



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

<https://pchomeless.org/> - info@pchomeless.org

Chat from the April 23rd, 2021 Coalition to End Homelessness Friday Meeting

00:18:09 - Rob Huff - MDC (he/him): - Zoom Norms

Mute yourself when not talking.

Use Zoom's raise hand feature if you have something to say.

Limit distractions by turning off your camera if you need to take another call.

00:18:33 - Rob Huff - MDC (he/him): - Community Norms

Lead with a racial equity lens.

Be aware of power dynamics.

Challenge concepts, not people.

Listen to learn.

One person speaks at a time.

Speak from your own experience.

Make space, take space.

Assume best intentions and take responsibility for impact.

Be aware of time and agenda.

00:20:34 - Rob Huff - MDC (he/him): - As a reminder, here are our meeting norms in one document:

00:23:57 - Stacey Soltoff: - Stacey - I'm with TUUC's newly opened Safe Parking Site.

00:24:27 - Janet Runbeck: - Welcome Stacey!

00:33:12 - Jenny Lorton: - Jenny w/ IPPC - 253-625-7783

00:34:57 - Marilyn Newton: - Marilyn Newton RN homeless outreach for SeaMar my number is 206 591 8615

00:35:29 - Janet Runbeck: - Free transport to medical clinics: Tacoma Fire Dept Cares. Does CLR or GL have the recent list to post the pick up sites & delivery sites for medical clinics?

00:35:29 - Peach McDouall: - that's the focus of my nimby neighborhood assoc as well - '8th & I Neighbors' & I have clashed in the past about this.

00:37:38 - Courtney Chandler: - Janet, do you have the number to call to get help from the Fire Dept? Or is it just calling 911?

00:38:30 - Janet Runbeck: - Do NOT call 911. Call 253-250-1263 Laura

00:46:02 - Bryan Green: - Could it be possible to start a funding/grant writing subcommittee?

00:47:03 - Rob Huff - MDC (he/him): - That is an interesting idea, Bryan.

00:47:19 - Courtney Chandler: - Courtneyc@associatedministries.org

00:48:00 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Can we set up a separate zoom call for interested folks

00:48:01 - Laurie Davenport: - I think that's a good idea.

00:50:14 - Courtney Chandler: - I hear your frustration. Your passion is what is coming through for me. I'd really like to connect Pastor Pitchford.

00:50:49 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Donald: I have 3 new foam mats that I offered last month, no takers. Still there if you want them

00:53:56 - Gerrit Nyland: - Pierce County Ad Hoc Committee to facilitate the Comprehensive Plan to End Homelessness website: <https://www.piercecountywa.gov/7219/Ad-Hoc-Committee-to-end-homelessness>

00:54:51 - Gerrit Nyland: - Lots of great information there, as well as the current draft of the report to the Human Services Committee, which is available in the final meeting packet at <https://www.piercecountywa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/103419>

00:56:56 - Gerrit Nyland: - Some great information on Targeted Universalism - <https://belonging.berkeley.edu/targeteduniversalism> (this is the same link we shared at the Coalition meeting last week)

00:58:45 - Stephanie Schermerhorn: - So, I have a simple question. Who wrote that part in? The county?



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00:59:03 - Sally Perkins: - Great question, Stephanie.

00:59:39 - Stephanie Schermerhorn: - Ok, Thank you.

01:00:29 - Reanna Bettencourt: - Away from computer for a few minutes.

01:03:45 - Rob Huff - MDC (he/him): - And Maureen has served as an official alternate for the Coalition in the Ad-Hoc Committee meetings. Thank you!

01:04:08 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Yes - well done all!

01:04:13 - James Pogue: - If you want to review the 4 meetings of the Ad Hoc committee or look at the previous materials, <https://www.piercecountywa.gov/7219/Ad-Hoc-Committee-to-end-homelessness>

01:10:00 - Peach McDouall: - can you repeat the part about what the police chief's role is?

01:11:00 - Rob Huff - MDC (he/him): - Peach, this is what it says in the current proposed changes to the code:

01:11:03 - Rob Huff - MDC (he/him): - 8.19.060 Rules.

The Chief of Police is hereby authorized to adopt rules, regulations, administrative policies, and procedures for implementing and enforcing Section 8.19.030 or Section 8.19.040 of this Chapter as to any Camping and/or Storing of personal property within outdoor portions of Public Property or Streets against persons experiencing homelessness that complies with Constitutional requirements.

01:14:36 - Peach McDouall: - TY

01:14:43 - James Pogue: - Here is the list of locations were the FD Cares Medical Transport Van stops

01:15:13 - Kathryn Green: - I believe there should be no criminalizing at all!!

01:15:27 - Sally Perkins: - Thank you, James.

01:15:36 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Agreed and I think Thoms agrees as well

01:15:55 - Rob Huff - MDC (he/him): - We do still need to come up with solutions for those who will not accept other available alternatives, once they actually exist.

01:16:27 - Peach McDouall: - I am less sanguine than folks here re the Intention of city/county officials and pio folks

01:17:09 - Jeffrey Boyce: - Yes Rob, we need that conversation.

01:17:52 - Sally Perkins: - I think everyone needs to think about the relevance of the "other available alternatives" to the actual circumstances and experiences of the people who are unsheltered. Not sure we have a great match yet.

01:18:00 - Kathryn Green: - I agree Rosemary. Thank you

01:18:04 - Laurie Davenport: - I agree Rob, that needs to happen.

01:18:49 - Rob Huff - MDC (he/him): - Yes, Sally. That is key. Right now the only alternative feels like a "my way or the highway" situation. Other safe locations need to be available.

01:18:50 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - The point James is making is key to reframing this conversation

01:18:51 - Stacey Soltoff: - regarding messaging to the community, could there be good talking points from this pamphlet from the ACLU? https://aclu-or.org/sites/default/files/field_documents/aclu-decriminalizing-homelessness_full-report_web_final.pdf

01:18:53 - Jeffrey Boyce: - A Camping Ban would be unconstitutional without other shelters being available.

01:19:24 - Jeffrey Boyce: - Martin Vs Boise

01:20:27 - Stacey Soltoff: - is there sample legislation language we could offer as an alternative from other cities/jurisdictions that have decriminalized homelessness?

01:21:16 - Maureen Howard: - We are working with Tristia Bauman, National Homelessness Law Center - about models, etc.

01:21:33 - Jennifer Ammons: - Martin v. Boise technically only prohibits camping bans with criminal consequences.

01:21:47 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Colin and James -it would be great to have these talking points in a document that we can us when we hear the "people will refuse" line

01:22:37 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - I never scream :)



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- 01:22:42 - James Pogue: - Sure. I can probably even find my data that I reported to the city on both of these projects. We were required to report weekly
- 01:23:18 - Al Ratcliffe: - 1. Keep strong focus on city responsibility to create safe spaces for shelter, including on public property. 2. Demand clear data indicators that must be met before ordinance can be implemented, and build those indicators into the ordinance. 3. Require that authority to approve anti-camping policies be moved from police chief back to Council. 4. If some homeless persons refuse to participate in safe shelters and commit other crimes, arrest and divert/prosecute them for committing those other crimes.
- 01:23:49 - Marilyn Newton: - perhaps we should offer educational opportunities on Homelessness--New Hope did a great one The many faces of homelessness. Small groups with a discussion on homelessness and how it affects life on both sides
- 01:24:12 - Jeffrey Boyce: - It also made it clear that an appropriate shelters must be available. Martin v Boise
- 01:24:14 - Kathryn Green: - I think that is a good idea Colin. However, as we are making these safecamps, they need to be close to services. Placing camps outside of accessible services defeats the purpose.
- 01:25:19 - James Pogue: - Kathryn, we can move a lot of services onsite
- 01:25:51 - Peach McDouall: - govt officials can also be 'bad faith actors'
- 01:26:11 - Colin DeForrest: - Yes, location is important, but as James said, many services can be located onsite.
- 01:26:18 - Laurie Davenport: - and certainly police can be bad actors.
- 01:27:18 - Kevin Glackin-Coley: - Peach's neighbor is far from alone in that belief, and is why we need to take steps to change the public narrative.
- 01:27:31 - Jeffrey Boyce: - I have heard "they are refusing shelters" directly from police officers and City outreach workers.
- 01:28:06 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - We need someone with skills to make an infographic about this specific to Pierce County
- 01:28:25 - Janet Runbeck: - Must define the "shelter" being refused.
- 01:28:33 - Gerald Daniels: - I totally agree Peach
- 01:28:55 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Big picture goals are important - thanks for speaking up
- 01:29:21 - Kathryn Green: - My concern is placing individuals outside the city, no ability for transportation opportunities; and the realization of "out of sight, out of mind". Homelessness is everyone's responsibility...not just those who work in the services, but all of society!!
- 01:29:31 - Gerrit Nyland: - You can always email info@pchomeless.org and we'll route the email to the right folks.
- 01:30:10 - Sally Perkins: - Janet is right, the "shelter" available may not be appropriate, safe or workable for the person saying No. I often wonder if I would choose to go to a shelter if I were on the street...or if the people who are so irritated with "refusing shelter" would choose the available shelters either.
- 01:30:35 - Peach McDouall: - what y'all do is incredible and holy. I totally thank God for y'all and pray for you daily
- 01:31:11 - RoxAnne Simon: - That comment (refusing shelters) was made last night at the South Tacoma Neighborhood Council meeting. They never say why someone refused.
- 01:32:08 - James Pogue: - Here is the CoC application <https://www.piercecountywa.gov/FormCenter/Human-Services-18/The-Road-Home-Membership-Candidate-Appli-566>
- 01:32:17 - Rob Huff - MDC (he/him): - Thank you, James!
- 01:32:28 - Valeri Knight: - This is to vote to apply on the CoC correct? As the CoC will still have to vote to approve the seat selection
- 01:33:50 - Rob Huff - MDC (he/him): - Thank you, Valeri!
- 01:34:53 - Gerrit Nyland: - Creating and perpetuating the "Refused Services" myth is one of the unpardonable sins perpetuated by many at the City of Tacoma.
- 01:35:35 - Monique Brown: - Do they ever ask why people may refuse shelter?



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01:35:52 - James Pogue: - Here is the list of other seats that are not filled as well on the CoC:

- Affordable Housing Developer
- CoC Funded Victim Service Organization
- CoC Funded Youth Homeless Organization
- Coordinated Entry
- Community Representative
- Department of Health
- Department of Justice
- Disability Service Organization
- EMT/Crisis Response Team(s)
- Homeless Subpopulation Advocate
- Hospital(s)
- Law Enforcement
- Local Jail(s)
- Mental Health Service Organization
- Mental Illness Advocates
- School Admin/Homeless Liaison(s)

Serves Survivors of Human Trafficking

Substance Use Service Organization

Supportive Services for Veteran Families

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01:36:02 - Valeri Knight: - ALSO: remember the Coalition has 1 seat BUT there are MANY empty seats on the CoC so you could both apply and anyone else interested

01:36:11 - Valeri Knight: - Thanks James

01:36:16 - Peach McDouall: - the system works EXACTLY as it's meant to

01:36:17 - Rob Huff - MDC (he/him): - That is a lot of empty seats!

01:36:23 - Valeri Knight: - and new seats can be created by a vote of the CoC

01:36:26 - Stephanie Schermerhorn: - Wow, how many seats are filled?

01:36:32 - Valeri Knight: - 22 are filled

01:36:37 - Valeri Knight: - 22 are filled

01:37:08 - Valeri Knight: - The CoC has specific seats as designated by HUD, State, and the CoC

01:37:43 - Stephanie Schermerhorn: - Thank Valeri

01:37:46 - James Pogue: - Monique, Yes, we do ask folks who do not want shelter. The most common answers are: no pets, must separate from partner, don't like sleeping in a large group/trauma, forced to get rid of belongs, must leave everyday, too many rules,

01:37:52 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - I wanted to vote for both of these great people!

01:37:57 - Stacey Soltoff: - that would be rad! XD

01:38:33 - Rosemary Powers: - I agree. Both are great representatives so hope both can serve in some capacity

01:38:33 - James Pogue: - also, shelters will refuse folks for pets, complex medical or mental health reasons, violence, some require showers or hygiene requirements, register Sex Offender,

01:39:20 - James Pogue: - We are also doing interviews for the Ad Hoc committee

01:39:21 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Let's find a way to get Laurie on the COC too

01:39:39 - Laurie Davenport: - I can apply to create a seat for legal aid, I will do that!

01:39:40 - Carolyn Read: - where so we look at the seats?

01:39:59 - Peach McDouall: - thanks to both of you for being willing to serve



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- 01:40:17 - Valeri Knight: - Process for CoC: is once the person selected here today, they will complete an application and it will be forwarded to the coc membership subcommittee. the membership subcommittee will review and forward to the CoC as a full vote usually each month
- 01:40:24 - Rosemary Powers: - Great idea Laurie. Very important to have a specific seat for legal concerns to be represented.
- 01:40:29 - Jennifer Ammons: - I support that, Laurie!
- 01:40:53 - Gerald Daniels: - Thank you everyone, and would love to continue to collab with you Laurie
- 01:40:54 - Laurie Davenport: - We need to be there — a seat at the table :)
- 01:41:45 - Valeri Knight: - James, please propose adding a seat for legal to the CoC. we can add it to the agenda for vote via email or in the meeting.
- 01:42:29 - Laurie Davenport: - Thanks Valeri!
- 01:42:35 - James Pogue: - Yes, I will send it to the membership committee
- 01:43:03 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Gerald - delighted to have you representing us!
- 01:43:14 - Laurie Davenport: - Gerald, congratulations, you are the right person to represent the Coalition!
- 01:43:16 - Valeri Knight: - ALSO just because there is not a seat for you, does not mean you can not serve on a CoC Subcommittee :) we have LOTS of great subcommittee working on a variety of topics
- 01:44:00 - Gerald Daniels: - Thank you for the warm welcome and inviting me to step forward
- 01:44:12 - Laurie Davenport: - Great, let me know where I can help!
- 01:44:16 - Gerald Daniels: - Thank you Laurie
- 01:45:10 - James Pogue: - Just to clarify, it was recommended to suspend, but it will be picked up by the CoC Ex Committee. Yes, RoxAnne is correct. Not cancelled, just needs some retooling.
- 01:45:57 - Jeffrey Boyce: - Thanks for stepping up Gerald.
- 01:46:53 - Gerald Daniels: - Thank you Jeffrey
- 01:47:10 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Carolyn - join our housing work group once we approve it!
- 01:47:21 - Marilyn Newton: - I would love to help you
- 01:47:33 - Carolyn Read: - will do!
- 01:47:34 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Revenue for housing is a perfect fit
- 01:48:23 - Donald Pitchford: - Good morning everyone, for those that have reached out to me in this chat, I will be reaching back out to you by Monday. Thank you for reaching out.
- 01:51:15 - Rob Huff - MDC (he/him): - Due to running short on time this morning, we will hold the discussion about Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder in relation to the City of Tacoma's Homelessness Plan next week. Apologies if that was your reason for being here today.
- 01:51:28 - Rob Huff - MDC (he/him): - Thank you for your patience, Tiegan!
- 01:52:32 - Janet Runbeck: - MRC has money for incentives. I'll connect with Kevin.
- 01:52:41 - TIEGAN TIDBALL: - Thanks Rob! The conversations today have been important and I look forward to sharing next week.
- 01:54:16 - Rob Huff - MDC (he/him): - I see your hand, Theresa
- 01:54:43 - Klarissa Monteros: - City Authorized Emergency Shelter Sites - City of Tacoma
- 01:55:02 - Klarissa Monteros: -
https://www.cityoftacoma.org/government/city_departments/neighborhood_and_community_services/homelessness_services/city_authorized_emergency_shelter_sites
- 01:55:20 - Reanna Bettencourt: - Janet please keep Jennie Schoeppe and I in the loop on that incentive conversation.
- 01:56:04 - Reanna Bettencourt: - <https://www.tpchd.org/healthy-people/diseases/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine-information>

- - WALK-UP



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Every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, 11 a.m.-7 p.m. (use calendar to choose date)

Lakewood Town Center (Old Dress Barn Location)

10330 59th Ave SW Suite B, Lakewood, WA 98499

300 doses of Pfizer vaccine (first dose).

Begin registration here: <https://form.jotform.com/211026524170139>

• - WALK-UP

Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (use calendar to choose date)

Hilltop Family Medical Center

1202 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Tacoma, WA 98405

200 doses of Moderna vaccine (first dose).

Begin registration here: <https://form.jotform.com/210875247063153>

Registration Assistance for a Pierce County event: 253-798-8900

Registration Assistance for a TPCHD event: 253-649-1412

Need a ride to a vaccine event?

Around the Sound 253-858-7088 or atstrans.org

Pierce Transit 253-581-8000, option 1, then 1 or piercetransit.org

For covid vaccine education info or questions:

Reanna Bettencourt rbettencourt@tpchd.org

01:56:59 - Valeri Knight: - 315 :)

01:58:09 - Peach McDouall: - I love that background LOL <3

02:00:42 - Peach McDouall: - Wright Park would be a handy place for folks camping on Yakima

02:00:48 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - RE: Sanitation stations - hopefully these will start being placed on property where safe campsites are established. Meanwhile, important to do outreach to unsheltered folk in the surrounding areas to let them know where the station is located and that it is for their use. Also notify neighbors about why the station has landed there, how long it is likely to be there, and contact #.

02:02:46 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Framing matters if we want to reduce the us/them perspective

02:03:18 - Peach McDouall: - gtg thanks to all for being here

02:03:44 - Julian F. Wheeler, PC-ACAC chair (he/his): - Let's commit together to make Pierce County more accessible for everyone, including, but not limited to, people with disabilities. And not only for PWD's as customers and constituents, but also as potential leaders, managers, department heads, and even elected officials.

All are invited to our next regular session of the Pierce County Accessible Communities Advisory Committee (PC-ACAC) is on-line on Tuesday, May 11th, at 9 am. We are looking for new members and new ideas.

Under the mandate of the Accessible Communities Act of 2010, we help expedite funding for accessibility projects in Pierce County.

Email your interest to attend our next meeting to Julianfwheeler@aol.com.

02:05:33 - Laurie Davenport: - People who need help to waive or reduce Legal Financial Obligations may sign up via the link on www.tacomaprobono.org home page to get on a waiting list for future clinics. Thanks to Gerald and the R.I.S.E. Center for hosting our LFO clinics on April 17 and May 1. More to come.

02:06:38 - Carolyn Read: - can someone put the website in the chat for immigration benefits that Maureen talked about?

02:07:09 - Jennifer Ammons: - <https://www.immigrantr reliefwa.org/>



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- 02:08:23 - Reanna Bettencourt: - I have to hop off. Have a great Friday and weekend.
- 02:08:51 - Rob Huff - MDC (he/him): - Did Arlington Drive get the funding it needs?
- 02:11:29 - Maureen Howard: - Laurie is correct - 5160 is on the Governor's desk
- 02:11:42 - Al Ratcliffe: - <https://www.co.bergen.nj.us/housing-health-and-human-services-center/about-housing-health-human-services-center>. This is one CofC program that has accomplished "functional zero" homelessness. One important element is requiring providers to deliver services within a homeless service center on a permanent or scheduled basis. Closest model here is the County's PCDCRC. Please bring to the attention of the County's new homelessness planning committee.
- 02:12:34 - Stacey Soltoff: - Huzzah!!!!
- 02:13:47 - Jennifer Ammons: - I just got a notice that the Governor has now signed 5160 (right to counsel, etc.), with a partial veto of two sections (Sec. 12 and 13) related to landlord reimbursement.
- 02:14:00 - Rob Huff - MDC (he/him): - Thank you, Jennifer!
- 02:14:02 - Laurie Davenport: - Great, thanks Jennifer!!
- 02:14:34 - Maureen Howard: - Jennifer - thanks!
- 02:15:08 - Maureen Howard: - Julian - what's the average grant amount?
- 02:16:06 - MARK MERRILL: - Rob, Arlington Drive did get fully funded in the budget.
- 02:16:19 - Maureen Howard: - There will be a Housing Committee listserv on the website - I'll send out a message when it is up.
- 02:16:19 - Rob Huff - MDC (he/him): - Thanks Mark!
- 02:17:40 - Valeri Knight: - Yes KP please!
- 02:17:57 - RoxAnne Simon: - Ditto what Valeri said!
- 02:18:06 - Julian F. Wheeler, PC-ACAC chair (he/his): - Must dash. Be safe. Have a great weekend, all.