



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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Friday Coalition Meeting – Transcript

Homeless Coalition Friday Meeting

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SPEAKERS

Sarah, Julian Wheeler, Jeffrey Boyce, Jim Warnock, Jennie Schoeppe, Gerrit Nyland, Johnathon, Kasey Burton, Kejuan Woods, Roxy Magno, Rob Huff, Theresa Power-Drutis, Christina, Harold, Rosemary Powers, Mike Boisture, Valeri Knight, Colin DeForest, Karin Irwin, Catherine, Maureen Howard, Wolf, Jody Ferguson, Sarah Williamson

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Rosemary Powers

Good morning everyone. I wanted to honor the work of the people who are at People's Park today was Homeless Connect, and with the hire 253 I found one of my favorite poems by March Percy and American poet called to be of use and I want to honor them by reading that they won't hear it of course unless they come back and listen to the transcript but here it is, the people I love the best jump into work headfirst without dallying in the shallows and swim off was sure strokes almost out of sight. They seem to become natives of that element. The black sleek heads of seals bouncing like half submerged balls. I love people who harness themselves and ox to a heavy cart, who pull like water buffalo with massive patients who strain in the mud and the muck to move things forward, who do what has to be done, again, and again, I want to be with people who submerge in the task, who go into the fields to harvest and work in a row, and pass the bags along, who are not parlor generals and feel deserters, but move in a common rhythm within the food must come in or the fire be put out. The work of the world is common, as mud botched it smears the hands crumbles to dust. But the thing worth doing. Well done, has a shape that satisfies clean and evident, Greek and for us for wine or oil Hopi vases that held corn are put in museums, but you know they were made to be used. The pitcher cries for water to carry, and a person for work that is real. So welcome to our opportunity to be of use with one another and with the people who are most in need of support and recognition for the valiant lives they live in the midst of real dangerous situations. So, to remind everyone, I think I recognize almost everyone here, but we do have a set of norms for our use of zoom just to keep ourselves muted when we're when we're not speaking And to keep our videos off when we are doing other tasks, but to encourage everyone to have a video on as much as possible for our interactions. Also, we ask that you use a raise hand feature on the



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Zoom, or if you don't get recognized wave about madly that would be a good way to get attention to in terms of our interactions we have focused on a number of things that we need to pay special attention to, to lead with equity and figure out what exactly that means. It's not a specific practice that's described in that norm but it's, it's an of quality that we want to assure ourselves to pay attention to, and to be aware of power dynamics, thinking about when we speak and how often we speak and encouraging others to speak. So with that, if there's anyone here who is here for the first time, or is returning after some time away, it'd be great to have a brief introduction to let us know that you're here. But what group you may represent. So if you are new, just unmute yourself and let us know.

Jim Warnock

Hi, I'm Jim Warnock I'm the, the vicar at All Saints Episcopal Church in Tacoma.

Rosemary Powers

Welcome Jim I know you from another context so welcome to us. League of Women Voters.

Sarah Williamson

Hello I'm via phone. I'm not new but I'm returning from maternity leave, My name is Sarah Williamson from Tacoma rescue mission.

Rosemary Powers

Welcome back, Sarah, it's great to have you.

Sarah Williamson

Thank you.

Karin Irwin

Morning, I am Karen Irwin I'm from the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department with the communications team, happy to be here and rosemary I'm going to be looking up that poem because it was beautiful. Thank you for that great way to start the Friday.

Rosemary Powers

Well good morning and welcome Peter. Thank you. Well, if you are new and you haven't introduced yourself yet we will have an opportunity later in the time together to have conversation with a few other people so hopefully you'll meet some of us make connections and if you are interested in your actions but don't have very many contacts with us yet, you can request that by using the chat and in fact we use to chat for continuing conversations and to make announcements, it is retained so you can save it at the end and have immediate access to the information there. So with that I'll turn it back to you, Rob.

Rob Huff

Thank you, rosemary, so let's get started with our regular weekly segment segment about this week on the streets. So, for those who are joining us for the first time. This is a segue, excuse me, a segment where we ask people who are doing direct outreach, and those who have houseless people living in their neighborhoods to share what they're seeing on the street. What has changed this week, and, and anything that they think would be pertinent to the group of advocates and providers who are in today's meeting to know. So I open the floor again if you want to use the raise hand function or raise your physical hand. I see one hand up now. Go ahead and share what you have to say. So I'm sorry I don't remember your name on the phone.



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Sarah Williamson

Sorry, I'm Sarah Williamson from TRM.

Rob Huff

Thank you, sir.

I wanted to give a brief update so far at the mission. We've had about five different successful move outs that I wanted to share on a call today. We've had about two or three veterans going into the ording tiny home program. We've had three people to my knowledge, get tickets to go back to their homes out of state, and we just had another individual move into a nursing facility.

Rob Huff

That is great news. All right, thank you for sharing that Sarah wolf I see your hand up,

Wolf

warning everyone pepper is doing well, I'm Wolf from the service people program, we were serving around hilltop this week on Tuesday and Wednesday was actually our first week serving, being an operation fully. We got a chance to talk to people, hand out some important supplies. Mostly around hilltop, we talked to folks that the eighth in Yakima encampment, where the sweep is going to be on this Tuesday. It seems like a few people were getting connected with shelter beds and a few people have plans to move but a lot of folks did not have any plans on where to go yet. So we're planning on being there on Monday and Tuesday morning to help people move, we're in whatever capacity we can do that. The other big thing that we talked to folks about is that, as they say, winter is coming. And it's starting to get cold and people are getting cold and they don't have. They need tarps and other supplies keep rain out of their shelters. They need better sleeping bags blankets, warm clothes jackets. So we're going to be doing a warm clothes drive to help collect some of those items but that's definitely something we can think about tarps is a big one. That's hard to get donated because not a lot of people have just extra tarps laying around. But they're really important for keeping rain out of tents. Other than that, you know it's going to be a lot of work, especially with this sweep coming to help folks move. If you'd like to support us, you can donate on over Venmo it's STV underscore to come up. Anyways thanks y'all.

Rob Huff

Thank you. Well, Jeffrey.

Jeffrey Boyce

Last night I was up at the 11th and Yakimov site, they are going through the sweep this morning, there were four campers there. After some long conversations with the for each one of them found an encampment that they will be moving to and some have moved last night. I haven't heard anything yet this morning. I will swing by there. After this meeting.

Rob Huff

Thank you. Thank you, Jeffrey Roxy.

Roxy Magno

Morning everybody. So I wanted to share about our next homeless outreach resource event that we've been doing so this will be our third event since we became one of the homeless street outreach teams



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with Pierce County. So we'll be doing it the last Tuesday a month and from now on to actually we will just be doing it the last Tuesday of every month, going forward, anyways, and we hold it at the Tacoma Recovery Center, or a lot of people know it as the recovery Cafe on Ninth and MLK, and this, these past two ones we've usually just go around to the local encampments within walking distance and invite everyone to dinner. And so we'll do like a nice barbecue and then we have all brand new clothes set out all of our resources from our agency, usually like cell phones and just in like hygiene things and stuff like that. But this next one will be a vaccine clinic. So we'll have all three vaccines. The health department's going to provide us with those home testing kits too so we'll be able to do them at the recovery Cafe maybe not that same day, but be a site to be able to do that, and then still waiting to hear back up the mobile showers will be there, and then we'll still have our like shopping center and hygiene kits and everything. And so we were having all three vaccines, being present, the health department I were talking about not wanting to take away the autonomy of folks being able to choose which vaccine, they would like. Even though the Johnson Johnson makes the most sense, because it's a one shot I don't want to make that decision for folks and decided something vaccine going to be there, tentatively they are planning on bringing 50 vaccines. If we need more, then they can accommodate that it's just we didn't want to over prepare for the amount of shots gonna be there and then have them be exposed to being wasted or anything so feel free, I'll put my contact in the chat too so if anyone wants to reach out specifically if they have any feedback from folks of knowing like more Pfizer materna Johnson, like if anyone knows that information that's really helpful. I'm sending my outreach workers out to go talk to folks specifically about that before next Tuesday. But yes, so if anyone would like to send their folks that way. It is open to the public. For anyone that would like to come we hold it in our parking lot too, so it's safe and outside. And yeah, it's been really good. It's in the in the evening as well so it's five to seven so it's right around like dinnertime, so that's how we kind of like phrase it is like Come have dinner with us.

Rob Huff

Fantastic, thank you Roxy. Morning. And you're muted.

Maureen Howard

Thank you. I have something good for everybody. And that we've got 240 of the \$50 cash cards for getting vaccinated people who are experiencing homelessness, those who are already distributed that match, they match vaccine clinics in shelters, including some day centers, and one outreach team right now. And we, because associated Ministries is waiving its indirect. On the \$50,000, Department of Health grant that we were awarded, we will be able, they're only instead of 70 \$500, they are only taking \$300 So, coupled with what we had in the grant for cash cards. And as your may know, we had staffing money in there but we've converted that to cash cards as well because John Rebecca and I are doing this along with her and Lillian and Christine Lin quits help working with the health department, and we will have an additional 210 cash cards to put out. So our hope is everything gets used by the end of September, and we're just matching up cash cards with key people at the clinics at shelters day centers, and outreach teams, so. Yeah, it's nice to have something hopeful.

Rob Huff

So thanks, Maureen. Fantastic and let's wrap up this week on the streets with Mike, moisture, real quick, just to follow up with Maureen, we're able to get testing done here at Beacon tested 19 People with all the negative, which was, it was, let me say it this way. A big prayer for me, because I didn't know what we're going to do if we had a positive. And so, I have communicated the \$50 gift card thing, and everybody's excited so we're gonna be doing vaccines on Monday at the hype center health department's going to be there so everybody wants a \$50 gift card, so. All right, so if anybody has



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anything else related to this week on the streets. Feel free to drop that in the chat has ended a reminder again Rosemary already mentioned it but that is an ongoing resource so please share anything that's that you think would be useful for the group in the chat as well. So the next item on our agenda is our regular weekly segment about introducing organizations so that we can make sure that coalition members can effectively connect with organizations in the community, and today we're featuring the multicultural Child and Family Hope Center and Roxy.

Roxy Magno

Morning. So I'm Roxy, I work at the multicultural Child and Family Hope Center is a primarily a nonprofit preschool and childcare center in the hilltop area so right in the heart of Tacoma, right across the street from DHS, and I've been on these coalition meetings for a while now, and we have started to really embed Homeless Prevention into our agencies so Maureen and I have been talking a lot more often, and it just kind of seemed fit to introduce what we're doing here, um, a lot of people don't know what we're doing and so we always kind of end are these little short talks with you just got to come here and see it and feel it, because it's very different than a lot of other centers so childcare centers aren't typically where you would think of to, you know, introduce and involve into the conversation around homelessness. But the programs that we have so we don't have just childcare, we have about 28 other programs as well under the multicultural. The Recovery Center is a coma recovery Cafe is one of our largest programs that people also are very familiar with. So, our childcare programs we have early headstart early EGAP which are our birth to three programs and our E cat program which is three to five or until they're ready for kindergarten. And so with those programs specifically we focus on families that are low income and so it is free preschool for families that are low income have high risk of vulnerability or have experienced CPS, or homelessness in the past. And so with us being a center that primarily focuses on that we are able to have our hands on interrupting trajectories for families and children because we know when they grow up in the foster care system, then more likely they will you know have a chance of experiencing homelessness or substance use and mental health crises or extra support. So with us being able to have our hands on the earliest years, we know that we are having, we're building foundations for folks. And then with that, we have a really interesting relationship with our families so we serve about 300 families out of our center. I am one of the families supports and so I'm like the first point of contact for a lot of families and families that typically especially families of color, typically do not trust systems inherently so with us being able to provide a very different feel so even like when I was sharing about the outreach event right I said that we go and we invite people to dinner. And so it's, it's naturally a family feel so when people talk with us they share about information that they would not always typically share with a system, right, so I hear a lot more often have families that are kind of hiding in homelessness, right, so a lot of people that have young children are not just openly out on the street, right so but they are very much experiencing housing instability and homelessness, but they're able and they are comfortable enough to share with us that is what they are currently experiencing, and don't have the fear of us calling CPS on them, because a lot of times that is what is stopping people from opening up to services because they are in fear that because they are homeless. They will also lose their children, and then I'm able to provide them the knowledge and education around that homelessness is actually not a credible reason to ever remove a child, and a lot of folks do not know that. And then we also get to know a lot of information around folks when they share about their status or on recovery or there's interaction with substances, because a lot of times that is definitely a topic that parents will not willingly share with the childcare center because of the fear of their child being removed again. So with us having that natural relationship with them, they know that they are able to share these things and that we come at a lens of prevention. So, with us having 28 programs. Some of the main ones are parenting classes so we have Triple P, which is, ironically usually only offered to folks after their child is removed and placed into CPS, the Triple P is actually



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tools of how to better interact with your child, so they don't get removed, but parents don't have access to it until they are removed, so it's a little bit backwards. So we were able to get our staff core group of us accredited through the health department with their initiative to try to have more agencies of color be represented and parenting class parenting classes, because I don't look like the typical person who you would think that would be running a parenting class for you. And so, we are able to offer that as a self referral or to our parents that we just know like hey, like we know your child really well we know you know your child really well so like we explained to them what Triple P is and then we're able to offer that to them without the fear of being involved in CPS. And so those kinds of things, because we know we keep a family together, more likely a family will stay housed. And then we also have programs like safe care where literally our, our safe care provider goes into the home and shows them how their environment can be safer, so that they will not end up in a CPS case. We also have that we have the recovery cafe or their Trauma Recovery Center, and then from that we created a recovery home for women and children. So that is located right behind our community hall it's tucked away and it's pretty quiet and a lot of people don't know about it because we kind of just stay low key about it it's, we haven't had any problems there. And we like to house women that are a little bit deeper in their recovery because we don't have a house mom in there. We don't have someone there all day long and people are more so in their independence, independent level there but we have had every mom that has lived there that a part of her journey has been to be reunified with her children has happened so we've had 100% success rate with women getting reunited with their children or keeping their children how in their homes and if they are fleeing domestic violence. So we have that home and then we also have a tiny house village that a lot of people don't know that we have. So we are a partner with Bates, and they, with their tool Center, which is now called the Tacoma job readiness program, and every quarter they were building a tiny house, and they were donating it to our center. And so we've been, that's been a program for about four years now, and since then we have had everyone exit out of our tiny house village into stable housing, we've housed everyone from a family that was, I think it was like seven people or so, which we don't ideally like to put in there but it was a very cold winter night right before Christmas time, and their option was either outside or outside of our daycare, and so we put them in a tiny house and we're able to get them house and then we've gone all the way to now we are actually housing all youth in the homes, which is a really cool, like vibe of the, the tiny house village now, and so they are able to overlap into all of our other programs now and so that's kind of what we do at multicultural is we see a need and then we see where someone can kind of waterfall into all of our other programs as well so they get that true wraparound service and it's not a, oh we know which provider in the community can offer you this support, we try to bring as much as we can to multicultural directly so that it's not this let wild goose chase of like I hope that this service works out for you, especially when people are vulnerable and increases state, asking someone to do a list of even just like free agencies is a lot. So we bring it to them within our case management instead and just become very very equipped case managers and navigators, so that we can be there and depending on the level of intensity that they need. We will hold their hand all the way to an appointment or give them the autonomy and have the independence, and be able to operate on their own, more so we have a youth mental health groups too so a lot of our programs do are going to be with the lens of how can we change the trajectory of the chance of them exiting the homelessness, eventually, or we are working with people that are directly homeless already so our youth mental health groups was a program that was started around an met victim's needs grant from the, from commerce, and then we have just kind of shaped it into our own spin on how mental health for especially youth of color should be approached. Because it is not always, it needs to be a clinical, you went through this crisis, or this trauma. And so therefore, now you need to have these meds and these counseling sessions. That is helpful and that is very needed but that's not always the full answer. So sometimes just having someone that looks like them or has shared a lived experience being a significant person in their life can go a very very long



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way. So when we talk about mental health, we share with them that even like going on a hike, that has mental health, if you are doing it with the right intentionality and the right purpose and with the right people that can be, you know, something very different. So we have a group that we pick up from the day center, and they go with us, and they have never even gone down to the waterfront before so us sitting around at the water and discussing traumas, was way more beneficial than then being told to clinically go speak to someone in talk therapy. Let's see where am I on time, Rob. My okay.

Rob Huff

So if you can wrap it up, that'd be great. Like, it's all great information.

Roxy Magno

So that's like our main programs really that'd be super relevant to this group, we do have our street outreach program like I had shared. So we are building that we are new to the game with like street outreach, we were, I think we received that grant because we do serve people so uniquely, and we have our touch on some of the people that are homeless that may not be like exactly who you think of and so we are still navigating that program and really getting like into it and the nitty gritty so all the advice is welcomed with like how to operate that well, I already put my information in the chat for how to get in contact with me and we're open to any kind of, you know partnerships and advice and moving forward like that, so

Rob Huff

fantastic. So, do you have a second for a question or two. Of course. Great. So, we'll start with Theresa.

Theresa Power-Drutis

Well, I never should have asked you to come and talk about it for five minutes right. Great information. And I have a question about the tiny houses, how many do you have.

Roxy Magno

So we have 12345 Yeah, we have five in front of our daycare and then we have two behind the recovery cafe.

Theresa Power-Drutis

Well I would be delighted to come and talk with you more about that sometime so I'll be in touch.

Roxy Magno

Yes, of course, and that's open to everybody, we always say you got to just like come here and you got to see it and feel it and Come dance with us, and get some joy, too, because a lot of people have been cooped up and have not had a lot of joy in our agencies over this past COVID experience so come dancing Raven hang out with a bunch of kiddos, changes your day,

Rob Huff

for sure. Christina, I see your hand up

Christina

right there Roxy, I'm from Tacoma the rescue mission at the shelter. I was just wondering, um, this is a question I have for like, All Programs, but like what your referral process is like. If the tiny homes are open to our open, like what their eligibility is for your program. And then also if it would be possible for



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us to like schedule for some families maybe to come or if we bring some families over would we who would we get ahold of to schedule like to have that happen like a bus full of socially distanced families. Right.

Roxy Magno

Yeah, so my contact is in the chat. I'm free to reach out to me directly, for any needs for referrals like that currently our tiny houses are all full, and the recovery home is full, which is great. We have also partnered a lot with the Adam Street to so with enrollment. So right now we're currently enrolling for preschool, so we have brought like an enrollment day to the Adam street shelter and so we'll just set up all day and hang out with families and enroll them into the preschool program. And if we have enough families out of the Adam street we've done transportation before so we'll provide our bus or our van, and we'll pick up the kiddos, from the Adam Street, and then drop them back off after school too, so we've done that in the past. And then, yeah, with anyone interested in any of our tiny houses or the recovery home. If you just reach out to me directly, I can send you the application and we hold everyone for even if we're full, and then we'll reach out when we know what we have available coming up and we'll just check in on people. We also use that as a way to just kind of have our hand on folks. And even if we don't have availability we'll reach back out just to see how people are doing, to let them know an agency is still here and present for them if they ever needed anything.

Christina

Thank you so much.

Rob Huff

And thank you Roxy for joining us again this morning and sharing so much. We may want to have you back for a longer segment at some point so really appreciate her sharing this morning,

Roxy Magno

of course, thank you and I'm going to have to hop off this call so as it happened to another Triple P call so thank you everybody.

Rob Huff

Have a great day. So let's shift to our next item in the agenda, and you'll recognize a familiar face in on the screen this morning because Garrett is back to join with Mike boys share to talk about the current status of the Pierce County shelter plan workgroup draft. I know the shelter plan workgroup met yesterday I was a fly on the wall for that meeting, and we wanted to make sure that folks are aware of where that work is at right now and then we will follow this up with a breakout session. Afterward, but I will turn over the floor to Mike, to get us started.

Mike Boisture

Thanks Rob. You just took all my notes and communicated them. So yes, I'm going to say that we had a very good meeting yesterday. I don't believe we've had a bad meeting. Garrett and Bree lead those meetings, and in my opinion we get a lot of things done, but based off of some of the meetings I've had people wanting to know more information. And so Garrett's got a meeting I believe it's at one o'clock with the steering committee. And so I was able to snag Garrett, for a little bit of time for this meaning to just bring us up to speed. From his leadership point of view. So then we're going to break into sessions Garrett I believe has a couple of questions that we're going to use. And then, I'm not going to take any more time Garrett, it's yours.



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Gerrit Nyland

Thank you, Mike. And Mike's Mike's been a steady hand on that committee so there's way I should know this seven committee members, most of them are pretty deep in the world of shelter operations. I'm going to do a presentation which they don't normally like to do, but I'm just going to kind of punch through a few items and then maybe we can have a brief question answer and. All right, you said 15 minutes Rob is that real or do I need to speed up.

Rob Huff

Yeah, that is fine, and, and then we'll follow up with 10 to 15 minutes of a breakout session.

Gerrit Nyland

Excellent. All righty, pretty pictures. This is obviously someone else's work in a PowerPoint presentation, minor never thematically composed this way, so. So we set all this in motion, right, we being the Homeless Coalition, and we talked, the county, into putting some real effort into a plan to end homelessness, and a effort to shelter everyone by November 1 praying. So, how is this different than other plans to end homelessness, right, this time we're not trying to do what's possible. We're not looking at making our systems work a little better, like we've had plans like that and they've been good, and we've done good things from them, but this one is different because we are looking at every need in the community around homelessness around homeless prevention, and putting a plan together in order to meet all that need, and we know that there's not enough money in the community now, but you don't get what you don't ask for. So the idea is we put this large plan together, figure out the funding needs, and then start aggressively working to get that funding from local government, state, federal philanthropic bake sales, everything's on the table. And the second effort is to get enough shelter for everybody by November 1, and I keep saying November 1 And I try to keep the straight face, but things move slow in the real world. So, we'll talk at the end about what we do have coming online by November 1, but spoiler alert, it sadly it's not going to be enough, but we're on a pathway to have more shelter than ever, and a pathway to get shelter to everybody. So that's, that's the story I'm telling. And then I believe that. So, you kind of have been paying attention to what we've been doing, we've been trying to get a good count that we all believe in, about how many people we need to shelter. So we're talking about 3300 people experiencing homelessness in Pierce County, like any number it's an approximation, I can argue it being lower or being higher but that's kind of where we're settling in at and we'll find out hopefully how close we are. And we have about 1000 shelter beds, so that means we have about 2300 people living unsheltered in Pierce County, and again we will find out how real that is as we roll shelter out. And I put all these words on these slides, it's like I need like 12 words on a slide and no more. I'll send you a copy of the slides. You guys know where our shelters are right, they are concentrated in Tacoma, we have some things like safe parking and pew Allah, yay, the people that make that happen. ording right that's kind of our outlier shelter that's just for veterans, willing to live clean and sober in ording, but an amazing facility if you've ever toured that site. It's, it's a tranquil place, and, and an important part of our system but really and the person who made this map didn't even put keeping insula on the map to have a chat with him about that. And so, you know, our Tacoma centric view extends in many ways. And then this is a map, which is an interesting one. And people are very careful about shelter data. So this is a map of known homeless encampments, from a couple of sources from the city of Tacoma mostly the City of Tacoma Public Works and from Pierce County Public Works. So these maroon and yellow dots are the different shelters, or different encampments that are out there. So when we talk about where to put shelter, like to jump back to our shelter map here. I think as a whole, we don't really want to have a bunch more shelter in downtown Tacoma, Right, it's much more appropriate that for a gazillion reasons we all know, to have shelter closer to where people come from. And the story that we need shelter near services is somewhat true, that also



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somewhat not true, and services can be brought into shelters, so you don't need to have access to the food kitchen when you have food delivered to your shelter. So we are anxious to see more shelters go more where people are choosing to live and where people come from this and cam and Matt both of these are man, maintained by the Public Works sides of the county in the city, and so they're kept up to date all the time. I have never seen the Pierce County one before, no did I even know that they had it, nor were they really willing to give me all of the detailed data so they gave it to someone else, because of their concerns with identifying actual locations because of harassment that can occur. And when those are really legitimate thoughts and so, but it's new for them to share. So data sharing, hard when you don't know how to do it. And, you know, I'll throw some more sides in like there's some elements to hell like the county works and how the city works that are interesting to me that working together isn't something that they have a lot of experience with like in a really integrated way. And that developing that isn't about deciding to do something, it's I think it's going to be a lot about developing that skill and learning how to really collaborate and be vulnerable, right, holding cards close is really natural anyway. So, to respond to that question. These, this is data that's probably really well updated, and, and I don't know how we get that information out to other people so that was helped. So yeah, shoot me an email if you have a use for this data and we'll figure out how we can meet the needs of using this data at the same time protecting the people living there, right. Thanks. So we're looking at data, obviously, to figure out the size of the need where people are coming from, we're also did, doing a shelter survey. So, this is a survey of people living unsheltered more children, but experiencing homelessness and we've had about 100 responses so far. And our goal in this was just to learn a little bit more about what type of shelter we need to create right we have good shelter they meet needs but they don't meet everybody's need. And so the goal of basically learning more right so we asked a lot of questions and a lot of crazy number, but, and we've gotten some really good responses, comprehensive life resources and via vocation are the two organizations that have done the most to collect this information, it's very Tacoma centric though, and, and a little bit youth centric because so many of the folks were connected to, To calm type center until the LAOs beacon shelter, although not everybody, quite a few older adults because of comps, you know, outreach work so if you're interested in doing some of this surveying of people experiencing homelessness. Just give me a shout and and I can work with you on getting you that that information how to get the survey, but just interesting things you know like, 39% of the folks said they're not very likely to try shelter and and that's that's going to be an uphill battle for us, and again I think highlights the importance of making sure we're listening to people experiencing homelessness, so we make shelter that they're not so I'm hesitant to enter. And we asked like, well, well you know what's important when you're looking at a shelter location was really big. Cleanliness, right the reputation of a shelter and and all of that makes good sense, those are things I care about too and I look for a place to live. And we ask the same reason that you don't go into shelter, and a lot of folks don't trust staff at shelter and. And so that's frustrating and and not an easy thing to figure out how to solve right so some of these things need deeper dives and no ride to a shelter, which I think we all know, like when, When we decided as a community put a shelter in, you know Nohr point center, a lot of us were like, that's gonna be tough to get to. And so, you know, transportation is important and things we know right, tough to store my things. That's why I might not go into shelter, or just you don't know what you're getting into. And, and I know that one as well, like I have anxiety about things I'm not familiar with. Okay, how am I doing timewise, I better speed up. We also did a community survey. And so we're not just asking people experiencing homelessness what they need from shelter, but as you know, one of our big challenges is the nimbyism and the hesitancy to have people experiencing homelessness in your community. Because why would you do that when you can just push them all into the hilltop. So we asked folks in the community, like, what should we be spending money on around homelessness, what do you think of having a shelter in your community, alternate online forum I don't want to put the link to that into the chat. I actually do that right now. And we've had 1504 responses as



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of yesterday to this survey, and you can go in and take a look at that you can share it with friends and family. And again, our goal is just to learn a little bit more but when we ask people what should we invest in for homelessness. Number one is mental health, number two is drug and alcohol treatment, and I think a lot of that has to do with how we're viewing as a community, right the needs of people experiencing homelessness right so our most visible people experiencing homelessness, oftentimes present with some mental health issues, and we hear stories and narrations of drug use. We do have demographics of the folks completing the survey. And it's who kind of included some in here but I can get the full report, let me make a note, I'm going to send you a full report of both the survey that we did event sheltered homelessness, and the most recent data set from this group. But we asked people, where should we build shelter and Tacoma came to the top of the list I think because that's where we think shelter belongs and Lakewood came up, which I think is kind of exciting South Pierce County so it could be people in Tacoma all said that we should put shelter in Lakewood and all the Lakewood people said we should shelter in Tacoma right like, I don't know we can dive into that necessarily but, but there really wasn't openness to shelter in different communities and I think that's really positive. This is my favorite one so if you remember from this slide here, where should we invest money well in the mental health and drug and alcohol treatment. And then we asked them, Who should we invest money in, right, and severe behavioral health needs came fourth on the list, right, so I definitely want my money to go to people that have these needs, but I'd much rather serve families and children. And I think that's one of the real interesting parts about how we think about homelessness. Right we there's people we really think are deserving of our support and our help our veterans are women and children people fleeing domestic violence to people we can identify much more easily with, as opposed to the exam, of those that have behavioral health needs right that maybe we have more difficulty identifying with perhaps. Um, so, you know, do we use that to inform what we do well yes we do, but it may inform how we spend money but also how we work on, you know, working with the coalition and on hopefully join education campaigns and you know the amazing work Teresa's, and I don't know what crew you have putting together your weekly talking points but those things are just so vital to slowly, help people to hear the message over and over again. Okay, here's a bit of demographics. So, this is my favorite one is that about half of the people that responded themselves, or had a family member that experienced homelessness. And I guess I just, I should stop being surprised at how many people have homelessness touching their personal lives, but that's, but it's helpful I think to understand some where people are coming from, about a third of these folks were to coma, which I think is really positive like we're getting a lot of response from different areas. The not so positive part is that they're all old, and I say that because I'm 50, and the largest groups 51 And over, so that's definitely not me, and the, and that lien might have a lot to do with some of our initial pushes right went out through, you know, Council Member email lists and things like that which may lead to people that have more time to putter in County politics, so I'm trying to get the that link out about that online open house to more folks, so send it out to your friends, and let's try to have a little bit better representation of the people in the community I think we might ask some stuff about race, but I'm not sure, you could take the survey and find out though. This is my last slide, the depressing slide and being a data guy and put it all out there guy, and some of the doesn't like to dally in the shallows, as you said today. Rosemary stuffs gonna be expensive. And this is some of the challenges, looking at the relative cost shoots. So again we're talking shelter here, we're talking about 2300 beds, we're talking about, probably a model that needs around 50 \$55 a bad night right so that's relative to a Lehigh village or what we're running at the stability side, it's probably more than we spend at someplace like nativity house or at the rescue mission shelter right those operated at scale that's slightly larger, but, but not dramatically more right, you know, so this is 20,000 a year right cost to have one bed. And we're looking at some higher costs for a couple of different groups. One of them is medical respite, we want to do much better medical respite and we are now something accessible to the entire community. So if someone's got, you know,



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a leg wound that they need to have regularly handled, not bad enough to be in hospital too bad to really be served well in a shelter that putting something like that and that's going to cost more than the other one we really are interested in that big gap between the behavioral health, that can be well served in our existing shelters and the behavioral health, that's bad enough to get you into western state right there's a gap in the middle there, and we'd like to see some shelters put up to meet some of those needs that we do not mean now and again those are going to be higher cost, and the one that's less expensive and this is running at the incredibly low cost that Colin currently and Jan currently run the safe parking network at, you know is looking at extending that so instead of 15 spots we have, you know 315 spots, and I'm looking at perhaps more cost probably more along the \$50, if we're looking at doing some 24 Seven RV type sites, right, again, the costs of security and in case management services. And I'm just always gonna throw in this this we're talking shelter and shelter is a parking lot, right, it's the, that's the bed phrase shelter is the, it's the waiting area in the airport, and we're waiting for the play, right, permanent housing is what we really, really want for folks. And so that's what the comprehensive plans focusing in on is how do we, you know, develop a system that really can help people exit to permanent housing right and we know that right. Keep people housed, right, figure out how to buffer, a lot of the homeless prevention systems to be, you know, To be effective, getting people housed when they become homeless more housing, and really, we're using this targeted universalism idea of universal goal of permanent housing. And let's really make sure that the pathways are things that people can do. Right, so have targeted interventions that are able to help folks, you know, much like Roxy said like, there's people that are going to come to the Multicultural Center that aren't going to come to other places because they're creating great a welcoming environment that isn't, you know, a universal field right, so there's a, there's a group that they're making. they're making that welcome feel for I mean, it's open to everybody right but that that approach. And again I already threw that link in to the chat, and you can always get ahold of me, and a 20,000 year per bed for shelter, I don't know if that was a real question you're just pondering that and the reason why we're talking about shelter and not putting people into apartments is, we don't have apartments to put people into, right, I mean that's, that's the crisis we have, that's why this is going to be a different plan than a plan that Houston does for the Kansas City does. I got an email from someone in Kansas City saying, oh, you know, oh no they live in the northwest and they're like, Oh, my brother lives in Kansas City, he's going to get evicted pretty soon he's got a fixed income, we were thinking of having a move to come so we could keep an eye on him better. He can't stay with us, and I'm like what are you insane, like on a fixed income and you want to move to Tacoma from Kansas City, I mean you can rent a three bedroom house for \$890 So said my Craigslist apartment search in Kansas City. Right, and so they have a different plan to address homelessness here than we do here because of the availability of of housing there. So I've got time for questions but I'm going to give you my questions for you and your breakout sessions first, you get to pick one of two that you can talk about, and these are two conundrums that I have and that our, our committee has and we've been talking about so they're, they're deep questions. The first one is, I gave you those numbers and the chances of us getting enough money to run shelter so we think it's going to take about \$15 million dollars in startup costs, capital, and about 37 \$35 million a year to operate the shelter we need and we aren't going to get that kind of money right now out of our community. And so what do we do. Right, so, um, so that would be over a three year period, thing. Right, I need what's at \$120 million, we're probably not going to get that but we're going to get some right if I already guess right you can't hold me to any of this but if I were to guess. I'm going to bet that over the next three years, we're probably going to have about, say, 25 million out of the counties are the money, say 7 million out of the cities are the money. We've got about 12 million unspent and document recording fees from the county, again, these are numbers, I hear they're not going to be what actually comes out right but that's how come no one's doing this in the background for me 30 That's like \$45 million of one time funds that we can use over the next few years, right, so we're super nervous



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about using those on ongoing programs because we don't see how we can sustain them beyond that. Right. But also, I'm a jump, both feet in kind of guy, right, so, you know, maybe, maybe there'll be something and we don't need to worry then. But anyway, there's definitely hesitancy on that and then we have another 7 million coming into this system that is going to be repeated every year from that new \$100 that's been added into the document recording fee that will come to the county. And so, so if you think like okay well what do I have to work with and that's like whole homeless system stuff right, but anyway so that I'm just trying to give you a little sense of the 100 million we need, and we're looking more at like 55 million right so we're gonna have to make decisions, so my two questions. Question number one is. Are we better off having fewer shelter sites, but each of those shelter sites is like a full enhanced shelter 24 hour operations security on site access to case management, right, when we ask people experiencing homelessness. Only one in five of them said that they think they should be self managed right so, so I put that out there that people are indicating to us that are experiencing homelessness that they would like security of some sort on site. So, again, should we be doing that full site which we do more shelter sites, but have lower services on it, right. So, I do some maybe we have in the community, some sanctioned encampments that have minimal security maybe we do security but no case management, right, maybe we do larger sites right so we get some economies of scale, even though a 200 person sites are a little frightening to think about, right, because if we have smaller fewer sites we can have more safety and we can tailor them better to people's needs. Some people need incredibly low barrier right, some people exiting a treatment program are going to need clean and sober right, like if I only have one site, I can't be both of those things right I can if I have to. So that's one question is, how should we, how should we approach this really really good sites, and just search for more money as hard as we can or will always be looking for more money, or, you know, again, that, that other approach. And the second question I have the you can answer or not, Andrew, you don't have to do both, you can kind of pick one or the other. When I say smaller What am I looking at, that's a really good question. It depends a little on the site, Jonathan, and, and that might be something we have more conversations with the lived experience coalition with people experiencing homelessness. We tend to, we tend to think about the size of encampments and we encounter has sizes that people may be comfortable with but really we're bantering around the number of 60. Although certainly 80 or something like that and other sites might be smaller. Safe parking probably smaller, so that's input, I'd love to have if you've got some great thoughts on that. The question. The second question is, how should we prioritize the shelter we roll out. Right, we're not going to come out with all this money at once we are not going to have enough shelter for November 1 But what do we prioritize as we roll out larger sides do we prioritize things that are ready to go right now, do we prioritize. You know geographic areas like Look there's nothing in Spanaway, you need to make sure that you prioritize that we looked at groups we don't serve well, right click, there's nothing for people with, you know, that have been kicked out of shelters because of mental illness, right, so those are my two questions is, what should we be considering as we think more lower service, fewer hire service, again, clicking for money always, and how should we prioritize the rollout, are there other things we need to make sure we're putting at the front right so those are questions of priority so I put both of those questions in the chat. And there's some other things in the chat that I've lost track of, are we asking people who are experiencing homelessness. Yes we are. And so we have that initial survey out, and I think we'll probably doing some other questions, as we realize what additional questions we should have asked that didn't. I agree with Nina it is cheaper to permanently house. Unfortunately, the availability of housing units in Tacoma and Pierce County limits what we're able to do to get people moved into permanent housing. So that's one of those realities and we're trying to do some economics kind of analysis to determine how realistic it is, right, like if it was if I was Houston, I'd be putting 10s of millions of dollars into rapid rehousing. Right, that's a super effective solution for a lot of people, and, and there's housing stock that would actually be successful with that. But I think, you know, When we were



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going to try to run numbers on it right because that's ideal permanent housing so much better than shelter. So those are my questions.

Rob Huff

Jonathan, you want to ask your question before we get started with breakouts.

Johnathon

Yeah, sure thing, I just wanted to clarify that there's other people named Jonathan on here that aren't me. I shared out the link with some other LFC folks or they might be asking questions under under my name. But I also wanted to just like, to your point on Garrett, so you. So we, we have a genuine housing stock like crisis here and and Tacoma Pierce County, right, so let's not like you know, King County, a place where they say there's no housing but there's abandoned buildings everywhere, being filled up, that's a genuine housing stock crisis, I just wanted to make sure. All right, like you I mean,

Gerrit Nyland

you know, there's what's available for someone that's going out trying to rent something right now, and then there's buildings that we could convert into more housing and those are kind of two different things so I'm really just talking about the, the move in ready to lease to somebody kind of spaces, not necessarily the abandoned building that we could get some capital and build some more affordable housing with which, which is, we're talking about right like that, you know, the core strategy is more housing more housing more housing.

Rob Huff

All right, so Garrett, can you take down the screen share and then what I'm going to do is I will put us in, in smaller groups of five to six people. I think with, where our agenda is at will spend. So it's a judgment call, I want to spend at least 10 minutes in the breakout room. We could certainly spend 15 If people want it, I do know that we have some government folks on the call who were expecting to be on the agenda around 10, which was a minute ago. But, but we can be flexible so can I kind of get an indication from folks at least on screen would you like to have 15 and rather than 10 minutes for the breakout. I see a couple of thumbs up let's let's go ahead and do that because I think this is important. And please in each of your groups have someone taking some notes so you can drop them into the chat because that's the useful part of this is that we can gather the information. And so let me set up the rooms briefly here and we will go then until 1015. All right, I'm going to create the rooms again please have somebody taking notes in your room, so that you can drop them in the chat when we all return at 1015. Let's have a good conversation.

<Breakout Sessions>

Rob Huff

Well, welcome back everybody. Hopefully that was good conversation. I'm assuming that was not enough time. So, it's never enough time. But please, whoever was designated to take notes. Drop your comments in the chat and Garrett is going to stay here for a moment I don't know if folks have a couple of questions for him before we move on to the next items in the agenda. If so, please use the raise hand or or wave or somehow let me know. Teresa.

Theresa Power-Drutis



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So I really appreciate you coming back to your fold. Garrett and bringing the good information. I, when you talk about. Only one in five wanted to be self managed, there was another group of people who wanted to be in a space that was lightly managed. What was, what was that, what size group was that,

Gerrit Nyland

so we didn't ask the question well enough for me to be able to tease that out, I was just actually was digging right now for that survey report. So, I'll see what that question is and I'll put that in the chat or email it to the listserv, you know what that actual full question was, so I think we asked quite. Now I'm embarrassed I don't have that right.

Theresa Power-Drutis

That's okay. So I guess the other point I'd make is that I wouldn't like to see us base our decisions about what kind of shelters needed based on such a small sample, even though it's a good place to start because of that. I also really appreciate the way you frame it which is these are the limitations of this survey, and that makes a lot of difference to me when I'm hearing data. So thank you for that and let's keep gathering data, and keep our options open.

Gerrit Nyland

I think it's a lot of conversations, again with people experiencing homelessness with people that spend a lot of time with people experiencing homelessness and have, you know, kind of a sense of things people that spend a lot of time in encampments I'm thinking about people like Dakota Fox you know that, that, you know they have a real, you know, they log the hours are calling to forest. So yeah I don't know how the decision will eventually get made by the shelter. By the shelter worker, and sometimes it doesn't matter what decisions we could, that's coming out all wrong. But, you know, that we flow recommendations up and funding comes out right and, you know, our goal is to is to have the best programs we can make. And, and we live in a world of constraints, right financial constraints policy constraints but, but, the better we understand what the real needs are, you know, the better we serve our, our community.

Rob Huff

Harold I see you have your hand up.

Harold

Yes, thank you. So, it goes back to the, the survey question, and I would just propose that it's a survey, you bring people in to the table and listen to their voices or go to where they're at, self manage, is, is a tricky thing because we were just in our, in our work room, somebody mentioned that I forget the name of the good guy, they have. They've been around for 20 years, but also there's a self managers, facilities, and villages that are very successful. If you give them a budget. Some good case managers who are dedicated to that place. So, your manager can be the village and the people and making sure things are available as like services are available to them. And there are people who were doing some trainings on how to facilitate, how to best work on not causing trauma. Those are the best self manage things I've seen. Because, I mean, people from the homeless population, including myself. We come from a vast array of backgrounds, there's doctors, lawyers, nurses, school teachers a whole group of professionals who have become homeless for no reason of their own, you know, women who, who are running image or running from domestic violence, their background is, is tremendous. But we don't include them enough, not just my service by by hearing the voices authentically and true from themselves. And I think that's something to start from as well. And yes, we can collect data. But ask



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yourself how many people in that time, are going to not be around to benefit from that data being collected.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Harold and Collin and Wolf, both of you have your hands up, let's quickly get through your questions, and then folks who have other comments and questions, please use the chat. So column.

Colin DeForest

Yeah, I just really want to quickly touch on, we have we have a really good conversation in our group, Good thanks for bringing these questions. But uh, one of the things that we talked about was self managed sites and I think is, it was was just also said, I think one of the challenges with self managed sites is just, it's not the people in the sites, it's the people outside of the sites and controlling that size, how you control the size of a site. The predators that are always coming to these sites, and the access in and out of those sites right so, so I think that's one of the challenges always with self managed sites that I've been involved with, and really getting them off the ground and setting them up for success right so, really, and I just want to throw out to get the idea, we always know the cost is staffing right but we also know staffing is very important. Um, one of the ideas that I've always had is floating staff, so a staff so say you have each, you know, eight hour shift you have four floating staff to five, and I'm just gonna say managed outdoor sites that serve a very better, that are strategically placed and maybe serve a specific demographic right, and then having those staff throughout the day so you have 24 Seven shifts but it's for staff that float during that time, or to whatever that staff looks like. So I would say, thinking outside of the box on some stuff like that. Because to me, I would much rather have a quality staff for a shorter amount of time and a 24 Seven staff that was not as high quality right so and I, somebody mentioned it, it's, it's also and that comes with paying our staff some wages where they feel like they actually are quality which we know they are so that's a whole nother can of worms, but I just wanted to share that and thank you. Well,

Wolf

hey, thanks for doing this survey, I just with results like this. I wish there was more like interpretation because a lot of times when people, you have elicit like a spectrum of how much management you want there, people see that in a lot of different ways and what, when we're asking the question to folks in camps about how much, what level of management, do you want the shelter's, that's going to be interpreted differently when we come to the table and start discussing, like what management, what management's gonna do, there's going to be a disconnect between what they see as management and what the people planning the shelters, see is management so I wish there was like more questions around like, well what is self management mean what does light management mean what is, what does these levels of management mean to you. Also there's going to be a disconnect, around, you know the question on security so like a lot of people want security but there's one thing we discussed in our group was that there's a difference between people wanting security where they live and people wanting security guards, because I've talked to people at camps, and they want security but then they go these camps camps where they have or shelters where they have guards. You let the sanitation station the guards there, and they hate them. And it makes sense because you talk to the guards for five minutes, and the ones that I've talked to and I try to talk to all of them whenever I see them around it camps that I go to sanitation stations or shelters, they hate homeless people I talk to them for five minutes, I don't even ask them their opinion and they, they're like, just offer it up like multiple times it's been, you know, Pretty recurrent issue. So there's also that difference between people wanting security and what security ends up looking like for folks when they actually experienced that.



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Rob Huff

Thank you Wolf. So, Garrett. If you can hang around for just a couple minutes just to see if people drop things in the chat and of course we can, you have access to the chat so you'll be able to see what folks talking about so thank you for coming, thanks for this conversation, I know we've totally, totally blown the agenda out of the water, but what else is new. So let's move to our government updates. And I think these will be relatively quick. No one from the city of Tacoma was able to attend today's meeting. and Teagan Tidball did send me some information regarding the city's effort to help with the isolation and quarantine situation. I know we're going to talk about that separately here shortly, but I will just relay that she said that the city helped provide a site to use as a low barrier isolation sites for individuals experiencing homelessness who test positive for COVID and cannot access other shelter locations there nicos negotiating a facility use agreement, and hope to be operational next week, so I'm sure that there will be more that we can share regarding that from the health department. So let's shift over to do we have anybody from Pierce County on the call with an update today,

Valerie.

Rob Huff

Hi, Valerie, go ahead.

Valeri Knight

Okay, so a couple of days from homeless, Jeff Rogers is on vacation, so he asked me to pop in our continuum of care Notice of Funding Availability is open right now, it is on our website so please please please consider applying it is for transitional to Rapid Rehousing rapid rehousing and permanent. So, what is housing, so please take a look and apply if you're interested in continue on with care funding. We did get word this week from HUD that we did not receive these homelessness demonstration program for the fifth time in a row at Spokane did receive tears but I won't even lie, I did totally cry. Five years of blood, sweat, tears down the drain, again, but we are already meeting to discuss what improvements need to be made for next year so we will just keep pushing forward until what is meant to be SB so for rental assistance we have already spent 76.43% of our funding for Department of Treasury, which is just over \$15.8 million. With that bucket of money. We're at 48.66% or \$26 million, or our state allocation and we've already spent three for American rescue plan funds, we are issuing our request to the Treasury this week or next week to receive an additional \$23 million, and American rescue plan funding that letter came out yesterday and we immediately started working on it to get it turned around, and we are preparing to receive our state allocation on October 1, and as you know, or may have heard in the news, there is additional dollars potentially coming from Bill better back rescue plan as well so lots happening, we have just announced 797 referrals to providers, while I was on this call. So folks, you're going to providers and that we have a goal of getting everybody processed by the end of the month at least being notified that they're eligible so that we can prevent all these mass addictions, but just to put a little perspective for folks as you hear different things in the news, Pierce County didn't have a rental assistance program last year and we've already spent \$56 million in the last 12 months, just on rental not admin not operations, just on road systems. So, from ground nothing to a very large, robust program. In a matter of 12 months to this week. So, just to hit. I see my car hit that I wasn't sure if that was for me.

Catherine

Yes, thank you. Good morning. Um, so, what happened so I know that within the funding coming out from September 1 forward. If the individual is being processed, and the management or the owner does



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not want to accept the terms of the contract for no eviction, or no, no increase in rent for six months, what happens then. Do they is the money just not dispersed.

Yes. Great question. So the September 1 For reference, on the same page, Washington State Court of commerce put out a requirement that any new applicants that have applied for analysis after September 1 Their landlord has to agree to no evictions no rent increases. That does not apply to the 14,600 possible to apply for for September 1 Unless they are asking for additional months after September 1. It is a federal funding requirement that we are held to. So for your question, after five after September 1 We are now being processed. Sorry. They are now being processed. If the landlord doesn't, what is it willing to sign that paperwork. The funds are dispersed this county isn't issuing payment directly to the tenant at this time. I know in other communities, if the landlord refuses to sign that form, the money goes to the tenant. And then there's no guarantee that it ever makes it to the landlord. So what we're doing is just working really hard to get all of our members to agree to those terms.

Rob Huff

Valerie there's an issue with your mic so some folks are having a hard time hearing us.

Valeri Knight

Yeah, I'm trying to get closer, but I don't know how to fix that. Okay, Catherine.

Catherine

I heard the most part of it. Thank you very much. You're welcome. Okay,

Rob Huff

so thank you for that update Valerie. Let's move on to any general updates from the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department. Well good morning

Kejuan Woods

everyone q1 woods here Tacoma Pierce County Health Department incident commander for COVID response. So our updates for this week around are vaccine, there was a clinic that took place on, On September, 15 it was successful for folks vaccinated at TMS. So good news there. We also have an upcoming Vax vaccination event on September 23 at both to come a rescue mission and activity house, or excuse me, they're being canceled, excuse me, due to outbreak, so not upcoming on 923, both to come a rescue rescue mission and activity health houses vaccination events are cancelled. But our vaccination teams do plan to return to work as soon as some of the shelters come off of outbreak status so we'll continue that work as soon as possible. This summer, good news, between shelter vaccine events and Food Bank events. We've helped get 350 unhoused and other vulnerable people vaccinated, which is a really great number. So thanks to the team for that. And for this one is regarding the, the encampment on South Yakima on the 20th I like to invite Jenny on if she's out there listening to provide an update around that and then I'll come back to provide one for testing and isolation guarantee.

Jennie Schoeppe

Thanks C'mon Hi everyone this is Jenny from the health department, um, yeah, I just wanted to let you know, based on your input, last couple weeks meetings and bring into our attention the upcoming sweep on the 21st around the South Yakima area encampments, we've mobilized a team internally to



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go and offer vaccines to those who want them, um, that's going to be on Monday, I realized this is right, the day before the sweep but we, We just got this stood up as quickly as we possibly could. I am hoping that this emergency response is just the start of sort of a relationship with the outreach teams to continue this work in a more concerted approach and I will continue to work on that but the details for the 20th are that we're meeting with TRM and CLR. I'm not supposed to use acronyms, but I think everybody on this call knows call rescue mission and comprehensive life resources and CMR Thanks Rob. Um, and our clinical teams, I'm going to facilitate that just to iron out the details but Monday morning, so the 20th. We're going to have a mobile team partner with coma rescue mission with some support from comprehensive life resources to to go out there, from 11 to one, and offer vaccines to those who, who want them. So I want to encourage everyone, please let me know if you have questions, but I want to encourage everyone on this call to let folks know about that and I'll be sending an email out to the outreach teams distribution list that I have, so that, again, I know it's short notice. So, it's important to message about these things and so this timing is less than ideal but if folks are out there today. If your teams are out there today or over the weekend. Please do talk to folks about that and encourage them that there will be a team offering vaccinations, on, on Monday there. I think that covers it do folks have questions for me, um,

Rob Huff

I don't see anything or any hands raised at the moment. Yeah, oh there's Mike,

Jennie Schoeppe

I see Mike, are we still on for hype I believe so, yeah. Um,

Rob Huff

okay, that was my question, sorry. Yeah, no

Jennie Schoeppe

worries, um, and has been working with, I'm, I'm hoping you're looped in but has been working on with Jake on that and that seems to be a goal as long as you're not having any outbreak, it sounds like testing them great and that's fantastic. So, um, marine says another reason to have more than 72 hours notice on sweet so we can set up mobile teams and. Absolutely. It's also on on us that, you know, I was working with CMR and others to, to get the direct to encampment approach going and we had not been mobilizing an internal team towards this effort and then when this suite came up, I said, Fine, you guys, let's do this. I'm thrilled to say that our clinic team, you know, jumped at it and again that's why I said I'm hoping that this is sort of a one off emergency, this is not just a one off response but this is, let's see what we can do on the 20th but then I will make sure that our clinic team has is building ongoing relationships with the outreach folks and see if we can put some more direct to encampment vaccine outreach on the docket for the rest of the year. So thanks everyone.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Jenny.

So, would you like me to continue Robert is there something that you needed to say

Rob Huff

no if you would like to continue. That'd be great.



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Okay, thank you. So regarding thanks thanks again, Jenny. Regarding testing, we're reserving our bionics now kids exclusively for for schools and shelters, now so we will be maintaining an inventory that's that, that will be specific to addressing those populations, our testing branch also just received approval to pass out 30 \$25 gift cards at Project Homeless Connect event tomorrow to incentivize COVID testing as well. So that's, that's exciting that we're able to provide some assistance there, and then regarding our isolation and quarantine activities we currently have 18 beds available. So looking forward to placing some folks out of the event today. Depending on what we hear, fingers crossed that there won't be any positives but if there are, we've got some capacity there to try and address, and I know we've been talking a little bit about in digging into the data on with the shelter group earlier in this week about where we were serving, and just wanted to provide an update to the percentage of, of who we're supporting on House versus house people for isolation and quarantine and currently our efforts have served 78 78% of us who we've been placing have been unhoused with only 21% being the unhoused. So just to back up the statement that I made that we're servicing that community at far larger volumes than we are the rest of the population.

Rob Huff

Thank you. So since you're here q1 Do you want to talk about the current status of isolation and quarantine. So you can put that off the agenda as well. Absolutely.

So, as you mentioned, we've been working very closely with tieghan in the city of Tacoma to identify a low barrier location for isolation and quarantine which has been, you know, something that has been in hot pursuit for us right. I mean, understanding that we, like I mentioned, we do have 18 beds available, but you know we're quite clear that you know there's some criteria that needs to be met and those that sometimes that don't meet that criteria may screen out so that's why we've been pursuing this lower barrier option which is is going very, Very well, right now with the City of Tacoma although it will be a temporary option, it may be an opportunity for all of us to pilot this experience, and continue to work in the background while we have these the the weeks of relief to work on something that can be a maybe a more sustainable solution going forward but this is a great start, you know for us and working with the city, to try and secure a location in which some of the some of those folks that are lower barrier to entry can take advantage of.

Rob Huff

Right, so thank you for that update so do folks have additional questions for the health department regarding isolation and quarantine, that we can address at this time since we have folks on the call, Mike. Yeah. Sorry q1 Sorry. With Garretts information, and all the encampments that were identified. Okay, we talked about, comma, but there's other locations, I think Jenny made a good point of not just this campsite that Yakima, but we need to take a look at more places in which we can do as well is in the county. Okay. And that picture that Garrett gave is a really good picture of where everything is at. So that might be a resource that we could use, again, to do an IQ. Okay, but that's a county not city Tacoma. So,

definitely like I think that's a great, great suggestion and we'll be tapping into Garretts data and trying to work to, I guess, understand where are the proper places right to do things and that's what's important.

Rob Huff



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Thank you. Well thank you for, for being here today. Let's move on to our next group in the government updates, and we have Jody from the Department of Emergency Management with us, Jodi, did you have anything that you wanted to update for the coalition.

Jody Ferguson

Well, thank you, Rob It's a, it's a pleasure to be with all of you, Maureen sent me a lovely note that said hey we've been having this placeholder for DTM and you haven't played with us so now you're all stuck with me and Robin, I realized we knew each other from a past life as I am a recovering, Public Information Officer and my past life. It's just a pleasure to be here and you know d m doesn't come to the table with a ton of staff or resources but we come with a lot of heart. And we come wanting to listen and learn and we enjoy being aggressive helpers. So we will jump in where we can to assist all of you. And I think they're in, in the FEMA world I think there may be some opportunity as funding. We all need funding to address these issues and we're seeing something happening in FEMA now where in the world of mitigation in the past projects and grants have always been given based on like structural retrofit, or other things but now they're starting to shift their focus to things like climate change, that give us a better context to maybe leverage some of those funds to support the work that all of you are doing so. I'd like to kind of get creative, you know, it's nothing that would drop in our lap anytime soon but if we can start to leverage these funds as summers get hotter and winters get colder, You know how can we leverage that to build a support structure around our community, so I'm excited about those prospects, and we, like I said, we subscribe to, you all know the basics of social identity theory and regardless of the context of someone's life, they need identity. They need community, and they need purpose. So, our mantra is that, let's help do that in whatever format we can. So, like I said you're you're stuck with me if I'm not available, my leadership staff will participate you will always have someone with some authority and decision making capacity and we want to be here to do all we can to help so thank you so much Maureen and others for the invitation, and we look forward to working with you.

Rob Huff

Thank you so much for being here, Jody. Alright so I'm looking at our agenda and it's completely blown out of the water. So what I want to do is I think we will shift in Maureen, Would you like to take the floor with advocacy slash whatever else you have for today's meeting.

Maureen Howard

Sure. Okay, so some of this. I'm just going to do an update on the listserv. But the things for today. With. On behalf of the Coalition I have written a letter to the city of Tacoma on Eighth in Yakima, and Rob, I'll just send it out on the listserv, the steering committee gave me, and Rob authority to write this letter, and we've got a list of requests in it. I'm going to modify one of them, given the possibility of vaccine clinics tied into sweeps. But, and then I'll just put it out on the listserv. We picked up everything that we heard last week in the chat in the conversation that work Teresa had done earlier. And so I think it's pretty good. There's that the second thing is, we also have a letter on behalf of the Coalition, I've worked with the shelter providers, and to the Health Department on the isolation and quarantine request from the shelters, and so they have reviewed their requests. I've given a heads up to q1 and Jenny And Jennifer, the testing lead at the health department, so that they know this is coming, I don't think there'll be any great surprises in it. But I key for shelters and those of you who are doing shelters, that we don't even know about maybe but asking for a 24 Seven line for shelters that as a human being at the end of it, who can provide information, who can make decisions, who can handle whatever that COVID positive situation is, or whatever it is the shelter needs especially with Shiloh coming on board in about two weeks or less even I've heard. So, so that's key in there. And then the, the other one that a



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couple of other important ones is our that I am working now with Kim Zacher at comp and Kathy Littman, the greater Tacoma Community Foundation and that conversations, I put it out in the chat if anybody wants to work on living wages for shelter providers and benefits, let me know. All right, we're gonna bump that up every place we can. We also on behalf of the Coalition sent a letter to or a request followed up by a statement and I put this out on the listserv. On behalf of the Housing Committee coalition's Housing Committee on capacity building for organizations that want to either develop or expand their housing, acquisition, Development, Operations, whatever part of housing, including all of these shared housing. We can talk about those not enough housing stock, there's a ton of housing stock, we have to use it better than we are right now. So we have to make changes in how we're using it. And that's not to say we don't need more, but we have to use every thing out there. There. Rotary eight. I think it's rotary sunrise. Anyway, next week, they've invited me to come and and talk about the comp plan, and I will encourage them to have Garrett come at some later time or somebody else but as an advocate, that's what I'm doing. And the Op Ed comes out on Sunday morning, it'll be online on Saturday comes out on Sunday. It is not a diatribe against the city. It's a question for the community, where are people going to go in the sweeps, and what are we who are housed prepared to do. And then I've just the last thing is, please, please tell me. And it's got my email address. So, what else, if you have people who are housed, if they need rent assistance if they need utility assistance, get them to that portal now, because the utilities moratorium and September 30 I just got brought into a conversation with the city about TPU what possibilities are there. Obviously they could really, they could simply provide relief, and just waive the arrears TPU could they could use the assistance that's available through Pierce County, the City of Tacoma. And the TPU itself. I suggested bringing people current. So then they would be qualified for the no winter shut off policy going into winter, like hate money is out there or will be out there, but that's a another whole, the whole thing about how we keep people housed. Keep an eye on the feds, and that budget resolution if you are connected in any way to any organization. We want that \$3.5 trillion budget resolution to pass. Because there is housing money in there including all kinds of other infrastructure money. You know how to find me, am Howard it PC homeless.org And, yeah, to brave new every day.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Maureen,

Maureen Howard

Thank you.

Rob Huff

So let's quickly shift over to Colin, you have anything to share for the safe sites for all group.

Colin DeForest

No, I'm not a lot I will look to Jeffrey and see if he has anything I can just, I don't know if we talked about last week our safe Park network we had a sudden at the T you you see site. A vehicle exploded basically with an individual in it. Something happened with some butane, and it blew the windows out of the car. Luckily the individual human went to the hospital for a few days, he's, he lived, and He's alright He's out of the hospital now. Unfortunately he doesn't have a vehicle anymore, because I had to be towed. That was a challenge since then we've moved to new residents into the to UC sites so that's great. South Hill Baptist we actually had someone, a family park there they're there two days and they got house, they kind of use it as just a safe landing pad for a few days. And they lined up housing, I think it was already in the obviously in the process. So that program still going really well. Rise center I got to get an update on the ride center, don't exactly know if they're at capacity or not so keep



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forwarding along any potential clients, they can just call me. Besides that, I just appreciate the conversation today, I'm here, I was just curious if anybody, you know, with the City of Tacoma not being on here with the, the Yakima sights being going to be cleaned cleared, I'm just curious, do we know what kind of options, they're providing for what that you can't be here but this is the shelter option we're giving you, because I just don't know what that is and I also don't know how they're clearing sites, they don't have those options so I'm just curious if anybody has heard what those options are going to be, or is it just more Whack a Mole type of stuff. That's all. Yeah,

Rob Huff

Jeffrey aveva hand up.

Jeffrey Boyce

The last I heard that it was construction going on in the private side site right there. Snap save so they got to move up. And, but I have not heard anything about shelter space anywhere to accommodate all those people.

Colin DeForest

So that'll be very interesting to see what that looks like when it happens, Wolf, I see you got your hand up, maybe you have some info. Yeah, I

Wolf

talked to folks on Tuesday and Wednesday this week when I was there, tried to talk to everyone about what their plans were for this week, I talked to two people who said they have, they're getting a shelter bed I talked to one person who was getting into an apartment. And I talked to, probably about 20 people there total. The other group did not have any plans, Probably just moving a few blocks up the street somewhere else on hilltop. I'll be there on Monday and Tuesday to help people move bring boxes, move their shit. So we'll see what happens probably just move in a few blocks.

Colin DeForest

You know, just really quick. The last thing thanks lit up the last thing I would say is another just another question that I wish the city was here for is so obviously it's not a surprise, how that camp ended up there was there before, it's always been an area you know they basically roll around that block, about once a year. We've all watched it painfully for years. So I'm guessing they'll do more of the same as you said, but obviously that was the hygiene Center site right so I'm curious is the hygiene Center site that they have going away in that location and if so are they putting it somewhere else or I haven't heard anything about that also.

Rob Huff

Yeah that's a great question for the city, Maureen.

Maureen Howard

Last week Kagan said the hygiene center goes away today. And she said she thought it was being moved, but she didn't know where. Right, and I haven't heard anything more.

Rob Huff

No, I haven't either.

Theresa Power-Drutis



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He said nearby, but I don't know what that means. Yeah.

Rob Huff

All right, so we've got about six minutes left in today's meeting, trying to figure out how best to use this time so, rosemary, are there committee updates that you wanted to talk about today that would be helpful with a group larger group. I don't want to put you on the spot though.

Rosemary Powers

Oh, I just a quick thing I just put in the chat. The Race and Equity Committee has had fluctuating membership, and we need to have a little restart on things so want to bring that to the steering committee to talk about direction that I put in the chat next meeting date if some of you are interested in that, you can contact me but to save the October 7 at three in the afternoon is the next date we would be meeting. And then I also listed an important seforim series that the League of Women Voters is CO sponsoring with other local groups, that's really raises up the voices of people in Coleman Pierce County, in terms of the history of racism and where we go from here. So I really recommend that you chime in for those they're all available free online and relate to our work very well. So that's all I'll say for today.

Rob Huff

All right, thank you, rosemary, why don't we open the floor for any kind of items for the good of the order. This afternoon or this morning, it feels like this afternoon. Anybody have anything to share with the larger group. Maureen,

Maureen Howard

the Housing Committee meets Thursday, go to the website and call this is the coalition's housing committee focused on zero to 30%, ami. We made Thursday's that second and fourth Thursday's that for, go to the list, Pierce County website or Homeless Coalition website. Look for the housing committee to register, you can sign up for the listserv, Brian Schmidt, who manages housing for Pierce County Human Services will join us, and if you haven't if you have an interest in Community Land Trust Ryan Mello is charging ad and he's got a community meeting scheduled for the 26th I believe it is might be the 28th I just glanced at it I think it's the 28th 28th. So, anyway, housings moving fast, everywhere,

Rob Huff

fast but not fast enough because we sure need more of it.

Maureen Howard

If people, if you are out, check out sites that for the impact of the storm this weekend. Like if somebody would check out under the 11th Street Bridge and see what that looks like. And I mean, other places that would be possible, you think, either for tent cities on platforms or RV parks, anything. So we got a weather indicator on how viable they really are.

Rob Huff

Yeah, I wonder if somebody would want to stop by 69th and Proctor and see how underwater that looks when there's actually rain there. All right, so anybody else with anything for the good order.

Maureen Howard

I want to take this rent question. There is no cap on rent increases in Washington state, all right by state statute. There's no rent control. So the only options are, one, like Valerie was saying, if you are



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new in the application process for rental assistance your landlord must agree not to raise the rent for six months on, or negotiate with the landlord. Yep.

Kasey Burton

I just like to note if anybody thinks that the rent increases they're seeing or retaliatory, please reach out to Tacoma pro bono.

Rob Huff

Casey.

Maureen Howard

Casey, put your email in, or to put Tacomas if you pro bono if you would please.

Rob Huff

Alright, so a couple quick minutes, I always like to ask if folks have feedback on each day's each Friday's meeting. Can you share briefly either in the chat or raise your hand, what worked well today. What could go better. What are we missing, I'd love to hear so pause for a moment here and see if folks have anything to offer. I hear you, Richard. All right, so we are at 1059, I want to thank everybody who is able to make it today, we did have a slightly smaller group, which is expected because so many people are out at Project Homeless Connect and hire 253 People's Park. As a reminder that event goes till two o'clock so if you have an interest in checking that out, they're up and running right now, and if you have an interest in staying on this call, we're going to take a five minute break, and then a group of us who will be working to plan next week's meeting, so. Otherwise, if you can't hang out. I hope you have a good weekend stay dry, stay safe and we'll see you all next week.

audau