



# Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

<https://pchomeless.org/> - [info@pchomeless.org](mailto:info@pchomeless.org)

## Friday Coalition Meeting – Chat – January 7, 2022

08:59:39 From Valeri Almony to Everyone:

Did you see all the passes are closed and I-5 is closed for 20 miles both directions in Thurston and Lewis Counties

08:59:50 From Sally Perkins to Everyone:

Water table rises, water comes up through the cracks in the floor...

09:00:04 From Jenny Lorton to Everyone:

I did see that Valeri!

09:00:51 From MARK MERRILL to Everyone:

Can't go south or east if you wanted to!!

09:02:33 From Rob Huff (he/him) to Everyone:

Zoom Norms

Mute yourself when not talking.

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

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

09:02:50 From Rob Huff (he/him) to Everyone:

Community Norms

Lead with a racial equity lens.

Be aware of power dynamics.

Challenge concepts, not people.

Listen to learn.

One person speaks at a time.

Speak from your own experience.

Make space, take space.

Assume best intentions and take responsibility for impact.

Be aware of time and agenda.

09:09:09 From Michelle Birge to Everyone:

Good morning, does anyone know of any resources to help a family who is living in a car, covid positive with two small children. Dad has his positive results, mom tested same day and same location and did not get her results. The kids have not been tested but have all the symptoms. Part of the issues was locating mom's test results with DOH. I have been working with the Pierce County Health Department for two days with no luck. Anybody know of other resources ?

09:12:13 From Sherrilla Bivens APRI-Tacoma to Everyone:

Food bank open Saturday 4819 South 12 th Tacoma Wa Greater Heights Church 12-3 Everyone welcome no limits or ID needed

09:13:22 From Michelle Birge to Everyone:

Jenny, I believe so-253-820-4684, but so far they have not been able to help because they can't locate mom's test results with DOH. I provided them a physical copy of dad's covid positive results with testing site and date. Mom tested there too at the same time. I called again this morning to inquire.

09:14:22 From Theresa Power-Drutis to Everyone:

Monique - do you need anything else

09:14:24 From Carol Colleran to Everyone:

Build the Bus in Thurston County has a shower trailer available.

09:15:09 From Monique Brown to Everyone:



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Thank you Carol. I will tell Matthew at the City.

09:16:51 From Maureen Howard to Everyone:

If you needs tarps, please let me know...I might have a funding source

09:17:04 From Monique Brown to Everyone:

@Theresa, I have been ordering like crazy and taking in many donations. I think we are good for now, but I will let you know if I run into a snag. Food is my biggest concern. We need to provide meals for those living in the encampment. I want to be sure we have a consistent process.

09:19:45 From Theresa Power-Drutis to Everyone:

Monique: I know there was an on-line meal sign-up @ the stability site early on. You might check with them about how they set it up and lessons learned/suggestions.

09:21:44 From Carol Colleran to Everyone:

Do you know of anyone doing background bios on homeless people who have died?

09:21:57 From Monique Brown to Everyone:

@Theresa: Thank you. I am currently working with a chef and Starbucks. I will look into setting up an online meal sign-up. That is a great idea!

09:23:10 From Rob Huff (he/him) to Everyone:

It is amazing that we were able to keep an additional 340 or so people warm and dry every night during the cold! It was truly a fully community effort.

09:24:45 From Rob Huff (he/him) to Everyone:

I have been thinking about how this doesn't fit the common narrative that people won't accept shelter.

09:33:25 From Theresa Power-Drutis to Everyone:

Jan -you are a rock and an energizer bunny and a community treasure. Thank you!

09:33:53 From Calvin Kennon to Everyone:

Great Job Joe and company

09:35:31 From Gerrit Nyland to Everyone:

I'm convinced that Joe doesn't sleep, and is somehow able to be at Lighthouse and at Aspen Court at the same time...

09:36:38 From Rob Huff (he/him) to Everyone:

The soup and hot food brigade was awesome!

09:37:03 From Maureen Howard to Everyone:

Joe also agreed to increase their planned occupancy at Aspen Court. Thanks!

09:38:45 From Theresa Power-Drutis to Everyone:

Thank you to everyone who showed up with hot soup (and especially to Rosemary who cooked up giant pots of soup whenever there was a gap). We had something hot to offer every day during the freeze here on G street. Also had handwarmers for everyone on the block every day!

09:39:40 From kim ellefson to Everyone:

TRM was at planet fitness several times. we were in Fife also

09:40:28 From Rob Huff (he/him) to Everyone:

Thank you, Kim

09:40:36 From Jennifer Ammons to Everyone:

This is all so amazing! You are all superheroes! Thank you, thank you, for your incredible work.

09:40:56 From Jeffrey Boyce to Everyone:

Yes Kim you were, thank you.

09:41:48 From kim ellefson to Everyone:

We handed out at least 100 blankets. We brought out hot cocoa and soup.

09:42:10 From Monique Brown to Everyone:



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Great job Kim and team!

09:42:42 From Davina Schwab to Everyone:

TRM Outreach had 3 teams out to multiple areas. Fife ,Tacoma ,Central Tacoma, East Tacoma , Lakewood and Spanaway.

09:45:47 From Laurie Davenport to Everyone:

This is just overwhelming — wonderful work and amazing cooperation and leadership. Thank you so much to everyone involved!

09:47:09 From Calvin Kennon to Everyone:

Checking out .Great to see everyone.Previous Outrerach Obligation

09:52:43 From Joe Perva to Everyone:

Thank you all for all you do! This is such an amazing place of great minds I am happy to be in the presence of. I will have to jump off to help to transition for the shelter. take care.

09:55:19 From Maureen Howard to Everyone:

On the phone with my sister

09:59:25 From Christine Lindquist to Everyone:

Room 5

Ability to recruit and engage others for emergency response as well as ongoing operations

Appropriate planning ahead of weather crises with roles for folks to step into

Supplies:

Hand warmers (18 hour)

Socks

09:59:59 From Leah Ford to Everyone:

- Quick access to information. Have lists of numbers and resources when you contact folk in community. You never know where you will experience someone in need of support.
  - Single number if you didn't have resources on hand that could direct you to getting you to the right contact when needed.
  - If it is a certain level of old that is an issue for those who is unhoused that needs to be addressed whether it is declared a governmental emergency
  - What is an emergency, and how do we define it? And how do we partner with the County when their narrow definitions don't support those who need support.
  - Calling coordinated and entry and not talking to a human. If I am directing folks to call and use this resource and I have trouble when I call 211, that is an issue.
- There was a work around at shelters to get folks signed up with coordinated entry which was a quick improvement and planning could be done to continue this for the future.

10:00:11 From Stephanie Martinez - Housing Connector to Everyone:

Room 10: 1. Need to enhance communication to the local neighborhoods so folks understand what we're doing to support and how to get involved 2. Enhance transportation coordination to get folks to shelters and/or other agency resources

10:00:47 From Janet Runbeck to Everyone:

Rm 4: develop a network of supply stations. Faith based orgs and city owned sites, can be used to store water, blankets, first aid supplies. Pay an agency to manage the system

10:00:58 From Sally Perkins to Everyone:

Nice job on the report-out, Leah.



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10:01:29 From Jeffrey Boyce to Everyone:

#7- improve communicatio

10:03:24 From Carolyn Weisz to Everyone:

Group 1: 1) Coordinate winter transportation (4 wheeler) squad to pick up and deliver donations for community members who want to donate goods or food but can't transport. 2) Start early seasonally to get supplies (hand warmers, blankets, etc.) and find a central storage place to then distribute when needed (e.g., Tapco building).

10:03:48 From Timothy Harris to Everyone:

Room 8 notes: Monique Brown spoke about having tons of stuff and resources but limited access because of no centralized storage warehouse. If anyone can help, she'd like to hear from them. There are orgs that have available staff capacity to help in emergencies but no money to activate them. A source of funding to address that is something to consider. Also, a phone tree that is set up for activating those who have said they can be there in case of emergency need would be helpful. Finally, referral info clearinghouse where people can turn to for answers.

10:04:07 From Jeffrey Boyce to Everyone:

#7- Improve communication among outreach workers in Tacoma, more support from the City of Tacoma including food when transportation is shaky.

10:06:17 From Gerrit Nyland to Everyone:

I appreciate all the report-outs in the chat here. I'll combine them into a single report and get it out to the Coalition listserv. If other things come to mind, don't hesitate to email - [gerrit.nyland@piercescountywa.gov](mailto:gerrit.nyland@piercescountywa.gov) or phone - 253-370-9593.

10:06:37 From Dana Peregrine to Everyone:

Ideas from room 2: Centralized communication center! to address the often overwhelming issue of where do I start and who do I call? Centralized hub. Then beyond that, developed ahead of time, a list of all people and organizations the centralized hub folks can call in an emergency. Luckily Jan, Mike and Gerrit knew who to call. Let's have a list and contacts so anyone in the centralized hub would know who to call. Thirdly, what about food banks as a partner to hold supplies, i.e., they have a corner to hold hand warmers and socks when they are needed. (invite food banks to Coalition meetings... and encourage purchase of wool socks!). Lastly, a contact in each encampment, with all the transience this may not be realistic... the idea is empower the campers, and emergency situations are another opportunity to empower the campers.

10:08:42 From Josh Castle to Everyone:

Josh Castle, [josh.castle@lihi.org](mailto:josh.castle@lihi.org), 206-334-0508

10:11:25 From Rob Huff (he/him) to Everyone:

City of Tacoma updates:

10:11:28 From Rob Huff (he/him) to Everyone:

Lighthouse Activity Center as Temporary Shelter through March 2022

Shelter operations at Lighthouse will be transitioning from LIHI to Valeo over the weekend. The City intends for this location to stay open through March 2022. The site will have a regular capacity of 25 individuals with 10 overflow spots. There are currently 31 residents and Valeo and LIHI are working together to ensure a smooth transition. Valeo will be taking donations at the door Monday thru Friday, 9 AM-3 PM. We will shortly have a phone set up for other donations or volunteers and will share that with the Coalition when it is available.

Aspen Court



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As of January 6, Aspen Court had 58 persons in residence. The City, LIHI and our contracted outreach partners at CLR and TRM are working through a list of referrals directly from encampments to get the spaces filled.

10:11:31 From Josh Castle to Everyone:

I'm jumping off to that other meeting with an awesome faith partner. Thank you everyone!

10:11:46 From Rob Huff (he/him) to Everyone:

Homeless Engagement and Alternatives Liaison (HEAL) (formerly HOT) Team Expansion

On January 3, 2022 two new employees joined the City's HEAL Team. These staff members, Javon Carlisle and Kevin Ruby, will be providing outreach services to individuals in encampments. This brings staffing on the HEAL Team to 4 Outreach Specialists and provides expanded capacity for the City to be able to engage with individuals needing shelter services. These two staff members are going through their onboarding process but we will have them join a Coalition call in the near future.

10:13:17 From Laurie Davenport to Everyone:

Have a great vacation Valeri!

10:13:39 From Valeri Almony to Everyone:

rental assistance email: [hsrent@piercecounitywa.gov](mailto:hsrent@piercecounitywa.gov)

10:14:50 From Verna Lilly to Everyone:

Group 3

Welcomed SAMI students doing a mini-term on this topic. Others reported they collect and pass on information to people and organizations, hold each other accountable, break down systemic barriers from the inside out. Sorry, forgot to hit "Enter"

10:15:22 From Leah Ford to Everyone:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/quarantine-isolation.html>

10:19:26 From Rob Huff (he/him) to Everyone:

Welcome SAMI class!

10:20:24 From Gerrit Nyland to Everyone:

Learn more about the Tacoma Public Schools' Science and Math Institute at

<https://sami.tacomaschools.org/>

10:20:41 From Leah Ford to Everyone:

Find all our testing site information: <https://www.tpchd.org/healthy-people/diseases/covid-19/testing-information> or call us at (253)649-1412 (8am – 430pm, M-F)

- Everyone 6 months or older should get a flu shot; see all our flu info here

<https://www.tpchd.org/healthy-people/flu>

- o Medical Reserve Corps hosting Flu Vaccine Clinics (non-TPCHD event, not on tpchd.org)

📅 Dates: 1/22, 1/29, 2/5, 2/12

📅 Time: 10AM-6PM

📅 Address: South Hill Mall: 3500 S Meridian, Puyallup, WA 98373

Please reach out to Leah Ford [lford@tpchd.org](mailto:lford@tpchd.org), Rachel Hauser [rhauser@tpchd.org](mailto:rhauser@tpchd.org) Jennie Schoeppe [jschoeppe@tpchd.org](mailto:jschoeppe@tpchd.org) with any questions!

10:22:40 From Rob Huff (he/him) to Everyone:

Here is that website: <https://leg.wa.gov>

10:25:06 From Rob Huff (he/him) to Everyone:

Our partners at Disabilities Rights Washington has put together a great guide to testifying virtually (all hearings are virtual again this year)!

Remote Testimony Written and Video Guide - Disability Rights Washington



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How to register to testify remotely for a committee hearing: Click: <https://app.leg.wa.gov/csiremote> Click on House or Senate Once you [www.disabilityrightswa.org](http://www.disabilityrightswa.org)

10:25:39 From Lindley Schmitt (@SAMi) to Everyone:

Thank you, Carolyn! I think I also had your daughters in Kindermusik many years ago :)

10:25:43 From Rob Huff (he/him) to Everyone:

This is the direct link to the webpage about how to testify:

[https://www.disabilityrightswa.org/publications/remote-testimony-guide/?link\\_id=2&can\\_id=e59f41b2ac72de95f3231103821d048e&source=email-the-2021-legislative-session-is-almost-here&email\\_referrer=email\\_1039696&email\\_subject=the-2021-legislative-session-is-almost-here](https://www.disabilityrightswa.org/publications/remote-testimony-guide/?link_id=2&can_id=e59f41b2ac72de95f3231103821d048e&source=email-the-2021-legislative-session-is-almost-here&email_referrer=email_1039696&email_subject=the-2021-legislative-session-is-almost-here)

10:26:10 From Lindley Schmitt (@SAMi) to Everyone:

We would love to hear from you!

10:26:49 From Theresa Power-Drutis to Everyone:

Team 1 notes: COORDINATION: need a central (volunteer/resource) coordinator and a structure for connecting with volunteers and donors. Perhaps we could recruit a handful of engaged community members who can send requests through their networks (like Carolyn Weisz : ) TRANSPORTATION: There are 4-wheelers who volunteer when there are bad road conditions. We could set up a plan now for use whenever it is needed in the future, Would be a way to pick up and deliver donated food and supplies to small and large outreach sites. STORAGE: we could really use a centrally located space (like the Tapco building) where we can gather and distribute supplies - especially in an emergency. Volunteers are available to manage this.

10:27:05 From Christine Lindquist to Everyone:

Is there a bill number for the proposed inclement weather policy?

10:27:10 From Gerrit Nyland to Everyone:

I sat in on the Pierce County and City of Tacoma briefing of our state representatives for Tacoma and Pierce County this week, and the priorities of both the County and the City were all about housing and homelessness.

10:28:29 From Monique Brown to Everyone:

That's great to know, Gerrit!

10:30:00 From Maureen Howard to Everyone:

Inclement weather is HB1620

10:30:17 From Herlinda Martin to Everyone:

Thank you for all the good information, I have to go into another meeting.

10:33:30 From Laurie Davenport to Everyone:

I had to leave and don't know whether Maureen mentioned these, but HB 1816 and SB 5693, which are priorities for the Alliance, are important funding requests for pre-eviction legal services. I have more info if needed.

10:36:09 From Gerrit Nyland to Everyone:

Just tossed the Comprehensive Plan into chat.

10:36:47 From Paula Anderson to Everyone:

Gerrit the magnificent!

10:37:58 From Carolyn Read to Everyone:

The Plan is fabulous- funding is key! many of us would like to see more sustainable funding.

10:38:28 From Rob Huff (he/him) to Everyone:

Hear hear, Carolyn!



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10:39:59 From Sally Perkins to Everyone:

Needs to be a feasibility study of the options for current funding, and the work that needs to be done to cultivate realistic future funding options.

10:41:28 From Rob Huff (he/him) to Everyone:

You had to bring all of the sausage together...so to speak, in one giant document.

10:42:45 From Carolyn Read to Everyone:

We need a group to monitor the accountability in the plan.... Maybe this steering committee?

10:43:41 From Carol Colleran to Everyone:

What is /are the biggest barrier(s) to success of the Comprehensive Plan?

10:45:40 From Theresa Power-Drutis to Everyone:

Yes! The steering community could add new members - but - important to have some continuity provided by ongoing members.

10:47:46 From Gerrit Nyland to Everyone:

Carol - I'd say that the biggest barriers are the scale of funding we need and the level of cooperation with adjacent systems needed.

10:49:00 From Rob Huff (he/him) to Everyone:

I also think that a barrier we need to work on is finding ways to bring communities together to support hosting solutions in their neighborhoods. Overcoming the stigma and creating community support for our fellow neighbors.

10:50:39 From Theresa Power-Drutis to Everyone:

Yes Rob - the NIMBY folk are a real barrier to progress. Need to have more dialog and outreach to help with this.

10:50:50 From Carolyn Weisz to Everyone:

Great question Monique. I was going to say what Gerrit just did: Keeping an eye on data so that we are outcome focused when it comes to accountability around serving target populations. As well as making sure the right voices are at the important tables.

10:50:52 From Laurie Davenport to Everyone:

Sorry I need to leave for another meeting, great discussion. Thank you!

10:51:21 From Cathy Pick to Everyone:

Is there access to this chat information after the meeting today adjourns?

10:52:06 From Rob Huff (he/him) to Everyone:

There are a couple of options, you can save the chat yourself, and it will also be posted on the Coalition website eventually at <http://www.pchomeless.org>

10:52:20 From Sally Perkins to Everyone:

Monique, you are talking about the last three feet, in terms of people actually being served effectively with relevant and supportive services.

10:54:19 From Janet Runbeck to Everyone:

Reminder: Project Homeless Connect on Jan. 28, at St Leos.

10:55:03 From Carolyn Weisz to Everyone:

One idea regarding targeted universalism is that the focus on prioritizing and accountability for target groups can be part of the highest level of analysis (as well as perhaps part of subcommittees).

10:56:05 From Carolyn Read to Everyone:

One way we can involve community support is demonstrate and highlight the wonderful successes we've had.... Such as the tiny homes intergraded with the community at 6th and Orchard. Doing a good job and keeping up on monitoring and maintenance shows the community that this can work!.... This all takes sustainable funding ;)



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10:57:40 From Dana Peregrine to Everyone:

Something often underestimated is the behind the scenes work, ie, the administrative work and operations work to bring the people together that will make this plan come to life... those people that will fill in the details of the plan. To convene and support convenings with communications, admin support, etc, I see as missing. Trust will be important to bringing people together/convening to fill in details and make potentially hard systemic structural changes. What organization will support the convenings, the collaborations, that will need to take place? The Coalition is good at convening and collaborations. Can it grow to be the backbone organization to support accountability to the Comp Plan? If not the Coalition, what organization will be the backbone to support accountability? It's a specific set of skills needed (facilitation, admin, communications, etc) and money is needed.

10:58:12 From Monique Brown to Everyone:

I do see the Targeted Universalism and Accountability, Maureen. I guess this is where those targeted populations fit in. Thank you for pointing this out.

10:59:20 From Maureen Howard to Everyone:

I need to leave...thanks everyone

10:59:40 From Carolyn Read to Everyone:

Great New Year's meeting and thank you for all you do!

10:59:48 From Sally Perkins to Everyone:

I need to jump off, thanks everyone.

10:59:59 From Rosemary Powers to Everyone:

Race and equity committee meeting will be January 13 Thursday from 3-4 pm. [rpowers@eou.edu](mailto:rpowers@eou.edu) if interested but that time not good time.

11:00:22 From Janet Runbeck to Everyone:

Safe Sites for All, Zoom on Monday, at noon. All are welcome.

11:00:47 From Lindley Schmitt (@SAMi) to Everyone:

Thank you so much! Gerrit, we will email you soon for Monday's agenda and questions :)