



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

Friday Coalition Meeting – Chat – June 18th, 2021

00:20:33 - Maureen Howard: - Gerrit will be late

00:23:25 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Jan the community organizer :)

00:24:16 - Laurie Davenport: - Jan!!

00:24:20 - Christine Lindquist: - Way to go, Jan!

00:24:52 - Jenny Lorton: - ★★☆☆☆ for Jan!!!!

00:25:20 - CC Mendoza: - Jan you ROCK!

00:25:28 - Pamm Silver: - Hello CC and gold stars for Jan

00:28:17 - Kevin Roberts: - I will ask if Elliott Bagwell ARNP is available to visit the young woman at 14th and Yakima.

00:28:59 - Rob Huff (he/him): - Thank you, Kevin!

00:29:20 - Maureen Howard: - Do we have a 24/7 media “alert” for folks in encampments? Can we map out the various medical response and care?

00:29:50 - Haili Crow: - <3 Kim

00:30:28 - Maureen Howard: - So is the City going to sweep 69th & Proctor before setting up the tiny house village?

00:30:35 - Alan Brown: - The pregnant woman can also use the family day center at 5050 South Tacoma away.

00:31:16 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Why are people already camping at the site not simply allowed to stay?

00:32:01 - Rob Huff (he/him): - Maureen and Theresa, those are the questions I have had about 69th and Proctor all along. It has been in use all of this time.

00:32:30 - Rob Huff (he/him): - COALITION MEETING NORMS

Zoom Norms

Mute yourself when not talking.

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

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

00:32:43 - Rob Huff (he/him): - Community Norms

Lead with a racial equity lens.

Be aware of power dynamics.

Challenge concepts, not people.

Listen to learn.

One person speaks at a time.

Speak from your own experience.

Make space, take space.

Assume best intentions and take responsibility for impact.

Be aware of time and agenda.

00:37:46 - Maureen Howard: - We need to be sure the medical issues are included in the Shelter Work Group and the Comp Plan Steering Committee...the breadth of issues and a description of solutions plus ask for community engagement around medical - the “official” system and the volunteers.

00:37:57 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Lauren - this is great work - thank you!

00:38:47 - Janet Runbeck: - Gerrit Nyland represents the Coalition at Lauren's steering committee

00:39:22 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - The University of Puget Sound physical therapy program would be a good partner



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- 00:40:15 - Haili Crow: - Patients get dropped off at the mission still in medical gowns often, its horrible.
- 00:40:28 - Maureen Howard: - Depending on Gerrit's final relationship with Pierce County around the Comprehensive Plan to End Homelessness, we may have to look for some other folks to pick up certain Coalition responsibilities. I've asked him to make a list!
- 00:40:31 - Ben Miksch: - If you are really interested in Medicaid billing, and want to learn more, we worked on a white paper in partnership with the National Health Care for the Homeless Council that we put out a few years ago that dives into it: <https://www.uhccommunityandstate.com/articles/financing-approaches-for-medical-respite-care.html>
- 00:41:52 - Reanna Bettencourt: - I apologize, I have a mandatory training meeting that is going to cut through my update time. Sharing our Vaccine webpage where you can find all the latest clinic days and times. Free transportation options. Anyone can call our call center number and get set up to get vaccinated.
<https://www.tpchd.org/healthy-people/diseases/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine-information>

Outreach Flyer:

COVID Vaccine Info. Flyer-Large Print

<https://www.tpchd.org/home/showdocument?id=8835>

If you have any questions about vaccine or education materials, please email me at:
rbettencourt@tpchd.org

- 00:42:00 - Maureen Howard: - 69th & Proctor - if anyone has any official notice that people have to leave the site by the end of June - please share.
- 00:42:01 - Haili Crow: - I don't think its yalls hospital :) The work you are doing sounds fantastic
- 00:43:21 - CC Mendoza: - I have to leave shortly for a bit.
- 00:43:37 - Keith Helmka, Virginia Mason Franciscan Health: - Thanks Haili
- 00:45:39 - Maureen Howard: - "In Home" Care in Encampments? My Medicare provider offers in-home doctor's visits...
- 00:46:43 - Ben Miksch: - Maureen - I am super interested in that concept! But I don't know the first thing about what the issue is into getting Home Care into places that aren't considered "houses." Not sure how much of it is legal, how much of it is money - but, like I said, really interested in learning
- 01:04:02 - Christine Lindquist: - Room 5:
- 01:04:50 - Kristin Ely: - housing is healthcare
- 01:05:45 - Stacey Soltoff: - need for a pet foster care program; dental care, diabetic wound care; anxiety; substance use/abuse treatment; training for homelessness providers to know what the signs & symptoms of various conditions are... what do we don't know that we don't know?
- 01:06:20 - Ben Miksch: - Issues that we see:
- Hard to get people into housing, hard to get them into jobs, especially people with criminal records.
 - Seeing dozens of seniors who have been housed stably, but then the landlord is kicking them out, and now they don't know what to do. Usually on SSI, with limited income (\$700-\$900/mo) and complex medical needs.

What can the coalition do?

- Convene people together
- Share information about how to navigate programs and services



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- Identify issues and gaps
- Advocate for solutions and resources

A focus on senior care specifically, especially home caregiving services.

01:07:06 - Andrea Kelley: - Needs:

- - Wound care and sepsis.
- - Lack of prenatal care.
- - Mental health needs – making referrals to facilities and outreach teams, historically difficult to get admissions (has improved recently). Stabilization needs to occur first. Outreach must individually build connections with facilities but have concerns that they will overuse resources and get told no. Wellfound and Park Place have been receiving referrals from TRM.

- - Overdoses/withdrawal

What can we as a coalition do?

- - Broaden the system and provider network. Instead of relying on individuals to build singular connections and find a contact person. The coalition to build connections between systems to complement people building relationships.
- - Utilize homeless listserv.

01:07:29 - Maureen Howard: - Room 1 - we're doing this individually. People experiencing homelessness need doulas...someone to walk with them all the time, all the way, bridging their real life to whatever medical needs the person has; how to keep prescriptions within their required temperature, being able to read the Rx instructions and follow - some need food/some no food, etc. A 24/7 back up with some authority to intervene when there are difficulties in hospital Emergency Rooms.

01:08:19 - Christine Lindquist: - Room 5: St. Vincent de Paul provides motel vouchers for folks with a medical need such as people being discharged from the hospital. Need far exceeds capacity. Common concerns and frequent problems are loss of meds/tent/sleeping bag/partner/pet/other belongings. Primary referrals are through 2-1-1, Seamar and other providers.

01:08:23 - Stephanie Schermerhorn: - Two full baths is what he is saying!

01:09:22 - Christine Lindquist: - Sorry - Who runs this day center?

01:09:28 - Rob Huff (he/him): - CCS

01:09:30 - Stephanie Schermerhorn: - CCS

01:11:33 - Haili Crow: - Room 6: I tried my best to get it all down, but I know I didn't do justice to Alan, Collin, and Paulina's stories

Paulina: woman lying in back alley in hospital gown in the dead of winter close to dead. Also, a need for managing chronic disease, his feel is so bad, and Elliot came to help. His leg is hard all the way up to the knee, he has been told they will amputate his feet if he goes to the hospital, so there is a fear of going. New Hope had to wheel him into the ADA unit, he had no control of his bowels. He is driving without shoes and will not go to the hospital.

There is also a vet who showed up yesterday who was staying in safe parking, he was staying in his truck, but it was stolen. His leg is badly infected to the point of oozing and he now must walk everyone due to his truck being stolen.

Alan: Families need for access to drug treatment and behavioral health.

Haili: Man, who has chronic health problems but is afraid of the hospital due to be treated unfairly.

This is commonly seen for our clie

01:11:50 - Kristin Ely: - Is there a kids area? Do you need donations like books or crafts or small furniture to accomodate young ones at the space?



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- 01:11:59 - Timothy Harris: - Room 7 notes: Everyone in group agrees there is huge need for “Clinics Without Borders” approach that goes to where people are. People avoid getting healthcare because of experience with poor treatment in medical settings. People are afraid of stuff getting stolen while they’re gone. People are often living in street communities that look out for each, and we should work with rather than against that. “These are human beings that have not lived in the environments we have and it’s unrealistic to think they’d respond as we would. They need to be with their people. People appreciate being talked to like normal human beings: tased with, not at.” It’s a process and people need regular contact with mental health and medical professionals.
- 01:12:02 - Haili Crow: - Room 6 continued: who are experiencing homelessness. As soon as either 425 S Tacoma Way is seen, or Nativity House address there is different treatment.
- Paulina: A man in his mid-30’s who has dialysis 3x/week and is also on methadone. He is constantly on the move because that is how he must get to all his appointments.
- Paulina: Need for respite care for families if one caretaker is in the hospital. Where do other family members go?
- Alan: Olive Crest is an option
- Collin: Overall:
- - Safe space
 - - Access
 - - Place for animals (Foster care?! Partnership with Humane Society?)
 - - Storage!
- 01:12:39 - Stephanie Schermerhorn: - Individual meeting rooms for walk-in CE and meetings for other programs
- 01:13:02 - Lauren Tomich: - A couple living in car parked in a friend’s driveway, patient on dialysis and doing night dialysis run in his car by friend allowing them to run an electrical cord from the house to the car. Many have medical needs requiring equipment. Homeless pregnant women with no plans for when they delivered the baby. Will respite allow this population? Poor f/u with medical visits and supportive social resourcing People need medical care but not wanting to leave their partner, pets, or possessions. Homeless delaying elective surgery but surgeon won’t schedule as they are homeless.
- 01:13:14 - Maureen Howard: - Alan - Spanish speaking staff?
- 01:13:43 - Stephanie Schermerhorn: - 8 meeting rooms.
- 01:14:12 - KIMBERLY ELLEFSON: - GREAT
- 01:14:26 - Christine Lindquist: - Fantastic space!
- 01:15:00 - Stephanie Schermerhorn: - 5050 S Tacoma Way.
- 01:15:17 - Timothy Harris: - correction to rm 7 notes. “talked with, not “tased with.” :-)
- 01:15:26 - Dana Peterson: - Elvia and Jennifer K are CE Specialists who speak Spanish.
- 01:16:44 - Rachel Ahrens: - Room # 6 (I think)
- 01:17:48 - Rob Huff (he/him): - Maureen, one question I have is whether a new web page for the Comp Plan group and the Shelter Workgroup exists yet?
- 01:18:05 - Richard Berghammer: - the notes are on the site
- 01:18:21 - Rob Huff (he/him): - Thank you, Richard. If you have a link that could be shared, that would be great!
- 01:18:53 - Marie Ford: - Room 11:
- Medical needs- treatment for injection related infections, severe abscesses, hygiene , injuries related to violence, mental health concerns, need for access to bathrooms, diabetes, hydration, foot care (especially with the elderly), people being released from hospitals early because of severe mental health concerns, feminine hygiene, need for socks. Hygiene stations have been set up, but there is not



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a lot of upkeep, so they get dirty and it becomes a health concern.

What we can do: Come in without judgement so that people feel comfortable accessing treatment or assistance. The Nativity House brings in wound care nurses, but often the care is too intensive to treat at The Nativity House. The Tacoma Needle Exchange has a free clinic that treats injection related infections.

- 01:20:27 - Rob Huff (he/him): - As a reminder, please keep yourself on mute if you are not speaking during the meeting. It helps ensure everyone can hear the presenter clearly. Thank you!
- 01:22:41 - Al Ratcliffe: - In the proposed budget, will the "Medical" line item include Dental?
- 01:23:14 - Rachel Ahrens: - Room #6 notes - here's what we have noticed. 1. we lose people to getting medical care because it takes so long to be treated. Having patience to wait to be treated is difficult to understand. If there was an advocate to explain the process, it would help. 2. there's also the need for an advocate after they have received care. An advocate and follow-up program is needed. 3. Transportation is another barrier. If the facility is far from where they are staying it is difficult for a person to leave where they are staying. They don't know if they'll get a ride back to their home.
- 01:25:19 - Mike Boisture: - The next Shelter Plan Workshop will be next Thursday, June 24th @ 2:00 – 4:00. You can participate as a guest. If you have anything I need to bring into the workshop discussions. My email is mboisture@outlook.com, please email.
- 01:25:50 - Maureen Howard: - My email is mhoward@pchomeless.org
- 01:27:37 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Thank you Maureen - glad to have you representing the coalition in this
- 01:29:34 - Maureen Howard: - Just Cause is 1236
- 01:29:39 - Rosemary Powers: - Group 10: problems identified: major medical problems as wound care, diabetes issues, foot care, storage of insulin. Trauma experience prior to and during experience of homelessness. Resource lacks include access to basic medical supplies for street medic groups. Need gauze for wound care, antibiotics, other basic supplies. Transportation to/fro medical care is a problem, and continued need for coordination and to assist those who do not trust institutional medical care. Individuals' experience of treatment at hospitals also can be big problem, as directive from Dtr to take a daily shower may lead to patient agreeing to do that rather than admit they have no access to showers, plus being discharged to the street rather than to an appropriate housing place. From shared housing group, noticing that numerous people seeking housing have diabetes and/or heart problems that do not seem to be receiving adequate treatment. suggested coalition actions follow.
- 01:29:46 - Rosemary Powers: - Group 10 continued:
- 01:30:04 - Maureen Howard: - Right to Counsel is 5160
- 01:31:43 - Maureen Howard: - Valeri - re No rental assistance to landlords who do any evictions....can you give us any more information? Will there be a list?
- 01:32:20 - Valeri Knight: - what do you mean Maureen? a list of those landlords that do evict?
- 01:32:33 - Rosemary Powers: - Group 10: Coalition actions —could lobby with hospitals and other medical services to provide some basic medical supplies to street medics; advocate with hospital discharge planners and others to coordinate with service providers for after care; continue lobbying with city/county to ensure attention to medical/behavioral health needs of currently unhoused residents as the public plans and funding options for housing for extremely low income are developed.
- 01:32:38 - Maureen Howard: - Valeri - yes - ones that you won't fund as a result.
- 01:32:46 - Verna Lilly: - Thank you!
- 01:33:13 - Valeri Knight: - let me take a look and see what i can do to track that



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- 01:33:47 - Maureen Howard: - Laurie - can you do a series of education/information videos for non-legal folks - that staff can just view when they need to? Like the Kahn Academy on these tenant protections?
- 01:34:20 - Laurie Davenport: - Tacomaprobono Housing Justice Project, Right to Counsel (253) 572-5134 xt. 102 hjp@tacomaprobono.org www.tacomaprobono.org
- 01:34:56 - Christine Lindquist: - Thank you for this work, Laurie.
- 01:34:57 - Maureen Howard: - So much of the national conversation is about rental assistance money NOT getting out...it is great to have Valeri, Laurie, and others...
- 01:36:20 - Laurie Davenport: - Valeri is a total rock star — Pierce County is getting it done!
- 01:36:47 - Maureen Howard: - Valeri - need to link the youth with Ed Jacobs at Nativity House - Lakewood Players is doing Godspell based in a youth shelter
- 01:36:56 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Valeri - wish you didn't have to take your laptop but have a great camping trip anyway!
- 01:37:50 - Rob Huff (he/him): - Reanna Bettencourt to Everyone (9:22 AM)
I apologize, I have a mandatory training meeting that is going to cut through my update time. Sharing our Vaccine webpage where you can find all the latest clinic days and times. Free transportation options. Anyone can call our call center number and get set up to get vaccinated.
<https://www.tpchd.org/healthy-people/diseases/covid-19/covid-19-vaccine-information>

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rbettencourt@tpchd.org

- 01:38:00 - Julian F. Wheeler,PC-ACACchair(he/his): - Hey Valeri. Tell Bigfoot that Julian says Hi. :-)
- 01:39:01 - Julian F. Wheeler,PC-ACACchair(he/his): - Let's commit together to make Pierce County more accessible for everyone, including, but not limited to, people with disabilities. And not only for PWD's as customers and constituents, but also as potential leaders, managers, department heads, and even elected officials.

All are invited to our next regular session of the Pierce County Accessible Communities Advisory Committee (PC-ACAC) is on-line on Tuesday, July 13th, at 9 am. We are looking for new members and new ideas.

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

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

- 01:42:06 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Registration for the SS4A meetings (Monday's @ noon) is just one or two clicks - everyone is welcome, link to the meeting is on coalition website <https://www.pchomeless.org>
- 01:42:25 - Alan Brown: - Acknowledgements for the CCS-Family Housing Network Day Center: Christ Episcopal Church provided furnishings and décor for the meeting rooms and lobby. MDC (thanks Rob!) provided temporary digs during the remodel.
- 01:42:44 - Laurie Davenport: - I need to leave to look at new space, thank you and don't hesitate to contact us with questions. My e-mail is vls@tacomaprobono.org.
- 01:42:57 - Rob Huff (he/him): - Great improvements for our community, Alan!



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- 01:43:42 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Hi friends in larger organizations (and Maureen) New Connections would like to partner on housing.
- 01:47:05 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - We are also interested in collaborating with other small-but-mighty organizations
- 01:50:38 - Rosemary Powers: - Maureen: Great info, and also very important point about the need to ensure the coalition's voice is strongly represented in developing responsible policy.
- 01:51:22 - Laureen Tomich: - Great work everyone. You are amazing! Please contact me if you have any input on the medical respite project or reach out to Jan Runbeck or Gerrit Nyland.
- 01:51:50 - Laureen Tomich: - . Laureen@elevatehealth.org 253-290-1905
- 01:52:03 - Rob Huff (he/him): - Thanks to you, Laureen!
- 01:53:07 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Thank you Maureen!
- 01:55:14 - Christine Lindquist: - Thank you, Maureen! Amazing information.
- 01:56:19 - Rob Huff (he/him): - I leave the meeting in Gerrit's hands, since I need to run an errand. Thank you for everyone's energy this morning, and Happy Juneteenth tomorrow!
- 01:56:27 - Ben Miksch: - I am not a lawyer - but! - I had a conversation with the fine folks over at the National Housing Law Project about how to distribute vouchers in a way that affirmatively furthers fair housing but doesn't run afoul of either Fair Housing or the Civil Rights Act, and am happy to share what I learned with anyone who is interested about their recommendations on how to thread that needle.
- 01:57:25 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Rise Center Rocks!
- 01:59:31 - KIMBERLY ELLEFSON: - Unfortunately they have nowhere to take there stuff and if they did have a place to take it no way to get it there.
- 02:00:14 - KIMBERLY ELLEFSON: - What ever happened to the locks and socks pilot program years ago. it was very minimal storage but it was a tiny storage available
- 02:01:30 - Kevin Roberts: - Greater Christ Temple Church on 19th and G owns much of the property on that Block. They also own the Oasis of Hope Community Center and they are currently looking to use this property to provide services that will be beneficial to the community.
- 02:02:39 - Wolf Cook: - food not bombs had served the 509 camp for over a year. We helped folks find trucks to move their trailers and brought a moving truck to help other folks relocate.
- 02:03:44 - Maureen Howard: - Wolf - hope you can join us Monday
- 02:04:30 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Kevin- the GCTC is my neighbor - and neighbor to the entire G Street Community. Would be delighted to chat about what both of these groups are doing and how we might collaborate/support you. tpdutis@nctacoma.org
- 02:06:45 - Wolf Cook: - I have to go if you'd like to get in touch with food not bombs Tacoma our facebook page is the best way to do that you can also contact me directly at wolfforthepeople@gmail.com myself or another comrade from our organizing team should be showing up to the Monday meeting.
- 02:07:12 - Colin DeForrest: - Thank you Wolf!
- 02:09:27 - Cynthia Stewart: - I volunteer for the National Low Income Housing Coalition, legislative work group and state/local implementation working group, plus FEMA if no one else volunteers for that
- 02:12:36 - Christine Lindquist: - So, the group is looking for people to liaise with these groups?
- 02:12:44 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Yes
- 02:13:54 - Christine Lindquist: - I'll take the Healthcare for the Homeless National Council.
- 02:14:56 - Janet Runbeck: - Thanks Christine!
- 02:16:52 - Julian F. Wheeler,PC-ACACchair(he/his): - Let's commit together to make Pierce County more accessible for everyone, including, but not limited to, people with disabilities. And not only for PWD's



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as customers and constituents, but also as potential leaders, managers, department heads, and even elected officials.

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Happy Fathers Day Weekend.

02:17:46 - KIMBERLY ELLEFSON: - I took part in the initial move from 6th ave. This was traumatizing for the residents. they are working on making significant changes in their lives and moving them is that disrupts the community connections they are making

02:18:53 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Great letter Maureen!

02:22:50 - Janet Runbeck: - Will anyone pick up the full garbage bags?

02:23:04 - Christine Lindquist: - Excellent meeting, Very impressive group.

02:23:07 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Great breakout session and Jan did a great job of gathering the medical crew together

02:23:24 - Jeffrey Boyce: - So far the City is contracting it out

02:23:43 - Jeffrey Boyce: - About once a week

02:24:03 - Stacey Soltoff: - thanks everyone! it was very informative & inspiring!