



Coalition to End Homelessness Provider Meeting - Friday, June 14th, 2021

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SPEAKERS

James Pogue, Julian Wheeler, Jeffrey Boyce, CC Mendoza, John Stovall, Denny Hunthausen, Kevin Glackin-Coley, Gerrit Nyland, Paula Anderson, Carolyn Reed, Rob Huff, Theresa Power-Drutis, Davina Schwab, Rosemary Powers, Mike Boisture, Valeri Knight, Colin DeForest, Tim Harris, Al Ratcliffe, Janet Runbeck, Alan Brown, Maureen Howard, Jenny Lorton

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Rob Huff

All right, well, welcome to the meet at spray regular Friday meeting of the Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness. I see we're up to about 35 folks in the room. So let's go ahead and get started we have a pretty packed agenda, Especially here in the first hour. So I will turn it over to cc Mendoza from Metropolitan Development Council my coworker to do our introductions and Welcome this morning.

CC Mendoza

Good morning everybody CC Mendoza MDC welcome, glad you're all here. I'm grateful for all of you. I wanted to ask if we have any new people here today that haven't attended before, would you please introduce yourselves to us.

Be sure.

Tim Harris

Hey there, my name is Tim Harris. I started the real change newspaper in Seattle, some 25 years ago. And thank you, I'm interested in starting a new project, which would be a statewide paper. Starting in



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the Olympia Tacoma area as the nucleus so I'm here, beginning to learn the landscape of what's going on over there and you'll be seeing more of me in coming months.

CC Mendoza

Welcome Tam. We're excited to have you. Thank you. Anybody else. Okay. All right before I hand it over I did want to share something. Um, I know that a lot of us get tired, I get tired. We have a lot of challenges. So it's really important for me, and I think for us to stay focused. And one thing that always helps me is when I do my gratitude list every night before I go to sleep, so I wanted to share something that Dalai Lama wrote. When you practice gratefulness. There is a sense of respect toward others. Thank you. All right, handing it over.

Rob Huff

Thank you CC and very briefly, I'm just going to show the coalition meeting norms here. Hopefully that's showing up for folks. These are the meeting norms that we created earlier this year, and I wanted to call attention to a couple of things. It starts with our, our norms that we've created for holding meetings here on Zoom, which of course are different than when we were in person. So we asked folks mute themselves when they're not talking, use the raise hand feature if you have something to say. You can also just have your camera on and wave and I will try to catch that as I'm out running the meeting as well. And then, if you're in a place where you need to be moving around a lot or you need to take another phone call, please turn your camera off. So that, so that it doesn't become a distraction. And I see a chat note from Jenny, I will let her share in a moment. Thank you Jenny, and our community norms, you can read here, we start with that we approach this work leading with a racial equity lens. Please be aware of the power dynamics in the room.

Challenge concepts and not people remember to listen to learn. We ask that one person speaks at a time. Speak from your own experience. Make space and take space so be willing to step in and step back out.

Rob Huff

Assume the best intentions and take responsibility for any impact. And one of our biggest challenges, please be aware of the time and agenda. So thank you for letting me share that and Jenny we can go to you before we move on to our first time.

Jenny Lorton

Thanks Rob. I just wanted to let everyone in this group know. We lost one of our employees at inside passages this week. He was very well connected to our community and had worked in the community for a lot of years. Jeffrey Latham, he passed away Monday evening, he was struggling with a number of health conditions. He passed away peacefully in his sleep and we were made aware of his passing Monday morning by his daughter. So I just wanted to let everyone in the group know, as I mentioned, he'd worked in the community for a lot of years. And he was very passionate about his work. So his passing, was very unexpected so it hit our team pretty hard, but because I know there's a lot of people



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in this group who probably connected with him or worked with him at one point or another. I did want to share that with the group.

Thank you Jenny and sorry for your loss and the community's loss.

Jenny Lorton

Thank you.

Okay. So, I think I will shift now to the first item in our agenda and Garrett, would you like to do this introduction. Not that I'm putting you on the spot. Okay, I

Gerrit Nyland

gotta figure out where we are sorry.

No, We're at the point of introducing Mr Hunt Asan.

Gerrit Nyland

Excellent. All of you probably know Danny Han Howsam, who has been leading the southwest region and Catholic Community Services for what they've been one year, two year thing, maybe it's been a little bit more than that. Yeah. And, and it's, it's, I think we're all a little bit sad that it's Danny's deciding to retire, can't be me that long that you've been there, and, and we're really excited just to kind of have a little bit of reflection from you on, on maybe what you've seen change and I want to know what the number of years that you've been working as all sorts of things right, Danny has a degree in social work. And, and did the work, and administrates it in anyway, Danny, thanks so much for sharing some time with us.

Denny Hunthausen

Thanks Gary Thanks Rob. Yeah, so how much time do we have in this piece I know you got a big agenda.

Yeah, so we set aside like about 1010 minutes or so for you to share your words of wisdom. Great, well

words of wisdom I don't know, and while I do know quite a few of you it's really good to be with you this morning, many people on the call here I don't and some of that is, I almost introduced myself as new during that first piece, thinking that I was very active in earlier renditions of the Homeless Coalition but in recent years. I haven't been really involved directly. And so some of you may not know who I am but



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I've been at CCS for a long time and just to give you a little bit of context because I think it relates to the some of the maybe some similar journeys, though, those of us that find ourselves in, in homelessness and housing we often are active in many other arenas, but are drawn into this area for perhaps similar reasons. And I started in 1983 Actually, when I came to the core moved and was active at St Leo parish and, you know, raised my family in Tacoma and now live in for crest and have for a long time. But, you know, I started out working really with refugees and immigrants, and I didn't have a degree in social work at the time just just liberal arts and you know, wanted to get involved and do something meaningful and felt that, you know, I just didn't want to do the normal stuff because I knew I kind of get bored with that pretty quickly. And so started in that work. And while I've done over the years, many different things that CCS, that the to it, you know with children and families and childcare and child welfare, foster care, all of which has been meaningful, the two areas that probably stick with me the most are first the Refugee and Immigrant work I did in the early years. And then, since the mid 90s housing and homelessness. And, and I think there's, there's a reason for that. You know and so over the years then in it was in 96 I really started working in community development and shelter homelessness, you know, and really taken by. I think inspired by the guidance of a lot of folks coming out of the community in the hilltop and st Leo's and one of them is on the call here today Maureen she was. She was every, every bit the activists then that she is now in, you know actually started one of the shelters that we ended up merging with that had went through a couple of forms. And that's how these things can sometimes work. But, you know, it just over these many years, I was able to work with incredible organization of Catholic Community Services and the staff there, we, We ended up developing, shall we had nothing in housing and homelessness, really. And in late 90s is when I became agency director and develop shelters and housing and Bremerton Olympia, and quite a lot in Tacoma and Pierce County as well. And then more recently. I'm happy to say we've gotten a little bit going out there and queue all up after a long conversation many years and hope more happens there. And we're also in contract to do a sizable hotel shelter, down in, in Vancouver that will start up later this summer so a lot that's my region is really southwest we call it we're Catholic Community Services of Western Washington. And so Pierce County and in other areas is sort of suggested but you know it. I think this whole thing of being drawn to the margins of society are something that I know many of you that I know personally, we share in that way and we maybe don't understand always why but it just we don't quite, it never leaves us, and we need to do something there, You know, never perfectly or completely all the time but something going on there and I'm sure that's when I thought of coming on the call today and those of you that I know, that's the, that's a common thread we bring to it and Tim while I maybe had met you, I think my daughter was on your board, and may still be there. And that's great up in Seattle, so I'm glad to see she's continued some of the tradition.

Thanks so much, very grateful for the hunt house and family in general.

And, you know, it's, it's been, I think that that's, that that common thread that brings us into this work and it gosh it's so challenging right it's so rich, we get incredibly frustrated by it because of how hard it is, and the persistence, but then the other part of that is that it does keep on giving because it is so



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complex and it relates to so many elements of our society. Right. It's a fundamental right and we, we know that in our gut and heart, but the way in which that happens in a, in kind of a hard edge capitalist society involves so many different elements of our, of our lives together. And so that brings us in relationship to so much. Yeah, in our communities, in our organizations in our society and I think that is kind of a gift of that and that's, I wanted to kind of remind you of that I guess or bring that to light a little bit in my reflection here this morning but our part of our belief statement in mission statement is that we believe every person deserves the right to safe, affordable housing. Very simple statement, but really powerful too. And I think that resonates with, I can think I could safely say everyone here on the call, easy thing to say, really hard to do. But it has given me, you know, something to work on for most of my career in a meaningful way and I'm thankful for that. I often, you know, look back on, on, in Think about why we have such a, such a challenge with homelessness in an American strikes me that I like to take the international view and think of other first world nations and, you know, we pride ourselves so much in American exceptionalism and, you know America can do spirit and how we think of ourselves as leading the way in so many respects, as a democracy and economically in other ways, and yet. Look at the persistence and extent of our homelessness, I think it to me it's a great mirror for the attitude that's like that blames the homeless or suggests implies you might say that people poor folks in our country are lesser than poor folks and other first world countries think about how ridiculous that is, and that somehow, you know, there that we have more lazy and irresponsible people here, which is really the attitude that underlies much of the perspective that we get. And yet I know on its face, you know, it has to do with systems, it has to do with, you know what, what systems we've set up as a society that create the reality we have. And so don't let that perspective, get deep in you and think that that's really somehow has to do with shortcomings among our people are our society it's not it's about systems and we are of course as you know, you know, as resourced better resource than any country in the history of mankind of humankind to do whatever we put our minds to. So, there is a way to address these issues and we need to keep at it.

I would just, you know really and the general thought would be that it's important to support one another, of course, the coalition is exactly the avenue to do that and that's why it come together I'm really excited it's these coalition's and communities of course ebb and flow over time. In in recent years, boy, this really is a provider support group and so many ways has been really strong. The quality of people that are active in it. I just, you know, to give you my perspective just say, you know, add a girl had a voice. It's good that you're all doing this because it really does take that, that mutual support to keep going. And I think again, we're often fighting against our culture that we're so competitive, right. So then in organizations can be too. I remember, we're in a time when actually, and it's always sort of being stewards of what we have, you have that, that tension between, you know, working for what we don't have and calling out for it and demanding it. But then there's also the work to be good stewards of what we have and we have a lot more than we used to, I'll tell you what, those of you that have been at this work a while would certainly recognize that in that we used to really have shelters but really people doing homeless work were pariahs I mean organizations didn't. There was no embracing at the city or county council, there was no sense of partnership really it was like tolerate us now, of course, there's some of that now too, but we're really part of the solution conversation now right, that didn't



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always feel that way. In fact, most of the time it didn't feel that way I see Murray nodding her head. We were, it was, it was not at all and with law enforcement, we were clearly and publicly stated as part of the problem, not the solution. So, you know, since the 80s, early 90s things have really changed quite a bit, and we're in a much different place where we're in a much more, I think functional dialogue with the broader community about what needs, what can be done what needs to be done, certainly not perfect but it is a much more positive place and gosh the evolution of used to be very categorical in terms of emergency shelter and transitional housing, you know since about 2010 with Coordinated Entry of concepts coming in rapid rehousing and diversion and all the other things that we've had. Gee, we would have felt died and gone to heaven kind of thing. Have we had a flexible pool of resources to actually help people with rent assistance. That was a radical idea in the 90s early 2000s So we take that for granted now but there's been great evolution in so many ways to the thinking and to the coalesce Lessing of resources to do any number of things. I know in so many respects it feels like we're going backwards. When we look at the number of homeless folks, but again, that has to do with broader systemic societal issues it really really does, and I think we're doing as good work as ever. In, in most respects, and it takes us all, I'll just say that you know, look around the screens here and it's like, Yeah, we need that. We need the bean counters, we need the data people we need the social workers and direct service we need the therapist the folks are in, you know, totally connected. We need the activists. We need the deep thinkers. We need the folks of all types in on this soul support one another, encourage one another when any of us does well, it reflects well and all of us. And my last thought three so I'm going to share that with the council if you get a chance on Tuesday but you know there are many things you can think about in the span of your time and career that bring you joy in the simple thing of having G Street paved has brought me more joy as much joy as almost anything because that felt like a backwater, you know, wagon trail. By the time it got paid so I'm sure even the homeless folks that call that area their place are appreciating the fact that you can walk and ride your bike and whatever without getting jostled like crazy but, so there is hope and progress I would just anyway thank you all for the opportunity to just share a little bit and keep on keeping on. Wish you all the best.

Gerrit Nyland

I think we'd all love to say a few words of tribute I'm just gonna give two tiny little stories about things that I love about you. The first one is when I worked for you I would sort of burst into your office with like a new great plan, and a funding stream and everything like that, and you were always really polite to listen to me and then you almost always reminded me, it's like, Well, I tell you what, why don't we figure out how to keep going. Well we already are running, and then we can look at shiny new things. And so I, I think about that all the time is how important it is to keep things going. And the other thing is, yeah so Danny's, you know, like he said he, he's in charge of lots of stuff across southwest Washington, but even walking like two blocks to the to a meeting at the county. He's gonna stop and talk to every single person that he bumped into experiencing homelessness, sleeping on the sidewalk, like, he, he somehow pulled off that magical thing where you work in a in an area for a really long time, and you kind of, you get away from direct service and yet his connection to the people that he was serving was continuous write always about the individual person. Okay, those are two things that I just, I love about you and want to embed in myself, so thanks so much. Thank you Karen.



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All right, we probably have a time for a couple more comments if folks want to raise their hands, Theresa.

Theresa Power-Drutis

So I have this wonderful memory of Danny have lots of wonderful memories of Denny because he's been really active in our community for a long time. But I think about when, when the, the building over here. Guadalupe VISTA was being built, and he really had it in his heart to somehow honor, Bix who is a longtime leader in this community, and it wasn't going down so well with the powers that be, so he kind of did an end run because Guadalupe house is the house that they started over here right across the street from me. And so then he named it Guadalupe VISTAs, and so that has connected that building with our community in a way that, and I always appreciated this ability to do an end run when necessary. It's a real character trait that is much needed in this world, and we love you, Danny.

Alan Brown

Thank you, Teresa, Allen. I've had the pleasure and honor of working with Denny, since the time that he's been the director of CCS, and I've been under his leadership. During that time, and you know the one, the one thing that, that, that has just inspired me in. In my work, in what, what has kept me at CCS is that, through, through the evolution of our homeless services and really, you know, there's been a great evolution in in CCS as homeless services. You know the development of Nativity house the development of Family Housing Network. During that time, is that, is that when we evolve and when we pursue something new. It's, it's not to chase funding, you know it's it's not to necessarily pursue a grant, it's always based on really thinking about what the community needs and. And no matter you know if it's difficult, or unpopular. That has always been the basis of of the decisions of where we go as an agency.

Rob Huff

Thanks. Thank you Alan. And I see. I'm not sure if it's inadvertent or not but Sean Lee White, CEO of crossout Mark, Did you have something you wanted to say. All right, I'll shift over to Paul Anderson.

Paula Anderson

I don't know how to put into words Danny how much you've helped us here in the Puyallup saga is I put in the email, or the text message on, but you have personally given me hope every time we have a conversation when things are really rough going with the city and with what we've been doing at New Hope. One key thing that you said to me a long time ago was New Hope is where the activity house was 15 years ago. So with the reaction from the community, it was what we were talking about at that time. And that single statement gave me hope because I thought, well, if they can do it into coma. And this is what they started with too. I don't feel so bad I don't feel like this is a one off, that is never going to be successful. So, just wanted to say thank you and I am truly going to miss you in this arena. Take care.

Denny Hunthausen



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Thanks, Paula, great working with you. Keep it up. And then Colin, why don't you close out remarks for this section.

Colin DeForest

Oh yes, hello, Danny. I've had the pleasure of working with Danny and a lot of different with a lot of different caps on I guess I would say over the years. In a lot of different regions or cities, right. And you know I mean, honestly, he's one of the few leaders that I've never heard anybody talk trash about, you know, I mean that's pretty rare. And he, you know, to me, in working with and I think we all have we all know, like, Good leaders are so hard to find, whether they're executive directors whether the director, whatever that is, it's oftentimes it's not simply the best person that rises, oftentimes there's more going on in that game, and I would just say Denny is truly just, like, the only way I could describe him it's just a selfless leader. It's never been about him, which is so uncommon, from the point the top person in an agency so, and he's never been out of touch, you know, he's always been, as, as was districts, described by Garrett you know he's always been willing to talk to you. When I was a lowly worker with the City of Tacoma I knew he came right up to me and had a big conversation talked about my mom, you know, so just stuff that you, it's just, there's not a lot of daddies that are gonna come around so I just applaud and I'm, I'm grateful that I had the opportunity to work with you and I know you're not going to be. I know you're not going to just go away somehow you'll keep your nose in it somehow. So, but thank you for everything you've done over the years.

Thanks, Colin. And thank you very much comments I appreciate all the wonderful comments in the chat section. It's very moving and touching and thank you for your time.

Rob Huff

Thank you for being willing to join us this morning, and congratulate, congratulations. So let's shift to short, this week on the streets section. So this is again the weekly portion of the meeting where we ask people to share what they're seeing, that has changed on the streets in doing outreach, anything that people can share that they think is important for the good, the whole group. So anybody have anything to share Kahlon.

Colin DeForest

I can give a brief update and I know Jeffrey's on the call and then I see Paula could probably also So, earlier in the week, Jeffrey and myself went out to the 509 camps with members of the hotkey workers to just try to touch base there was worried that there might be some potential safe parking candidates now. So we went down there, I took some pictures. I share them with some of the steering committee and I will share them with the group if you guys would like just to get an idea of the scale of what what is going on underneath there is a massive encampment. Unfortunately, it's the same encampment that I visited a year ago, two years ago. It has it's it's the same groups, same group of people, some of those people have been under there for, for more than a couple of years so I I'm under the impression of what my plan was to try to get out there this morning to kind of live stream from there, I think it's getting cleared right now, but I'm not sure, but I don't know, most of the people when I talked to him. There was



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not a lot of interest very very willing to chat, but a lot of RVs, so a lot of people that are trying to hold on to their RVs, massive amount of vehicles. I would guess it would be probably between a 50 and a \$75,000 cleanup. And the reality is most of those people just said they're going to just go to another spot right nearby that's not on the person cleaning its property so pretty frustrating and disappointing to see, you know, and the city kind of just shrugged and because I think their, their hands are tied. Also, they're not exactly sure what to do with it but it just emphasizes the point that we need safe spots for these individuals. Honestly, that is probably one of the most low impact areas, I know it's multiple jurisdictions but, boy, that, That side effects, no one, you know, I mean it does, obviously I don't want to speak for the tribe if they're on the tribal property but I think there's ways that we could strategically look at setting up some smaller sites in that area that would work really well. There's good access in and outs. So that's 509 I don't know if anybody else has any comments about that. And then the other one is just what is Dan in Bill's RV park down in Oregon. So I was out there earlier this week, was able to accompany Paula, and a massive crew of outreach workers that went out there to respond and kind of connect to the individuals that are living at this RV park in ording, I would say there's probably there, there's this, there's about 25 Legit, are it's a legit RV park for about 20 to 25 RVs. They have the infrastructure set up, you can set your Blackwater and everything like that. And then there's another 40 to 50 RVs that are not set up and they are backed up to the river and pumping straight into the river and things going on that you just would not believe. So it was pretty overwhelming to go to the site, Paula and her crew brought lunches meals, kids running around all over the place. It literally looks like a campground, but it's also extremely concerning what's going on down there. Just to give you an idea, the landlord, that's down there is getting around six \$700 per person, no leases are set up. So you start doing the math on that on a monthly level with 6070, maybe 80 RVs. They're making a lot. It's probably some of the most predatory landlord behavior I've ever seen. So, that's kind of my update on it is, it was disappointing but it was also the kids are very happy, though I will tell you what, there's a lot of drugs down there and there's no lighting, what that place looks like at night is, Honestly, extremely concerning, I can't even imagine what that place looks like at night, Paula, I'm sure you have a lot more to say about that than I do but that's kind of what I have for updates.

Paula Anderson

Yeah, I'll take this briefly share just, it is overwhelming when you go in there when you see the level of poverty, especially with the kids running around and the only playground they have is a real faded plastic I think it's a slide like one of those Fisher Price slides, and an empty kiddie pool, but we were able to bring food and just kind of make them feel welcome the kids I think got the most out of it, other than some of the people that actually came forward and got services I think multicarrier did two STD assessments. There is huge amount of physical need for some of the elderly people their medical needs. People you know there's a blind man who's completely blind living in one of those people with significant physical issues from diabetes and things of that nature and. And literally, they're just stuck there so I do know that Jessica from greater legs was talking with somebody about the possibility of moving out so I think the fact that people are going in there, and it's very tenuous there because it is private property and so what we're trying to do is not tick off the owners, but still be able to get in there and provide the services that we need to provide. So, but, but there are people there that want out, they just don't know how to do it, they don't know where the money is going to come from, where they're



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going to go, because a lot of those mobile those motorhomes are pretty rundown looking so they would not qualify for some of the other kind of more established RV parks so it's pretty. It's pretty bad down there, is what I would say.

Thanks, Paula. Davina you've had your hand up for a while.

Davina Schwab

Yeah I'm doing over here at Tacoma rescue mission outreach and I, we went out to 509 this week and typically that's an area that we don't have a lot of luck in also everybody's. When we went out a lot of people knew where they were going to go. Could you turn your arm. But we did have luck last week we were able to do two couples intakes for the stability site, a single person for the stability site, which we got into the stability site. We're also working with a couple to try to connect them with the, the native tiny home so we were very happy to have some success there. We've also have recently visited across from the old. Oh, the old hospital on Pacific 30/32 And we're able to, again, another area that that typically isn't wanting much but we got two intakes from there. And then also, which is this is good because this is showing a little bit more trust and willingness to maybe think about different options. We've also had a very good outcome. On 38, between Pacific and Portland. On the right there and got two intakes from there so we're. Things are finally moving along in areas that were so reluctant for for many things, so that's what we have to report.

Rob Huff

Thank you. That's great to hear. And thank you for your work. All right, so, if other other folks have updates for this week in the streets portion please drop them in the chat I know the chats been super active so as a reminder we keep those chat logs and we can look back and use that information as we work with groups that are attending these calls to put together plans for how to address the issues that are brought up so please use the chat. So we're going to shift gears and go over to James Pogue at comprehensive life resources, James wanted to talk about the new resources that are available now at the hype Center.

James Pogue

Hi, good morning. Mike working. Yes it is. I've had a lot of fun technical issues, as I'm trying to open a new program the internet just got turned on yesterday so it's been a fun time but I wanted to just give him a few seconds to update folks on the beacon Center. For those that don't know, comprehensive life resources in my department does run the youth and young adult shelter out of the beacons center. There's a long story here that I love to tell you all Sunday but as we're short on time, I'll just say that we, We entered into the shelter in 2018 with the goal of building out the the actual mental health and case management supportive services that folks would need, who are staying at the shelter, hopefully and look at ending their homeless situation. And, again, to make a long story short, what we found was during specifically during this last year and COVID. Every time we started to build out the long term planning, we kind of got pulled into to addressing a lot of emerging needs, and we just couldn't do both build out the big system that we wanted to to support folks and address the day to day, moment to



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moment, emergent needs. We worked with the city of Tacoma starting in December to put out the shelter for RFP and there's, again, a huge long story that I'd love to tell you all someday. But the exciting news or announcement is that the city has engaged in contracts with Vallejo location. The offer transition for the shelter yes so they've actually Mike I see Mike is here and Judy who have been over at the shelter all week or their staff have been learning and training and being on site with my staff and they're gonna continue to do that for the rest of the month, and then July 1 Vallejo will take over operations. As far as I know at least for 90 days, and the future of that I'll leave for the city to announce some other time. But in that comprehensive really did some soul searching and almost like Danny said, or Alan actually said about Danny was that, that we didn't want to be in the in the mode at con to chase any money or contracts we wanted to ask ourselves, what's the most important need for young adults and how do we build that and then we'll find the funding afterwards. And, and so we looked at the programs that exists that the larger programs like reach and Oasis and workforce Central, And just kept asking ourselves, like, Why, what's the barrier to our folks, experts, accessing these great resources like where are the challenges and what we determined is that some of our folks just need to learn how to access those resources like that's the best the gap we want to fill is like kind of, we've been looking at a lot of age appropriate activities and functional skill building type things to really get them connected with the existing resources so our, our plan at the hype center which is helping young people excel, that type of center is to really look at the resources that exist and build all of the connective bridges that need to be built to these resources and not try to recreate anything. So, effective Wednesday next Wednesday, we will be opening at, I'll put it in the chat but 815 South Pearl Street, that is a building that comprehensive life resources owns, And I'm sitting in right now and I'm going to do a little walk around virtual tour inspired by one of the times that call and did a activity on the streets and did a virtual tour in my mind this was going to look like a really cool red fin type virtual tour, and reality this is going to be the Blair Witch Project so, so bear with me here. I'm gonna move slowly on my laptop and I'll kind of stop and it's, it's probably not gonna make much sense, but I told her up. A few months ago that one of the cool resources that we have being on Zoom is that we can actually do stuff on location and show people things and we should take advantage of this while we can because someday we hope to be back in person and this kind of tool might go away. So I volunteered. Two months ago, but I couldn't get the stuff happening here at the building. COVID has made construction and internet hookups and getting water heaters and flooring and everything else needed very challenging, but effective yesterday, like we're good to go except for we got some cleaning, and a lot of things to move in here, so we're gonna delay our opening from Monday to Wednesday, and I'll pick it up, put it in the chat, we'll open at 7am and we're gonna work with fillet whoa starting Wednesday but also in the future to be at Beacon at 7am and pick up as many folks as wants to come over to our data center. The main gist of what we're gonna offer is from about seven or eight in the morning will be breakfast for sure. We have five private bathroom showers that people can access and we have laundry, we have one laundry hooked up so we're going to just be a lot for one person at a time, access to laundry. And then we have two different programs that are going to happen here at the same time and I'll make sense when I walk through. I'm sitting in our classroom, which is upstairs in the building because that's the only place that had a chair and a desk that gets to that to do this meeting, and I'll walk through this in a minute but by the end of this weekend and early next week this classroom will be totally set up to offer kind of our skill building classes again low barrier very patient, if people need to get up and leave, they can get up and leave if



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they show up one day and never come back, and then they come back six months later, every curriculum will be self contained so they can learn, we've been asking our clients what they want and I've heard, you know, access to getting a driver's license, so we're going to see if we can do some, some driver's license type stuff here. Access to ged courses so again we're going to see if we can do some things like that. And then we're going to look at all the other things that folks just either didn't learn through their tumultuous process of being a young adult into homelessness, or that they just missed, like we've heard for example Oasis has done like the queer prom, Every year, before COVID So looking at things like that pro social activities and classes and therapeutic groups that can really meet our populations needs. I'm gonna do my best to walk, and carry my laptop if it ends up really like looking glare witchy or I keep glitching out Rob just mute me and move on, but I'm gonna do my best and see what happens here. So, this.

Rob Huff

So the one thing that's happening James is we can't really hear you because the mics pointed away from you.

James Pogue

Well, this will be fun. So I was thinking it better on my computer because it was more stable but I'm gonna

Valeri Knight

go ahead and flip your camera. I wouldn't be able to flip where your camera shows the outside, not the inside.

James Pogue

Well this is my computer so it only has one camera, my laptop, but I'll just kind of walk through and then stop and turn my head, how's that sound. There you go. So we'll kind of do like, I get this, can you hear me okay now, or yes, definitely. All right, so I'm sitting in a space that I'll show you in a minute looks like a little DMV kind of intake space, we gather space over here with another place where staff will be operating over here which is all empty. There's some cables that will be up here soon. And this is this is the classroom space and it will fit, approximately. What we say 615 to 16 folks that can be in here at a time, and from walking away from here is where I was sitting in our, it's gonna be like our resource hub with printer fax all that stuff, but this is all going to be open for folks that want to join the classroom, will be activities here, that will be, you know, more structured than been like a drop in center kind of normally is but also way more able for people to access, then, like some of the more structured program. So I'm doing a meeting right now, but this is our smaller group room it has the ability. This is our space that will have groups and activities as well, it can look, about six to eight people, and I'm gonna walk down stairs there's more offices here and like I said, I thought my mind this would be really cool and I'm kind of wondering what it looks like for you guys but, but we'll get through this together. So the program is divided and upstairs and downstairs where the downstairs is going to be totally set up for people to just walk in, we will have expectations of engagement, but we were really excited if you didn't know conference a youth presence, used to be our program so it's gonna have the facility.



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Rob Huff

James we lost your audio again for some reason.

James Pogue

Can you hear me now. Yeah, it's cutting out. Yeah, I don't know, I knew I was gonna be like this so I was trying to make you know like, like a man on the streets, live from, you know, downtown or whatever and now it's just the debacle but anyway so you can get. We have a kitchen here actually used to be a facility with nursing So Jan, I got a space for you out over there, and your crew to do some nursing, and then both of the halls and our building, inpatient facility. So we took one hole and we're gonna have laptops in the hallway here that are accessible for folks and then three of the rooms have been converted to different activity types then there's like little card tables in one, and then like one of them has a bed, so if a person needs to lay down, they have access to lay down, And another one has just couches and we'll have a little TV. But the goal for this space of course too is that people sort of start to look at spaces to do their homework, do applications do all that kind of stuff. And we have multiple bedrooms here we have 14 that we're trying hard not to like totally convert from bedrooms, just in case we can go back to like some kind of transitional housing program or something in the near future. So I might do one more, walk over here to show two more sites and then I will try to give you guys back some of your time. We do have off of the main room. A room that, again, it used to be an activity

Theresa Power-Drutis

away last year I do again. The computer right at you.

James Pogue

Well, that's fine. Can you hear me now. Yeah, yeah we hear, you know, all right, all right, I'm almost done. This has been exciting and painful for all of us. So welcome. I thought it would be fun to see the location that we're going to work with and again, it's at 815 South Pearl, right across from the YMCA I think it's the Morgan family way over here, and we share a parking lot with a church, and then on the other side of which the church doesn't operate, they'll Sunday so that's helpful, which is you know, opening a new program the neighbors typically are the biggest barrier or challenge I'll say, so one side is the freeway on ramp to highway 16 Other side is a church parking lot, and then across the street is the Morgan family why, and it's a five Lane high road to get to the why so we feel pretty good that we're in a low impact area, we've already met with our TPD community liaison officers, and they're used to us having programming in this building that has a long history here of doing like youth inpatient programming so they at least use having to respond here, but again, homeless youth different population than inpatient. And then the final piece of the puzzle which I'll, I won't walk out there, is we do have a pretty full sized courtyard, like six cables and I'm not gonna walk out, I'm confident I'll lose internet and volume, but if I walk around the outside. There's a big space there with a basketball hoop and other things, brick building right behind there is the church. And again, we've had a long history with them so we're pretty excited. We're also looking for partners who offer specifically youth services or young adult services who want to be on site. We have a lot more space for people to offer their resources, their groups their activities to be here. Some of the challenges of Beacon is the location and



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so inviting partners over to like hang out in the gym, working with like, you know, young adults who are both playing basketball and trying to talk about their medical history has been a little challenging but here we have lots of offices lots of nooks and crannies, lots of group space. So I guess that's it, I'm gonna walk upstairs and you guys can ask questions and hopefully I'll be able to answer them with you have anything.

Okay, great. I see that. All right, Cliff has his hand up.

Al Ratcliffe

I'm familiar with that facility because I was on the design team what happened to the residential treatment program that's occupied that place for years.

James Pogue

Question I forgot to mention that, just a couple of months before COVID We asked to double our license we used to have 14 beds here, and we made it to 28 beds, which time comprehensive, move the program from here to our proctor location level one South Proctor, for those that remember meeting at that building, can't get there anymore as it's now 28 Bed inpatient facility for children, and then all of our services for the youth that were there moved over into our location so this was a significant expansion, thank you. Oh, yeah. Anything else

getting lots of thumbs up, and Jan run back asked if you want donations of supplies.

James Pogue

I'm guessing we will, there'll be definitely some things that we're going to look at having some some like clothing closet type stuff. But, and then of course we'll have food and things like that but I'll circle back. By the end of next week to let you guys know kind of where we are and what we might need.

Fantastic. Well congratulations and thanks for experimenting with the walkthrough. And we are a little bit behind on our agenda, but I wanted to shift. Now over to advocacy items and Maureen Howard. All right,

Maureen Howard

well good morning everybody and thank you. I'm gonna do a just run through a few things quickly, and then introduce a colleague, who's come to join us this morning. So with respect to coalition's work as you know, last week you approved a letter to the Department of Commerce, and our comments on the new rapid capital housing acquisition program to make it more user friendly within Pierce County. We received an immediate response from the managing director of the Housing Finance unit and thanking us and saying he would reach out to us if they had any questions. The second thing is that with respect to the city of Tacomas ordinance, the use of public property or no camping 28 756 That is on hold as an



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I don't know what will be on the city council agenda when it comes out tomorrow afternoon. But we were told by the sponsor councilmember Tom's or by the staff person that that the council members, and the mayor and deputy mayor had put it on hold until they had resolved a number of internal city issues with respect to that ordinance and confirmed that they are working off of our most recent draft, which is not the original one that was presented. The city is proceeding on the use of its ARPA money it's American rescue plan, state and local relief funds, and we'll have more information next week. This city also city council member Walker requested that the planning commission review the use of containers shipping containers for housing purposes. With respect to the port one of the things that came out of the 509 sweep. That was the confusion over the handling of that notice of eviction by the port. And so that's just sitting out there right now, and the multiple owners of that land. And my hope is that we can bring these sweeps policies into the conversations that are going forward the shelter workgroup and the ad hoc steering committee because this is a county wide issue with, I think they're 21, different cities and towns, plus the Puyallup Tribe, plus the railroads now we know, and I'm sure there are others. What watch the listserv, I'm going to put out an invitation to small organizations that are would be interested in capacity building around, whether it's housing development, partnering with a larger organization, leasing, housing, even sharing the use of a hotel, anything that might require a smaller organization to have the capacity to either go it alone, or to partner with a larger organization, I'm looking for indications of interest. That's all, no commitments. I've asked the city and county, if they would work on some sort of capacity building program or technical assistance or something. I know we've got churches with land, I know we've got churches being approached by private developers. We want to hold our land, as my thinking, um, that is it for this morning, and now I want to welcome. We're going to hold questions on anything, because I want to hold the time, John Stovall, who is the member organizer for the Washington Low Income Housing Alliance, and has been able to join us this morning, and I want to welcome him. And so John, now it's yours.

John Stovall

Okay, thanks, Maureen and thank you all for allowing me to be here. It's good to see some familiar faces and names. Yeah I'm here kind of representing the statewide perspective, as part of the advocacy conversations and one of the really big things on our mind and on probably all of your minds is the ending of the eviction moratorium at the end of this month right so we have been pushing to have that moratorium extended from its inception, last March, you know, several times throughout this last year, and have been successful every time. However, we're really concerned that this, you know, we don't want this to be the end of it because there are significant protections that the legislature passed in this legislative session, including the statewide right to counsel, which will allow tenants who are behind on rent and going through the eviction process to have access to a lawyer, a right to a lawyer to help them navigate and avoid the eviction process. We pass statewide, just cause protections for tenants which ensures that landlords have to have a legitimate reason in order to kick someone out of their home, and we passed hundreds of millions of dollars in emergency rental assistance to help pay folks as a readers off, so that they can avoid eviction altogether. These are all really great things, but really only one of those bills is currently being enacted as of now, and by the end of June that will still be the case. So, and that's the just cause tenant protections which is great, but if you're behind on rent. That's a just cause to evict, so there's still going to be tons of people in Pierce County and in every county



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around the state who will be vulnerable to eviction. If the moratorium is lifted on June 30 We have talked to several counties around the state that are administering rental assistance we talked to Valerie the other day and just sort of got a sense of like, you know, do we have enough rental assistance, do we need more time to administer that rental assistance so that people don't get evicted, and in, how much time would that be and are we anticipating more people falling behind on rent and the answer to all those questions is yes, like we need more time so what. Oh and then the other piece of it is the right to counsel program which the statewide office of civil legal aid is implementing, they're having to hire at least 50 attorneys to be able to, you know, feel the need for people going through the eviction process, and they're not going to be able to do that they've told us. They've told the governor's office that it will be at the earliest, October, when most counties have the right to counsel stood up, and then likely at the very end of the year before the whole state is really seeing the right to counsel being implemented. So that tells us we need to extend the moratorium, at least to October but really we don't want to say a date because every time we've set a specific date it's had to be extended again. So are asked to the governor is to, to extend the moratorium until counties can show that they have significant and sufficient rental assistance flowing into people's hands. They have the right to counsel, fully implemented, and they have the mediation program fully implemented, and so it should be a county by county situation where similar to, you know, the way we do phasing with COVID-19 right like you if your county is ready to go with the permanent tenant protections that we passed. Then it's up for consideration for the moratorium to be lifted in your area. If not, it's too soon. So, we have been pushing for the last few weeks to really let the governor know that this is the expectation, this is the only thing that's really going to work. So we submitted a, a sign on letter petition to Governor Inslee, last week with over 1000 signatures with 150 organizations that signed on. In addition, we've asked folks to send emails to Governor Inslee and over 500 people sent emails. This week, and the beginning of next week is really kind of a critical time to send a strong message to Governor Inslee about extending the moratorium. So what we're asking folks to do is make phone calls. Call him. Leave a message, flood his inbox, you know, you know, send a clear and consistent message to him, using your voice, and also sending emails are great too right now but I think we're like,

in the age where everything is virtual and people are getting a lot of emails and emails can get lost, voicemails and phone calls really do stand out a little bit more. So I was originally going to ask folks to make calls right now but I don't think we have time on the agenda unfortunately so I'm going to put the link in the chat here. What you can do is click on this link to a Google Doc, it'll take you to just a very simple page with the phone number to call a sample script. That's pretty much already been spelled out but you can insert like one sentence on why, for you personally for folks you work with folks in your community, your friends and family, like why is it so essential that the moratorium be extended. So please take a couple minutes today I'm asking you all, you know, please just take a couple minutes, write down that one sentence on why it is important for us to extend the moratorium, and then click the link and just make a phone call and include that sentence in there. If we can get 65 People who are on this call on this call right now to leave a message as Governor Inslee that will send a strong message. So thank you all so much, that's all I had to say but any questions.



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Jenny Lorton

Not seeing any hands raised at the moment, give it a moment here to answer Teresa's question yes we actually email all 10,000 landlords weekly and let them know hang tight. If your tenant leaves for any reason, whether it's voluntary or eviction you're no longer eligible for these funds. We have approximately \$163 million to spend so just give us a moment to process and we will get back to you and that email goes out every week, sometimes they call and they get a little hostile, nothing I can't handle, but sometimes they call and say thank you I appreciate that I'll take a breath and I'm like great and then sometimes we it's an emergent situation like the landlord died yesterday who's at this is her source of income, we already have her paid. So there's things that we're doing processing quickly as well as working very closely with the Dispute Resolution Center, to come up pro bono daily. So yeah, we are doing that as well as educating landlords and tenants who don't know that their lease goes month to month. So we're doing a lot of correspondence with like stay in your house. Don't leave, I don't care that your lease is up, stay in your house, so hopefully we'll prevent as much homelessness as we can but we are doing that on a consistent basis. You are amazing. We sent those emails out to Snohomish King and Spokane to, because they were asking what we were doing so we're encouraging them to do the same.

Rob Huff

Fantastic. Maureen I see your hand up.

Maureen Howard

No, I wanted to really acknowledge Valerie for making the program work, and most of us don't know all of the ins and outs and how adaptable she's been and how she's responded to the breadth of what the law allows. And that's really important in the work and I want to thank John for, for coming, and you are always welcome. And John, one of the things we're going to do later this morning is we're actually going to invite folks in this meeting to volunteer to be our liaison to different organizations and one of them is the Alliance, so we're looking for. Yeah. Anyway, thanks.

I'll make one more just announcement, real quick, sure, related to making phone calls, we were actually organizing phone banking sessions, meaning we are going to be calling other advocates around the state asking more folks to contact Governor Inslee, so we have a session today and we're going to do it on Monday, so if anybody is interested in kind of flexing that statewide advocacy muscle and connecting with other folks about the importance of contacting Governor Inslee, please just put it in the chat you can say your name and maybe put your email address there you can do it publicly or privately to me either way is fine. We'd love to have you. Our session today is right is starting like right now until 2pm, so it doesn't mean you have to be there for four hours you can come in for 30 minutes and make some phone calls and get on with your day but anytime that you can join us would be much appreciated.



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Thank you, John. And thanks for your leadership on this really important issue that's impacting Allstate. Alright so let's shift over to our regular weekly government updates. Do we have anybody on the call with updates from the city of Tacoma.

I didn't see Clarissa or tieghan on the call so. Alright, let's move on to talk to Valerie and see what's going on with Pierce County.

Valeri Knight

Good morning. Okay so I have a post it note. So the voices that matter program that closes today and what that is is a notice to funding availability to stipend, folks with live expertise to participate in coalition's continuum of cares. Youth Action boards all of the above so that NOFA is out closes today. Super simple questions. Very very easy budget so if you're interested in supporting live experts please apply. We will be holding that funding decision here very soon. Also a heads up that another NOFA is coming out, it's been a very busy week guys. Another NOFA is coming out today, and it is the American rescue plan funds for 1.7 million. It is inclement weather, it is shelter, it is outreach, it is hygiene sanitation it is encampment cleanup. It is very very vague I believe it is a whopping six questions and a budget, so that will be coming out today as well and funding starts July one so it will go through March 31 2022 Because we wanted to do the full inclement weather season of next year, so please look at that one. It is a very very fast turnaround because we want to get your contract in place by July 1 So we just need a little bit of wiggle room on that super easy question. So both of those are out, you know, I try to make things as simple as possible. Next up is the wage gap which is the youth homelessness demonstration program it's that grant we've been writing every single year since I came to the county. And one year we were one point away, HUD has finally released it because what better timing than right now with chaos of everything else. And so we are actively participating in writing that as we speak, it's due July 27 And when we are awarded that one, it will bring anywhere from three to \$5 million to the community for youth and young adult homelessness, and those funds roll into the continuum of care funds so we don't lose them at the end of the demonstration period. I had an amazing meeting at six o'clock last night with the Youth Action Board, and we have just some amazing young folks who have now applied to be on the continuum of care, and who will be writing majority of that grant so that's all fantastic news and I am very honored. I think that's going to be a huge turnaround for the community as a whole. And then, of course, as you heard this shelter update so, and then the last thing with rental assistance, we had IRAP dollars last year, it did roll into June of this year, we are in 95% spent down on that so we will turn in 100% spent, which is just at \$15 million for our other two fund sources, we are. We have already spent 3.5 million in our Department of Treasury funds and we have spent 4.9 million in our trap funds, which is Department of. I keep saying, transportation, but that's not it, Department of Treasury. So those projects are still rolling strong. We are in the final final final stages of updating the live portal, so you will be able to see the number of applicants, how many people have been referred, where those folks live, because we want to give you a hotspot. All the demographics for everybody who has been served have everything that has been asked, and then the dollar amounts of rent, utilities and other housing costs plus our budget leftover so all that will be available to you live in every single week. I do have a running chart so if you ever just want to see it, Email me I can send it to you. We do track



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all of those demographic informations on a weekly basis as well. And then we received our American rescue plan funds round one, we have awarded that \$9 million to helping hand house so they're going to start pumping those out here very soon. And then we are ready and willing whenever we received a real American rescue plan fund round two. And the state American rescue plan round to see where it gets all confusing everybody's got the same name, so we're ready for those when they come and we will just keep processing as fast as possible. So those are the county updates which is why I'm losing a little bit of hair, my son graduated boot camp last week and we found out this week my other son's graduating high school so it has been an insane week. But we're here and grants or grants are moving so.

Thank you Valerie so do folks have questions for Valerie. Alright, looks like we're gonna let you off the hook.

Rob Huff

All right, and our next government updates would be from the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department. I'm not sure if anybody from the health department was able to join us this morning. I'll be quiet for a moment and just see if anybody has anything to add, if not I will share what Brianna shared with me in email.

All right, let me flip over to my email, so Rianna just urged that we all

Rob Huff

be aware of the event she sent the email out about on June 15 In Spanaway where they're hosting a vaccine event. It's a walk up event happening at the same time and location as the nourish Pierce County Food Bank in that area, Rianna will be active in handing out \$5 gift cards to people who read to people who are receiving their second dose or the single dose of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine, and our own Kevin Glackin Kohli will be there

with hygiene kits and portable phone chargers to give out so I don't know Kevin if you had anything that you wanted to add,

Kevin Glackin-Coley

nothing else. Thanks for the, thanks for the shout out.

Rob Huff

Awesome. Great. All right, so I'm flipping back over to my agenda and we've had to shuffle things a little bit so I'm going to hand off to Mike moisture to talk about the first meeting of the shelter work group that's part of Pierce County's homelessness efforts, Mike. Thanks, Rob. It was a very, they kept it right on time. I really liked the time management, that



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Mike Boisture

they call it director moss. She's really good. I've met her. Some time ago, here in Puyallup. But as far as our meeting it was more of an organization type meeting going through a lot of the process. And then reviewing the ad hoc report. And if you haven't read that, you know it's not a exciting read, but it would be something to go through because it is interesting how they came to where we're at today. And so what we did go over was the shelter plan. Okay. And I'll give you some of that right now one of the shelter priors separate the effort from larger cots comprehensive plan clearly defined scope of the emergency shelter. I think most of our conversation yesterday was defining scope, and then selecting partners or seek partners, and support. Stay focused. It was interesting because I've been on a number of committees and teams and I call it rabbit trails that we take. And we did pretty good on that yesterday. So, like I told Rob I'm going to kind of keep it short. And our plan, our shelter plan this is what is out there and this is what we're marching to and I said this in the meeting yesterday, it's like drinking from a stinking Firehose and it's not an inch and a half, it's a two and a half line, and try to get this done by November 1 This is America, we can do it. So the shelter plan basically Jim were to convene workgroup and clarify the scope and our goals, and then begin to conduct focus groups. July is to present a draft plan, and seek community input, August finalize shelter plan identify funding, seek support from jurisdictions and then September, October is, implement, and November ensure all contracts resources are in place, like we talked it's aggressive but we have a goal and that is our marching orders. We're going to be meeting every two weeks. And I think Maureen sent out the link to the meetings, and everybody's welcome this last meeting was a little confusing on basically trying to organize the meeting, as far as hooked speak and who couldn't speak so that will be fixed in two weeks. And so

Rob Huff

I did that quicker than five minutes, Rob. Fantastic. Yeah. Anybody have any questions I can say that I know Maureen and I participated as guests. For most of the conversation. Garrett was on the call James was on the call, and a number of folks who don't always aren't always able to attend the coalition meetings, who are on the call as well. Maureen, you have your hand up.

Maureen Howard

Yeah I was just gonna say that people should, you know, work with Mike on it, you know, send him, questions, suggestions that sort of stuff, and we'll figure out how to keep the loops, all open and working because it isn't just that the shelter workgroup isn't just doing a plan by November 1 It's implementing it as well this is that everybody off the streets. So it, I don't know a fire hoses come bigger. Two and a half but that's it. But yeah, so there's a three inch pipeline, yeah. Okay, so, so that's where they are so the only thing I was gonna add is so today, the steering committee meets, and I'm on, I'm your representative on that. And so we're doing the comprehensive plan, we have a longer timeline. One of my interests is to make sure that housing is like, equal to shelter in this as we go forward so that people end up with a permanent place to live, an appropriate housing intervention if we're going to use that built for zero model. So, please reach out in whatever way and there are other people who, you know, are part of the coalition who are on that comprehensive plant steering



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committee as well. These are all public meetings, and, and I don't, we'll meet once a month, is my understanding does grant committee, and I don't know if we meet the same time, and Mike, are you going to meet at the same time every two weeks.

That might be the goal because that's the number of people said it was a good time to meet. Okay, so she's gonna send one out, what is it called Google or Google. Yeah, whatever the thing is, and set up the date.

Maureen Howard

Okay, anyway, Mike, thanks for taking this on.

And Mike real quick I see there's a question in the chat if you could provide you put your email address and the program that you work with. Yeah, really helpful. Awesome, and Collin you have your hand up.

Colin DeForest

Yeah, thank you for the update, Mike and being also, I guess my question is just obviously as marine was just talking about that November one date and if the goal is to you know have the, the streets cleared by November one November one date. I'm kind of going through the timeline that you guys have with implementation that seems with this specific plan and sounded like September October, something like that. I'm just curious if there's conversation about how. Obviously we're going to need to do something before then, with some interventions and some strategies so I'm just curious if there's been conversation with how other strategies may roll into this plan that are going to help that know what November, but they might not fall under the umbrella of some of the stuff that the county, maybe will be funding through this process. Does that make sense. Yeah, yeah. I was making notes, thank you. I guess is that conversation happening. I'm curious.

Mike Boisture

Right now, because we just put things together, but that's why I'm making notes I Maureen sent me a couple Maureen's got her hand up there as well. Yeah, Maureen,

Maureen Howard

you're muted morning. You have cola thanks for that question. And I think a couple of things one is part of the process is continuous continual community engagement. And this is that none of this work is intended to focus on Pierce County funding. This is intended to be a county wide. And so anybody who's got something. If you are not contacted, like right away, come forward please. Okay, we're not gonna try it I don't think there's any intent to change anybody's existing plans or anything like that in terms of work they might be working on, but rather that we know what's out there, so that we end up with one comprehensive plan and strategy. And the other thing that I think is different this time from before, that that county is staffing up to do this. So they're literally adding positions, they're moving some folks around internally, they're doing some contract work. Thank you website also. That just like



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there was a website for the ad hoc committee. The county council ran that website, Pierce County Human Services is going to run the new one. And so that website should be up and running. I hope within the week. So

Rob Huff

thank you and Garrett was there anything you wanted to add.

Gerrit Nyland

So it looks like I am going to be an employee of the county are at least contracting with them to help do project management, temporarily at the beginning and maybe slightly longer term supporting both this effort with the shelter group, and with the larger comprehensive plan. So, Mike remains the best tool for you to feed information from the coalition side, but I will also be somebody that should be able to take in what you have to say as well, so I'm looking forward to it, it might make things muddy between what I do with the coalition in this, and we'll see how things actually break out with a coalition I've had other conversations about doing contracting that haven't gone anywhere, so I'll be a true believer when I see the contract, but I'm, I'm excited about it I care about this work obviously and I, I think that I'm that working in that capacity I think can really advance the goals of the coalition, so yay for me being able to get my hands fully into the project. I'm excited.

Thank you, Garrett. All right so if others have questions or suggestions to drop in the chat. This would be a great opportunity to use that, just as it is every Friday. I am going to shift gears to the next item on our agenda, and that is a, an update from Theresa on homelessness messaging resources.

Theresa Power-Drutis

I, this is going to be a very quick update but I do want you to, I just threw the link in the chat for the, the file. The Google file and I just want to take you there for a minute if I can share my screen. Yeah, let me give you that ability. And you should have that now. Yes I do. So if you click on that link, you're going to get to this folder here the S S for a that's safe sites for all. And if you open it up. You'll find these great images that you hear that from Lori Davenport, that she loaded in here and I want to show you one little bit pokey there. Meanwhile, there are some messages to get out. One of the messages we're trying to counter is the idea that there are lots of places for people to stay, and people are refusing it. So, at every opportunity there are these things. Oh, this is not the one I was trying to bring up. But this is another cool one. This one is her most recent one. And if you if you come in here and open this up, you can put it on an eight and a half by 11 sheet, Laurie is looking at making some stickers of this. The idea is safe shelter for all. So, it can include all of these things. And, please, please make use of these creative works. I'm so impressed with Laurie that she can do these things I'm going to stop sharing. But go and poke around we're going to keep adding resources if you have some things to send to me that I can add in there so that other people can use them, please do. But the idea is, we can all be part of this campaign by getting taking the opportunity to say to people, you know, what do you mean people are refusing shelter if you have a dog, or you have a partner, or you're not able to stay in a congregate setting does, are you really refusing shelter so please help us get that word out in conversations, and



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please help us get some images out there that helped to draw attention to the fact that we can end street homelessness. This winter, we can do it.

Thank you, trees, and thanks to Laurie for all this work I know she couldn't be here this morning. Kevin and then Carolyn.

Kevin Glackin-Coley

Yeah, to say she's wondering, probably if I opened up the file I can tell is that a QR code down in the bottom was that a QR code in the bottom, it is of that image, okay. And where's that take up.

Theresa Power-Drutis

Are we tech savvy, or what, what yeah well it takes you to a place that isn't quite as tech savvy yet but it's getting there. So we do have a little Garrett put together a little space for us on the website that's where it'll take you.

Kevin Glackin-Coley

Okay, thanks. Yeah, Carolyn.

Carolyn Reed

Good morning, Teresa, are there some other messages, I mean these are, these are nice, it's all about you know getting shelter but there's also a lot of public miss those that are on how it will have might have for families, You know over 5000 students, is there any way to capture the fact that these are community members, and we want them to stay in their communities where their support systems are.

Theresa Power-Drutis

This is absolutely community is one of the messages that we want to promote that there are communities of all kinds. And if you have something to add to that, please come on by. If you go to the coalition website you'll see our little campaign group meeting and anyone is welcome. You can come one time, come one time and tell us what you really think the message should be, and, and help us to work that out. Anybody is welcome.

Thank you Carolyn and thank you, Teresa, any other questions, Teresa, what time is that meeting again.

Theresa Power-Drutis

I was afraid you're going to ask me that because I have to tell you that this week we have a special meeting at three o'clock, but we will still be meeting at 230, it's 230. On Wednesdays,



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and the link is on the PC homeless.org website.

Theresa Power-Drutis

So, yeah, any Wednesday come on by.

Rob Huff

Perfect. Thank you, Teresa. Any additional questions or input, do feel free to drop those in the chat, and I'm going to shift now over to Rosemary, with an invitation for folks who are attending today.

Rosemary Powers

Good morning and thank you, Rob. Danny's comments at the beginning and Garrett's comments about complications of, of working with the county and the coalition, lead me to say, we need more discussion about how the coalition can be the kind of organization that meets our changing our changing activities. Over the years we've been very many different things and from a supportive network to now a very strong policy advocacy approach as part of our work, and we need to have the structures that support that and that are inclusive structures. So, this is an invitation to a small group we've met a few times we shared some discussion in the past couple of months about what is the value of the coalition and what do people not want to lose in any changes or more formal structures we might develop, but we'd like to invite people who are you interested, especially in ensuring that the coalition has a focus on racial equity and other equity issues in our structures. So we're meeting this Wednesday I'm going to put the information in the chat in the Zoom link. But if others are interested in, that's not a good time, just contact me I'll have my, put my information there too and we'll try to structure a time that works for people, the best we can in the future but if you have ideas you want us to deal with with this, you can also contact me ahead of our meeting this coming Wednesday so that's the invitation, and I hope it went in there now to see if it did.

Yeah, it doesn't look like it's come through on the chat yet. But I'll let you do that as we as we move on. There you go.

Rosemary Powers

I got it twice so it came through twice. So, yes.

Rob Huff

All right, thanks, rosemary, and yeah, we really want to hear from, from different voices in our community people with lived experience. And, and, and those that we want to ensure that the coalition is a welcoming place for everybody in the community. And so, we have heard that some folks have felt like they maybe weren't as welcomed as we would like. And so please let us know if you have ideas about how we can become more welcoming more honor all the voices that were here, and that we can really pay attention to the racial equity work that needs to be done.



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So, with that let's shift over to calling for an update from the safe sites for auger.

Colin DeForest

Hello, yeah so updates from the safe sites for all group, not a whole lot of updates this week. If Cynthia is on from TV. You see, she may be able to give an update, we're getting really close with to reopening that sites, we are also getting really close to taking the next step at our with the ride center, to have a small for vehicle site at their site, there's some work that's going on there right now, there should be a portable toilet delivered. We still have to do the community outreach so I'm working with Gerald on that hopefully we'll get a letter out next week, and hopefully have a Zoom meeting next week also and then get up, get that place open so yeah to use he basically what has been going on there as their staff is just over the top, they have been staying the night amongst various to you you see leaders and just members, staying the night at the safe parking site just to really get an idea of what the foot traffic, what the site looks like, what, what some of the challenges are at the sites. Another example of challenges with the site would be they had a really cool little hand washing station that we were trying out there. It was so cool that somebody decided to take it. So we don't have that hand washing station anymore. Luckily Paula Anderson, as we're closing down our East Side site. We're able to transition some of the, the portable toilets getting transitioned over to another site over to the rise site and the hand washing station hopefully we're going to transition over to say so. And what I'm going to say about that hand washing station is luck moving it because it weighs a ton. So I don't think we have to worry about that one leaving, but we are really, really close, I'm kind of just really waiting to get the okay from to, you see on referrals, and then we will be moving forward from there. I would also say that Heather moss and Valerie reached out from the county, just to kind of find out some more information about the safe parking program how it's been doing. So that's exciting that there is some interest from the county on that. And I'm hoping to meet with Valerie. Valerie had sent me some questions that I've been procrastinating on responding to. So I'm going to be responding to those questions today and over the weekend and then hopefully meeting with her next week, and I'm feeling like for the safe parking we have a couple other churches that are still trying to come on board and interested and, and I think where we're at, kind of some of the lessons learned in year one is three sites is pretty good. You know I think that three sites right now seems to be working really well as we close one and transition to this other one, so I'm feeling really good about three sites, I'm feeling really excited also I would say just from a safe, safe sites for all view of the work that Ryze is interested in doing on hilltop, and some of the potential collaborations with parcel and property owners and the hilltop area that Gerald has connected with and some of his staff so I think there's a lot of potential for that area outside of just vehicle parking, So, hopefully more to come on that. I don't know if Jeffrey or like I said if, if anybody from to UC is on the call, feel free to to hop in.

Yeah, I don't see anybody from TMC on the call at the moment. Jeffrey are 10 anything bad.

Janet Runbeck



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Oh, we did invite Jason Gauthier from Habitat for Humanity to talk about being a neighbor, after sixth sell 69th a proctor site. He actually I would like to hear, Collin or Teresa or Jeff's impression of how that went.

Colin DeForest

Trees, I'll talk first and just Yeah. And I'll just be completely transparent and it was, I tell you what, we got a whole lot more information about what's going on in the city of Tacoma from a Habitat for Humanity worker, than we have in months from the city of Tacoma so that was nice. He definitely the curtain and let us know what was going on at the 69 site, and it seemed like that's, it's been very clear what the plan is for the 69 proctor site which is to shut down the McCamley site and transition all those people over there, and potentially increase the site by 20 ish tiny houses or micro units. So, I guess what's important for this group to know I think we had intentions of this would be, you know, as we talked about getting towards that goal of November 1 What we know is we need to increase in the stock of every form of shelter housing safe parking that we have. And I think the hope was that this was going to be a real big net increase for us. And that really isn't going to be the case, this is going to be just really closing down one site and opening up another which I think for any of us who saw the tha letters, It's disappointing because Michael clearly made it stated in the letter that there's, there's avenues to go if you want to try to expand this site for another year through 2022. So obviously the city didn't feel that that was necessary and they chose to transition and I think that's what habitat habitat feels good with the micro shelters and tiny units, but it doesn't seem like there's really going to be any type of low barrier shelter which I think that's probably not the best site for but I think the idea of kind of having potentially hybrid, if it's safe parking if it's maybe a small area for people camping. Doesn't sound like any of that's going to happen. So I mean it is great that they're expanding. But I also think just from a lot of us who've done any work around Tiny House villages and if you look around at best practices, 70 to 80 Tiny House village sites with 7080 units, you don't see those, because that's not a best in, I wouldn't say it's not a best practice but I think keeping the number smaller. If you look around at Lehigh their numbers are usually quite smaller than that so I'm guessing this will probably be Lehigh as biggest Tiny House village that they're managing now so, um, so we will see what happens with it but that's kind of what I got out of it, I think we grilled. Jason pretty hard from habitat. And I really think that I applaud him for taking our questions and answering them and I think that he did a great job so Teresa did I miss anything.

Theresa Power-Drutis

Just this that I, it's not over till it's over. I weak as a coalition could make it really clear that we oppose closing down any of our current shelters that we only want additional so if we don't do that. We are just going to keep moving the lawn chairs or the deck chairs or whatever so I believe this should be our message to the city. do not close down any of our current shelters or options we are in an emergency. It is not all about the 24 month agreement, we have other agreements that we need to honor as well, like that we are going to make safe sites for all. So, I oppose the idea of moving the tiny homes I think most of us do. It's just, it's an expensive way to keep shifting things when what we really need are more shelters, so that's the message that I hope we can take forward.



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Jeffrey Boyce

I agree with Teresa and column was disappointed with the city's response. We're supposed to be trying to make a net gain reasonable that game and there is no reasonable net game gain here. We need every site, we can find. It's matter of fact, I would even suggest that we take the 705 and 34th and Pacific and make them low barrier shelters or low barrier, campgrounds, we've got to do something that is going to help these people. And let's not forget, these are people.

Colin DeForest

And, you know, The last thing that I'd say is consent and as we look at that net gain or what that is. We're also clearing a large camp with however many people in it in the 519. So really what we're, we're saying one thing and when I say we're, I don't know who I'm pointing that out. But one thing is being said about let's get towards this date and then our actions on the other side are completely counter to that because what we're doing by clearing that site is obviously the those are people that are going to end up on the streets right as we push them out of the areas that are in the woods that are off of the streets, and I guess my question and maybe this, maybe we need to try to get somebody from Washington State Department of Transportation here so we can get a straight answer because there's some agreement with was DOD and the city of Tacoma and maybe if there's a city of Tacoma staff they can kind of update us on that but anybody who's then been down peolpe Avenue and seen 705 parking lots on the east in the west side or the north in the south side, they're filling up with tents, they're filling up with vehicles are V's, and I guess the question is, is that they have their hygiene center there. Is that a safe place for people to go, because if it is, then we need to start directing people there. And if it's not, then what's the plan for that right I think that there's this, we're all left in this kind of no man's land of from an outreach point of what do we tell people and I think we need some direction from the city if that's they're showing us that that's a safe site. So if that's the safe site and let's start using that as a safe site.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Colin. So if folks have other thoughts on this, please do drop them in the chat, I think we're gonna move on in the agenda. The next item that we have queued up is Garrett wanted to talk about a number of appointments. If he was ready to do that today.

Gerrit Nyland

If not, again, but we can do that if we want to push more on the agenda or yeah well. So, essentially what we have left on today's agenda is some space for good of the order announcements, and then I've added a new standing section at the end of the meeting to kind of reflect on what we've heard in today's meeting and just have some general discussion. Maureen I see your hand up.

Maureen Howard

So, I'm with Garrett, we can move that item, I think to another week but I just wanted to frame it for people to think about what we're trying to do is expand people's opportunities to engage in advocacy. And these are some really easy ways to serve as a liaison between the coalition, and a number of state or national groups that I have been holding that relationship for the coalition, basically. And so there



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really, there's room easily for a dozen people, and, and more. So, we can think about this, you know a little bit more answer questions that people might have, in some cases it's really simple. It's like committing to following one national call a week, so you can pick the topic that you're most interested in. And that fits your schedule, and even if you can't make the call. Most of these are recorded. So I just think if we just give it a little time talk with, you know, your colleagues, we, we want to diversify our engagement, and we want to we've got a commitment to diversifying beyond people who look like me. So this is a great free opportunity might cost an hour a week, and maybe an hour to prepare or process or share. So it can be really focused really limited you can look for things that fit the work you're already doing or your agency is doing. So,

Rob Huff

One thing that might be good is, is if we could send a list of those opportunities to the mailing list with maybe a little bit of context of what is involved with each of them. That might give folks a bit of time to ponder and Garrett sorry I interrupted you

Gerrit Nyland

or hurt right now I'll definitely do that Robin, I was gonna say, this can be an opportunity for an agency to sort of kill two birds with one stone. If your agency would benefit from having somebody on those calls which the state one absolutely national one, probably, you know, you can have a staff member, develop their professional skills, keep your organization informed and also keep the general community in the coalition and, you know via the coalition informed about what's going on. So, again, think about think about that opportunity for your agency as well as for the coalition.

Thank you Karen. So let's move on to things for the good of the order. I see Julian with his hand up promptly as I would have expected Julian.

Julian Wheeler

Yes, hi there. Thank you. This is Julian Wheeler just want to direct attention to the chat box I just dropped information. Our next regular session meeting of the Pierce County accessible communities Advisory Committee is Tuesday, July 13 At nine on Zoom, and for the foreseeable future. I anticipate that we will keep our meetings on Zoom, as indeed I certainly have benefited from the coalition meetings being on Zoom. So anyway, thank you very much. So we're looking for new members, new ideas, and we entered, we actually are eagerly awaiting the response of the accessible communities subcommittee of the Governance Committee on our decision for the accessibility projects submitted through us by Garrett so thank you very much.

Carolyn Reed

Thank you, Julian, Carolyn. Thank you, Rob. I just want you to note, well first of all, I read the action plan, thank you for sharing that today. It was really good. At least that I felt it had a lot of things I was looking for in it. Other than emphasis on the fact that in order to implement such an ambitious plan. We're going to need sustainable funding. And I know there's a little bit of information in there that



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they're going to look at funding, but I'm a little afraid that they're going to rely on money that was coming out waste clicking on their computer, looking at art money that's coming out rather than how can we utilize the tools that we have available. As you know, I, couple of us are working on revenue for housing or trying to get the county to pass the 1/10 of 1% tax. So I dropped my email in the chat earlier. And we're starting to do some community engagement out on the east side, where Dave Morel and Honza Tiger's districts are because we believe that we have four votes we need five to get that tax approved, and it'd be a beautiful thing, if we could time. The funding approval with the presentation of this plan like, oh, you know, as a county rep they could say here's this very ambitious plan, and we're going to need funding and here's some funding that is at our fingertips, approved by the state for us to use. So we're doing research meetings in fact we're going to be talking with Marina on Monday. If anybody wants to get involved in that, that'd be great but if you want to just do a little thing that would really help. That would be to make comments in front of the county council, we'd like to do that every week if possible we need some new faces. We've even got bullet points, all you have to do is read the ones that mean something to you. So please reach out and just know that we really need to keep pressure on them to find a sustainable funding stream that they can leverage. John Heinz is my representative, and you know that ch como Purvis tax, and in his newsletter, he said. The city is leveraging \$16 on every dollar that they're putting in, so do the math, I mean if the county did this, you could actually build all the sustainable housing that you need. And that, that's a pretty big deal.

Thank you. Thank you Carolyn. And if you do want to have some additional folks at your meetings, go ahead and drop the information about the meeting in the chat as well. All right, anybody else with I items for the good or the order that you think though, the group would benefit from hearing.

Al Ratcliffe

Well, I just want to let the group know that I have decided to retire. And my retirement date will be June 3 It's been a pleasure being with all of you. Carry on, pal. I think well believe it when we see it. Thank you.

Kevin Glackin-Coley

I just want to retire from unpaid ongoing tribute contributions to the whole community I haven't quite figured that out yet

Julian Wheeler

how when changes what one does. Retire sister word. I'm just kidding.

All right, anybody else was items for the good of the order before we move to our next item.

Rob Huff

All right, so the last item that I wanted to add to our agenda going on is just a opportunity to hear from anybody who would like to share about how they've felt during today's meeting how went, what worked,



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what didn't, and what should we be doing differently next week. So just open the floor. Thank you for your comment in the chat totally rosemary.

Rosemary Powers

I just like to say I was really appreciative of James presentation of helping us see what's happening his programs are developing and changing, and I just recommend that we ensure we hear from different groups on a regular basis and that kind of way we used to do that a lot more when we met in person. And I'd encourage us to make sure that we see what everybody is doing to try to work on the same goal.

Colin DeForest

Thank you, rosemary, call on. Yeah, I guess kind of to your question that you just asked I think one of the challenges is always getting people to share their voice. And I'm just, I'm just curious if there's strategies that anybody has that they could drop in the chat or anything to, and I think rosemary, maybe touched on some of the, but it's just that outreach engagement to some, some of the underserved populations that don't make it to me, and I know at some point I struggle with, You know it's a tough nut to crack, and I'm, and I think it's definitely a nut that can be cracked but I'm just curious, obviously we're missing something. And I'm just curious and also to whoever has been talking I know there's the group or some of these recommendations or whatever coming down from and I'm wondering if there's been any strategies I know people in that group have been involved in other coalition's like the, the county one and I'm wondering if, if this is a common theme that some groups are very challenging to get engaged in I'm or if they've been more successful in places like Kane County in, and if so, what What strategies did they use, and what has worked, because I'm hoping that that's some of what we're getting out of some of those meetings.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Colin. I'm checking the chat here. And I do recognize these meetings are definitely different. When we are all little boxes on screen rather than real flesh and blood human beings sitting around the table unable to talk to each other, especially at the ends of the meetings.

I know these last 1516 months have been challenging, and it's awfully easy to forget that human connection.

Rob Huff

So I appreciate the fact that we still have 60 to 80 people a week who show up to these meetings, I think I think Garrett said last, last week's meeting we had 90 Some individuals here for at least a portion of the meeting. But our hope is that we can create a safe space for everybody to feel like they can speak up, And, and that the conversation is not just dominated by

by some of us, so do others have reflections that they'd like to share.



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Rob Huff

Well I'm going to also drop my email in the chat. If people do have reflections that they'd prefer to share individually rather than in the full group. I do appreciate folks who've offered comments in the chat as well I know it's not always comfortable to speak on camera. So, so thank you and hopefully we can have some robust conversations during this portion of the meeting, going forward. We've got about five minutes left on our agenda today if anybody has any last minute, last minute items that they want to bring up. If not, I want to wish everybody. Happy Friday a safe weekend and hopefully you'll be back next Friday. All right. And for folks who want to hang out and help with scheduling items for the next couple of meetings, we'll do that here. For anybody who has the ability to say, we'll start in about five minutes.