



Coalition to End Homelessness Provider Meeting - Friday, June 4th, 2021

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SPEAKERS

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Rosemary Powers

Good morning everyone. I was just listening to the conversation. Prior to starting the meeting, and it made me think about one of the things that good coalition's tend to bring about and that is relationships with each other about a whole variety of things that may not have to do with the specific mission or goal, or the hard work that we all try to do together. And I know that's happened for me here made very many new contacts with people doing having similar values and interests. And so whatever the coalition is or becomes, it has been a catalyst for a lot of connection, and we call ourselves an open table that's an invitation to be here, whatever our backgrounds our approaches. Some of us have more radical approaches some of us are more incrementalist, some of us work for the government, we have our own constraints. So we're here to be respectful of each other. And one of the things I'd like to do, just to begin for especially for those who are new and to remind all of us is we did develop a set of norms for how we want to behave when we're together, and in this zoom space it's a little bit different from in person so we have a few for that as well, just to remind everyone, and Rob if you can put that in the chat. At some point, that'd be great. So for the for the Zoom we're asking specifically that if you want to say something during the meeting if you use the raise hand icon on your in your program whichever wherever it is for you. If you're on the phone I'm not I'm not on the phone and I haven't done that so I forgot how that happens but I just wave or something on the phone, whatever you can do and hopefully Rob will see you. And then we ask that you mute yourself when you're not speaking so that any background noise in your spaces won't interrupt the meeting and also to turn off the video if you're



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taking another call because, for various reasons, many of us wave our hands a lot when we talk so that can be a little distracting. And then we have some community norms as well and I'm just going to read two of them this morning and I'll read others at other times but we stated we wanted to lead with an equity, racial equity lens, and to be aware of power dynamics so those two are challenged to us on how does everything we do, be seen through a lens of how do we either promote racial equity or how are we reinforcing the status quo and in terms of power dynamics, who is speaking who is speaking longest who's speaking, who's not speaking. Who do we not hear from, how do we encourage one another to speak. So with that I'd like to invite anyone who's new to you can either unmute yourself or raise your hand if you want to practice and if you haven't done it much, and also to let you know that we have a chat that we save. And so if you want to put information in there about what you're looking for, or a resource that you have to offer. These will be saved as well as the video itself so we can use this as a resource. So new folks, let us know who you are and if you're with a group of some kind, just to identify it. Not was a long introduction but just to let us know where you're from.

Rob Huff

And folks can be just speak up if you if you want to just introduce yourself.

Cornell Harris

Well I guess I can see something. I was part of the coalition, prior to the pandemic and we were attending the meetings. I've been on last few weeks, and so I'm familiar, so I'm Cornell Harris. I'm with the progress house clubhouse. Most of you know as we have a, we are a work release facility, but the clubhouse is an extension of the work release facility, where as we advocate for individuals and we help individuals who are affected with mental illness. We're located on the east side of Tacoma, where we help individuals who are affected suffering with mental illness. Um, so most of you have heard the clip House International so we are south of hero house, which is located in Seattle so again my name is Cornett Harris and thanks for having me on.

Rosemary Powers

Well thank you for joining us. We're really happy to have you with us and if you didn't put anything in the chat about your information for people to contact you, that would be helpful too. So welcome. Thank you. Will do. Well thank you all, we'll, we'll look forward to hearing from you and for many other new people if you want to let us know who you are, put your name in the chat and we'll welcome you that way as well. So Rob.

Rob Huff

Thank you, rosemary and welcome back Cornell. It's good to see you. This time we'll shift to our regular weekly portion of the meeting where we talk about what's happening out on the streets. And so this, this is a great time to talk about if you're doing outreach things that you've seen change in the last week or you think the greater community of us in the meeting today need to know about. So I don't know. Does anybody have anything to share this week. Jeffrey I see your hand up.

Reverend Boyce



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I checked in with 34th am Pacific encampment this weekend. After the death of one Jamie Marin. In the camp. And we've said some prayers, we've had some time to kind of share stories around our experience with Jamie and things are pretty subdued there right now. They have been informed that there will be a sweep of the 509 encampment approximately 30 households, and some may be ending up going up that way. The. I think that's pretty much what I did see. Oh, yes, and on Yakima Avenue yesterday I saw some. I'm sure there's working on the street, checking things out so I'm wondering if the city is going to be using more street maintenance to clear out another camp. That's about it.

Rob Huff

Thanks Jeffery. Anyone else with something to share from what they're seeing on the streets this week.

James Pogue

I did, yeah. My person Brianna who leads our mobile clinic to come to either talk about is it this agenda item or the next agenda item that you wanted the update from from a team.

Rob Huff

So I think these two are going to kind of blend together. Because to queue up. I mean we could start the conversation, at any point about the situation down to 509 camp. We talked about that during you talked about that, and doing outreach during last Friday's meeting, and, and then the coalition was made aware of the 72 hour notice that was posted last Friday, the 72 hour notice that was not a 72 hour notice, it actually was for doing the actual sweep on June 10 So, Yeah, this would be a great opportunity to start that as we lead into the discussion about what we need to know when camps are going to be swept so Briana if you have anything to add, and I know Maureen has background as well.

Briana R

Yeah. Were you guys wanting to know anything specific. I'd say there's about roughly like 30 to 40 people over there. We just wrapped up during the mobile clinics for the last four weeks, not last week but the week before so we haven't been out there for the last two weeks, we've actually been under the 705. So I haven't seen it, as of recently recently, but last time that we were out there there was about 30 to 40 people there kind of spread out it's not as big as it used to be so it doesn't cover the whole area that it used to be, it's kind of mainly under the bridge and then there's some people, if you follow the trail like all the way back, there's a couple people in the back.

Rob Huff

Okay, um, Maureen, did you want to kind of set the stage for what we learned last week.

Maureen Howard

Sure. So the last Friday's coalition meeting if you remember, Clarissa Monteros from the NCS told us to expect a sweep at 509 that the land was port of Tacoma and Puyallup Tribe tribal land she did not have a date of, but six o'clock Friday night Food Not Bombs reached out to me for help and sent a copy of the 72 hour notice which had been posted by the port, which had a sweep date or eviction they're calling it an eviction of June 10 And it was the date was handwritten, and was very clear. But our



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concern was that was, it was also very clear it was a 72 hour notice, which would have made it June 1 I opened a long weekend. So I reached out to the city attorney. And the mayor, the deputy mayor and Councilmember Tom's who had been part of this ongoing working group around the proposed ordinance for the use of public space, and in hopes somebody would get back to me and sent the same message to NCS Linda Stewart, Allison and Clarissa and Linda Stewart did get back to me about 10 o'clock Friday night, confirming number one she read the emails after hours. But thank God, but number two that the June 10 was in fact the correct date, and that the city's hot team would was going out providing services. So I'm following that. And conversely, of course I brought in our lawyers, the National homelessness Law Center, Northwest Justice in Tacoma pro bono as well as steering committee and and safe sites committee people. And so we've been working on that all week and where we are right now, is that the city attorney referred, all of my questions about the notice. Since it is, it was unclear. It does not cite public safety, which is the only way that you can clear an encampment under the CDC guidance. It cites obstruction of a public servant, which to my mind clearly was not an emergency situation since I had time to plan this. And then schedule it two weeks out, use this the city's existing trespass law. And then the city attorney. And that just the, the, like I said, everybody has that in your on the listserv has the actual notice. So it's not clear, you know, if I went out there, would I be considered loitering would I be subject to arrest, all that sort of thing. And so the city attorney referred me to the deputy city attorney who advises NCS, who then sent me to the Port of Tacoma contact, the Director of Communications, and she and I are in conversation she said she'll get back to me today, with answers to at least some of the questions. And then, on the process part, I've been in conversations with Allison Griffith, about the process part like, does the hot team do a By Name List, because if we're going to do built for zero which we've agreed on, we got to have that By Name List as the anchor. And then, You know what, what, what's being offered, and the I think the most important piece of information back from Allison yesterday was that, you know there's a lot of language that we hear around people refusing services refusing shelter. The rest of that, Here's the rest of that sentence. All right. The people that the hot chain spoke with at the 509 refused, whatever shelter was offered, and I don't know what was offered because there aren't that many beds out there available. For these reasons, they wanted more space for their belongings. They wanted a place for their vehicles. They were interested, those with vehicles were interested in safe parking, and Allison said they were referred to calling, so they needed more space for their belongings than current shelters, provide. They did not want to adhere to rules such as curfews. They felt that shelters that were offered did not offer them privacy. They wanted a specific type of shelter like a micro shelter, which I think is a tiny house, and that there they had concerns that shelters triggered past congregate shelters triggered past trauma. So I think moving down the agenda that's a helpful list to keep in mind that, yes, people may refuse the shelter that's offered because it's not the appropriate shelter for the individual. And so that's part of what we want to get out but part of what we discussed then at the steering committee was, it just seems like this is an opportune sweep to really come to grips with what do we need as a from a coalition side, given all of the different players some of the official providers who have official outreach responsibilities, volunteer self help groups, volunteers within the coalition. What is it, we need to know when there's notice of a sweep, and how should we act, keeping in mind that all we're concerned about is the safety of the people who are in that encampment. So that's the lead and then we just thought, not breakout rooms, rooms where we'd sort of been sharing bits and pieces of information, but rather an



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open discussion, and then use the chat. What do we need to know, when do we need to know it, so that we can help the people who are the subjects of this week. I think like Maureen right somebody else, helped me fill it out,

Rob Huff

no, no, I think that's great and that's a great lead in Briana I saw that you had your hand up.

Yeah, so on the list I found it interesting that they didn't mention, pets, because there's quite a few pets. Under the 509 Bridge, and I know that a lot of shelters aren't very accommodating to that so both pets and couples are like people who want to be able to stay together but they can't have the shelters, the list and have either of those things on that and I've run into that quite a few times that people have been frustrated that they can't get shelter anywhere with those accommodations.

Rob Huff

Thank you. and Haley I see your hand up as well.

Haili Crow-Cyr

Yeah, I just, first I want to say that for everyone who doesn't know I've left the mission in my official capacity, but I'm still going out with them. Now just as a volunteer weekly so I just like want to make sure that's kind of out there that I'm not at the mission in any type of official capacity anymore, but I was at the 509 last Saturday. And they did have quite a few people there was a community member who had brought a huge trailer, and was helping some of the people on the, on the end closest to the railroad tracks on our towards the businesses. Most of that end, they were getting help moving out as far as the other end, we weren't seeing that happen as much so I haven't been there since last Saturday but that was happening there, what were some people that had, and they were going to go. I can't remember exactly where they were going to go but they did have a place to go and that was one of the bigger spots. And then, yeah, that was really all I have to update, not a lot but I wanted to say that I was there Saturday I'm sure that our team has been there since they're going to five at least once a week right now. Our team. I'm not really on the team anymore, but yeah.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Haley, Jenny, I see your hand up as well.

Jenny Lorton

Yeah, another one that I didn't hear on the list either but that we hear a lot is marijuana use. People won't go into shelter because of the drug testing policies but specifically marijuana. And I know some of the shelters say it's okay on intake, but then they can't use it after that. But we have a lot of feedback about marijuana use, they won't go into shelters because they, they can't use marijuana. So that's another thing that we hear a lot of is marijuana use.

James Pogue



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Thanks Channing James. You know this is my favorite narrative to combat and I am curious like I just wanted to start know you're talking about the report from a different interview a few weeks ago and like, is this information being collected right now. If so, by whom and what's the question they're asking because like, again what you just said there. The first thing that was said in marine statement is that the report is illogical refusing. But what then, subsequently, there was a whole list of things that people were willing to accept so it wasn't that refusal like I just wonder if like would you go to TRM No, that person refused, or did the person say okay we'll connect you with column and column says, oh yeah we don't have any openings. Is that a refusal or is that actually an acceptance, but, but then the openings didn't match and like, I think one of the things we might want to strategize specifically as we're starting to build out our, our next level of the ad hoc committee for the sheltering part is as we are addressing the encampment needs. I think we should standardize a survey about these questions and reframe it as, here's a list of things that people said they would, they wanted to set for the adoption that was appropriate for them. And not that they refused because I'm confident every single one of them could have told you what sort of shelter, were the words for them. They just refused the congregate shelter at the rescue mission sleeping for eight hours moving all the way to the downtown campus picking up their belongings leaving during the day and sleeping in a room with 100 other men or whatever like, I think that's reasonable to say, mental health or whatever is not a good fit for that. But I guess the question would be for the coalition like should we build out the more solution focus survey, ask the right questions and collect the right information and report back that we interviewed 30 People 30 People said they would receive or accept these. Thank you James

Rob Huff

and that's really the point of this conversation I think is to try to build out what that what that looks like. Like, Maureen.

Maureen Howard

I can't pick up the point about the survey. So we do have a couple of drafts in process. Joanne Iverson and Megan capes have been working on one, and I think James I hope well I know we got everything recorded that in the recording, but if there are people who want to work on that survey draft, if you'd put your names in the chat and we'll make sure you get looped in. Now, I don't know the questions that back to what Allison sent me from the hot team response, I don't know the questions they asked, but again, I think those are the kinds of things we want to capture exactly what are the questions that are being asked and, you know, pets and couples pot use. I don't know if those were responses or not, this is just, she said. The message literally says responses included. So, if it's not, doesn't indicate these were the only responses. So, anyway, thanks.

Rob Huff

Colin I see your hand up as well.

Colin DeForest

Yeah, so I was just, you know, building off of what James said I think that James, I agree that and guess what marine said also, but I think asking, you know some more questions. And I would say is



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such a big piece of this to me, comes down to the education, and once again it's the education of the individuals at these camps and them truly understanding what their rights are and what they can do, because really all this comes down to Boise, and how are we, how is the city, aligning with the Boise case right so if you look at the Boise case. Having definitions also from the city side and Allison called me the other day about, I'm heading down to 509 with the Heart team today to people that are in their vehicles to see if we can place them. But um, the key word in Boise is adequate so having a legal understanding and EDI understanding and a coalition understanding of what adequate shelter is is super important on this. And then, understanding the adequate, some of the things that were set up, you know like if the adequate it's there these concrete and so we need to figure out like, Briana said if, if someone has a pet and they're not being allowed to a shelter, then that's not a shelter. That's not a referral for them right that's a concrete thing right they have this, I have this. If someone's banned from TRM, then you can't refer them there that doesn't count. Thing is, there is a line where it goes too far and I mean we dealt with this in Olympia, if you're being offered shelter at this site and that site works for you but you simply don't want to go there because you want a tiny house, your, your, the boxes check from the city standpoint, legally is what you're going to hear because that's adequate right. It doesn't everybody's going to want the, you know, at what word, draw the line I guess because what if the says I want a one bedroom apartment. I want to house right like and I'm not even trying to make should of this at all. I'm just being real. There has to be adequate as a super important word that needs to be figured out with the city and with the legal term teams because that's really what what is adequate shelter. Thank you, Colin.

Rob Huff

Well and isn't Maureen and everybody here one of the issues in this and other situations with sweeps, is how providers even find out about it. So in this case, it was. Was it the Food Not Bombs people who let us know.

Maureen Howard

Yeah, they, they reached out to me which is so sometimes if it's a city sweep over the last few months, Allison has called me and emailed me to give me notice. And, but the Food Not Bombs was a port, sweet, even though the city, obviously knew about it. And, I mean, I wouldn't have known anything if Food Not Bombs hadn't reached out and sent a copy of that of the notice so

Rob Huff

well and maybe what we can do is we can come up with a template to do outreach to everybody at the full county level, so that there's a list of folks who get notified if, if a encampment cleanup is going to happen somewhere, people are going to be displaced. And then we all are working from the same page of what information we need to be able to actually help people before they're really traumatized. Further,

Maureen Howard

I think Clarice said there was going to be some sort of a distribution list for the city. Sweeps. Yeah, I mean we've got, what, nine cities and small towns plus unincorporated Pierce County. I mean we're



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focused right now on the port. But we've got conflicting, and even unknown policies and procedures, out there.

Rob Huff

Tikkun I see you're on the call, I'm not sure if you're able to respond, but can you kind of offer some thoughts about what the standard, what the standard procedure is right now at the city, and so that we can use that as a starting point to try to create a template that we would be helpful with others.

Tiegan Tidball

Yeah Thanks Rob. Um, and I want to highlight that I know Maureen, just shared that I know when we're cleaning a canvas that we've been sharing that. And I know, I don't know where that got lost at the port so I can't speak to that, but there is we do have a standard operating procedure for encampment cleanups we are revising it and trying to make it very much more holistic, so I can get a copy of that document cuz I think that would probably be more helpful for you than me just signing what I remember from it since I'm not as engrossed in that part of our work and so I don't want to miss what's happening with the city so let me get that for the coalition with you guys, but that'd be okay.

Rob Huff

Yeah, that would that would because if we want to build something that's going to fit. Especially as there's this effort going on across the whole county. It seems like we should be able to find land on something that is standardized enough to be helpful, across the whole county.

Tiegan Tidball

Yeah, it would make sense to have it across the county since all that work is starting to coalesce and come together in a really great way so hopefully it can be standardized to be supportive and appropriate. So let me get you what we have. And I can't speak to what's, but being underway in the county so I know you said Clarissa mentioned some of that so that might be going on in the steering committee. I hadn't been briefed on that so I can't speak to that, but I'll work on that part for you is that I know it's maybe not necessary for this conversation, you probably want a little more than that but

Rob Huff

yeah that's a helpful thing. Great. So other thoughts and questions on this, you know, I have a feeling we're not going to get this resolved today. But I'm hoping we can try to move in a positive direction, so that we, so that the folks under the 509 Bridge actually get served but also that in the future, we have a system set up. I see Garrett's hand up.

Gerrit Nyland

Yeah, I just wanted to mention that I've created an listserv for the coalition called encampment alerts, and I'm not exactly sure how we'll end up using that. But if you're interested, my goal would be if a government's going to do a sweep, they could email to that, so that everyone that cares about trying to get resources to those folks will be able to. And so, that's available now and again I'm not sure how



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we're going to end up using it but if we decide to use something else at least we'll have your name and your interest there so I'll put the link in but it's just on the listserv page on the coalition website.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Kara and I see Collins hand up. And then now.

Colin DeForest

Yeah, I, you know, I'm curious if there's any representation from the county also too, because it seems like there's just a lot of silence from the county, when it comes to this encampment cleanup stuff and I've, you know there's rumblings I don't know who has all heard about it, I'm not gonna say very much but I've heard of a large group of individuals in East Pierce County that are getting ready to, Ready to be displaced talking around like two individuals, and the county is aware of this, and so I'm kind of wondering if the county is going to share any of this information with us and let us know what their procedure is. I don't know if anybody else has heard about that I don't want to say much more than that but I think it's important to know what the county's role in this stuff is to because we're hearing, I'm not hearing anything. Maybe, maybe, marine you are or Garrett,

Maureen Howard

or Paula Coleman, did you say 200

Colin DeForest

Yes 200

Maureen Howard

No, I haven't heard anything about that

Colin DeForest

families, families, individuals, a bunch of people that are living in an area together. And something's supposedly going to happen to that area.

Maureen Howard

I saw Jeff Rogers was on the call. Maybe I'm here.

Colin DeForest

Did you say it's supposed to happen today column, no, no. I've heard that it's happening though in the people at the area know that there's something coming and I'm guessing the counties involved I'm guessing this is code related but

Jeff Rogers

yeah, I'm not aware of anything, typically when there's issues with code violations, myself and my manager done Barbie are informed of things that are happening with our Public Works, which is the department that addresses these issues. I haven't seen anything. I'm not aware of anything but I will



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enquire with the contacts we have at Public Works, to see if there's something going on. My understanding is that they're not doing sweeps of encampments, was my understanding,

Colin DeForest

yeah this is not an encampment, this is a RV type area in East Pierce County. I heard of that radar. Well it might be something to look into because there's outreach workers going there, and they're being told that this area is being cleared and there's

around 200 More details like when you say East Pierce County do ordering location ording what area. Okay, so I think

Maureen Howard

one of the things I think that God, I hope you're wrong. One of the things we

Colin DeForest

need to, but I don't think I am.

Maureen Howard

No. So here are a few other things that I know about the county. All right, one, the county unincorporated Pierce County does have an administrative procedure about clearing and Pierce County Human Services, gave me a copy of that. It's not a council doc approved document. It's an administrative document. That's one thing and I so I can put that out on the listserv if you like or people can just come to me if you want it. That's one thing the other thing is the issue of the land, who actually owns the land is like the first question after hearing something, because if that land, you know if it's state land it's one thing if it's federal land it's another if it is city of ording it's another if it's unincorporated Pierce County and so that's just another piece that has to be sorted out. To find out, you know, sort of what's next, but, but we are still under CDC guidance no sweep guidance for encampments.

Colin DeForest

Right. So in theory, let's just say that if a property owner had a property, and he had rentals on that property and those rentals, were not up to code. And let's say that the county code enforcement came along and said hey if you don't fix this, we're going to shut this down, and that's the conversation, in theory has been going on for quite a while. And you get to the point where they say it, and the owner says you know what, I can't pay to fix this. So go and shut it down. And that's where this property is at right and so there's movement. And there'll be plenty more to come down about this but I just think it's something where, once again when we can start to be a little bit reactive and not be proactive, or proactive and not be reactive on everything and know that so much of the work that you're doing in this group is doing in its coalition, we need to take those opportunities and I think having that whatever the documented County has that's awesome but it seems like with this conversation going on with tieghan and talking about that they're revising the standard operating procedure for cleanups, What a great



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opportunity for the county to get their heads in that same meeting, and maybe have a SLP that's the same across the board. So one is not confusing by jurisdiction or location for the individuals in the camps, and it's not confusing for the outreach workers also because everybody knows we follow this basic framework. So when I talk about the county that's what I'm saying so it's whether or not the county knows about this, it'd be great if they could think about doing, you know, be involved in that conversation.

Yeah, well, I'm surprised we don't know because even if it is property that you've described, and they share that with us and encourage us to have outreach workers go out to those locations we have not heard anything about any location error you're talking about requesting to be sent out reach out to that type of a location to offer services. I'll do a little bit of research and let you guys know what I find out,

Colin DeForest

and you can follow up and follow up with me, I don't want to blow, I shouldn't even have said what I said because someone kind of told me it in confidence and but to me it's extremely concerning to hear about this and I hope I'm wrong too, and I hope it's misinformation, but the details I got was anything but

can you put your email for me in the chat box please I have it thanks. And then if,

Maureen Howard

if you would keep me in that loop, then. Oh, God, I guess I'll just pick the sucker up.

Rob Huff

If there's an opportunity for some of us who have time are going to create the time to advocate on this then definitely lupus in. So Allie you had your hand up a little bit ago as well.

Al Ratcliffe

Yeah, it would be useful, I would be willing to submit public record requests to all of the governmental jurisdictions, asking for their policies and procedures so that we could compare them and then advocate for uniformity, I would need to know which jurisdictions, you want to hear from. Not right now, but I'll talk with marine about it.

Rob Huff

Okay, great. Maureen your hands up again too.

Maureen Howard

So I, my thinking on this, even before. Today's meeting was that we would try and get this issue on both the shelter workgroup and on the steering committee agendas, and which is not to say we shouldn't do our own PDRs, but having watched the mayor's in the shape process. They sell sound



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housing affordability program, partnership, I think we want to think through them. It's a strategic decision. Well, let me know if you want me to do that. Yeah, no good. Thank you.

Rob Huff

All right, thanks everybody for the attention to this issue this morning, it's obviously a timely and critical one so if you have additional thoughts about the information that everybody needs please drop it in the chat, I am going to shift to our next agenda item. So, again appreciate everybody's energy on this, and our next item was going to be having Sarah Bellamy from Comp life. Just talk about foundational community support services offered by CLR. So it's all yours, sir.

Sarah Bellamy

All right. Good morning. Hello. Hello. Um, so yeah I just wanted to talk a little bit about the MCS program we have running out of comprehensive life resources so most of you are familiar with our homeless outreach team and we are one leg of that team but we provide a Medicaid benefit program called FCS or foundational community support so we want to bring this to the team here just to let you know kind of what we do and how to get people enrolled into our program, and also as a side little bonus we are currently recruiting for housing specialists so as I'm kind of describing our program, if you or anybody, you know, in your programs or circles, might be a good candidate for joining our team that would be awesome. So, um so FCS is a, as I mentioned a Medicaid benefit program so all of our folks that we serve have to be Medicaid eligible, as well as meet a couple other criteria, including a health need, and a risk factor and after this meeting I will send out our brochures and some of the more our referral forms so that you guys can kind of dive a little bit more detail, because always know you can reach out to our team if you have any questions about folks that might be eligible for services, or whatnot and so we have two programs we have our supportive housing program. And then we also have supported employment. So, what our program is is as it kind of mentions it's a support program so unfortunately we don't have any funding for housing we don't actually have housing, but we have an amazing team of support supportive compassionate folks that align right align with folks where they're at and help them navigate, Whatever that path is to sustainable safe housing. Whatever it looks like for them. So we serve folks who are currently experiencing homeless we are served folks who are currently housed, but need some extra support and sustaining that housing, whether it be connecting with the community or whatever it might be. So just briefly what their health needs are to get into our program. So for housing. Specifically, they have to have a mental health criteria or diagnosis or substance use diagnosis. They have to have a care, or they have to have a care assessment where they meet. Need help meeting at meals, or they have to be homeless with a disability as indicated on our, on the Coordinated Entry and so those are the health needs and then risk factors could be chronic homelessness, it could be. Let's see what else are there, frequent or lengthy institutional contacts so folks that are maybe in and out of the hospital, folks that maybe have caregivers that they're turning over. So there's all kinds of criteria to get around, but those who were looking to serve as those folks who were in needing extra support navigating housing world, or whatever it is, or on the flip side of the employment world some folks who are looking to join the workforce, which jobs, start to entertain the idea of working. So we can on our employment side, and we can serve anybody who's interested in working. Um, so a couple other things about our program we're 100% voluntary, which means folks



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have to want to work with us so we aren't a court order program or anything like that. We serve folks that are ready to have a little bit of wraparound support to help them navigate whatever path they're on. Let's see. Does anybody have any questions, that's kind of us in a nutshell, very brief kind of overlay but does anybody have any questions. Yeah, Janet.

Janet Runbeck

Oh, can you do a referral to Park Place.

So we can do a referral apart place so, you know, specifically we can anyone on our team, homeless outreach or our team can. That is something that if you find somebody who's experiencing homelessness that needs that extra support, how to get into Park Place, we can definitely do that. Now whether or not they're a good candidate for workplace is really up to par places, and all of that, but we can that's definitely something we can help navigate we serve a lot of folks who are currently living in park police as well.

Janet Runbeck

A second question Do you, do you keep data on the number of folks you interview, and the number of referrals made, regardless of the success of the referral made you keep data on the number of referrals that you actually attempt to make.

Most likely, that is something our data administrator could pull, I would guess, just based on. We don't keep that necessarily handy but I think we could probably pull that data for sure.

Janet Runbeck

Okay, who can I contact there is a side movement to increase medical respite beds for those who live homeless, and all those who are discharged from hospitals and those who are living in, you know, living homeless who need more attention because of health. I, we need data to in order, in order to make more options available through a variety of programs. So who else can I contact for, for your program data.

So, her name is Mary Peyton I'll put her email address in the chat, and definitely she's open to just reach out to her send her an email of kind of what you're looking for, and she's the master and Wizard of all things data on our team so it can be done, she will do it for you so I will get you her information, and she is also the person that handles all of our referrals so likely you'll be chatting with her if you have somebody that might be interested in our program. Folks can self refer as well. If somebody is out there and gets word of our program. I'm in the I'll email the coalition some of our brochure material that we have and this can be handed out to folks. If you or your agency wants some of these copies, copies of these brochures, I can definitely pop them off to you, so they can be available for folks, and the



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referrals don't have to come from you, if people get their hands on these they have our information, email, phone number and stuff like that so I'll make sure I get that out to y'all.

Rob Huff

Thank you Sarah. I did see a question in the chat from Greg Walker about if there's page constraints for clients. So can you address that.

Yeah, for sure our employment program we are able to serve 16 And up. And so it can be, you know anybody within that age range, our housing program has to be 18 and up, they have to be officially able to sign a lease and stuff like that so we do have, FCS running out of our young adult shelter, and we'll continue to have a program through our new hyper young adult engagement program and so we have folks that serve some of the specifically work with some of the young adults and stuff, but our team will serve anybody and all the way up.

Rob Huff

Great. All right. Any other final questions for Sarah. Hey Rob. Yeah, just one follow up on that. For the supportive housing side. I understand 18 So they can sign a lease can they start working with the program prior to turning 18 We run into an issue with youth that are in our shelter in particular who are under age, we can't get them housed until they're 18 a lot of programs won't let them work with them until they're 18 but on their 18th birthday, they are no longer eligible to stay at our shelter. So, it really helps if there is an overlap time where, you know, a couple of months before they turn 18 We can start engaging them in programming that helps them so that by the time they turn 18 They have a housing option available. Is that something we can do.

I don't believe because it is a Medicaid program and they have, they have those set restrictions we can't technically enroll somebody into the program until 18 However, I think there will be some collaboration efforts that we can do with some of our new programming that we have starting up with our young adult program will will have some. What we're going to call youth engagement specialists who were able to maybe do some of that, you know, work in between, and then also work in conjunction with our FCS staff that we'll have on site there to kind of do that warm handoff kind of transition work where it's, you know and and be able to stay on board both programs so I'm still kind of in the in the makings of some of these new things but while we officially can't do it i really really foresee us being able to coordinate some efforts to make sure that that gap is not not missed.

Rob Huff

Thank you Sarah. And thanks for coming today and for the information we'll look forward to the flyers. My pleasure. Oh, yeah. All right, so next, on our agenda we have time set aside for Maureen to do some advocacy updates.

Maureen Howard



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Alright folks, well good morning. I would say, don't worry about what's happening in DC at the moment, with our national partners, we'll hold on to housing money as much as they can as long as they can, no matter what the Democrats and Republicans, and the Biden, administration and Congress are publicly or privately doing. So, state, we're going to talk a little bit later about coalition, signing off on a letter about the rapid capital housing acquisition. This is \$123 million 90 million of that is state money 93 million is state of Washington bond money which means it's fairly flexible. This is the money that can be used to purchase, hotels, the initial program description from the Department of Commerce, required a match on the first round of money, because our acquisition costs are so low in Pierce County. Right now they're under \$100,000, a unit for a hotel, purchase. We are requesting commerce waive that match requirement. And we're also requesting that they bump it up to 150,000 per, per unit in case the market starts to move this NOFA comes out July 8 It will have a less than one month turnaround. So, if you are, your organization is interested in purchasing a hotel, you've got to have site control. If you're not talking to Pierce County Human Services, if you're not talking to the State Department of Commerce, please talk to me, and I'll make the connections for you so you get ready there. We're also in the situation, in part because of the decisions that the county made that they did not fund homelessness and housing in the way that the county executive, had proposed that we don't have the match coming through Pierce County, in order to meet that August 5 deadline, nor has the county adopted the 1/10 of 1%, affordable housing tax so it's the combination of lower costs, but also not having the match. So, then the second thing is that I discovered on a call this week that there's another pot of money, there's like money, emerging everywhere. So the pot of money that I found this week is \$20 million of state money for leasing hotels and Commerce does not have the program description yet. Pierce County Human Services is working with the Department of Commerce on this has let them know that they're interested. So if you are interested in leasing a hotel, let Pierce County Human Services know shoot Jeff Rogers an email and tell him to you want to be on the, on the interest list you're not making any organizational commitments. And I have a hunch that some of you might be more interested in leasing than in purchasing, it's a little less risk. If you are interested in a floor of a hotel for your targeted clients, let Jeff and Pierce County Human Services folks know that as well. So, they better prepared, we are, the more likely we'll be able to take advantage of these opportunities, and those are our two that are coming fast, the traditional Housing Trust Fund will come out, I think in June. The NOFA on that, that's highly competitive, the folks who are going to line up for that source already know who they are and and what they're going to be asking for if these other two sources are brand new. One of the things we have is a request in our summit was some sort of mental health support for providers, because of the pandemic. And one of the things, funded in the state budget is actually a study, a two year study and program and I'm not sure of all the details, excuse me, to respond. Oh, I hate to respond to traumatized frontline providers shelter workers and frontline providers so we'll keep an eye on that problem is I don't talk to enough people all day long. I'm now with the county. So as far as I know the county is getting the rental money out and I'm sure Jeff will fill us in. But one of the things that I have asked for in the past, and I'm hoping to have counties in a position to be able to respond now is that at least some of the rental assistance money the county is receiving allows for people who are experiencing homelessness, if they have a signed lease to have their rent, forward, paid that would help us move people out of tiny houses out of long term people out of shelters, people. Some people then encampment, people who are on caseload, you know, with all the different outreach workers so



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we're waiting to hear back on that. And if you have not, if you are an outreach worker if you are a case manager if you're a navigator whatever it is you are that you have clients who are not housed. Please make sure that they have seen their aiviq their, whatever it is a landlord is going to look at whatever that background check looks like for most landlords to make sure they don't have hidden eviction notices, if they've got legal, financial obligations that those are taken care of, hook them up with Tacoma pro bono, and in some cases, it'll be Northwest Justice, like get these folks ready, and have them do a free credit score so that they, if the landlord's asking that, that they, they know those things we don't want anybody ready for. We don't want anybody that we think can move into housing and then to find out at the last minute, they can't pass the background check, so that that part. We've talked about the city and the port. The, the port to contact I was given reached out twice yesterday to me, I and said I would have something later today. So, hopefully, we did receive a sort of a, I don't know, congratulations, and thank you from a staffer at the Seattle or King County Coalition on Homelessness for our work, our creative and innovative work on economic impact payments on getting the stimulus checks out and getting Seattle credit union to set up those accounts online. Um, the Pierce County, comprehensive plan, which now is the follow up from the ad hoc committee is moving forward, the steering committee meets for the first time. Next Friday afternoon, the 11th, and I, Mike's Mike was on the call Mike moisture. I don't know if there's a date for the shelter work group yet. They website will be moved from county council control and rules to Pierce County Human Services and so that that will happen, and all of these meetings will be public in the same way that the ad hoc committee meetings will be public will have a link that will go out to the listserv and people can join in the meetings. That way, I don't know if you can use the chat, or not if Pierce County Human Services is running as sometimes I'll make Council, run meetings, you can't use the chat so, but we'll find out. The if you have things that you want Mike moisture to bring up in the shelter group you want me to bring up on the steering committee, where you're two representatives, some from the coalition, but we have other people in the coalition on those two groups. So we've got James Pogue we've got Richard Berg hammer. We've got Courtney Chandler. We've got other people whose names are escaping me at the moment. And so please reach out, and if there's, use the chat right now if there are things that you that you think you need and now I'm going to ask Mike, because there he is. Mike, what do you want to add.

Mike Boisture

Yeah, there is a meeting set up, we just got it this week for Thursday. And so I sent out a email back to I can't remember her name, asking if there's an agenda yet. And so I'm just waiting for her to get back to me.

Maureen Howard

Excellent, thank you. So, and then Garrett is an alternate for Mike and the three of us will stay in contact. So we've got the singing the same song here, but please put in the chat, anything that you think should be brought up last thing that I have right now is that our housing committee, our coalition housing committee will meet, we're meeting the second and fourth Thursdays at 4pm. I'll send out the notice to the entire listserv so you can register, but go even if you can't come to the meetings and you have an interest in the housing end than sign up for the housing listserv. Okay, back to the state for just one moment, is that I, it is like a firehose of money, and programs, and studies and working groups



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coming. So it's, it's like every week there's something more, they are, I think, incredibly responsive, and I would think exhausted. So thank you.

James Pogue

Quick, I put the wrong date there but it's two to four next Thursday, is our shelter committee meeting. I was looking at my calendar for the wrong day I put the wrong time in there but I'll update to the for next Thursday afternoon.

Rob Huff

Thanks, James. Um, so the next item on our agenda is a short update from Teresa and Laurie about homelessness messaging resources that are being created.

Laurie Davenport

Laurie, are you there. There I am. Okay, yes I am here. And yeah, we just wanted to share our messaging committee has met a couple of times. Right now consists of Teresa and me and Robin L, and we've. One of the things I decided to do to kind of get us off on the idea of just some visual messaging that people maybe could get their attention, they maybe they can relate to it, because it's simple, maybe they can even agree with it and I'm like, gee, maybe I can help, something like that rather than, you know, try to shake up stereotypes and that kind of thing so, so I created some stuff, because a lot of people don't know but I'm a professional artist I have my own business and do that in addition to what I do here at Tacoma pro bono, and so I decided to just okay I'll start working on this, so I made I think four or five different images. The messages I've been working with, because we have several and it's, it helps me anyway to just, like, put it in a visual form and then that makes the message clearer for me and hopefully that works for other people but one of the things we're talking about is safe shelter, like, people need a safe place to sleep. The other one we're talking about is, and street homelessness by November 1 2021, to kind of separate things, but they go together. The other one is, let's not sweep campus before we have enough shelter for everyone so that's what I've done and if you let me share my screen I can show them to you really fast they're going to go in the toolkit. The idea is there. They can be used their mobile and changeable, they can be used for anything. And, you know, if you look at them and say hey I like to, you know, stick out of my window or put it on a poster or whatever, just ask me. I can do that.

Rob Huff

So you should have the ability to share your screen now, Laurie.

Laurie Davenport

Alright. There we go. I just have to get the right window. There we go. Okay, Are you seeing.

Maureen Howard

Yes. Okay,

Laurie Davenport



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so here's already on the street homelessness by 11 121 Well, shopping cart. Next couple are the idea, everyone deserves a safe place to sleep. And or everyone needs a safe place to sleep, kind of a different take on those two different messages. And this is the one shelter first camp pay rent, don't take my tent. And then we kind of made that into safe shelter first rather than just shelter. First, we got both versions. So that's kind of where I am right now. Then we have other stuff going on as well but any questions on these and we also invite other people to create stuff, I mean that's just either my attempts at images that we hope will carry some weight with people and cause them to think

Rob Huff

you're getting a lot of great and awesomes in the chat.

Laurie Davenport

Great. Well they're yours to use, or modify, I mean these are PDFs right now they can be anything, we'll put them in the toolkit, probably in a couple of different forums.

Rob Huff

Great and does anybody have any questions or further feedback, they'd like to share. I'm seeing all positive things.

Theresa Power-Drutis

So if anyone else has some creative juice that we don't know about I had no idea that Laurie was so talented. When we started working on this and I'm delighted with the images, we came up with. So, if somebody else has ideas, send them our way because the toolkit can fit whatever we want to fit in it. Also if you know of other resources links to resources that might be useful for people as they try to create some materials for this campaign, send those MY WAY too we'll have, we have a little Excel document that we just got started. So you can, you can send them to me and I will include them in the Excel sheet so that we all have access to as much great stuff as we can going forward to get this thing done. Anyway thank you Laurie especially thank you and thank you everybody. Monique I see your hand up. Yes.

Monique Brown

Thank you, Laurie, I am a stick figure artist and not a good one. So, I would like to ask if you could do one that has something to do with veterans.

Laurie Davenport

I would love to do that money.

Monique Brown

Thank you very much, and appreciate

Laurie Davenport

Yeah, email me some thoughts and I'm working on it already. Okay, got it. Thank you. Yeah.



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Rob Huff

All right, so any anybody else who has thoughts on this, please drop them into the chat, and really thank you Laurie for, for putting your efforts into this and Teresa for getting us to think about messaging, this is awesome.

Laurie Davenport

I'm seeing some requests to sound files I'm happy to just you know send out JPEGs and PDFs of these to everybody. Perfect. Alright. Okay,

Rob Huff

so let's move on to our government updates. I noticed, as we all did Egan's on today's call Teagan Do you have updates from the city of Tacoma.

Tiegan Tidball

I'm almost there. So we're going from one screen. Thanks everyone. It's good to see everybody. Let me pull up my update so, um, a couple things and it's gonna take me a while to put these things in the chat afterwards, though, give me a little bit of time. So there's going to be a community meeting for the 69th and proctor site that's going to be on June 23 I will put the Zoom link into the chat if you want me to send it on the listener, I can do that as well. Um, okay, we'll do the updates, I'll put another link again for the city, authorized emergency shelter sites so we have our census and our outcomes for a temporary emergency shelters. I'll also put in the link to the rental assistance which I'm sure the county will also speak to. I know Maureen gave us update earlier about the, the Pierce County comprehensive plan to end homelessness steering committee, so I wanted to share the Allison Griffith will represent the City of Tacoma on that plan and Clarissa Monteros will be sitting on the shelter plan workgroup. Again, I know we've said this before, so the first reading of the no camping ordinance was moved to June 15 I know we've shared that link to legislature I'll share it. As far as we know that's still occurring, and the next homeless update we just got it moved it's not Next it was supposed to be on June 15 is the week after the tower in front of me, can they want to beat me to it of the date 22nd So the 20 seconds the next time there'll be a homeless update from the city. On that day and that is that is all I have for today, but if anybody has questions I'm happy to answer. If not, thanks for having me.

Rob Huff

Thanks Teagan. And I'm not seeing any raised hands yet. So with that being said, again, feel free to drop questions in the chat, and I know deacons going to be here so she'll be able to see those. Next would be updates from Pierce County Jeff, did you have updates for us.

Yeah, I can give you a couple as marine mentioned there is a million dollars it's going to be made available statewide. Our understanding of those funds is those funds can be used for emergency Hotel Motel vouchers, as well as for rapid rehousing components and the services that would be linked with those dollars for shelter in the form of hotel motels in Rapid Rehousing so it's a little bit broader than



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just for hotel motels, it does include rapid. We know that HUD recently released a Notice of Funding Opportunity for the youth homeless demonstration program. That is a program that HUD put has been putting out annually for about the last four years or so, awarding different communities across the country money to address youth homelessness. And when we use the youth, we're talking about all use 12 to 24 is the range of youth in that bucket of youth application to do to HUD July 27 salaries for being the grant writers who do our department to work on that, be reaching out to a variety of folks that has told us that there is \$160 million available. If he communities across the state will be awarded it practically every community that's covered in the state of Washington except for Spokane and Pierce County have received an allocation for these funds in the past. So hopefully, it's our current. Typically they would put out 80 million cheer for 25 communities, but they did not put a notice out last year. So they're combining the F FY 19 fiscal year 19 and fiscal year 20 funding to make it 160 million. They anticipate notifying the communities that are awarded the money by August, so they're planning around the monies in start like September's was a quick turnaround, quick decision on their parts, and planning, hopefully, if we get the funding would start like September. We also have another funding opportunity we release. It's titled voices that matter. It is where we are going to start paying stipends to homeless or formerly homeless persons to participate in all the planning efforts that we do here at Pierce County, so they will be compensated for their time. That could be any prep time. Prepare for meetings all meeting time that they're in meetings as well as any follow up time. We're looking for an organization or organizations to assist persons in being prepared for meetings, and after those meetings with any follow up to ensure that we have, homeless, formerly homeless person with live expertise, participating in all of our planning processes that application is due next Friday. We're moving quickly on that so that we can identify the provider or providers to do this work, so that we can start paying with work we're doing around the homeless planning that we're doing between now and the end of the year. Yes, it's a short turnaround but the application only has like five questions in a very simple budget, so it isn't like we're asking for a ton in the applications like we usually do with the application process. So it is pretty doable. As was mentioned earlier, the shelter committee for the homeless planning we're doing is meeting next Thursday, and the steering committee is meeting on Friday for their very first meetings, we haven't identified a facilitator yet, we're still in the process of doing that, we're also praying for identifying a higher root position within our division to be a project manager for the project and take the lead on this work, that person is not going to be unified. And we're still trying to figure out what we're gonna do with data analysis first, So, hopefully soon we'll have some people in positions. This work. Our team is over capacity in the work that we're doing, and responding to COVID. So we're looking to bring in some different temporary staff to help support this work. That's our update for today.

Rob Huff

Jeff one quick question, is there going to be a new website for the ongoing work around creating the comprehensive plan and short term plan to end homelessness.

That's a good question. I am not aware but I can find out let you know.



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Rob Huff

Yeah, that'd be great because I know when the ad hoc committee had its website, it was a good one stop place to be able to go in and participate in the meetings as an observer just tracking the process, Maureen I see your hand up.

Maureen Howard

Yeah, it's in your inbox Jeff did say that the website is moving, there will be a website it's moving from the control of Pierce County Council, which is where that one was to the control of Pierce County Human Services. Oh, yeah range reader email that gets in, I am breaking. After takes a village.

Rob Huff

Alright, thanks everybody, and thank you Jeff for the updates, um, do we have anybody on the call from the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department. Hi Rianna.

Reanna Bettencourt

Hi everybody, I'm here this week, I'm sorry, I was absent I was at vaccine clinics. So I have a couple of updates. I just want to make sure that everybody knows where to find the information, and probably the most important information for this group is vaccine, call center number, and our free transportation information. So, those that information in the chat after afterwards but

Rob Huff

if people yeah just so you know your audio got kind of faint there for a moment. Can everybody hear me. A little faint but I can hear you.

Reanna Bettencourt

Okay. Um, so if people call our call center number. The call center can help people find different types of COVID vaccine, if they got their first dose somewhere else and need the same kind. They can call the call center number and they'll be directed to find the correct vaccine for their second dose, if that's needed. Most of our clinics. Now our first and second doses, not just first. They can help find appointments at healthcare facilities and pharmacies. Walk up events help with transportation, there is mobility assistance and language support. We also have a homebound homebound vaccine, if anybody has a need for that. So I'll post that information in the chat. Pierce Transit is still doing free rides the rides are round trip, a person can just get on the bus and say I'm going to the Lakewood vaccine clinic at the town center and the bus will take them there, and they can get on the bus and get back to wherever they need to go. I called Pierce Transit myself to verify the round trip thing. I also to come on mutual aid Collective is having their annual distribution day tomorrow and t-mac partnered with the health department's vaccine to that event. And so, if you know anybody that needs a vaccine. Just let them know they can get it out that event also. The health department is also working on a targeted event in conjunction with nourish Pierce County Food Bank out in Spanaway, and I will send out the flyer for this, this afternoon, I'll send it to the providers and the outreach teams, but it's gonna be at the old Spanaway elementary school on June 15 I will send that out though. And then just a non vaccine related. Our business services manager at the health department sent out an email from the Kresge



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Foundation and kreski is a member of the funders for housing opportunity, and they've launched a survey for leaders organizers advocates who identify as bipoc to understand leadership development needs so I will post that link in the chat as well, for anybody that's interested in participating in that. And my contact info. Also, I'll post that. So that's it for updates for right now unless anybody has any questions.

Rob Huff

Thank you Rianna, I don't see any questions. People can drop questions into the chat if, if they would like as well. And let's go ahead and move on to our next item and that would be an update from the safe sites for all group, Kahlan and Jan if you have updates.

Colin DeForest

I can give an update on the safe parking piece and I don't know if Jan's on here I missed the I've missed a couple of sites for all meetings with some conflicts. So I'm interested in hearing some of that update also, as far as safe parking, things are going great, as I let you guys know before our East Side site has shut down. I actually just found out from Cornell on this call because Cornell did services out of the east side site. And he just let me know to two more of the households families that were in the East Side, side have been just recently connected to housing, more safe Parker's that have been connected to housing, which is, which is super exciting. Our South Hills site is at capacity, A little bit over capacity. So we're it's continuing to just be extremely successful with engaging and connecting individuals to to housing services and other services such as Paul's services Paul has been integral out there. I'm working the TV you see site is hopefully we will be getting some referrals, this weekend, and through in the next week and we'll get some vehicles there so we are ready to roll with that one. I'm very excited to get that one back on board. And we have another site in hilltop, that should be opening in the next should be opening soon so there's some logistical things that we need to figure out, I need to get a thumbs up on that, the funding for the site from the safe parking or the safe sites for all group, just to make sure everybody's good with it, but hopefully that one's going to be opening up. And, yeah, you know that's that's that's about the updates for that things are good RVs are a challenge I would say the other challenging thing we had a referral yesterday from a female fleeing a domestic violence situation. Her cars broke down with some kind of random thing, it's a newer car, but she is stuck on the property of her ex, because that's where the car is so she's living on the property of her ex, who is, who she's had Divi issues with recently so that's an example of some of the challenges with the vehicles and when there's a lot of other vehicles that have very small things and alternator this side or the other so it would be great. And one of the things that I'm thinking about moving forward if we had mechanic services someone that was willing to, so I don't know if anybody knows of anyone like that, when school gets back in I know previous I've used Clover Park vote tech or baits, sometimes they will work with some of these individuals, but um, yeah, there's something to think about. We also have a couple RVs that are parked at private sites just from people that have stepped up in the community and said have this area. So I'm continuing to connect with those individuals, I'm actually looking for one right now for a family that's an RV so yeah that's kind of what that the the safe parking piece and then I'll kick it over to Jan or anyone else from the safe sites group.



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Janet Runbeck

I want to give a column kudos for making partnerships work. The reason why this safe parking network is as successful as, as it is, is because of developing partnerships column pulled in the local Tacoma Police Department community liaison officer, and got sort of an impossible situation worked out with the neighbors. That being said, we're now evolved into six sites for all. And we are reaching out to Habitat for Humanity to get their take on the 69th and proctor site. So anybody's Welcome to the noon, Zoom meetings, I go to our coalition website to to register and Jeffrey if I'm, if I'm missing something I'll jump over to you there.

Reverend Boyce

No, I think you do, got it pretty well covered. I much tied up with 34th and Pacific and the death of a camper. So, next week, I'll be doing, probably a little more outreach.

Rob Huff

All right. Does anybody have any questions for the safe sites for all folks I see Al's hand up,

recall it, are they given any thought to contact any similar the car clubs car hobbyist folks to help with minor repairs.

Colin DeForest

No I haven't. That's a good idea.

James Pogue

No, I'm,

Colin DeForest

I'm looking for any and all, I am not a huge car guy, or said I have to help a couple campers myself if they can get the parts with help one with brake pads, one Saturday, and, but I think that's a great idea. And so if you have any specific car clubs, maybe I'll do a Google search, I'm not exactly sure that's I'm definitely open to reaching out to whatever. I'm just really and after that I'm just curious if at all with the 34 site which Jeffrey and I and many of others have been out to, I'm just wondering from the city standpoint, that side, there's been a lot of deaths over the years at that site and oftentimes when someone dies at that site that triggers a usually a brush clearing and a cleanup. And I'm hopeful I'm glad that we haven't heard anything like that but I'm just curious if there's any talk from the city about that site and any future possibilities for anything at that site, because it's very active and there's vehicles and there's so I'm just, I'm just curious.

Tiegan Tidball

Hey Colin. Can we, can we talk I'm not sure of anything so can we talk about it, and then get back to it. Back to the group.



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Thanks,

Rob Huff

thanks to you. All right our next item on the agenda is back to Maureen, to talk about whether the coalition Sue should submit a letter regarding the rapid capital housing acquisition program which is a mouthful. And you're on mute. There you go.

Maureen Howard

Okay, thank you. So if I can share my screen, and you'll all be treated to my desktop as this comes up. You should be able to share. Okay. Oh, so are you. Oh, stop laughing. You're saying my whole desktop aren't you. Well, some days are like that, folks.

Rob Huff

You might just be able to drag the document over, make it bigger, because you can't really see the text too well

Maureen Howard

how about this is that getting better. Yeah, it's getting a little better. Yeah, still need more Hmm. I was gonna clean up my desktop but

Rob Huff

and don't do that for us.

Maureen Howard

No, then the 509 happened you know about this set better. Yeah. Okay. Okay, so this is a letter that I would like to coalition to say yes. Um, Tacoma Pierce County Coalition that homelessness, this goes to the Washington State Department of Commerce to the leader of the Housing Finance unit. Nathan Lich T, and that we are deeply appreciative of your work, and welcome this opportunity to comment on the rapid capital housing acquisition program. This is the money, remember this is 123 million to acquire vacant, hotels, motels apartments. Our coalition is a Pierce County wide network of providers, advocates nonprofits government's concerned citizens, people with lived experience, all of whom are committed to one single thing ending homelessness. We advocated for this money during the 21 legislative session, we formally voted to make 1000 units of housing for people experiencing homelessness. Our top priority for the use of the American rescue plan, Act funding, and the rapid capital housing acquisition program aligns perfectly with our action, ensuring shelter and housing for people experiencing homelessness requires units, funding, providers, all require political will, we have available hotel units, many of these units are below 100,000 250,000 per unit, we have providers who already successfully use hotels for non congregate shelter programs. As far as we know all of the hotel rooms currently used are leased. We want sustainable target shelters and quickly available permanent and permanent supportive housing units, we've been encouraging providers to purchase hotels. We have also been working with providers who might want to lease a floor for a targeted population. We



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have new political will in Pierce County, the Pierce County Council along with the City of Tacoma Council formerly committed to ending street homelessness by November 1 2021, the rapid capital housing acquisition program can provide some of the funding we need. However, we need the money to be able to be used as quickly as possible within the context of Pierce County, while our acquisition costs are lower, are available local matching funds are also significantly less than an adjacent King County. Therefore, we ask that Congress. One, reduce the match requirements for areas outside of King County, and that there'll be no match for units at \$150,000 or less. Confirm that the American rescue plan Act and other federal funds may be used as eligible match, and three allow matching funds to be used either for operating or capital purchases including rehabilitation, but not required local match on both operating and capital or congregate shelters had to reduce their capacity because of COVID-19, we don't actually know how many people are unsheltered Pierce County tells us at least 1350 We all believe there are many more, perhaps as many as 6000 people daily we see more encampments. About a week ago another person experiencing homelessness died of an apparent treatable medical condition in an unsanctioned encampments, we're relying on commerce to help us be able to make good use of the rapid capital housing acquisition program. So that's the letter. Great. So, do first have comments, so you know the city of Tacoma, I've worked with the city of Tacoma with the housing unit which is community and economic development and Government Affairs, and the city will be submitting a letter that will be along the same asks, but will be expanded more technical items as well. And I'm pretty sure Lehi is going to submit a letter, I've asked the county if they're going to, I just haven't heard back yet.

Rob Huff

Lots of kudos in the chat.

Maureen Howard

Like Thanks Sharon Lee for really, with Lehigh, for really bringing together the City Community Economic Development city government affairs, and the coalition on this. I think we have a vote, ability to vote, Garrett, do we, all right,

Gerrit Nyland

I have put a pull up. Do you approve sending a letter, marine just read about the capital. The rapid capital housing acquisition program to the State Department of Commerce, yes, no or AB extension.

Rob Huff

So I don't see the poll or other seeing the poll. People are voting. Okay, awesome. I can't vote anyway so it's fine.

Maureen Howard

Yeah, I'm not seeing it either.

Gerrit Nyland



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Well, we don't want either of your opinions on it, we have. Wait, I guess. Yeah, so I don't know maybe it's acting weird

Kevin Glackin-Coley

worried and Rob, did you register to vote with the coalition,

Gerrit Nyland

yeah. Anyway, those are the results so a bunch of yeses no nose. I think we're good.

Maureen Howard

All right. Thanks, everybody.

Rob Huff

Fantastic. All right, so let's turn the floor over to Garrett, you wanted to walk through the new coalition member directory directory on the website.

Gerrit Nyland

Thank you, Robin, I do think I kind of screwed the poll up, but seeing how those unanimous, were all in favor till I turned it off. My apologies, guys. Sorry. Every now and then I think I know how zoom works well and think I'm amazing, and then I just get reminded. All right, I want to take a quick couple of minutes and show a new feature on the coalition website, it's a little bit hidden right now but I think we'll make it more prominent. One question I often get is, hey Garrett, how do I connect in with so and so, I get that a lot, and it would be really handy if we had a little directory of all of our coalition members, and so I made one. And I'm going to show you our coalition website which I suspect you have all kind of good taste of over the years. And you are seeing our, our regular old coalition web page. And if you look over the top here, there are a number of menu items. One of them says members, and currently it just lists out all the different agencies that have really showed up at a meeting right so memberships pretty light still and we're not changing that, but I added a little paragraph here, and there's a couple links in it and one of them is to a searchable member directory. And so currently if you were trying to track me down, you can enter my name in and you could get a little bit of information about me and my phone number and whatnot. And if you would like to be listed in this directory. If you go back to the member link, you can see, okay, I'm going to log myself out really quick. You can see back on this member link. Alright, so I click members, there's a little link here that says a free member to is needed to be listed just fill out our membership information form that would be you clicking this, and you'll get taken to a place to create a new account, maybe my name is Mr. Amazing at PC homeless org right in any email address you have would work. Make up a password that's complicated enough for the password gods to approve, and you go ahead and click that and then you're going to get taken to a little forum where you can fill out some more information I am Mr. Amazing. And you can add a little picture if you'd like right just pop in, pick a picture that looks like you or looks like what you want to look like, we'll do me out in a rowboat in Puget Sound, you can put information in or not it's up to you. Maybe I don't want my phone number in there, but I do want my email address, you can associate yourself with an agency. If your agency is not on the list, there should be a way to add it but I haven't built that yet so



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just give me a holler and I can add that in, but I'm with the Tacoma Pierce County Co. Whoopsie. I'm all a mess now. To come up with Pierce County, it's got to be on here somewhere. Coalition to End Homelessness I could do a little biography, everyone. Mr amazing so I highly recommend it and then there's an option whether you want to appear in the public directory, so that would be a directory that can be seen by anyone coming to the website, or just the private directory, and that's going to be available only to people that have created this account and logged in. And so Mr amazing maybe just wants to be on the public directory No, so just a private directory, and then I click Create. And then it's going to drop me into the coalition's admin screen. And there's other features in here some of you use other ones of those that I've created, but there we are. And so if I go back to, and there's a link here back to that same directory search so if I wanted to see if I was showing up here in Mr. Cook seeing Mr amazing right I'm showing up just fine. And again, this, this directory looks the same, whether it's in the private mode or public mode I've logged in right and created an account, and so I'm kind of in the internal mode if I logged out right since I checked, no I don't want the general public to find me. If I go back to that member searchable directory, and I look for Mr. Amazing. I am simply not going to show up this time right and just the folks that have already put themselves on publicly are going to show up which is me and Gina May and Jana and Jeffrey and a few others. So, go on to again the member link and get yourself an account on there. You can also always connect into the sign in in the upper right, like if you can't remember the members, that's another way to get in, you can sign in. If you don't have a username and password that's how you would go in, in the future to update your member information, you can register as a new user, and it will take you through that whole same process got problems. Give me a holler. This is all fun and games until the website doesn't work right. So, if you run into any troubles, let me know and that's the whole kitten caboodle. That's a lot. Now it's fast, it's really not that hard, you just kind of go in and putter until it works, and if you break it you get a free lollipop, so there's that.

Rob Huff

We have a lollipop budget. Awesome. So Garrett you also have the next item on the agenda,

Gerrit Nyland

I'm on here right yeah so we've been voting to have people sort of formally represent the coalition, and I have three things we're not going to vote on today I just wanted to put them out there, and I'm actually going to have marine talk a little bit about them so it's three different roles, all of them marine pretty well Phil's and these are some great opportunities to develop your policy chops. By, you don't need to know stuff to do these you just have to be interested in learning stuffs. So the three ones are representative on the Affordable Housing Consortium advocacy committee that's Pierce County centric although they push a lot of effort towards state legislation. The second one is the Washington. Low Income Housing Alliance and that really is just the monitoring their, their calls, among other things, but that's state focused, tiny bit federal. And the last one is the National Low Income Housing Coalition and that's pretty much federally focused but marine Do you want to talk a little bit more about any of

Maureen Howard



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those. Sure, thanks. So the Tacoma Pierce County Affordable Housing Consortium is really focused on the nonprofit developers and there are for profit developers who are part of that as well. The advocacy, they, they have a board, and this, that, that's where decisions get made, you can sign up for the advocacy committee meets once a month. Oh dear, the fourth Wednesday I think of the month, about nine o'clock in the morning and Amanda dish so who is the Executive Director of the of the consortium chairs that committee, while she's on leave. Jason dock here from Habitat for Humanity will be chairing. So it draws normally would, collection of nonprofit developers, and a few other folks, and it's again, it's a really good way to learn what is important that way this advocacy committee works is that it makes recommendations about the Consortium's actual advocacy platform that goes to the Consortium's board of directors. Once it's approved by the Consortium's board of directors, then they committee simply connect and Amanda is the executive director can act just have to go back for approval on things. So it's a, it's a nice process that they have, they're part of a group of similar consortia across the state that are linked to and supported by the Washington Low Income Housing Alliance, a Washington Low Income Housing Alliance is the outgrowth of about three different statewide housing low income housing and homelessness coalition's that have been created over the years, and this is the remaining entity. So they Alliance has a, has a website, they are active on social media. They are, they handle the US state legislative agenda that is specific to the State Housing Trust Fund, and other key homelessness and housing issues. And then, in partnership. So that agenda gets developed, every year, they'll start working on it the summer through listening tours and then working with partners and they'll the, what will happen is that there will be a single agenda that lead agenda with the specific number of items, both policy and budget that will be adopted by the Alliance's board. There will also be a support agenda. And that's generally where all of the partners come in. So statewide organizations that handle a key issue like the tenant's union, that sort of thing those normally come in through a partnership. They Alliance does have some committees that their board must approve membership on. So I sit on the Public Policy Committee as approved by the Alliance's board. And we could add another person, it's just a matter of the person applying. And then at the request of the Alliance, I'm invited to the homeowner or the home homeless group, which is the sort of most of those people, they're either County, homelessness, contacts, or they're. Yeah, they're pretty much county folks, and that's the remnants of the old Washington State Coalition for the Homeless. So, again, it's a great opportunity to meet people from different parts of the state, and sometimes you find colleagues like Rob on in the committees and on meetings that you didn't even know about before so that's it's a great opportunity also has an opportunity to be a district lead every legislative district in this state. The Alliance wants to have a local lead somebody who lives in that district who votes for those folks, and we can have. That's another great place where we can have a multiplier effect that it's not limited to one person, but can have two or three people. And again, it's a great way to learn. There's always at one day, Advocacy Day at the state legislature. Now the alliance is tied into the National Low Income Housing Coalition, which works, not at the state levels, but works nationally on federal housing policy, and it moves morphs into homelessness as well. And then the alliance, the National Income Housing Coalition works to build up state partnerships, and also has space for local advocates, local providers, local governments, and so all during the panel, and their website is a real active well maintained website, they're running the housed campaign right now, and they have at least four meetings a week, plus a tenant period attendance meeting that I don't attend. And you can actually take a look at their website



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and there's a national meeting like representative Pramila Jaya Paul will be the guest at Monday's national meeting, there is a meeting that is strictly on legislative policy. There's a meeting on using FEMA, Not a lot of that is disaster relief hurricanes and that sort of stuff, but as you know, local governments could still use FEMA money for non congregate hotel rooms for free, until the end of September we just can't get our local governments to do that. And then there is a state and local meeting as well and that tends to be more interactive with people from different parts of the country and it's a great way to learn what people, other people are doing. And so, these are all opportunities that are free, where there's a membership required. The Garret took care of the membership for the consortium. Now I have a membership, an individual membership with the consortium, I got them to do a low income rate for anybody who's interested in that, because the Low Income Housing Alliance has that option, and the National Coalition. Low Income Housing Coalition has that option as well. There is a fourth group that is re emerged at the national level, the National Coalition for the Homeless. And so that's another option that's open and they are solely focused on homelessness and they are, are really prioritizing people with lived experience. So, if you have questions, just, you know, email me.

Gerrit Nyland

Thank you, marine, that sounded a bit overwhelming, but those phone calls and sitting in on them, never feel overwhelming to me sometimes it's a little bit of vocabulary but I don't know much about housing policy at some of those levels and I find them all just really informative. So I would highly recommend if you have an interest that this is a great entree into that and, and Marines, has a lovely knowledge bank that you can tap into when you're curious about this or that and like she said Rob's often on the calls, there's lots of folks that are that are connected and that they can help you as you learn and become a stronger advocate. So, thank you. I think I have the next agenda item to rob you do I put down that we needed to vote to pursue some grants for the speaker Bureau, but I went back and looked, and we actually did sort of a blanket authorization for us to pursue some funding around the speaker's bureau, so the, as Jeff Rogers mentioned the county put a NOFA out around people's lived experience and bringing them into decision making and meetings, and that's exactly what our speaker's bureau is looking to do. And so we will probably be pursuing some of that funding it's super quick turnaround so next week. There's also another group, which Lamont Green has mentioned and I don't really know an awful lot about what they're doing or how they're doing it but I'm going to reach out to them and see if there's some ways that we can kind of merge that work together, or, or if we'll kind of continue in, in parallel on this so our speaker's bureau is kind of not complicated but it involves a whole nother group the Pierce County Community Engagement Task Force, And, and workforce central so that's kind of already a complicated collaboration of ours but I'm super excited that there's more resources going towards bringing lived experience in, and if you ever are interested in writing grants or reviewing grants I've written, I think I got somebody that volunteered on this but it's always good to have more folks looking those over because grammars tough. Anyway, that's all I got Rob folks let me know if you're interested in that process of grant writing or have questions about our speaker's bureau, you know how to find me.

Rob Huff

Perfect, and Garrett, did you want to mention the meeting that's taking place this afternoon I know.



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Gerrit Nyland

Yes, thank you. Yeah, so the continuum of care has had some efforts around bringing kind of raise awareness and to all of our homeless work, and they invited the coalition to join discussion at 1pm today. There was a couple in or one incorrect time so it's 1pm, the link to join is on the coalition website, and Ben Feld Bush basically came from the coalition, we used to have a racial equity team. My version of events is that we sort of gifted it to the continuum of care so that they could more effectively get that work jump started, and, and it sounds like they're kind of really doing some amazing things there and so hopefully I'm bringing that work back closer into what we do, that may not be how it is in reality, but that's how it is in my head. So I'm excited for that conversation and that work to get going again and lemon Green, who I mentioned earlier, Dr. Green is going to lead that work and, and he's, he's a stellar facilitator, so I'm looking forward to, to that today. And I also had one more thing I finally got the floor, there's a, there's a event tomorrow, that's it's a few hours, it starts at noon, and there's going to be a viewing of a film that a gal in Seattle that makes documentaries filmed about homelessness. So basically she moved into one of these sanctioned encampments in Seattle and lived there for a couple of weeks, and she had a film crew and her kind of documenting the whole process and it's, it's a really good window into how a well run sanctioned encampment can operate and into a lot of these folks lives, and it's really it's beautifully done. And so that's going to be shown during the event. And then there's going to be a discussion forum with some folks that live just curious and people that are connected here I'll be on it, my gal named Dakota Fox. Another fellow with his got some live experience it does work in this arena so I, it should be a good event I sent out the link in the email and put it in chat but give me a holler if you have any trouble getting registered. Thanks. Oh and it's sponsored by Marlene market, I don't know how food and homelessness go together but I think they do some cool stuff in the community and this is one of them so yay.

Rob Huff

Yes, thank you, Garrett. So at this point in our agenda we have some time for just items for the good of the order so feel free to raise your hand, and I see Julian's got his hand up so he knows what's happening so Julian, why don't we go to you just start. Julian we're not able to hear you right now, even though I see you unmuted.

Julian Wheeler

Can you hear me now. Yes, we can. Okay, because usually when I have my headphones plugged in recently it's been interfering with my ability to be heard. But anyway, um, thanks for having these meetings and I would certainly love to continue to have these meetings online. A lot of organizations, a lot of audios are starting to go back to in person meetings and and not retaining remote attendance option but I did want us to just announce our next ACC meeting accessible communities Advisory Committee it's July 13 At nine o'clock on zoom nine o'clock in the morning. So, I'll put it in the chat box, and that's about expediting funding for accessibility projects, and our own Garrett actually engaged the process, and all I have yet to hear back from the Governor's Committee on their decision, but we'll see. Anyway, thanks. Thanks for having us.



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Rob Huff

Thank you, Julian. Anyone else with items for the good of the order thing, Alan.

Alan Brown

Yeah, I just wanted to draw attention, what I put in the chat. CCS Family Housing Network Day Center for Families is opening reopening on Monday. We've gone through some remodeling to improve the space it's a place where families can come and do laundry, folk we actually have lunches, delivered typically every day. They can drop in and get a coordinated entry appointment. Actually families or singles can get a coordinated entry appointment, and we now have private rooms for those appointments. Our hours are expanded till 7pm during the week, and we added weekend hours as well. So, you got a family, send them our way if they need place to be. During the day and to be connected with services as well.

Rob Huff

That's fantastic. Thank you Alan. And if you, if you're interested, it'd be great to kick off next week's meeting was kind of a virtual walkthrough of the remodeled site.

Alan Brown

Yeah, I believe I can do that.

Rob Huff

Okay, great. I will loop back with you, Maureen.

Maureen Howard

Yeah, thanks. Um, what one of the things about this process going forward from the ad hoc committee into the steering committee and the shelter workgroup is that we have people, certainly on the steering committee and I'm not sure about the shelter workgroup, who really have either no knowledge or very limited knowledge of the homelessness response system. So part of what I think is going to have to happen is as figuring out how to make you all in the system that everybody works in available and accessible to people who don't have that knowledge. So if you're asked questions about exactly what it is you do that sort of thing. Please don't take those as criticisms of your work, but rather, we just need to I'm basing this on one of one of the people who's on the steering committee was at our housing committee, a couple of weeks ago and he really didn't know anything. You know, so his acronyms everything. So please just, you know, if you get asked. That's all it is, we're just trying to make the system intelligible. So,

Rob Huff

thank you, Maureen. All right, anybody else. All right, so I'm not seeing anybody else. Stepping up with items for the good of the order I will invite people, if you're interested in helping plan next week's meeting. We will convene in this same room in about five minutes to do that. And otherwise, I want to wish everybody a happy and healthy weekend and hope everybody has a good Friday.