



Homeless Coalition Friday Meeting – November 5, 2021

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SUMMARY KEYWORDS

maureen, chat, meeting, pierce county, folks, encampment, tacoma, updates, share, put, great, community, coalition, rob, resources, good, plan, rental assistance, hope, coordinated entry

SPEAKERS

Patricia, Sherri Jensen, Jeff Rogers, Jennie Schoeppe, Nici Feldhammer, Gerrit Nyland, Laurie Davenport, Sara Irish, Ed Jacobs, Raejean Kreeel, Rob Huff, Theresa Power-Drutis, Kimberly Ellefson, Rosemary Powers, Maureen Howard, Kelly Blucher, Clara Lee, Angela Connelly, Sheila Miraflor, Michelle Birge, Jeffrey Boyce, Tiegan Tidball, Janet Runbeck, Jody Ferguson, Sarah Williamson

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Rosemary Powers

Good morning, everyone. This is as many months become designated. This is Native American Heritage Month. And it may not be the way tribes want to be described. But that's the way the President determined that we would call this month a time to celebrate and honor the history of the indigenous peoples of this land. And we do start today with acknowledging that we're on the traditional lands of the Puyallup Tribe where the people have stewarded the land from time immemorial. We also recognize that this acknowledgement is just a tiny step in in toward true ally ship, and we're committed to uplifting the voices and experiences and histories of indigenous peoples here and beyond. One of the things we're fortunate about in Washington state is that the poet laureate for 2021 is from a native an indigenous tribe in Washington, Rena priest, and she have I wanted to share as a way to send her us this morning on our tests. She has written a pretty powerful poem, I believe, called the index. It's about a minute long, and we'll follow that by a few norms for our meeting and then introductions of new people. So here is the index by Rena priest. In the beginning, there was darkness. Then a bunch of other stuff, and lots of people. Some people, some things were said and loosely interpreted, or maybe things were not communicated clearly regardless, there's always been an index, that thing about the meat, how we shall inherit the earth. That was a promise made in a treaty at the dawn of time, agreed



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upon in primordial darkness, and documented in the spiritual record. The nature of the agreement was thus the world will seemingly be pushed beyond capacity. A new planet will be quote, discovered 31 light years away, space travel will advance rapidly making the journey feasible. The ice sheets will melt, things will get ugly. The only way that to leave will be to buy a ticket and tickets will be priced at exactly the amount that can be accrued by abandoning basic humanity. The index will show how you came by your fortune if you murdered traffic exploited or vulnerable, stole embezzled, poison, cheated, swindled, or otherwise subdued nature to come by wealth great enough to afford passage to the New Earth. If your ancestors did these things, and you've done nothing to benefit from their crimes, yet do nothing to atone for returning inherited wealth to the greater good, you shall be granted passage. It was agreed. The meek shall stay the powerful shall leave and it also start again. The meek shall inherit the earth, but what shall we do with it? But set about putting aside our meekness? So thanks to Rina priests for telling us to set aside our meekness and work on our goal to end homelessness. So here we are. There are now 43 of us together and we have generally announced that to make this work well for us as a meeting, that we keep ourselves on mute when we're not speaking And that we stop our video if we're doing other activities that might be distracting. Also, we have found using the chat for sharing information to be extremely valuable. So to use that as a Communication Forum. Talk to each other during the meeting when you wish to share your information there. Bring updates add to something that you wish you'd said. We save these and you can also say them yourself at the end of the meeting. So we have our community norms and our zoom norms that Rob has just placed in the chat. Mostly we want to be collaborative as we speak, and to speak up when you have something to say and to step back when you've said something. So we have a lot of folks that need to share the time. So with that, I'd like to invite anybody who's new today with us. Or coming back after being away a while to let us know you're here and if you're associated with the group to let us know that so we can be network working with you. So you can just unmute yourself, and go ahead and speak if you wish.

Nici Feldhammer

Good morning. I hope you can hear me my name is Nick. My name is Nikki Feld hammer. I am the new Community Relations Director for Virginia Mason Franciscan health based here in Tacoma Pierce County. I just started a week and a half ago so I'm learning the ropes but I'm happy to be here and look forward to learning more about the wonderful work that this group does.

Rosemary Powers

Thank you. Welcome Nikki. Thanks for being here

Clara Lee

Hello, I hope you guys can hear me I did not have internet and my Alice's sporting so I am racing to the office to join back into the Zoom meeting. My name is Clara Lee. I am with associated ministry. My position is a housing stabilization program specialist and I look forward to getting getting to know everyone. Thank you.



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Rosemary Powers

Welcome Clara and hope you get that internex fix so welcome. All right, then Rob. I think we'll live it back to you.

Rob Huff

All right. Well, thank you welcome two new folks today and for those who are joining us for the first time in a while. It's great to see everybody this morning up to 50 people in the room now. The first regular standing item on our agenda is updates about what's happening on the streets. So this this weekend on the streets section of the meeting is an opportunity to share with a larger group. What you see happening with those who are currently living outdoors across Tacoma and Pierce County, so if you have anything that you needs that you've identified, anything to share, please raise your hand and I'll call on you now. All right, phone number ending in 5552

Sarah Williamson

Hi, it's sir Williamson with coma rescue mission. I just want to do a quick update that for the month of October we successfully how 21 individual's 13 individuals from the men's side and eight women from the Women's Shelter

Rob Huff

thank you that's fantastic news. Anyone else with updates from what they're seeing on the streets other than obviously it's been very wet and windy and not a pleasant time to be outside Maureen

Maureen Howard

I don't know if anybody from Vallejo or goodwill might be on to talk about the new shelter. Sounds like a sanctioned encampment in Fife. The 10 people in tents right now tiny houses apparently coming at some point.

Sherri Jensen

Yeah, this is Sherry. What's the layout? Good. Norman has been doing a wonderful job, our director of mission services and working with the city of five this last month, but we've been working with them for gosh, the last six months after our hire pilot hit the media. They reached out and they said well we love this program. Can you bring it in? And we over the course of a couple months and working with them their parks department Megan actually said Well, we've kind of designed something similar and we dove into it and they designed a really great Prim. So we're really here just acting as a consultant to empower them as their own jurisdiction to develop their own program, which includes housing and income and case management for 10 individuals. So we're super excited to be here empowering them to do it in their own way.



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Rob Huff

Yeah. Fantastic sharing. And Kelly, do you have anything you wanted to share regarding that as well? I see you just Yeah.

Kelly Blucher

I know Ryan's busy morning. Um, yeah, this is just I'm so excited to be a part of this. I know I saw a lot of your reactions on Facebook last night and I think that's how we got around to talking about this this morning. But goodwill you know, we've been working to really figure out how we could bring digital technology and kind of career path training and career readiness financial education to our, our unhoused population and we're able to do not do that now through a laptop loaner program. So yesterday was a good example of our it was our first time doing that. And we had 10 laptops ready. And you know, got got this, this group through like a digital assessment and a lot of enrollments so this is just a really amazing partnership for us and we're also able to utilize WIOA funding in one area and be fat funding in another area but we've we've really figured out how to make it all work and just really thankful for Vallejo, Norman and Sherry For for bringing us into this and I'm super excited about this pilot as well follow these people for the next year. And it's amazing. It's amazing to see the community working together and I talked with Tim from the city of the five this morning and he said the same thing. He goes it's just it's really cool how the 10 people there's actually 11 in the pilot, there's two couples, but how how just amazing it is that they're really leaning on each other and pumping each other up every morning to get up and go to work and go to classes. So for me, I think this is one of these things we've been talking about with the Coalition for such a long time and certainly as this as this carries on. I mean it's it should be something that we replicate and excited to be a part of it excited for Goodwill career team Vallejo, and city of five to just really partner together on this amazing

Rob Huff

Thank you Kelly. So anyone else Maureen, your hands still up? Is that just from before?

Maureen Howard

Yes, sorry.

Rob Huff

No, no problem at all. So anyone else with thing things that they would like to share from what they're seeing on the streets this week? One open question. Have folks been out to the Evergreen encampment and seeing what kind of progress has been made there? I know I haven't had a chance to swing by there yet. Patricia

Patricia

I actually just got off with the Elysee and Jaja Floyd and she said they basically cleared there's four people left. They have them all over the place of motels, motel vouchers, tiny homes, shelters. There's



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four people left one that she told the people in the this is just you know, I didn't get all the details to make sure when they're in the motels to utilize the phone to make sure they get their next spot. They're also in some pallet shelter, the palate shelter area to um so that's that literally was just two minutes ago that she said that and she's right there right now trying to clear them. So help the next four people one person she believes is going to be resistant to leavings. And then a few people did just move move like up the street or something just so FYI. So anyway, thank you for letting me share.

Rob Huff

Yeah, thank you, Patricia. All right. So one last call if anybody else wants to share any information about what they've seen on the streets this week. All right. So thank you to each of you who's been able to share today and the good work that's going on. We know that the people on the street appreciate it as well. So our next item in the agenda will actually turn the floor over to Patricia. She wants to share her own story regarding domestic violence and the impact on homelessness. A personal perspective. So Patricia just let me know when you're ready for me to share slides.

You can put the slides up. I switched it out a little bit. I would like to share my personal story but I put some facts and because I had I went fantastic. And I'll share my personal story. Maybe at another time. It just wasn't right right now.

Rob Huff

That's fine.

The My presentation is women in intimate violence, because a lot. I'm going to give you some statistics through these periods to see the dynamics that show up on the street. These statistics came from the national database and also the National Coalition, which keeps some of the statistics okay, you can go to the next slide. One in three women have experienced some form of physical violence by an intimate partner and this includes a range of behaviors. Like an example of slapping, shoving, and pushing that's one in three women. Okay, next slide. One in four women have been victims of severe physical violence. So that's like beating burning, strangling by an intimate partner and their lifetime. That's one in four. Okay, next one. 15% of the intimate partner violence accounts for 15% of all the violent crimes that you see, these statistics are of a national level. I was trying to get the Pierce County levels. Okay, next one. 19% of the domestic violence involves a weapon. Okay, next one. 500% with the presence of a gun for domestic violence increases the risk of homicide. You have seen these are national levels excellences 34% So that 34% of the people who are injured by an intimate partner receive medical care for their injuries. Think about those that do not attend to the medical injuries are have no intervention in the point of their physical injuries. Thank you not to mention mental depression and suicide behavior. Domestic victimization is core correlated with the higher rate of depression and suicide. behavior. You



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see this on the street when people come out of domestic violence. women between the ages of 18 and 20 for the most commonly abused by the intimate partner. Think of the start of youth right outside of teenage years that this is what they start with. Next one is the economic impact between 21 to 60% of those victims of intimate partner violence lose their jobs due to the reasons stemming from abuse. It's actually more in the higher range than lower one way or the another they definitely miss work, and it often leads to lose their job or they can't lose their job or shame and guilt. Next one. The physical mental impact. There's like a physical, mental and sexual reproduction health effects that have been linked to intimate partner violence, including like adolescent pregnancy. You see that with younger pregnancies, unintended pregnancies, miscarriage stillbirth, inter uterine hemorrhages, nutritional deficiencies, abdominal pain and other gastro intestinal problems the mind and the gastro system have been proven over and over again to link and actually the formation. So like even the stress of the body shows up, it can move into neurological disorders, chronic pain, disability, anxiety, PTSD, as well as non communicable diseases such as hypertension, cancer, and cardiovascular disease. Just the stress of that and what you take on in your body shows up it shows up throughout this the whole course of life from these impacts. Okay, next. They're also at higher risk for developing addiction to alcohol, tobacco and drugs. So you do see addiction as a common theme on the street. But the reasoning the mental impact, normally it's like, I don't know how you get to addiction, but there is a coping school there about how they can numb their pain or what they use to try to get out of their reality. Okay, next one. I didn't need to bring children into this conversation because the impact on children not only do you start off with young pregnancies, but children are exposed. So one in 15 children are exposed to intimate partner violence each year. This gives this is the mental notes that children children have next slide. And 90% of those children are eyewitnesses to this violence. So they're exposed to a situation they should never be exposed to and there's a template on them. Okay, next.

I hope this makes you think. So I allowed time for conversation. But all of these dynamics show up on the street and when you talk to somebody about domestic violence, it is a very difficult or cover starts off with matters of the heart, perhaps somebody you loved or you thought you loved. And this is what shows up and how do you recover from that? I personally can say the systems in place are not for the health and healing. And when you leave, what do you leave behind? Right? It's not just a house and money and stuff. You leave a part of yourself or a part of your strength. Yeah, I can't even I don't have words. But hopefully, this puts a dent in what you see on the streets with understanding particularly with the recovery with women and and also their children in the homelessness. It's hard to recover. Thank you.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Patricia. So we do have some time for conversation. Does anyone if anybody has questions or comments, please go ahead and raise your hand. I see Jan, you have your hand up.



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Janet Runbeck

patricius comments are spot on. Correct with large studies, a longitudinal studies, not the the slide that she showed about the conditions that people have later on as a result of intimate partner violence are chronic diseases. In other words, once you get the hypertension, obesity, the smoking addition, the depression, the diabetes, you have, you have to deal with those conditions for the rest of your life. And you have to get insurance to pay for those things and the rest of us have to pay the premiums also. These are not individual problems. These are not they are experienced as individuals. And as a very targeted population the vulnerable usually vulnerable younger women more so than men. There is male partner violence of course. We all pay all of us pay the consequences of of partner violence and the data that she was showing about young people, Aces adverse childhood experiences when you witness somebody being being abused your risk of those same conditions increases many times fold. So Patricia, I applaud you. You need to keep speaking as much as you can to increase awareness by everybody. Everybody have the long term effects of of intimate partner violence. Thank you for speaking.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Jan. Sara, you have your handout.

Sara Irish

Yes, and she saw me mentioning the physical and mental, you know, struggles but also the leebuy. They decide to report all the legal process they have to follow and having to deal with many other things is hard. I mean, like this many is hard and like Janet mentioned affects everybody in the community and you know what, then that's that's hard for everyone and children has to be part of that process too. And I mean, like getting get all their systems involved like CPS is not just the legal and the police and the CPS and it creates more trauma and more issues for the women or men that are involved in that relationship.

Rob Huff

Thank you, sir. Patricia, you have your hand up.

I'm actually going to put some things in the chat statistically when you talk to a larger force but basically, victims of intimate partner violence Lou's a total of 8.0 million days of paid work each year, and the cost of inter meant partner violence exceeds 8.3 billion per year. This economic impact is upon the community. And also there are on a typical day there are more than 20,000 phone calls placed to domestic violence on hotlines nationwide. This is this is a singular problem and intimate problem this becomes a community problem. So thank you,

Rob Huff



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Patricia, Teresa.

Theresa Power-Drutis

Patricia, I, I could hear when you're talking to us about this how important this is to you. I can hear it in your voice and I can see it in the way you're presenting it. I'm wondering because I know also that you have become a health care advocate that you do a lot of that kind of work. And I'm wondering, in the time you've been doing that. Are you seeing anything in particular that is a good approach? You talked about the fact that the system is not really set up to be a healing system do you see some something going on that we should be supportive of that is actually working?

I had a situation I was No. Okay. What I do see is through this pandemic that the violence has become greater the reaching out, the resources have become less, the resources are oversaturated and those that are in the resources aren't being paid or educated enough to understand the dynamics. I also personally want to say and this is not to provoke or to make things rope. But there is because I can even personally say for myself, you don't know when you're in intimate violence relationship, but you participate in your own abuse, right? But you don't know that at the time. And that creates dangerous situations for those and those around you the only way that I got out of my situation is I took nothing, there was nothing that you could take or take from me. I left everything behind. What that that loss gave me a sense of freedom that I could build upon you know, but I have physical Yeah, I have chronic conditions and I lost body parts so like, people don't quite see like what happens and and there's it's very hard to

Patricia

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read that situation particularly when it comes to matters of the heart. And we were kind of brought up in a princess world where I surrendered all my financial identity, which is a huge thing that I think that women need to understand going into relationships and coming out of relationships, that surrender of financial identity and what that means about getting housing and getting your insurance and your bills and things like that. When you even come out of the situation when opportunities are available to you. It is it is overwhelming and it's a difficult subject but on the national headlines and even here within Washington state and even Pierce County you see that there are domestic violence happening in these intimate relationships that still today are shocking. And how do you play that it's also by starting with children. And knowing that these behaviors are not acceptable from the first time. So there shouldn't be a second time. So anyway, thank you.

Rob Huff



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Yeah, Angela, I see you're raising your hand.

Angela Connelly

Sorry, I cannot figure out how to do the math on it. I'm so sorry. I'm a question. I'm Patricia, thank you for your very emotional presentation and and impactful presentation. As we go forward with housing and Tiny House villages and, and communities of shelter. Is there any plan in place for a designated community maybe of tiny houses that could be for victims of domestic violence, and to where that would create a a safe place?

Patricia

Are you asking me or

Yeah, do you know if if there's an issue, in your opinion, would that be a helpful thing or is there something already in place? And just because, you know, we just we were just down below the I 705 bridge over the weekend and I'm talking with all the folks down there and there's there's many people in that situation right now. And as we as we work with trying to help transition them to resources, I'm wondering if there would be if it would be a good idea if there were an intentional community for victims of domestic violence, like a tiny house village designated for that.

There is an example in King County of a woman, only tiny home village and their success rate is much better their healing is much better in a in a new in a neutral environment also that that the dynamics a woman on the streets, the dynamics of men continue into more of a I can't I have no words to explain what you experienced on the street with the behaviors that have been allowed the deviance. So it's sort of how do you heal when these things are constantly or costed in your face at provider lines as well even if you're not trying to look for them, and be in them they show up? So I would personally say the modeling to put to separate women and to look at those that come out of domestic violence situations so that they can have a soft place to fall to even think through their situations, you know, and to make next action steps and sort of be a warm hand to hold them in a space that they can think through what happened because it's like crisis after crisis after crisis. So you're working on a different level that there hasn't been a soft place. To fall. So I would want 100,000,000% recommend that. I have gone through shelter systems and so forth with the resourcing is just at a crisis intervention level and doesn't see the steps and the necessity of the healing to go into the next level. So that you don't repeat the pattern, including getting in another relationship with another individual that you've already had a tolerance to accept violence, right? Like this sort of tolerance where I showed the children is a tolerance that's accepted that seems like the norm where it is not right. And then how do you heal for a longer a longer period that you can keep your housing stabilized, particularly when perhaps you have surrendered all your financial identity to a man because we're sort of the world that we're living in is not the world that I



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was brought up in? Correct like as far as like what we were fed and that you don't surrender all your financial identity you start to build your credit score to get in, in housing, and show a model and also if you do have children, I do not have children, which made it even more difficult for me to navigate the systems due to the fact of the children priority, which it should be, but it made it a lot more difficult for me. So thank you, because you do as a single woman, if you're in a domestic violence situation, that is your life, right that you're insulated and isolated with a partner and you sometimes can't see straight and I'll be the first one to say that. Thank you.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Patricia. So in any last comments for this section of the meeting, I do urge you if you have the ability to look at the chat there are some great resources being listed there by Jennifer and Garrett and others. So really rich chat content this morning. But anyone else who wants to make a point to raise a question All right, well, thank you very much, Patricia. This has been a rich conversation and I really appreciate you providing the context and the heart around this really important topic that is a major contributor to homelessness in our community.

Patricia

Thank you for having me, everybody.

Rob Huff

All right. So to shift gears just a little bit. We thought it would be a great idea to invite Michelle Berge to talk to us about McKinney vento families in the Tacoma school district. So Michelle, I hand the floor over to you.

Michelle Birge

Alright, do you know if I have the ability to share my screen? I can

Rob Huff

give you that ability. Just give me one moment. I'll tell you when I've got it set up for you. Alright, you should be able to do that now.

Michelle Birge

All right, good morning, everyone. My name is Michelle Berge and I work for Tacoma Public Schools, specifically our tone Resource Center, which is something referred to often or McKinney vento office. I work with a team of five our director as Taj Jensen. He oversees McKinney vento in our title one. Programs are coordinated Kimberly Mackey, our elementary in foster care liaison, Christina Christiane Padgett, our secondary liaison, which is Becky, and then i Mr. Housing navigator. And I'm rapidly new to the position I've only been here for a month, but I have a fair understanding of what what we've been doing and what we'd like to do going forward. So currently, right now we have 1330 McKinney vento



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students, and of those 210 are unaccompanied. If you look at our September numbers to our October numbers, you'll see that our numbers increased by 133 students and also 31 unaccompanied youth so we're definitely seeing the spike. And we're doing our best to serve our our students and our families as best we can with services that we provide and also connected in with our partnerships. I want to give you kind of a bird's eye view Tacoma Public Schools as a is one of our larger districts in Washington State. And we would think that our homeless population is just certain areas but I want to show you 35 of our 37 elementary students. Schools have McKinney vento students in them. There's only two elementary schools adult that happens to be Washington wheat, and a smaller specialized school Madison. We have homeless students in our middle schools and all of them and in all of our high schools. We do have some areas that are harder hit so for elementary that's our both McCarver and share Sherman. For middle schools, Baker hilltop heritage and Stuart and in for our high schools Lincoln mount Tahoma and Foss with some of our specialized schools like Willie Stewart Academy, Oakland NTDLL, those are smaller population schools, but higher numbers. And so our hands are full here. Things that we provide basically, before I even start with the bullets, we do all all things ultimately to remove barriers and to assist our students in maintaining their education and being successful in schools and then also assisting our families. So ensuring that every McKinney vento student has access and their education is not disrupted. So being that advocate and removing those barriers for those students. We support school buildings in identifying and supporting the families. We connect our families to housing making, by making referrals and helping them navigate the system. We connect our families and provide transportation school supplies, clothing, food, etc. We have more McKinney vento office also serves our foster care students and so we have a liaison that works in our office that also helps support those students to resources and families support the families and making sure that those students education is not disrupted. We have a huge focus on our unaccompanied youth as you saw we have I believe the number was 210 I believe that's what it was. Yeah. 210 And so helping those high school majority of high school students navigate getting their IDs birth certificate social security cards we recently developed a partnership with Arlington apartments and helping those kids transition from couch surfing when they become a team to getting them into those apartments that will help them with jobs and also budgets and helping them into their adult life. We offer dispute resolution. We provide training for our schools and agencies to let them know what McKinney Vento is, and the laws and regulations around that. We are a community advocate crisis response and our big thing right now is what I've been doing is trying to develop and foster more partnerships because as you guys know, it takes a village. And so some of our partnerships that we have going on right now, the majority one is wellsprings. The partnership through the teashop and basically helping them navigate and find permanent housing green trike is also a partnership that we're working on right now for unaccompanied homeless youth metro parks in our after school programs in extended learning. And then on top of that, we partnership sorry, this real quick with communities and schools and hope sparks helps ensure families have access to additional services and help our students be successful in in education and also in finance in those other things. So that is pretty much what we do. There's nothing that we necessarily won't do or won't try to do to assist our families with navigating or getting the resources they need to help in their time of crisis. And I'm willing to answer any questions that you guys might have.



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Rob Huff

Great, I did see there was a question, Michelle, if you could share the slide deck with folks.

Michelle Birge

Yes, I can do that. I'm not quite sure how to do that. But I will figure that out and catch it into the chat.

Rob Huff

Yeah, you should be able to do that in the chat. Jam.

Janet Runbeck

Michelle, can you give a brief definition of McKinney v. Reno of the law and intent of the law and how long has it been around maybe No, no, but it hasn't been around for very long.

Michelle Birge

So yeah, it's been around for a while. Our definition of homeless is a little bit broader than some of our let's say the yesterday for like I was talking with someone in regards to coordinated entry. So one of the various I think for us is that if our families are doubled up, they're not. They get wiggled out of the Coordinated Entry. And so that's why our wellsprings partnership is so critical right now is because those guys they have they have a broader definition can serve us now on this a little bit more in depth. I'm hoping that through a connection with I need to find out more information on it. The Homeless Prevention might be able to serve some of our families who are doubled up in addition to wellsprings because right now we have an abundance giving example last Friday we had a family of 10 become homeless that Friday. And so a family of 10 is really hard to get quickly house and for them they had an income but they could not come up first last month's and security deposits and trying to connect them to resources in the community to prevent them from entering into the the homeless system was was key now. I can proudly report that that family actually was housed super quickly so by the next week, they were already set through a diversion program, but those are the types of things that we deal with on a daily basis. In terms of the law, I have two presentations. I don't throw the thing that is a quick bullet point that kind of goes over that but basically, the law states that families, students particular, their education cannot be disrupted because of their homeless situation. And so a lot of times, that means they don't have documentation may not in the area. And so a lot of times our school has a procedure that they follow. But then, you know, twofold. Sometimes our families don't identify or report that they're homeless, which obviously is problematic. Sometimes the schools are rigid and they're like, Well, no, you don't live in our area so we can't and so that's where we step in and ensure that no, yes, they can and they will be served at that particular school and transportation won't be a barrier because we'll set that up. And we'll support the school and the family as best we can while they're experiencing that.



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Rob Huff

Thank you, Michelle, anyone else with questions? There are a couple of things in the chat if you can see that. Michelle. Questions about whether folks like yes, like, okay,

Michelle Birge

yeah, so, you know, we are working on we would love to partnership with Tableau Public Library. I know that I contacted them a while ago to put up some of our documentations. I was doing actually a follow up this week to see if our McKinney vento posters and stuff are in each one of those branches. I did actually here yesterday that

Rob Huff

I'll show I'm okay. Thank you.

Michelle Birge

So we have tried to reach out to Tacoma Public libraries to make sure that our ligatures up and that, you know, families can see that I did hear yesterday that the nine and 10 people for Tacoma Housing Authority is open. And so definitely now knowing that I'll definitely refer families for that. You know, I tell you about the family of 10. But then on that Monday, we had a family of 12. And so there are lots of families coming to us right now in dire situations. And so I imagine that from a housing authority would take some time to get those families housed. And so we need to find some, you know, some temporary fixes and temporary solutions to you know, these problems to get the money Yeah, and so, you know, I've been taking time to get, you know, trained in the diversion funds for that has been helpful in terms of being able to assist families immediately who we try to avoid getting them into the homeless system altogether and through some diversion funds. But for me, being new to the position is just learning what's out there. And what do I need to do so that we can serve our families better here in Tacoma Public Schools, so if you guys have any information, that's why I'm here every Friday. I'm serving on some other boards to to just find what's out there and then be able to refer our families in the right directions.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Michelle. So this has been a rich conversation both of the topics we've covered so far this morning. Let's shift gears if you have additional questions for Michelle, if you could hang around for a little while, we may see some things drop in the chat. But I wanted to On a related note, shift over to Laurie Davenport to talk about the topic of the related topic of evictions. And how now that eviction protections have expired. What advice to folks from Tacoma probono have for those who do receive eviction notifications and what should they do next? So Laurie,

Laurie Davenport



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okay. Thank you for having me. And if anybody here who has more information than I or different thoughts to, you know, put in like Jennifer or Kathleen has, please, please interrupt me but the basic message that needs to go out to everybody is that we now have right to counsel in Washington and in Pierce County. That means if you're facing an eviction during you have a right to an attorney and you have to show up to your hearing, if you haven't done anything up to that point to you know, answer any notices or contact anybody still show up because our attorneys are in the courthouse physically in person every morning. They're catching people who otherwise would be evicted. They're catching people. In fact we're the return has already been issued. But if they have left the home yet, we can still keep them there. So this is really serious business. We have to get the word out about right to counsel people don't understand it. Know that it's there. No, if you're low income, you are entitled to get an attorney appointed to defend you. So that's the big one. The other stuff to know is that there's not really a huge impact to the end of the moratorium bridge because Pierce County was already certified and ready to go as far as being able to engage in the eviction resolution pilot program which again is still here. It's mandatory for any case that comes through that is for non payment of rent. In other words, the landlord still cannot bring a case for non payment of rent without going through the ERP. Hopefully the landlord and or the tenant will apply for rental assistance as part of that. We're beginning to see we're not having a huge number of evictions yet. Nobody knows yet really what's going to happen. But again, we do have just cause and that's also huge. That means they're approximately 16 Different reasons that have to be there in order for a landlord to evict someone previously the law required 20 days notice but no reason. So that is also huge and of course plays him with right to counsel so people really do actually have the ability to exercise defenses much better than they used to. They are seeing landlords try to get around ERP by potentially doing things like not accepting rental assistance even though it's been applied before and it's out there. Rental Assistance does come with a few restrictions that people don't like and it's still taking approximately three months to get that out. And they're trying to, you know, find ways to dodge that and get in under the wire and just maybe get in a new tenant who can pay and just not wait for it. So that's going on we're working with the Center for dialogue and resolution to circumvent those issues but basically know that if you are behind in rent because of COVID rental assistance is there the ERP fee is there. A certification from excuse me center for dialogue, dialogue and resolution has to be issued to the court before an eviction can be filed. If it's a non immigrant case. That has to happen. So that's his CDR calls it that's a big speed bump. But people need to know about it. Don't. Don't leave your place. Stay in your home as we've been saying for months and months months. And if anybody has anything else to add, please let me know. Hey, Valerie, you got them on the chat. Did you type all that? We're, that's that's the other thing you need to know. Valerie and I and our HGP staff are we we have 16 new things that we're doing pop up events with Pierce County Libraries. This is really exciting. In addition, we're going to be at Sal Sham, the tha on the 18th and we potentially are going to be at the tribe as well we have and we're working on the schedule with Tacoma Public Libraries. So we are out there and we get to be inside which which was not the case recently. So we'll be warm. So any any questions or contributions

Rob Huff



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Alright, I'm not seeing any questions. All right. Thank you Laurie for the that perspective and again, the key key piece that people should not be self evicting at this point if they get a notice that they should be staying in their housing and working through the process

Laurie Davenport

and come to your hearing. If you have an eviction hearing. We will be there.

Rob Huff

Awesome. Okay, so we're almost on time on our agenda. I wanted to have us at least have a short opportunity for breakout discussions this morning. And as I was looking at my calendar, I was thinking about the fact that before we know it the holiday season is going to be here and we traditionally start talking at the beginning of November, about what kind of resources are going to be made available to those that we are work with in the community during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday season. So what I wanted to do is to create some time for folks to share in small chat groups. What you personally or what your organization is planning to do to help serve those who are homeless during the upcoming Thanksgiving season. If you do take notes and want to share those in the chat, we can start a running list of resources. I anticipate we'll probably have a longer conversation as a group about this before Thanksgiving. But I thought we could get the get the ball rolling today. So let me set up our breakout rooms and I will just put folks in rooms of five or six and we will spend the next 10 minutes talking with getting to know each other and sharing what we plan to do for the Thanksgiving holiday to help people and away we go.

< Breakout rooms >

Rob Huff

Alright, so everybody's back in the room.

Hey, Rob. I have a I have a thought slash question slash idea. But I think my she was gonna be a little bit she's gonna be like, Are you volunteering me and I am. But if everybody could put in the chat, their amazing Thanksgiving resources as we always do. I'll have Sheila, copy those all down. And we'll put that on a on a list and send that out to the coalition.

Rob Huff

Perfect. That sounds good. That's an awesome offer. Thank you.

Sheila Miraflor

That's why she's called the fearless leader.

Rob Huff



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Yeah. All right. So we can shift to government updates. Although I see Patricia, you have your hand up. So let's go to you

Jeffrey Boyce

first.

I just wanted to just speak of like a legislation thing coming up the pipeline in regards to mental and behavioral health. client outcomes are sort of more going to like a state level versus like stay in County. There's some huge changes on like grievances. And right now, if you're like on Medicaid, if there's any sort of provider or if there's something that you don't feel like you're getting the outcomes, you're not getting the treatments that it goes right back to the insurance, and now it's even going further. That'll go back to the state over compassing. So the controls and levers will be taken out of the county and out of those sort of to meet the needs of those that are like homeless like it just creates more barriers. I just wanted to throw that out there. Thank you.

Rob Huff

Thank you for that refresher. So let's shift gears. I hope everybody had a good conversation. I know it was shorter than usual, but we had a lot to cover this morning. So I'm shifting to government updates. Do we have Teagan? Are you able to give an update from the city of Tacoma did you have to disappear? Let's begin might not be able to respond. She said she was having some work done at her house. So let's try to come back to Tegan. Jeff, I see you on screen would you like to offer some updates from Pierce County Human Services?

Jeff Rogers

Sure. We have quite a few new things I'll call them going on right now. We're working to release several funding opportunities for somebody to be put into the community to address homelessness. The first thing that we have coming out I'll just start with our routine stuff. Hopefully by before the end of the year, we'll be putting out a funding opportunity for our homeless housing program funding that we do every year for contracts as part of July of every year. That's a large Funding Opportunity covers everything we do, from shelter to Rapid Rehousing to permanent supportive housing. So that's gonna be coming out at the same time. We're releasing a funding opportunity here soon for safe parking. Pierce County Council has provided \$450,000 for safe parking. It'd be a little less than that for 2022. But we're looking for a provider to operate safe parking. And this award will be from January 120 22 through December 3120 22 For a full 12 month cycle. So there is a big chunk of money that's available that can be used to provide safe parking. Another chunk of money that we're still trying to figure out or I'm still trying to figure out is \$750,000 to account provided to our department. The way it's written is awkward. So it's potentially going to be seven or \$50,000 for Oh, my mind just went blank, tiny homes, some sort of tiny home project is what my understanding is. We're also putting out five roughly \$5



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million that we received from the State Department of Commerce and these activities that \$5 million are for hotel sheltering, and rapid rehousing and outreach services of the eligible activities that can fund it. And those funds will be available between early 2022 and June. 30th 2023. There's big money coming soon, multiple funding processes that we're undertaking, so keep your eye on the lookout because all those are coming out for another note, we just finalized our funding opportunity for coordinated entry. And we're pleased to announce the agencies that will be receiving those funds moving forward for many, many years. The screening function of coordinated entry will be done by United Way to one one who currently already does screening and these are for contracts that start January one for January one through December 2022. The diversion priority prioritization component of coordinated entry will be done by associated administrators and Catholic Community Services who are existing diversion and prioritization components of that work. We've added kW a Korean Women's Association as a Divi site to target domestic violence survivors. And we've also added reach Center as a site to do youth and young adult targeting for their their program. And we also give a little bit of funding for diversion prioritization to United Way to one one who will do the screening for the whole system. So that's kind of the breakout of how coordinated entry will work moving forward. As of January one, we are planning to release a funding opportunity sometime in early 2022. So I'm saying 2021 2022 Sorry, 2022. The new year coming, we will be releasing a grant some I mean, no no, no notice of funding opportunity in early 2020 to two additionally expand that coordinated entry work to provide more research resources like shelters and people who are entering our shelters to have that coordinated entry contact and that divergent conversation there versus having to once they're there get connected to the other agency. So there will be new money coming out early next year. For shelters to apply for to expand so that there's more access route people to get connected accordingly. That's a lot of that is really, really a lot. It's yeah, it's a lot and many, much of it is above our routine work that we do. So. We have a master email list. If you're not on our master e mail list for solicitation bids, you can let me know and we can add you to the list and anytime that our department puts a Notice of Funding out for anything that we do, you would automatically receive that notification. So yeah, that's my update for today.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Jeff. That is a lot. A lot of great resources going out in the community. So I understand Tegan is available. Now, Tegan. Would you like to offer some updates from the city of Tacoma?

Tiegan Tidball

Yeah, thanks, Rob. Good to see everybody. So I've got a few updates. So the first one I know we started talking about on the streets this morning was about the Evergreen encampment. So I wanted to provide the the efforts that are hot our homeless outreach team has been doing. So I know they've been visiting the site when they were there yesterday, but they report was there's three tents and they're able to talk to three individuals. One of them was indicating that his friend was gonna help him move. I did ask to see if that had happened. That was supposed to happen yesterday. I haven't received an update on that. But if I do, I'll send it to everyone. Um, there's another individual that has not accepted any supportive services but they continue to work with him. And then we did receive a



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report that evergreen has given permission to the individual. We do know his name, but I'm leaving it out for confidentiality. I'm the one that has the plants. And structures and an automobile that they have said that he can remain on property. So that was our most report on that as well. We've heard some of our program updates is so safe streets in the low income housing Institute will be hosting a community meeting to discuss temporary enhanced shelter at the Comfort Inn on that property is located at 8620 South Hosmer. And that's gonna be November 22 at 6:30pm. And the meeting will discuss the expected operations of the shelter, security and other services to be provided on the site. And I have a flyer that I'll put into the chat for everyone to have more details. We also have been working with the Health Department and the Medical Reserve to support some efforts around COVID and CDC stuff. I know we were helping Shiloh earlier this week. So I wanted to highlight that as well because that stuff is still happening throughout the shoulders. And the final one I want to share is that I have resigned from my position with the city. Next Wednesday will be my last day working so I want to share that with all of you because I spent so much time with you and I've had such a lovely time advocating for your work and fighting for the things that we all want to see to happen in this community and it's been such a pleasure and honor to work with all of you. So I wanted to share that with you. Those are all my updates.

Rob Huff

We are sorry to hear that taken, but happy for you I'm sure you're going on to something that is good. I hope.

Tiegan Tidball

Thanks Rob. Yeah, you're welcome. Questions.

Rob Huff

Yeah. Teresa.

Theresa Power-Drutis

So Tegan I'm just surprised and disheartened to hear that you're leaving I hope you are going to something I can you even say where you're going?

Tiegan Tidball

Well, I'm always cooking something up. So I'm sure that hear from me soon.

Theresa Power-Drutis

Okay, that sounds good. But I hope that there's some overlap between you and the next person because you carry a whole lot of information in your head. And you've been a good partner to us. So thank you for all you've done and for all you will do wherever you go. We'll miss you.



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Tiegan Tidball

Thanks, Teresa. I'm gonna miss you all to Maureen.

Maureen Howard

it, take it if you've done amazingly well and extraordinarily difficult situations and we are all grateful for that. So, yeah, go go. Well,

Tiegan Tidball

thanks, Maureen. That means a lot. So Much love to all of you.

Rob Huff

All right. Well on that bummer of a notice. We will shift over so I'm going to paste some information into the chat Valerie had to leave early. She couldn't stay for the second half of the meeting. So I will paste her update from regarding rental assistance in the chat. The next item that we had is actually I don't know Jody, if you had anything you wanted to present beyond our 10 minute conversation. So if you want to just move right into that we can do that too. And I don't know if Maureen wanted to help set that up or how we wanted to do this.

Jody Ferguson

Well, if I could jump in and then I'll hand off to the very smart and talented people because I'm super good at that. I thought I was going to be riding the wave of Jeff talking about chunks of money and I thought Oh, I get to follow the money guy and we're really upbeat and then yeah, now I get the Debbie Downer section of the agenda after a very valued partner is leaving. So even though I don't come with chunks of money, I come with a lot of really smart people. Who like Maureen says like to cause good trouble. So that is awesome. And one thing I wanted to let you all know that we did this last week we always have a yearly winter weather and summer weather kind of seminar where we bring all emergency managers and public safety types together in this case virtually. But for this year's agenda we made sure we added on. Jeff came in and spoke on behalf of Human Services to talk about the topic of supporting the unhoused and those who are housed but may be exponentially more vulnerable. So this will be a standing part of our agenda now because we thought keeping this topic in front of all public safety personnel. This is something we all need to address in our work. So that is going to be a standing part of our yearly seminars. It was really well received and of course Jeff did a fabulous job. So we did that. And in addition, one thing I promised to all of you was we would number one participate in these meetings and you would always have someone who has a level of authority to make decisions. So while it might be me or Amy, the really super smart, intelligent person is our planning supervisor raging Creole and she is on this on the line right now and I'm going to hand it over to her and to Maureen. They are causing good trouble and but we need your help in looking at really building a comprehensive emergency plan that supports all of your hard work we need to define something so



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without going further. I'm going to go ahead and defer to Maureen first and Maureen you and rejean can do the tag team thing. Sound good?

Maureen Howard

Sounds great. Thanks, Joe. All right, you bet. And that's great news about including people who are living unsheltered and who are vulnerably housed in the annual planning that's folks, that's a big deal. All right. These these are big deals. Those of you who've been around for a while know that there was a time when when there was not even a courtesy relationship between Pierce County Department of Emergency Management and the folks in this meeting. So we have come a long way. Thanks to Jody and everybody's work. So one of the things that that happened out of the heatwave was the coalition calling for an after action review and Pierce County de m the Department of Emergency Management stepped up and said actually, this is our job. And so they invited not just the usual county folks, but representatives from the coalition and so the coalition decided that Jan run back and Monique Brown and I would represent the coalition because Jan and I had had carried the load on the water loudly. Made a lot of noise, got a lot of water. And Monique could bring the specific breadth of experience around the work that she did, and our people did around the county. So we did go through the after action review. We did report back on that to everybody we did complete the survey that was offered as a result of the review and we did review the draft of the draft report. And so that's where it is. So one of the things that grew out of this is a very small working group where I represent the coalition. I'm the only non governmental person in this group and we are working on those issues. That we brought forward is how should Pierce County Department of Emergency Management Emergency Response Plan. Address in our case, the needs of people who are unsheltered whether they are in shelters, or literally living outside and so at our most recent meeting, I was asked some questions that I thought it was best for you all to answer. And so we're going to take just a few minutes and so I'm just going to give you the questions and then re Jean is going to take over and please put as much as you can into the chat so when I think about emergencies, I don't just think about Snowmageddon and blizzards and earthquakes things like that. Clearly we need response for people who are experiencing homelessness in that arena. But I think we also need what I call the sort of ordinary emergencies. It's the one inch of rain in a day. It's the constant 40 degree temperature. It's the wind at 30 miles an hour. It's the gusts you know, at 50 miles an hour. If you're outside in an encampment, it's things like what's the temperature which a child should absolutely not be living in a car, you know all those things from your day in and day out work. So it may be that there's a part of emergency planning that is specific to the sort of ordinary emergencies that we live with. So those are so what would trigger what what triggers? Is that a response whether that's an official Pierce County, de m response that maybe we can get all of these other jurisdictions to agree to what triggers the sort of ordinary emergency responses that for our people are life and death in many cases. So then there's that and then Pierce County de m has offered us access to their system which is called PC warn. And this is where they take the information from the National Weather Service and they put out what they call to their partners as a situational awareness. They're not going to put this on the listserv. They'll have it like two or three people from the coalition will be the recipients and then we'll need to put out on the listserv. So what is it? What is it? How do we



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translate whatever it is they provide to what is useful for us. All right, so that's a piece of it. And then the last piece is, does everybody actually have an emergency operations plan and if not, how do we help people get them? And so that's everything from what if the power goes off, you know, more than a few hours, just the storms are going to be more intense. That's what we know about climate change. So we're going to think of this in terms of getting through the winter and then go beyond. So I'm going to turn this to Ray gene, and it's your show Ray gene.

Raejean Kreel

Okay, well thank you, Jody, and thank you, Maureen for the setup. I think you did a really good job of capturing a lot of thoughts. We've had over the last couple of weeks. So the last couple of weeks, I've been with you all I've mentioned that we've been you know, we've now had our second planning meeting with this group that we've started meeting together. And so the way that we kind of described you know, we were trying to lay out some things this week. So what does this actually look like? Right? So, we've, I think about this kind of like an onion. And so a lot of you all are out there providing I mean, all of you are out there providing these services day in and day out. And to me You're like the center of this onion and there comes a point in time when there's you know, there's an incident that happens, maybe it's weather in this case, we are leaning forward on planning for cold weather, because that's the season we're in but eventually we're gonna plan for all the things. So there's let's say there's cold weather that comes in. And so there comes a point in time when you're looking for support beyond beyond the normal support that you might be looking for. Right? So you might be looking to human services, like this summer, hey, we need some water. Hey, we need to figure out a way to cool people in the winter that might be we need a way to warm people or a place for them to go. And so you know, you're at the center of the onion and you're the next level of support that you might reach out to would be those human services partners or neighborhood community services partners. And then when they get to a level where they're like, Hey, we've provided all the support we can provide, we actually need support to support right, then they reach out to their emergency management partners. And so that's really where we come in. And one of the things that we really heard loud and clear, is that the I like to call them thresholds but triggers is the word that was used. So those thresholds for us when we when we are taking action, and we're considering it like okay, we're heading into something where we need to actually start mobilizing some things and doing some planning on whether they're based on notifications that we're getting from the National Weather Service. And so, you know, when we start seeing temperatures around freezing, it's going to be going on for a couple of days, it's coming with rain or snow or ice, maybe wind, right so we start looking at that that mix and that really kind of drives us into action. However we we hear you and we recognize the fact that it happens sooner for you all and for the for the folks that you guys work with day in and day out. And so, as Maureen said, we're really trying to identify where are those thresholds? When you are starting to beef up, you're starting to look for more support than you would normally be asking for from your human services partners, or neighborhood community services partners and any ideas you guys have, please feel free to put them in the chat. Because that's really what we're trying to do is identify some of those thresholds like when is it just like, hey, this is beyond normal rain in the Pacific Northwest, we're actually needing to, you



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know, start looking at taking action. So if you have thoughts on that, we would love to see him in the chat. If you're human services, I'm thinking about Jeff because I think he's still here. You know, if you're a neighbor, Human Services, neighborhood community services and you're thinking, Hey, where's the threshold when I'm going to start getting all these questions? And requests for support? Where's that threshold when you're needing support from your emergency management partners or other departments? Right. So again, any ideas on that please feel free to put that into the chat. Because we are we are starting to actively collect that the second piece that Maureen spoke about is our PC warning system. And it's really part of a larger system. It's a It's Everbridge is the company that it's through. We have PC alert and PC warn. PC alert is our public facing side of the house and so this is where folks can go and they can register to receive notifications. So folks can opt in for weather notifications, or they can just only want emergency notifications. And there's some different things that they can do but they go in and they create an account and they register so one of the findings in the after action review that Maureen mentioned was really the need to do more targeted outreach to get folks registered for PC alert.

And we're going to be working with you on that because we need to kind of get the word out for anyone who can register and wants to register to get them into the system. So they'll receive notifications when they go out. But the other side of that is the PC warn side and that's what Laureen was talking about. So with PC warn, that's really internal for us. And so we have within that system, we have different groups, we have fire commanders and law commanders and cities and town leadership and school districts and health partners and so in their groups by their type of agency they are and so what we were talking about on Tuesday was why don't we consider creating a group where we can put providers and human service partners into this group so that we know when we see a message coming that might impact folks that you're working with day in and day out. We can send a note if we can include you in the notification. And so we we feel like that could help but we would love to hear if you feel like that would help. So again, we're just trying to one of the comments that came up a couple of different times was you all needing to get the information and needing to get it sooner rather than later. And so, you know, we can share it with you directly rather than having it have to filter through the pipeline. Or maybe never get to and you hear about it on the news. I think it could be beneficial. So Maureen has my contact info. I think Maureen maybe what we could do is if folks want to be a part of this and they're interested. Maybe you could collect some information for me please since you're kind of connected with this group, and we'll get that PC warn group set up. I don't know what do you guys think thumbs up I am looking at faces so. Okay, all right. So Rob's like Yeah, do it. So we'll just do it. So if you're interested in folks from your agency, being signed up into this PC warning system, I'm going to ask you to direct your contact info to Maureen and she'll get it over to me and we have another meeting next week. I forget what day it is because I'm not sure what today is but it's next week. So we will get all that set up. So that last piece that she mentioned about emergency operations plans and so this is where the planner prepper in me, I've been doing preparedness Emergency Management preparedness for a really long time. And part of that is making sure that at the base of what we all do, we can still function



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and do what we need to do. Right. And so for us, we call that continuity of operations and so I wouldn't it it would be not me if I didn't take a minute to say you all should take a minute and make sure that you're good to go. You should take a minute and make sure that you have what you need. Maybe make sure you have water in your vehicle if you have a vehicle or in a backpack if that's what you keep with you. Just make sure you have what you need. And then take a look at your agency or organization. Do you guys have a plan? Do you know how you're going to continue to operate and provide services when the weather stinks? Or we have an earthquake I'm knocking on wood okay, but I hate to be that person but I have to say that to you because you all do incredibly important work and I know so many of you are very scrappy and just you make things work, and I love that. But sometimes we need to lean forward and have those plans for agencies set a little more. Make sure we have the contracts in place that we need. Make sure we have supplies we need, just in case there aren't any so give that some thought. And I see Maureen asked Does anyone have a continuity of operations plan that they could share? So if you have one for your agency that you're willing to share? I in emergency management and it's it's all about like don't recreate the wheel. We're probably the biggest plan leaves there are out there. If there's a good idea that you can glean from share it, learn from it. Let's see. Can you link with aging and disability resources?

Raejean Kreel

Yes,

yes. So Sally, your question about aging and disability resources. Yes. So we are Kim Peterson is part of our group that meets and so we are including her in this process. We're having a separate meeting to create a group with within PC worn to communicate with providers and we got a whole other separate thing going so yes, we will get that moving and I see Teresa Teresa see Jodi's answer you we can definitely get a template out. So if you if nobody has an example of some type of continuity of operations plan or just emergency operations plan that if you have one that you can share, please do. If nobody has one, we have templates we can provide. So I think I've made it through all three. Rob, I don't want to take up too much of your time. i Oh, Jody just unmuted. I'm gonna stop.

I just I wanted to mention one thing because I saw in the chat there was the question about our 911 calls, triggers for DM action and one thing I want to be really clear on and why this planning is so important is um, emergency management both from the county and in city. So we're a safety net. So that's why you know, raging working with all of you to really put some we're kind of putting some guardrails on so we don't have I, I wish things being labeled as emergencies came with, like the chunks of money Jeff talked about and, and additional resources, but it doesn't really work that way. So it's kind of back to that onion example. It's so you have your whatever normal is these days so you have a day to day situation. Then you have a situation where things



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Jody Ferguson

are

it's hard to define what an emergency is because, frankly, everybody has a memory day. So it's tough to tough to define, but you have what would be normal day to day, you have something that would prompt an increase in service delivery. So though the weather is bad, which will be every weekend now until April. So you have those situations that necessitate more service delivery but aren't necessarily a crisis yet. So at that point, that's when, for example, when the weather was getting nasty this last weekend, of course, Jeff is on speed dial for us. So it's like, hey, what do you need us to do? What can we do? And of course, he said, Hey, we have here's where we have beds available. Here's where we have expansion capacity. I think we're good for what we're facing. So that's kind of that middle ground. But then depending on on the input we get from all of you there becomes a point where we jump in whether it's multiple days at a freezing temperature, whatever it is, we define then we kind of commit so it's not about us creating something separate. It's about creating a network around what is already there. So we go into action when other entities become overwhelmed. So the difference in that conversation I used as an example with Jeff if Jeff would have said Jody, shelters are full. We have maximized all of our capacity. We don't have anything left. That's where we want to. Okay, so here's our plan to be that network to come in beyond that. So I hope that kind of helps. It's not it's never as precise as we would like it to be. So while 911 calls would play into that there's numerous other factors and whatever we define as a as a group, you know, there's there's always squishy lines on that. And we would navigate the situations a little differently, but if we have some of those just general guardrails that helps, so I hope and Regina correct me now if I've said anything wrong, because that's what she does. Are we good regimes that kind of

Jody Ferguson

help? Okay. Yep.

I think that's great. I think that's great. Thanks.

Raejean Kreel

Thank you for that.

So Rob, I don't want to take up too much more of your time. I know you guys have a packed agenda. But if there are any other direct questions that you have for us, we can always connect offline too.



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Rob Huff

Great. And if folks do have additional questions, please go ahead and use the chat. And we can pick those up and relay them to raging if need be or gather them up and have Maureen pass them along. So thank you so much for your time and efforts. Alright, so in doing the government updates running through those I neglected to or forgot to ask Jenny from the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department to offer her updates for this week. So Jenny, do you have time to do that

Jennie Schoeppe

now? Yeah. Hi, everybody. Um, wow, lots of great information. today. I will try to keep this short because I don't have a ton of new information since we met last. We are still we still have pretty good availability of isolation and quarantine spaces. Right now as of yesterday, late afternoon. 21. beds were available to folks. So if those if shelters are coming up with issues where folks need safe places to quarantine or isolate that is available through our new contractor of Risto, who's doing some great care coordination from 8am to 10pm placements done until 8pm. So hopefully that's been helpful for folks, um, immunization work. Just, we actually in the last few days, we, with the planning team over here scheduled a bunch of shelter events, which is really exciting. So we're having monthly to twice monthly COVID vaccine events I'm at at come rescue mission to come rescue mission, Adams and nativity, all time or church at the new Thames location, and a few others, um, and then there's lots and lots of community events going on all the time, that I'm trying to push that information out to folks as well. We are also as many of you most of you hopefully will be aware, there has been some direct to encampment, vaccine outreach. Greater lakes has been partnering with medical teams international for the past few months actually doing amazing weekly vaccine outreach outside the city of Tacoma, but our team here at TP CHD also partnered with to come rescue mission and comprehensive life resources, street outreach teams to do three efforts so far here and within the city of Tacoma at some of the big encampments, and I'm looking to organize a few more of those before the end of the year. Unfortunately, we don't we are unable to sort of sustain those efforts. Yeah, unfortunately, we're unable to sustain those efforts, but I'm doing my best to get a few more things happening. We are working with medical Medical Reserve Corps to coordinate some flu vaccine clinics as well. Big news and vaccines, of course, is lots and lots of folks eligible for boosters. I've had folks in this group share with me today that they got their booster shot, which is exciting. I'll drop information in the chat to help folks navigate that five to 11 year olds are now eligible. And we're seeing a lot of excitement in the community around that as well. Um any questions for me?

Rob Huff

Seeing any hands go

Jennie Schoeppe

up cool. Feel free to reach out and I will drop some links in the chat.



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Rob Huff

Perfect, thank you. Alright, so the next item on our agenda, rosemary, did you want to offer a short update on coalition representatives?

Rosemary Powers

Thank you, Rob. Yes, this will be short. At last April. We put together a selection process for representatives that might represent the coalition and various agencies and groups and we've we've appointed a number of people through polls and votes of this group to represent us and we have seven or eight folks who've been participating in either short term or ongoing kinds of commitments. We had we had a request recently for someone to represent us on the sex trafficking Pierce County sex trafficking task force and we were moving that along and realize that our process had some lacks in it. So we're today there's a small group of us that are called the governance work group and it's open to anyone who might wish to join us. We're trying to think about how to be clear in our communications and clear and what we expect of each other. Since we are a network, a coalition of folks who represent either as officially represent our groups or informally because of our interest, we are already representing team representing ourselves a lot in our group and so we wanted to be sure that before we asked someone to take on a role that we were really clear about our expectations of what that brings to the coalition and what sort of way the person would represent the coalition. So we are recommending that for now. We not repeat, we not take in any record requests from outside groups that are not already the coalition to have a representative person but that we invite everyone who wants to have greater collaboration with the coalition in the work that they are doing to join us here and to request and we really encourage this to request opportunities to present it as we have had others at the meeting today and so if you have an interest in that Rob is always an he's a good person to contact and Teresa power Judas has been responsible for the spotlight section sessions to invite people to come for a short presentation so I know both of them would really appreciate hearing from you. And we really would appreciate understanding more about your work. So that's our plan for now is to talk with all the folks who currently represent us on any group or to any group to make sure it's clear what they are doing and how they represent us and then have a clearer sense to present to you all later. That's a revised process. So that's it for now.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Rosemary. So our next update we carved out a little bit of time for yes. Good to hear somebody else speaking. Okay, technology. So our next update section is from the safe sites for all group. Jan, did you have anything to share today?

Janet Runbeck

Well, we're just so excited with this new influx of money from the county that we can't stand it. We're just thrilled. Absolutely thrilled that safe parking network has gone from a concept being advocated by a few of us loudly. Yes. I love it. The icons are do now an accepted program. From a public health perspective, I find it appalling that I have to advocate for people to stay in their cars. But that's the



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reality of this situation. It is safer to be in your car than it is on the street. So thank you, Pierce County. Thank you for all of all of you who have activated or who have advocated for safe parking, and I'm pleased to announce that we do have a new member out in the county and so we will be working closely with partners who can be fiscal agents, contract management con, folks, and we'll we're gonna make this program bigger and better until we can end street homelessness for all so anybody that has a comment or concern, please join us Monday at noon on our zoom meeting.

Rob Huff

Again, and yes it is exciting to hear that safe, safe parking is right there with with funding for next year. So that's fantastic. So the next item I see on our agenda is any coalition committee updates. Were there any additional committee updates so we wanted to share with the larger group Maureen?

Maureen Howard

Yeah, thank you. I'm gonna suspend the Housing Committee for right now. Well, we sort of take a breath and find out what's happening. I'll keep the listserv so if you want to be on the housing committee listserv, I'll keep using the listserv, but in just in terms of meetings, just for right now.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Maureen.

Maureen Howard

Thank you.

Rob Huff

And I don't think we had anything else did we rosemary? No. Okay. Great. So let's shift over to just good trouble announcements, things that we wanted to. Well, actually, I don't want to skip over this the homeless Memorial reminder. Ed, do you want to share a reminder about what's coming up this Sunday?

Ed Jacobs

Yeah, thank you. At three o'clock, don't come at four. You'll be in the dark. So please come out at three o'clock on Sunday at People's Park will be remembering 28 people that died in August and September of this year. That's basically what I have. Hopefully it will not be raining. It will be a nice sunny day, you know 70 degrees would be wonderful. I will post the information in the chat. And anyone who would like to help. My My phone number is in that information that I'll be posting. Thank you, Ed.

Rob Huff

Thank you. And that's 3pm at People's Park



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Ed Jacobs

People's Park on Sunday. Perfect.

Rob Huff

All right. And now we will move on to announcements for the good of the order. So this section of meeting is just if you have something that would benefit the full coalition hearing about it, this is an opportunity to share those items. So I open the floor. Angela, I see you raising your hand

I promise to figure out how I can do that electronically. on him. Yeah. It's I'm sorry, I'm on my phone doing this too. But um, I just wanted to share kind of something that was very exciting that happened and that there's a lot of energy and I would call it good travel. And the there's been a lot of citizens a lot of people in the community who want to help and haven't really known how exactly and so we we formed Tacoma safe to just try and just do what we can to help alongside all the missions that are happening, but then also to just try and help in ways that we didn't see necessarily, if there was something we could possibly do to just go do it. So there's an amazing woman we happen to come in in Virginia, who lived across the street from an encampment on the east side, and she started adopting the encampment, and so she would bring waters and blankets and got to know the folks and through those that relationship building just citizen to you know, friend a friend. She was able to motivate the the people in the encampment to clean up their areas. And and it really had a very positive effect on the encampment and the people living there. So um, she's part of Tacoma safe and with the 705 It seemed like that was a really a significant significantly hurting area. And so, um, so we went this last weekend and just to see if some there was some way we could help the folks down there and help kind of motivate and support them in cleaning up the encampment down there and what really I would say magic happened. And it's a lot due to Virginia, this woman who I would love for us to be on this call, and I would if that's okay I would love for her to to come and be part of it. She's had a lot of suffering in her life and a lot of paths that have enabled her to have great impact with it with the folks who are dealing with being unhoused under the 705 bridge. So as of this the city contractor for the for garbage removal came that folks. We just we brought shovels and we brought brooms and kind of alongside of them supported them and blegh big black garbage bags and they cleaned it out so incredibly for days. And they worked so hard and it they felt so good about their living space. And so I just wanted to share kind of that good news of what happened and it didn't cost anything it didn't it wasn't you know, going in and and controlling it. It was just trying to inspire and encourage them and they did it. And there's a hope that through building relationship and building trust. And that we can hopefully go you know to the different encampments and just try and encourage that bringing them the tools bringing brooms and shovels taking the garbage away. And, and so without trying to you know, step on any toes or or do anything we just want to help in ways that possibly we can and and just everyone work together. I just want to say a lot of good feelings and trust happened this weekend and and it just it's exciting the hope of everyone's presentation today. It's exciting about the funding that's out there for all the missions



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because I do think we're on the verge we're on the verge of ending homelessness, in the streets and and in giving better choices for wraparound resources and and help. So thank you,

Rob Huff

you Angela and thank thank you to everyone who helped helped you going into that encampment just so you know, there are a number of folks in this group who've been doing that kind of work over the over the years. I know Jeffrey would definitely share that people completely love. People do care about where they live. The big challenge is that we just don't provide resources for them to be able to clean up their spaces, or places for them to safely go to the bathroom. So Maureen, I see you have your hand up.

Maureen Howard

I do so next week. I'll be on the call part of the time because I'm on with Rob. I'm on the policy committee and Cynthia steward also for the Washington Low Income Housing Alliance and we'll be meeting for a couple hours Friday morning, continuing to refine the agenda. This is the statewide agenda around homelessness and housing. So if you have we're going to focus on this what's called the support agenda. So those are issues that are brought forward by our partners. across the state. And if you have issues that are specific to the folks that with whom you are working or wherever you fall into this arena, please send me those sometime between now and Friday so that I can bring those to the table so and then everybody remember we did have a an agreed upon ARPA priority use list and I'm pulling that out. And I'm starting to put the columns in about where the money is going. And right now it looks to me like we've got the beds we asked for 1000 beds at \$200,000 Each out of the Harper money because that would be hotel room, purchased, purchase, not rented. So we've got the comfort in and we'll see what else we can add in columns. So thanks. Thank you,

Rob Huff

Maureen. Anyone else with kind of good are the Order Items for today?

Sheila Miraflor

Robert Sheila, I just put my contact information in the chat. If anybody else learns of any holiday resources to just send it to me and I'm compiling a list. Thank you.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Sheila. Thank you for doing that. All right, so we've only got a couple excuse me minutes left in today's meeting. I do like to carve out time for folks to offer some feedback. On today's meeting. What went well, what didn't go well what was missing? What would we like to see next week. If if you have something you'd like to share, you can unmute yourself and and share it verbally. You can also put it in the chat if you have an interest. And we'll sit with awkward silence for a moment. Rosemary,



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Rosemary Powers

I just wanted to say that having these informational sessions with resources in the community is really really useful and I really applaud people coming forward to do that and and I know we will make time for this continually but it is a feature that I appreciate very much thank you rosemary.

Rob Huff

Anyone else okay, so I want to wish everybody a Happy Friday. Have a good and safe weekend