: there is free covid testing at Bethlehem Baptist church today!
- 01:53:29 Rob Huff - MDC (he/him): That mobile COVID testing clinic at Bethlehem Baptist Church, 4818 Portland Ave., is open until 3 p.m. today. Free.
- 01:55:27 Theresa Power-Drutis: Most of the "release to the sidewalk" problems are exits from ERs
- 01:55:33 Verna Lilly: Would a Resource List at the ER desk at least let them know what resources are possible for helping people who aren't sick enough to admit?
- 01:56:25 Heather Moss: Staff emergency; gotta go. Please direct further questions to Valeri and Sean. Heather
- 01:57:11 Sheri Waller: We would love to have a robust resource list in our ED for anyone who needs help but is not admitted. Can we develop that as a group?
- 01:57:36 Theresa Power-Drutis: Sheri - great idea - yes!
- 01:58:09 Verna Lilly: Would it be easy to pull relevant agencies from the Pierce County Coalition to End Homeless website?
- 01:59:47 Theresa Power-Drutis: I think that is a good place to start - but - will get even more resources if we engage the coalition in developing an ER resource
- 01:59:56 Janet Runbeck: Sheri Waller, Keith Helmka, and who else will join a working committee on discharge planning from ER/ hospitals?
- 02:00:41 Theresa Power-Drutis: Janet: Count me in
- 02:01:20 Kevin Glackin-Coley: I can help as well jan,
- 02:01:31 Nathan Blackmer: Thank you Val! You're a rockstar
- 02:02:17 Jennifer Ammons: Jan, I will see if someone from NJP Tacoma with more experience in that area will participate. I know we've challenged discharges of homeless folks whose medical needs cannot be met on the street and forced nursing homes to take people back after hospitalization (slightly different issue).
- 02:02:55 Gerrit Nyland: Janet - me too. I'd like to know what sort of information is needed by these clients, so we can figure out how to put it together.
- 02:03:07 Dupree Whitten: Thank you Valeri
- 02:03:40 Verna Lilly: Love that! Ask for the world, get Texas!
- 02:03:49 Carlos Castanon: Gotta go, thank you everyone!
- 02:05:48 Paula Anderson: Great work Valeri!
- 02:05:51 Julian Wheeler,PC-ACACchair(He/Him/His): Thank you, Valeri.
- 02:06:01 Valeri Knight: our pleasure
- 02:06:34 Theresa Power-Drutis: I hope we can create an online resource for ERs throughout Pierce County so that we don't have outdated printed material floating around until the end of time. Could we create it within <https://www.piercecountyresources.com>
- 02:06:53 Sheri Waller: my email is [slwaller@multicare.org](mailto:slwaller@multicare.org) Please include me in the committee for hospital/ED dc planning. Thank you all!
- 02:07:23 Irene Morrison: thanks everyone and thanks again Maureen for saving a life over the last couple days. that infection would have gotten him killed coupled with COVID.
- 02:07:37 CC Mendoza: Gotta go, thank you all!
- 02:09:08 Gerrit Nyland: If you want some input on the letter around the need for the Tacoma Care Center - feel free to email me - [gnyland@pchomeless.org](mailto:gnyland@pchomeless.org)
- 02:12:24 Julian Wheeler,PC-ACACchair(He/Him/His): All are invited to our next regular session of the Pierce County Accessible Communities Advisory Committee (PC-ACAC) that is on-line on Tuesday, March 9th, at 9 am. Email your interest to attend to [Julianfwheeler@aol.com](mailto:Julianfwheeler@aol.com).



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We operate under the Accessible Communities Act of 2010, and can help fund accessibility projects. We have an intake process, but such projects have been successfully funded around the state. If you can characterize one as such, get to know us!

We're looking for new members, new ideas, and speakers from the community or even from agencies and departmental staff for our upcoming meetings (2nd Tues/odd-numbered months).

We are staffed by PC Human Services.

Email your interest to attend to [Julianfwheeler@aol.com](mailto:Julianfwheeler@aol.com).

Thank you for your work.

In service,

Julian F. Wheeler (He/Him/His), Chair,

Pierce County Accessible Communities Advisory Committee (PC-ACAC).

02:13:17 Valeri Knight: HD Vaccinations folks attended our Monthly Outreach meeting just yesterday afternoon :)

02:13:17 Reanna Bettencourt: <https://www.tpchd.org/healthy-people/diseases/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine-information>

Vaccine Education

[rbettencourt@tpchd.org](mailto:rbettencourt@tpchd.org)

[mpotoniec@tpchd.org](mailto:mpotoniec@tpchd.org)

02:13:31 Rob Huff - MDC (he/him): Thank you again, Reanna

02:13:54 Gerrit Nyland: don't forget the Home In Tacoma Affordable Housing event today:

02:14:00 Gerrit Nyland: Getting Housing Growth Right for Tacoma on January 29, 2021

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87517557098?pwd=V21PWW10MkhHVzVzZmZmakZjSVdoZz09>

Passcode: 398323

(253) 215-8782

Webinar ID: 875 1755 7098

02:14:14 Gerrit Nyland: It is from noon-12:45 today

02:15:22 jenifer palm: bless you all. thank you

02:15:32 Stefanie Backer: Thank you for a great meeting!