



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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Homeless Coalition Friday Meeting

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SPEAKERS

Rachel Hauser, Patricia, Alfred Kirk, Jeff Rogers, Trisha Munson, Gerrit Nyland, Laurie Davenport, Ed Jacobs, Clinton Brink, Rob Huff, Jeannie Schoeppe, Theresa Power-Drutis, Joanne Iverson, Rosemary Powers, Maureen Howard, Colin DeForest, Stephanie Taylor, Bobi Foster-Grahler, Kathy Ryan, Ty Dilworth, Jeffrey Boyce, Janet Runbeck, Ivan Tudela, Mike Boisture, Jenny Lorton, Keiunee Allen, Monique Brown

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to verify anything that seems crazy.

Rob Huff

well, wow, we're already at 29 people right at nine o'clock. And we just hit the magic number 230 Don't ask me why it's magic. Oh, good morning, everybody. And welcome to the weekly meeting as a Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness. Why don't we since we've got over 30 people in the room, go ahead and get started with this morning's meeting. Rosemary, would you like to kick us off?

Rosemary Powers

Thank you, Rob. You know, we say in our description of ourselves that we are an open table where all are welcome who share our goal to end homelessness and commit to engaging with respect. We meet each week at this table virtually for now. And the table metaphor could mean a meeting table round or square or rectangular. Or it could be more like a table for sharing food and conversation. You know we set the table with regular courses, we bring new items for consideration as they come up. And early on.



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We thought it would be good to start our time together with a short welcome connecting our work here to the brighter world and to the issues and concerns of the moment. We also acknowledge that we come to a table situated on the traditional homelands of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians who have lived on and stewarded this part of the world since the beginning of time and continue to do so today. I've been honored to have the opportunity to share my thoughts at the beginning of these meetings and you've heard from me a lot so I am hoping some of you will be willing to share this welcome message time with me, looking for volunteers and recommendations of folks to provide two to three minute welcome relying on your own experience, traditions, inspirations or concerns. And if you're comfortable doing it to talk about the meeting norms and welcome new members to the event, I'm happy to set it up however it works for you and there are so many amazing people here that can be an opportunity to get to know more of us a little bit better. So let me know directly in the chat through just letting me know there that you might be willing to be contacted for a specific date. And if you have someone else you think would be great to hear from just let me know that person and I'll say they've been recommended. So I'd like to see us have more variety of opportunity here and that's my request for today. So in terms of our meeting, we do have a set of norms that help us along as we meet together. Sort of the way the I guess the utensils at the dinner table might be but too many metaphors get a little funny I guess but so we asked it when you're with us on zoom that you keep muted. If you're not speaking and that if you're doing other things to turn off your video, let us know if anyone is crack is having crackling in the background so we can make a request for that to be changed. And also to use the hand for feature for asking questions or making comments or if you if it doesn't work if you're on the phone, and that isn't very possible to wave your hands or wave whatever you can do to let Rob know, the thing about the hand is he can kind of keep track of who's who's had a comment to make earlier so that helps and then we also use the chat for conversation during the meeting for contacts and follow ups and information and announcements. It's something we save and you can also save at the end. Sometimes people don't really remember how to do that but down at the bottom where you send messages to chat. There are three little dots that usually allow you to check on that and save it. So that's a possible ability for you and it'll save it into your documents on your computer. So, Rob, if you could put those norms up there, that would be great. We have the second set of community norms is really about how are our focus in our conversation. So it was always to be aware of how issues of power and equity are in our conversations. And if you know if you have a rectangular table there used to be at least it's there was a head of the table so we're trying to avoid heads of tables. So round tables are a little more distributive or of our leadership. So we need to hold ourselves accountable to that and to also recognizing there are consequences to things we don't intend to say that we need to be responsible for as well. So with that, I'd like to welcome anyone who's here for the first time or returning here to visit with us and participate with us after being away a while to just let us know you're here. If you're with an organization say what that is so we have a little context. And you can also put this information in the chat if you prefer to do it that way. So it just unmute yourself at this time. If you're new and introduce who you are.

Bobi Foster-Grahler



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Hi, my name is Bobby foster Gaylor and I'm the chair of the Criminal Justice Department at Pierce College. I'm really glad to be here. Thank you,

Rosemary Powers

Bobby, welcome. That's a great picture too. Thank you Hello, I'm

Keiunee Allen

not new here but I it's been quite some time since I was last year. My name is Kiana and I am a case manager at that nativity how shelter with Catholic Community Services.

Rosemary Powers

Kiani, thank you very much for your work. This is really so important and glad you can be with us

Clinton Brink

either. I'm Quinton brink, I'm a real estate attorney and also a member on the on the board of the Master Builders Association. My understanding is that maybe speaking a little a little later but just wanted to introduce myself.

Rosemary Powers

Thanks, Clinton. We look forward to hearing from you magic Tom

Stephanie Taylor

is Stephanie I am actually an RN to BSN student working on community health and seems to fit my topic perfectly. So

Rosemary Powers

I'm excited to join him. Thank you Stephanie and welcome and I hope you can share some of your insights with us as well.

Ivan Tudela

Hello, Ivan Tudela, I'm a returning member of this coalition and happy to be here I'm the access and functional needs coordinator with Pierce County Department of Emergency Management

Rosemary Powers

Ivan welcome. It's been great to be working with you.

Ty Dilworth

Hello, everyone. My name is Todd Dilworth. I'm Housing Program Manager for Kaplan Community Services and is returning member in a while it's good to see everybody again.



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Rosemary Powers

Hi, Ty welcome back.

Laurie Davenport

Thank you for your work

Trisha Munson

I am Trisha and I'm from greater lakes mental health care. My partner Jessica is on here as well. We are returning to the meeting today.

Rosemary Powers

Thanks Trisha. It's good to see you too. And Jessica to Hello Hello is this Alfred

Alfred Kirk

Oh yes, it is. I am Alfred Kirk. I'm with the common tenants organizing committee and we're trying to get ourselves back together and up and running and all that and it's I've been I've been to the meetings but it's been a while.

Rosemary Powers

I remember you being here Alfred. I'm glad you're here and welcome and great work you're doing so thanks for sharing with us.

Alfred Kirk

All right, thank you

Rosemary Powers

Well, Rob, we have lots of new people today are returning folks. So I'll turn it back to you to carry on with the Open Table.

Rob Huff

Thank you rosemary and welcome or welcome back everybody. It's great. To see so many folks this morning. So let's get started with our regular this week on the streets segment. What we asked folks to share during this portion of the meeting is updates about what they're seeing as they're interacting with folks out on the streets over the last week. So if there are needs that you think that the larger group either should be aware of or might be able to help with, this is a great place to mention that and this is an Open Table open floor for comments. So just raise your hand either physically if you're on camera, or use the raise hand function and I'll call on you so love to hear what folks are seeing. Monique, great to see you. What do you have for us this week?



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Monique Brown

Hi. So, um, just a question. Got a lot of people calling for rent assistance. Are there folks on here who do rent assistance? I think Pierce County may be Yeah, I don't know the resources and send them to out here.

Rob Huff

Yeah, let me see. So I don't know that Valerie is back from vacation yet Valerie alimony

Jenny Lorton

if nobody's on here I can give an update on where they are in the processing of applications because I spoke to someone this week. That'd be helpful, Jenny. So they are processing applications that were submitted the second week in August. So that's where they're at in the timeline of processing. However, if someone receives if a client receives an eviction notice, then certainly we can contact them and ask them to escalate that particular application or if they are to the point where they are at mediation than the Center for Dispute and resolution will also contact them and tell them hey, this person's rental assistance application needs to be pulled to the top and this needs to be escalated. So those are kind of two different avenues. We had a client this week who was at the point of mediation. They submitted their application on August 16. And they were working on applications submitted August 8. So that's the timeline where they're at so they can still you know, submit rental assistance once the portal the portal was closed because they were doing an update on the portal. The portal should be reopening anytime and once it reopens, then people can start resubmitting.

Monique Brown

Thank you. Welcome.

Rob Huff

Yeah, thanks for that up to Jenny and Laurie. Is there anything you would add that from what you're aware of? No,

Laurie Davenport

I think she got it. All right. That's that's where they are with processing and don't don't be freaked out because the portal is closed because it will be they had as as of excuse me, as of February 1, but I think it might even be sooner. So we'll be back and when it comes back, it'll be better.

Rob Huff

Great, thank you, Laurie. Teresa,

Theresa Power-Drutis



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just to tag on to that. I new connections has a little warm line. And we are getting just the uptick. In calls for people looking for rental assistance and people looking for affordable housing. It's really breaking my heart because I get all these calls from people saying my landlord just raise my rent. They gave me the 60 day notice but 60 days wasn't enough time to find anything I can afford. So I think this is a good thing for us to keep on our radar. It's not just about trying to get people back into housing. It's also how the heck do we keep people from becoming unhoused

Rob Huff

Teresa and Patricia

Patricia

I spoke to Northwest Justice Project I believe it was yesterday. So they're pretty pretty swamp. So just to be aware for the clients that like they're not crisis, but also some of the agencies are at crisis to try to deal with all these objects. So thank you

Rob Huff

thank you for that perspective. And Maureen in your muted right now morning.

Maureen Howard

Thank you. Following Teresa's comment, a comment schools contacted me they're seeing large numbers of children moving out of the Tacoma schools as their families get the 60 day read increase notices kids breaking down in class because they're the interpreter for the family, that sort of thing. And trying going as far out in Pierce County as they can get.

Rob Huff

I think Thanks for that update to Maureen. So Richard, I saw your ear mention in the chat of the tent fire under the 705. area down in Puyallup Avenue. Thanks for that update and welcome back to town Richard. And Kathy, I see your hand up. Yes,

Kathy Ryan

I have a question. Do we have safe sites up and running for car campers

Rob Huff

so the the answer is yes. You'll see Jan run back on screen. From the coalition safe sites for all committee. You might want to send her a private message. The safe parking sites are available I'm not sure of the current capacity but Jan would be able to fill you in and we will have an update from Jan and later in the meeting today to thank you. Yeah, you're welcome. Others with updates? About what's what they're seeing on the streets? Thank you, Dion. I see your comment in the chat as well. And call on its it's good to see you in the meeting. We'll come to you to talk about the situation and five here shortly.



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Hopefully you can hang out for about 510 minutes. Okay, cool. Right, so anyone else with updates of what they've seen on the streets this week? All right. I don't want to belabor the point. So if you do have other information you'd like to share you can please use the chat for that. And we will move on to the next item in our agenda. So thank you everybody for the updates. So we are happy to return to doing community spotlight sex sessions during our meetings every week. And we think Clinton Brink for joining us from the Master Builders Association. So Clinton, if you'd like to share with us a few minutes about why you're here and how you interact with the issue of homelessness.

Well, thanks so much for having me. Yeah, my name is Quinton. I'm a real estate attorney here in Tacoma. Some of the Tacoma pro bono folks in the room may recognize me from the other side of the courtroom, because I sometimes represent landlords in eviction cases, which I understand probably makes me a little bit of an outlier. But that's actually kind of the reason I'm here today. I recently had a case with to come up pro bono attorney Kathleen edelheit, who I noticed on the call and she and I, we worked out this kind of creative Win Win settlement agreement that was really better for everybody. And I give Kathleen pretty much all the credit for coming up with the idea and making it possible. But that sort of collaboration started me thinking about other common ground that we may share. And so that's why I'm here. I'm the majority of my practice. centers around development and land use work. And so at the beginning of the year, I was appointed to become an executive board member on the Master Builders Association of Pierce County. And for those who aren't familiar, the Master Builders Association is the largest group of builders in our area. We have more than 150 members. And from what I understand our membership is responsible for building the majority of housing in Pierce County. Um, so one of the functions of our group is to advocate for housing policy reforms that make it cheaper and easier to build. And this advocacy work mainly consists of trying to reduce red tape around the permitting process. So, as a result of my conversations with Kathleen, I realized that our group probably isn't the only organization that wants to see more housing built. I figure you guys and you know, tenants rights advocates probably also want to see more housing, because it means you know, low rents and you know, less homelessness. So I'm, again, obviously pretty new to this group. And so I don't know the extent to which you guys are familiar with sort of the the dire housing scarcity we're facing, but that's what I wanted to talk a little bit about here. When I say we have a housing scarcity, you know, I don't just mean we have a scarcity of affordable housing. I mean, there literally are not enough homes in our area for everybody who needs a place to live. And as a result, you know, a certain percentage of the population is pretty much inevitably going to end up homeless and you know, rents are gonna keep going up and it's going to continue to be, you know, virtually impossible for for a certain demographic to purchase their first home. So, let me sort of back that up with a few statistics. In the last year, the average price of a house in Tacoma has risen by 21.6% According to Zillow, and that's kind of an unprecedented, shocking change. To put it into perspective, Tesla stock has only gone up 18% In the last year. So the Tacoma housing market has outpaced you know, one of the hottest stocks in one of the hottest stock markets in history. And at various times in the last couple years, Redfin KOMO News and other outlets of all called Tacoma, the hottest housing market in the country. There's some



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competition in debate about that, which is actually the hottest but we're certainly right up there. And the reason for this is just simply a lack of housing. More than anything. The recent Pierce County and buildable lands report shows that we've been under building for the last decade pretty dramatically. And right now we're about 37,000 units behind our growth targets. So that's 37,000 homes that should exist, but don't in order to keep up with the demand. Tacoma specifically accounts for 20,000 of that 37,000 unit deficiency. To come a planning recently came out with sort of updated research that reflects that we actually need 60,000 more units by 2040. So over the next 18 years, we need to build 60,000 more units in Tacoma than we currently have. To put that in perspective, we only have 91,000 units now. So we essentially need to build like two thirds of the new city, kind of within the existing city that's mostly already developed. That represents or that will require a six fold increase in the rate of construction, like we would literally need to 6x our current construction rate to meet that growth target. So that's sort of the scale of the problem that that our industry is faced with, to try to meet demand. So, I mean, it kind of goes without saying that this lack of housing is a big contributor to homelessness. I'm sure you're all aware

according to some some surveys, statistics or survey data from Tacoma, it's not just homeless people that are affected 40% of the comments pay more than they can afford in housing every month and about a third of the comments report that they feel insecure in, in their housing costs and are concerned that they may need to move or be evicted. So in some, the statistics show that we've been under building for a decade, as a result, we're experiencing a lack of housing affordability and homelessness crisis. If we don't want things to get any worse, we need to urgently build a lot more housing than we're currently building. And the only way we can do that is with some radical policy policy changes. The Master Builder is we've been pretty successful with policy changes in the past but but we can't do this alone. We need support from groups like yours, to help focus local politicians and officials on the issues that really matter. And so that's I guess why I'm here today is to hopefully get help on some of these policy goals. I did come prepared to talk about one particular policy goal that I would love to get the coalition support on but I don't know if I have time to sort of discuss that. So I don't know. Should I delve into that or should I leave it should I leave it there.

Rob Huff

So what which policy is that and I'm wondering whether it's something that we want to somehow combine in with our ag advocacy section of the meeting later today?

Sure, um, well, I mean, there are a lot there probably 100 or 1000 Different things we could collaborate on, but the one I was going to talk about is zoning reform in the city of Tacoma. So,

Rob Huff



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is that the home and Tacoma phase two? It is yeah, yeah. Yeah. That would be a great topic for for us to go over if you want to provide a brief overview. Now, I do know that when the time becomes appropriate, we'll definitely want to invite the city staff as well to come brief us on the second phase, but it'd be great to kind of get an early perspective. Yeah.

Clinton Brink

Okay. Yeah. Um, can I share my screen?

Rob Huff

I can give you that just a second. Thank you. Okay, you should have that ability now. Perfect.

Clinton Brink

Thank you. All right.

Can everyone see this? Yep. All right. So this is a zoning map of the city of Tacoma. Um, you see all the all the beige areas pretty much you know, everything that isn't the port or downtown or the freeway. Um, all of that is single family zoning and what that means is that you can't build duplexes, or triplexes for Plexus in any of the beige areas. The only thing you can build are sort of typical 1950s style, single family residences, you know, white picket fence 50 feet wide, lot. 25 foot front yard, 25 foot back yard, at least two parking spaces. That's all you can build in all of the beige areas you see. So, with that zoning, you can only fit about eight units per acre. And compare that to, you know, low rise multifamily that would support maybe 40 or 50 units per acre. So that's, you know, a 4042 ish unit per acre difference between low rise multifamily and single family. So, if we want more units, if we want more housing, in the city of Tacoma, it's kind of a no brainer. We need to allow more apartments in more areas. So right now, this idea of reducing single family zoning has some inertia behind it in that the home into coma project. And the city council has passed phase one of that project, but nothing is sort of set in stone. The Human Genome Project is still very much in an exploratory phase, and there's a real concern that it may be watered down. We're sort of facing some some initial pushback from from interest groups that are against home into coma. And those interest groups consist of I think, as far as I know, pretty much exclusively existing homeowners and existing homeowners they're a little bit afraid of change. They're concerned about more traffic, you know, burdens on infrastructure, and they're concerned that that additional housing will bring down the value of their homes and to an extent you know, I can empathize with with some of these concerns. You know, I'm a homeowner myself into coma and if an apartment complex went up right next to my place, you know, that would definitely be annoying. But as you all know, we have bigger concerns. You we have people literally dying in the streets because they don't have a place to live and people getting pushed out to the perimeter people having to move schools. You know, rampant rent increases. I've been seeing literally hundreds of dollars of rent increases and some of the cases that I've been dealing with. So the voices of existing



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homeowners are loud and and they have sort of a large platform and a lot of sway with our local politicians. And our group does what it can but you know, the building industry gets sort of a bad rap. And I think a lot of times it's easy for politicians and officials to ignore us because, you know, we're outnumbered and, and also we have an obvious financial stake in the policies. We advocate for and I think that reduces our credibility. There's a critical voice missing from this conversation. And that's, that's the voice your voice is the voice of all the people who would benefit from more housing. You know, homeless advocates, tenant advocates, first time homebuyers. We need to hear from these people. With respect to this home into common project, I think the politicians the local officials will listen to you and in fact, some of the existing homeowners may listen to you, you know, if they're not yelling at a developer and they're yelling at a homeless advocate, that would think change, change the conversation dramatically. So, um, that's my pitch, sort of the first policy that I think maybe we could collaborate on but you know, if not this, there are like I said, 100 Maybe 1000 others we could talk about.

Rob Huff

Thanks, Clinton. I don't know if you saw the chat, but Garrett mentioned that we did. The Coalition did sign on to support the initial round of home in Tacoma back in July of last year, so you're definitely speaking to the right audience. And we appreciate you being here. I think there is definitely a way to collaborate on things like home in Tacoma. Theresa, I see your hand up. Yeah,

Theresa Power-Drutis

this is just Yes, absolutely. I think there are a lot of people in this room who have actually attended those home and Tacoma. Sessions and have lent our voice in support of that and even the coalition as but I also think one of the things that I think gets in the way of collaboration with developers is that our focus has often been has consistently been the zero to 30% Ami group and I like the fact that you mentioned the stock market, comparing that to housing because that's one of the biggest chasms between our groups. And I would love to bridge that, but the idea that people who invest in housing ought to be making the kind of hand over fist money that people do who are in the stock market, they want to see that kind of return rapidly. That's a lot of the problem with housing right now is that investing and expecting stock market returns. So without that changing, I'm not sure how much even adding more housing will change things. So I'd love to talk with you more and I appreciate that. You came even though this is a little as you say it's a it's an interesting collaboration that we need to reach across a lot of these divides. Thank you.

I think our group, our group, our two groups make strange bedfellows, um, just to I want to, you know, make sure that I qualify, the stock market comparison. Um, I was just, I was talking about the the existing housing market going up, not the new housing market. So I wasn't talking about the profit developers make, and I think you might. Part of the reason that developers build fancy big houses is



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because they're literally prohibited from building small houses. The lots are minimum 5000 square feet to make it pencil, you have to build sort of a luxury product on that line. So it's partly due to the zoning and partly due to the other costs involved, that that building has looked the way it has in the last decade. So

Rob Huff

thank you, Clinton. And again, we really appreciate you being here. And glad we could carve out a little extra time for you this morning. So thank you.

Clinton Brink

Pretty much. Yeah.

Rob Huff

So Cullen, I know that your time is short, and wanted to get to you while you were still here. So would you like to give us an update on what's going on in five with the Gateway project?

Colin DeForest

Yes, thanks, Rob. So it's good to see everybody um, I am one of the contracts I have now is with was.so. I'm their homeless response manager for basically people living on was dot right of ways specifically along the Gateway project which goes from the 509. So kind of down in Tacoma, it starts in Tacoma and it's going to end up in queue all up at the beginning of the 167. So I've been doing that work since September. Lots of huge camps in along the was that property in Fife that I've been working with? We've been doing outreach there since early September. We've cleared and removed a total of six camps to date. We have two, two of the larger camps. One of them is basically it's an old mobile home park. Anybody who's familiar with some people have been have been down there outreach workers. It's an old mobile home park that has turned into a RV park now, so we probably have, I don't know, at one time there was probably 60 RVs on there. Right now. I'd say we're probably down to somewhere in the 30 ish RV range. One just burned down last week, last Friday. But anyways, those camps are being removed. They were posted on but we started we've been doing. We've had outreach and resources to these camps in September. As I said, we moved a lot of people along. We posted the sights with resources on the seventh of January. So basically a comprehensive list. Basically, it's the coalition list of resources that we have. Many people have taken those resources up. We move people into shelters from there, it's a weird spots. We actually have people that go up to King County for services, and then we have people that go to Pierce County also. There's been a lot of successes. There's a lot of challenges. But what we're left with is two camps that are completely unmanageable. They are not what we would think of as typical homeless encampments. It's nothing that I've ever worked with, or in over 10 years of work. I wear a bulletproof vest when I go in there. There's shootings on site every day that are reported. So these aren't our typical homeless camps right? What we're doing is trying to pull give every individual on the site and we've have been doing this



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positive opportunity to take that positive step right. But there's just no getting around the fact that what success looks like for my job for was dot for this community. Is those sites being removed, and those people leaving those sites right. What that looks like, is many of these people don't consider themselves to be homeless, right? So especially the people in RVs. So as far as providing resources, we all know RVs are probably the last whew, there's lots of challenges around homelessness, but RVs are the nut that has not been cracked, right? People don't have an answer for these. I think there's, there's places like the city of Olympia where I used to work, who is on the verge of opening an RV site. I'm excited to see how that goes. And I hope that we can hopefully model something like that in Pierce County. Right now, what we're getting for most of these individuals in the RVs is that they're either going to leave the RVs because they're not there RVs or else they're going to take the RVs I share with marine there actually are some RV there's more RV sites that they can go to than I initially thought there's people that are moving up to dash points that have moved up to dash point. There's an eagle's nest in the back edge of Eatonville. There's a place called the lion's den and mineral these places are not close. I'm not going to try to shine it on to you that they are but this is where people are going right and these are some of the options. There's actually a site and queue all up. There's another one that's getting removed in PR but there's actually an active site, mobile home park that people I've heard can go to in queue all up. Thurston County, there's a few as I said dad point so it's not ideal, but these sites are going to be cleared. Next Wednesday. We posted them on the 18th. So earlier this week, we continue to do outreach there. Connect people when we can we have secure storage setup for everything from a social security card to an RV. Right and anything in between. So we are working with people. An example is we have a we have a disabled veteran that's down there right so he has a Vash voucher in King County. Right so he's got the the ideal the golden ticket. Unfortunately he has many he's having a challenging time, finding a place to go. So what we're gonna do is we're going to store his RV, and he has a vehicle that him and his wife can go into, they're either going to try to go into a safe parking lot, but they also have a friend that it looks like they're going to be able to go to. So that's examples of positive scenarios of people. That we're trying to work with and what that move will look like. Others. I'm not exactly sure what it's going to look like and I'm not going to try to pretend that I do. Are they going to go somewhere else? Most definitely. Where is that going to be? I don't have control over that to some point. I have control over five and they're not going to end up in faith unless they're on another was property which very well could happen also. So I'm working closely with five PD on this. They've been a great partner closely with Pierce County Sheriff's Department on this and other great partner outreach services. Most of the outreach, we really look to Trish from greater lakes mental health is our lead. We have a task force group, which is a really large team of individuals from, you know, yesterday, our task force meeting, Jim Bomgar, kicked off the meeting and talk for a half hour to us and strategize with us about what we're doing. So we got a lot of people that are a part of this task force. It's a challenging problem. As I can say, I can't stress enough. This is not typical homelessness that I'm used to seeing. And that's not to make an excuse for why we're moving the site. We're moving the site because it simply is not safe for anyone in there or for the businesses or the community around so I'll shut up and let you guys ask me any questions that you have. Outreach wise, if anybody wants to go out there, we will be out there. I'll be out there today. We'll be out there next week. The weekend. You



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can also ask you know Trish will be out there if there's anybody that wants to tap into Trish will pull multi carry out there will pull CMR out there. We've done that before. Some of the end you'll find out you know, ideally, we can engage some individuals but also there's just a lot of individuals that want nothing to do is nothing that we have. And that's kind of just what it is. So yeah.

Rob Huff

Thanks, Colin. So let's go to questions. Boring.

Maureen Howard

So Carla, thanks for for coming and filling everybody. And so if if one of the two camps has got about 30 RVs left, how many people in the other camp and are they all in vehicles also or? And does this basically mean the last time I heard the lobbyist for a city of five testify for the legislature is talking about 200 plus people? Is that what you're looking at?

Colin DeForest

Oh, great question. Yeah. So I mean, as, as all of us know, quantifying the amount of individuals on any of these sites is at best challenging, right? This site is extremely mobile, because so many people are in vehicles. At the beginning of this project, our estimate was from the beginning to the end of that, which is four plus miles. Yeah, we're thinking to 300 individuals. Right now, the the ultimate goal with all these individuals is I do a survey, five questions survey. So it's a survey and assessments we're assessing the site example is I'm doing a survey I'm talking to the lady was a black guy. We pulled her to the side She's now in the YWCA Devi shelter. So in King County, so we were able to pull her out of there. So that is assessing the area while we're doing the surveys when we can get in and do that. So how many people are out there right now? I would say between 50 and 100 in this specific area. Are there so as far as levy what he's talking about? He's talking about that larger broader number of the whole area. And also the six sites that we moved, which I will also say, you know, many of the people from the initial site site removals have moved into some of these sites. So that and I've known that that's going to happen and that will continue to happen as we move down the slow and painful process as we know of kind of the I hate to say Whack a Mole but some of the process that looks like that. This is different than that. That's states trying to do stuff different. That's why they brought me on I've worked with the state for over 10 years and my government roles. They've never done anything like hire a homeless response manager. So is it perfect? No, it's not right now. It is not at all. Marine. You're on the call yesterday. I think there's a lot of optimism hearing what the governor is trying to do \$185 million specifically for this group of individuals for flexible funds to connect them to housing services, shelter services, Fife is doing some first smallest five is five is doing some very innovative stuff. And we're also placing people in defiance program so they have an employment program. That we're running, which is a managed outdoor, it's Tent City. So they have a small tent city, you get you get a job through five Parks Department, which is great. That's came from all the people that are in these sites, right? Or the sites adjacent to it that Trisha has been a catalyst behind a lot of that work too. So there's neat things going is is fives employment program going to take care of this problem. Heck, no, it's not but it's it's a



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model just like safe parking. Ideally, we pilot it. We find something that works and we try to bring that to scale. Five is in the process with the county of getting a hotel just like the city of Tacoma Pierce County has done Tacoma. Well, that'd be super helpful. Heck, yes, that'll that'll definitely help us out. So these are all things that we're trying to do. But as far as what what my work right here is doing is clearing these sites removing these sites. We're claiming these sites because what's coming behind the sites the difference from this site to say another site 34th and Pacific Highway is this is a construction site. They're building a dam freeway. So there's actually there's there's crews moving dirt across the street already for this project. So these aren't sites where people can be anybody who's been down there and all that Trish if she has anything to say, but I mean, these sites are three feet some of them are three feet underwater right now. So it's they're not habitable on seven different levels. So yeah, I don't know if there's any other questions. Trish, I know you're here. And your hands raised too. So

Rob Huff

yeah, he has a question.

So I'm actually one of the things I did want to share about five another unique well, two unique things is that you know, since COVID, happened in the pandemic, every place that people could go to get contraceptives, health department Planned Parenthood, DS, HS, any, any of those agencies were closed and we are now seeing a rapid increase in pregnant using females that are on the street because people could not go get the things they normally would use. And five specifically in that one block of area that column talked about clearing it's literally one one block of the city we removed five pregnant females there and all five of them did go to Swedish or to an outside agency to get help had healthy babies. Not all of them are able to keep their children, but we didn't have any babies delivered out there. We didn't have any babies that were delivered without care. We did bring multi care down with an ultrasound machine to one of the camps because the female was so unable to go in and get care and we literally did an ultrasound out there in the homeless encampment to find out how far along she was learn that she needed to have a C section because of other medical conditions that had she gone into labor out not camp she had died. She's now in a shelter with the dad on the baby and the baby's healthy and the moms clean and things are going well. But for most of our folks that are experiencing that down there, they're not candidates for the shelter. They have criminal histories. They have substance use issues, they don't have IDs. They have so much else going on that we are literally scrambling to figure that out. And so and then also the age range there is huge we have removed several families with children. And we also have like an elderly population out there that has significant medical conditions. I'm one of them. We brought the ultrasound machine out again and they did an echo one somebody out there in the camp and took her to the emergency room. Her heart was so bad. We have somebody out there that's got Huntington's disease. I don't know if you know anything about it. But it's hell and trying to convince that person to get off the drugs and come inside is nearly impossible. And so we are dealing with the most unique situations ever and we we have been engaging these folks for a very, very long time. And it has literally taken all of these people together to make any



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sort of progress down there. So I know people are looking at the numbers that are still there. I'm not lying when I tell you I we had one client we had to make, I don't know call on you were there with us. 1314 calls to get some help for them before we could get a person to answer the phone. And so it's also a unique situation area wise it's the i Five corridor, it is where the port is we it's truckstop city, we have people that are being discharged from score and King County that get dropped off by cabs down there and then Pierce County and so we have this very unique, diverse group of people. And it's it is definitely the most unique and same thing I've seen in my entire career.

Rob Huff

Thank you Trish. Yeah,

Colin DeForest

and I don't know if there Yeah, so any other questions? You know, I'm like I said, anybody who's interested in doing outreach down there, come down I'm going out. I think, actually, Councilmember rumbas went out there on Monday with me to check it out because city of Tacoma has been a great partner on this. I've worked closely with Allison Griffith. We also I mean, the first sites that we had were the Fourth Street called a sac which Trish showed me and she said we don't go down there without police. I mean, so I just can't estimate and it's not to paint this as these are all bad people. This paint brush is not wide. But what I tell you is this is there's a there's a criminal element that has shown up in this area that has come from all over it example we had to a crime quads that got stolen from Edgewood, from a disabled veteran. We found them at this site, they have called 40 Getting close to 50 vehicles like nice vehicles out of this site 50 catalytic converters, you know every single day are getting pulled out of the same sex trafficking is happening happening at this site. We have teenage girls stumbling out of the site. I mean, Trisha, she was very censored in the stories that she told but um, it's it's a scary sight. And you know, our goal is Trish said we pulled families out of there is to get the focus on the individuals in there that really shouldn't be in there and let's get them out of there and get them to a positive and a safe place while also you know, this community is you wouldn't believe the stories from this community. It's absolutely it's terrible what they're dealing with. So we got a lot of work to do. But yeah, that's kind of where we're at with this.

Rob Huff

Alright, Thanks for that update, Collin. And if we can well as you know if we can be a resource in some way, a lot of us are here so. Alright, so let's move on to the next item on the agenda. I'm going to shuffle things around a little bit because we're running long. So Maureen, can you do your advocacy update now and we will do our breakout session after the government updates? Sure. Thank you.

Maureen Howard

Okay, well, good morning, everybody. Fortunately, we have nothing to work on. So we're finishing the second week of the state legislative session. And you're I'm forwarding what I get from the Alliance.



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Whatever your particular interest issue interested, if there's a statewide advocacy group, you should be on their listservs so that you can follow those particular bills. It looks like the youth homelessness bills are moving pretty well. I am not trying to follow all the bills at all, even the ones that we are concerned about. Right now. I'm targeting two that are of immediate interest to us. And to us in Pierce County. One of those is 5662. And that is the Governor's bill, on the encampments on state owned public rights of way. Remember, that's a very narrow definition on this bill. It's not all the property state agencies own it's the public rights of way. So along with the Washington Low Income Housing Alliance, the Seattle King County Coalition on Homelessness, I testified on our behalf 10 days ago or whatever it was on with signing in other which means you have concerns you're neither Pro, the bill nor against the bill con but you've got some concerns and and so as a result, and we did each of us offer to meet with the bill sponsor Senator Cooter, and others. Senator Trudeau is number two on that. Sponsorship list. And the governor's office in whatever way, you know could be helpful. Improving the bill. And so the governor's office did convene us, Jim Baumgartner, who calling just spoke about convened us Friday afternoon and no Monday afternoon and we met at some length everyone who had testified and Jim promised that he would take into account our concerns and provide us with a revised draft which he did late yesterday. And then he would convene us again. And the so this bill is high priority for the governor and it does have funding associated with it. In a nutshell, it creates a coordinating intergovernmental office in DSH s. Flowing from that will be regional offices which do not mean a county by county, they mean multiple counties and these regional offices will have will hire and will manage regional outreach teams to encampments on state owned public rights of way. And they really spent a fair amount of time talking through how those might work. So I've particular interest to those of us on the homelessness community. Jim did add to the bill to the legislative intent, the recognition that that it is the state's intent that Martin V Boise be followed and that it is also consistent with the values of the state of Washington. So that's it one piece the other pieces is that we did get in the recognition of people with lived experience as full participants in the processes at the different levels. Also volunteer organizations as distinct from government funded organizations. And then the and also there's anti criminalization language. So I haven't it came out so late last night. I haven't heard from the others. In the group. We will meet again, as I read it, I think it looks clearer than it was. I think it's consistent with what with what we can support but we will see when we hear back from Nick Federici and Michelle Thomas are lead advocates for the Alliance in our leads on this bill. And it does make clear also that nothing in this bill interferes with the existing contractual relationships or MOUs that state agencies already have with various cities. The Department of Transportation has MOU with a number or official agreements with a number of cities across the state. And so this is not intended to interfere with those it is not intended to interfere with any work that is going on already. Within the community. It's intended to add a dimension and on the outreach side, and it's also intended excepting in cases of public safety and public health and safety, to begin the conversations among the various partners with the resources that are available not just in the public sector, but also in the philanthropic sector before any outreach is done to people living in the accountant. So, outreach teams go out knowing what they have available. Part of the reason to put it in DSH s is they're the people who do individual direct services. And the thought was that they could close the gap on eligibility for benefits by having them right in the mix of things from the



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beginning. So 5662 will there'll be a meeting the governor's office and there will be a hearing on the revised bill and then it I mean, it's gonna move. So it's just a matter of, of watching it and paying attention to make sure that nothing in it precludes our ability to do the work that we're trying to do. Jeffrey I see your hand but I just want to run through these and then I'll take questions on all of them if that's okay. Okay, the second one is 1620 because that's Mary Lovettville Out of the 28th and that's the extreme weather bill, which basically puts money into Well no, the bill doesn't. The bill calls for grants the money would have to come out of the budget on the budget side. But they, the grants right now would be located within a department of commerce, they would go to jurisdictions who would apply for them so that they can respond to the needs of unsheltered people during extreme weather. And this is something good, I think it's something that fits in with everything we're trying to do. My hope is that because remember, we've got 23 jurisdictions in Pierce County, each with their own emergency response plan. So if even a third of these jurisdiction, qualify for these grants and get them we're that much farther along in having a consistent, coordinated kind of emergency. Weather extreme weather response. So which would help all of us, especially those of you who work across all these different jurisdictions in the county, that one's going to have a hearing and appropriations on Monday afternoon and I will sign in and or testify probably in support on on our behalf. There are three other well, the governor's budgets, Bill Clinton, have the master builders sign in on the governor's budget. It's, I mean, that money will make a huge difference on Capitol side. And on operation side, all right, across the homelessness and extremely low income housing, and All right, so that's one thing. So three things that I think that we really need to pay attention to going forward that are just like standing issues and I think calling a Tricia talking about their experience with Fife is a perfect lead in on part of it and, and that's his whole outreach arena. And I know that Pierce County Human Services is beginning to deal with this. And I know that we've been dealing with it because of the high numbers of volunteers, both organizations and individuals, everybody from faith based through the far activist groups going out to encampments, whether those are onesies and twosies, or those are large encampments and trying to help the people who are living in them and so how do we how do we how do we, how do we use the volunteer resources that we have to support the funded we outreach resources that are available to meet the needs of the people in encampments, both their immediate health and safety needs, but also their long term permanent housing needs? So just it's not a one off conversation? It's think about it and think about how we move this forward. That's one the other one is prevention. All right, it's we do not have prevention as part of our homelessness response system. Hopefully that changes when the comp plan to end homelessness is fully endorsed by the Council and the carrot begins the implementation. We have the rental assistance portion. But we don't have that by policy. We have that because the Feds gave us a ton of money, and so did the state. And so now we've got over \$100 million worth of experience with rental assistance. And more coming. But it's not just the rental assistance, that's prevention. It's all of those systems. And it's so you know, it's Dion saying the number of calls she's getting at the school district coming and saying what do we do about the children and yes, McKinney vento will transport them from wherever but if they're in ordering now, and their homeschool is in South Tacoma, that's a long trip. Alright. So sometimes the law and the policy are not always what's best for the individual. So I went out on the listserv over 700 Review asking for housing navigators that are not



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... tied to somebody in the homelessness system. Alright, I'm waiting for responses. I'll take any I got two, neither of which are going to work but I'm starting like you I'm getting these. These please coming in. I'm on the brighter side on the mobile home park people the meridian estates people in pol app. It's my understanding they do have a client Northwest Justice as a client and they will be having an informational meeting with the homeowners. You all got the job announcement the city of QL up is adding to temporary part time case managers to work with the households. These homeowners are still determined to try to purchase their park. They want to stay together. They want to keep their homes. One man is a great barber he's put in he's been there 16 years. So this is not simple, but it falls under that whole outline of what does prevention look like? And the third thing on my immediate less than if is the emergency response, emergency response to extreme weather. And honestly, I don't know if we can make the case that encampments at a certain level ought to be an emergency response sort of thing as well. I don't know. But it for sure extreme weather. So the small group that I'm a part of begins meeting again today. And Ivan may talk about that a little bit. I don't know. We begin meeting again today. And we'll do another kind of after action. I've got the comments that you all provided two weeks ago, when the small groups broke into an after action on the extreme weather if there is anything else, put it in the chat now. And Alright, so yeah, the list could go on but that's the immediate So Geoffrey and then Trish.

Jeffrey Boyce

Ah, good morning. There's two other bills I think that interesting. SB 5867, which cities over 50,000 to have appropriate shelters based on the PIT count the previous PIT count that in another one and not everybody get this one but SB 5838. And this is to add diapers to TANF payments. Both of these I think will help not just not necessarily here in Pierce County, but we'll help hopefully eliminate one area of problem for other parts of the state. Thank

Maureen Howard

you. Thanks. Thanks a lot. Trish.

I just was looking for some clarification. I've heard a few times like in the emergency meetings we had during the weather stuff. And then I heard you say it again today about how the funded outreach teams can help the volunteer teams. What exactly does that mean? Because I know we're a funded team, but I'll tell you this, we don't have even a third of the amount of money that we need to do to complete what we're doing in our jobs. And we certainly don't do our jobs for the money. I can promise you that right now that we are pay is not why we're here. So when you say that I kind of cringe a little because you know, Jessica and I have to go to our foundation and we advocate for grants and for extra funds however we can I mean would that be something to put a NOFA together for for a volunteer a volunteer NOFO because at this point, if a volunteer agency called me and said to her, you know, volunteers called and said they needed supplies as much as I would love to say, awesome. That's definitely not



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going to be our response. I mean, we we don't have enough to do and not only that, but our funds that we do have that make us a funded team are so strict on what we can spend it on. We can't spend it on motels. We can't spend it on certain things. We can't spend it on moving expenses. And so what is it exactly that you're referring to? When you say that the funded teams can help the non funded teams?

Maureen Howard

Thanks, Tricia. So I think there are several things and I think it's you know, we're not gonna we're not gonna get through it all in this time right now, but a couple of things happened during the extreme weather. And Garrett, I think is Yeah, Garrett on so he can speak to some of this, but part of it was there was money, additional money available. There. Now the needs of the funded teams that I I didn't know I wasn't privy to the needs of volunteer teams. I was privy to and so the question was, how could we get basic resources to the volunteers who are going out? And we knew we could get water through the city with the Tacoma but that wasn't convenient for everybody, just in terms of travel and things and we couldn't go out for an all call request for a contributions of blankets and socks or hand warmers because we didn't have any place for people to bring them. So we simply said to everybody, donate to your usual organization find out what they need, but one of the things that emerged was that Pierce County Human Services said that, that organizations that already had a contract with the county could in fact, purchase supplies and make them available to the volunteer organizations. But again, that relied on the team the organization's with a contract, to have the organizational capacity, the bandwidth to be able to do one more thing in the middle of this emergency weather. So I think what it for me what it is, it's an open question. It's and you've just expanded it right now, and it's how do we make sure as a coalition, how do we make sure that if you have a contract with the county to provide outreach services, especially anytime you have everything you need, or the city you have a city contract, whatever or it's a state contract, federal, whatever level that contract is, that you have everything you need to do your work as efficiently as possible, so you're not scrambling for these basic supplies and basic resources that that you require to do your work. professionally. Well, right. That's one part of it. The other part of it is how do we get supplies to the volunteer outreach folks who are going out and augmenting everything that the teams with contracts have the organization with contracts have? So how do we do that? And how do we how do we get ahead of weather? Because it's not it doesn't just appear. We have lead time on weather now. And so how do we get ahead of it? So that everybody who's going out has what they need. So none of their time is scrambling, trying to find one more blanket, that's a winter blanket, or one more set of tarps at a decent price kind of thing. And, and in that also in that overall is also the whole transportation piece. I mean, you know, Cherie Johnson went out begging for help to get shelter workers to and from work from their homes. And my guess is the same was true with at least some of the outreach folks going out who simply couldn't get where they needed to be because they didn't have the vehicles. But DM the EEOC has volunteer four by fours for the doctors and the medical people. All right. My point being they can probably by their own but anyway, that being said, you know, where are these pieces? That we could we know enough to be able to advocate for systems changes that make it work. So just by asking you to do more, with less believe me. We want to get you more so you can do what you want to be able to do and we want to figure out a way that Ed and Jeffrey and Food Not



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Bombs and the People's Assembly and serve the people and Richburg hammer and Teresa and everybody else who's out there on a volunteer basis can get what they need easily to be able to. I mean in extreme weather. We're talking about keeping people alive, so does that help?

Rob Huff

Alright, thanks Maureen. That's a really rich conversation and glad that we're able to have it this morning. Let's Oh, I see. Ivan wanted to add something as well. Go ahead. Ivan.

Ivan Tudela

Emery, thank you so much. And then I did hear you mentioned our emergency planning meeting that we have every Friday that we're going to be meeting this afternoon and I'll talk more about that when it when it's my time on the agenda. But I just wanted to piggyback on what you said. I think the first step to everything you mentioned is planning. Right? Right now we've gotten through the worst part of the winter knocking on wood, but we are aware in Pierce County we will have this event twice a year. And homelessness will continue to be an issue moving forward. There are discussions we can have today, looking at available resources and partnerships and networks today to discuss what would happen in the event of a an extreme heat wave condition. The biggest issue and the one thing that we're having discussions with community based organizations and other jurisdictions is triggers. You know at what point will different organizations reach or exhaust their resources during an extreme weather event where they will elevate needs up to a jurisdiction to for additional support. But what does that look like? And when do we do that? And when do we step in is the conversations we're having weekly. And I'm very excited about that. Because since we stood up those meetings, communication has improved greatly and I think we saw that during the recent winter weather response. I just wanted to piggyback what Maureen said and agree completely, that there's an opportunity here thank you, Ivan.

Rob Huff

So if there are additional thoughts on this, please use the chat. I do recognize we're about 10 minutes past our agenda time for doing government updates. So I'm going to shift yours over to that and before we lose folks off the call. And again, we will come back and do our breakout discussion and short poll right after the government update. So those who are looking forward to that that is coming up next. So first in our government updates, I will paste information from the city of Tacoma that was shared with me via email last night from Alison grip. Griffith um, I did ask Alison how things are going in the city and adding the additional staff to the department where she works and community and neighborhood services. And she said that that they do intend once they are staffed up to have somebody from the city on these calls going forward. So I just wanted to share that because I know some some folks were wondering why is the city not here. And essentially, it's just because they don't have the staffing capability at this time and conflicting meetings. So I'll like I said I'll paste the information from the city into the chat. There is some interesting information there including details about a community vitality and safety committee meeting next Thursday that will be of interest to many of us. A short update about Aspen CT, and then an update on encampment outreach let's move to the folks who are here. So I saw



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earlier in the call Jeff Rogers was on the call. Jeff Do you have you're still here and have an update for us?

Jeff Rogers

Yeah, good morning. Um, I think that we have an update on is our homeless Point in Time Count is next week. If you're not aware, the homeless point in time count will be done next Thursday, January 27. And Friday, January 28. We're working to assign folks their locations they will visit training has been completed. We did training for the last three days. We're again using the app on the phone called counting us. So we're really excited to to do the count this year because we didn't do a count last year and we need to get an accurate count to get a true reflection of the number of people on one night who were homeless here in Pierce County. So we're working hard. Many people on this call are working with the county to make this a very successful Point in Time Count. And yeah, that's the update we have. I'll just put a little quick thing out there that we have a funding cycle that's called our homeless housing program funding with the large amount of funding we put out annually. We did not put those funds out last year due to COVID and the pandemic. Most folks in government that we're doing any type of funding, we're busy putting out new funds that have been committed to different jurisdictions. So we've put money out but not our standard routine homeless housing program funding. That Notice of Funding Availability will be going out soon. So pay attention if you're interested in funding from us because that is our big annual funding, allocation of money that we put out. There will be some new things put into that funding opportunity that aren't part of our current funding. work that we do. So just a heads up. It's coming out. I'll let you know when it's officially released. But it's coming soon. Thank you, Jeff.

Rob Huff

And we've already talked about Pierce County rental assistance, brief update from Lori and Jenny about where things are at to their analogy again, Valerie's out on vacation, well earned vacation right now. So I presume she's going to be back next week. Next up, I have Jenny who's back with us from the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department. Jenny, you have updates for us.

Jeannie Schoeppe

Sure. Hi, everyone. Good morning. It's really good to be back with you all. I've been out for two weeks, some family medical leave. So thanks for your patience. If there are questions that I cannot answer, I will certainly find out the answers for you. I've got some support on the call to from our community engagement team. I'm going to have Rachel give a little short report about PPE after I give my normal report. I'm just want to remind everybody before I jump into things that Rachel Hauser from community engagement has been hopefully you've seen her weekly emails that she's been sending out to the listserv. They sort of are a digest of some some to most of the information that I share on these calls. With links so hopefully those have been helpful. If you have any comments or feedback or other things you'd like to see in that weekly email. We are open to that feedback. So let us know and if you're not on the listserv, I'm assuming everyone here is on the listserv, but get on the listserv. Um, so Jeff



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mentioned on the point in time count we were fortunate enough to be invited to participate in the trainings with that. So we share Rachel and I joined Jeff and his team giving safety information about COVID to hopefully keep volunteers and participants, cognizant of COVID risks and being safe out there while they're volunteering. So that was really fun. So I want to thank Jeff and team for inviting us to participate in that. Um, as always, I kind of start this report out by saying get vaccinated. I really hope everyone here is vaccinated and boosted the data not only local data, but across the country and the world is showing that the greatest impacts from COVID and we haven't peaked just yet, but the greatest impacts are on unvaccinated people. So really, really compelling data on hospitalizations, death, and so we need to get everyone vaccinated as always, we'll share links in the chat. But our vaccine page is updated regularly. If you've had Pfizer or Moderna you and you've had your two shots, you're eligible for a booster five months after you've got that second shot and two months after your one shot j&j. So please do that. And if you have questions reach out to Rachel or myself. We're also in flu season our flu season has been less impactful than in past years. But we will share our flu page so please get vaccinated for against influenza. If you have not already done that. We know that testing COVID testing has been really a big frustration really in the community for folks. It's been long lines. There are lots of issues with testing because the demand for testing is so high. So our testing team has been working really hard on standing up and more resources and supporting more resources. The Cannon Road site will be up again I think Monday. We're working on two additional sites in the next couple of weeks. One will be out on the peninsula and keep Peninsula. I'll share links to how you can fill out a form if you need tests or you can email the testing team. Hopefully everyone knows this but you can get free rapid antigen testing at Tacoma Public Library locations, pupil Public Library locations as well as Pierce County Library System locations while supplies last. And then finally, just you know, our testing webpage is being updated by our communications and testing team every day. So please check that out. And again, I'll share links isolation, isolation quarantine, if you know someone who needs a safe place to quarantine or isolate because they are COVID positive or they've been exposed and they're awaiting a test result. The number to call is still the arresto line which I will share. We are kind of holding steady with our capacity on that I know it everyone who needs it is not able to get in but we're continuing to work on making sure we have capacity to help folks locate a safe place to isolate or quarantine. Whew, that was a lot. I'm glad to be back with you all I'm going to hand it over to Rachel to share some information about ordering PPE, protective personal protective equipment. And then if you have questions for Rachel or myself, let us know. Thanks, Rob. Danny,

Rachel Hauser

thank you very much, Jenny. Good morning, everyone. So a quick update as far as PPE goes. Two things to separate things. First, if you are a community organization, and you need help getting different PPE items, you can actually request those through Pierce County Emergency Operations Center. So there's a link through the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department. I'm going to post that you're just going to follow the little instructions on the webpage, complete a form, email it in and you're just requesting items that way. That is just for general community organizations. That need assistance with PPE, PPE items. As far as for our shelter providers. It is a little bit different. I had sent out some



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correspondence for you related to accessing the Washington Department of Health PPE supplies, and we've updated our process just a little bit for that. This is just for the shelter providers sheltering data center providers, the orders that have already been placed, you've already been in contact with me that's not affected by that unless we've been in in correspondence. But we're now going to have a forum that you'll just fill out and we'll email that out to the lessor Following the meeting. It's just gonna be an open quantity field case size isn't going to matter. You're simply entering the quantity that you're needing. And then n 95 Excuse me are limited right now. We're expecting to see some restrictions with that. We're also going to include a prioritization list that we're going off of so you understand who those are being allocated to first. Those are typically coming in packs of 20. I think the K and 90s are in 50 or 100 packs. Those surgical masks typically in 100 or 1000 pounds. We are asking that you limit the request to two to four times what your total patient or client and staff count is. There is like a lot of community requests going in for these things right now. So just adding having you've limited a little bit if you can, and hopefully we can keep these things going out. But yeah, so two separate things. Just to quickly recap community organizations will be ordering or placing requests through a link on to come in Pierce County Health Department webpage. Shelter providers will be filling out a form and that will be sent out. Any questions about that? Okay, cool. And always send me an email if you have anything you think of. Thanks, folks.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Rachel. Let's shift gears over to the Pierce County Department of Emergency Managers, management Ivan.

Ivan Tudela

Thank you, Rob. I don't have any huge, ground shattering updates other than our testing sites. At Spanaway Park. The final day of operation will be tomorrow. But we will have an additional site stood up in Dupont here pretty soon and that information will be updated on our Emergency Management website. Here's that link. Additionally, on that website is information on how to order the free at home COVID testing kits that Jenny mentioned as well. And then just for everyone's awareness, I am happy to report at least on the drive thru testing sites that we operate that I we have seen a downtick in demand. So I'm taking that as since the at home kids now are available that that's kind of offsetting the demand a bit. But I am also noticing a lot of folks are being sent there by their employer, and and and their school as well. So lots of folks are being tested and I'm just happy to see that we are meeting that in the field. So I'll stop for any questions. Thank you. Well, yeah,

Rob Huff

thanks, Ivan.

Janet Runbeck

Oh, do you want to talk about the fast team?



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Ivan Tudela

Oh, yes, I mentioned that last week. Unfortunately. Currently, the dates are next Thursday. And Friday and I am well aware that that conflicts with the Point in Time Count event but let me plug the flyer and everything you need to know about the fast team is in this flyer as well as how to sign up for the training. Basically the fast team it stands for functional assessment service team. This is a team of trained professionals who are willing and able to be deployed to an emergency shelter stood up by the county or any jurisdiction that is requesting the fast team members. I am currently actively recruiting folks who support unsheltered community members or work in that field just because I'm recruiting an interdisciplinary regional class of students this year. So yep, everything you need is in that flyer. Look. To learn more, visit my website at Pierce County Emergency Management on the access and functional needs page. There's a two hour overview YouTube video that just basically explains everything about fast but I'll stand by and answer any burning questions if you guys might have any.

Rob Huff

Alright, thanks, Ivan. Yep, no problem. Alright, so let's, let's get back to the breakout conversation, followed by a short poll and then we'll fill out the rest of our meeting. After that, um, what we wanted to cover in our breakout today was to talk a little bit about what are three opportunities you see for the coalition in the next year over the next year. So the point of these breakout discussions is I split everybody into rooms of five or six people and and we're trying to both consider the question as well as just get to know each other. So we like to have networking opportunities, especially for anybody who's new to the meetings or rejoining after being away for a while. So the only request is, if somebody in each chatroom can take some notes, you can paste those notes back into the chat when we get back to the main room. And that information can be used to help inform our work here over the next over the rest of 2022. So let me set up the breakout rooms and what we will do is we will spend about 10 minutes originally I thought that I would have have us do a little more time but I don't want to cut our meeting too short. So I am opening the rooms now and I hope everybody has a good conversation. I will bring everybody back at 1036.

<breakout rooms>

Rob Huff

Welcome back, everybody. You caught us in the middle of ongoing conversation that we're having in the main main room, so I hope everybody had a good conversation. Please do drop the notes that you took in each of the rooms into the chat, so that we can be made aware of what good things you were talking about. And let's shift gears while you're pasting that in to a poll question that the steering committee folks talked about on Wednesday, and Garrett created this morning. So let me launch this poll. This is a multiple choice poll about how the community should spend dollars to address homelessness. So launching that now. And we can all multitask and paste things into the chat while also voting.



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Gerrit Nyland

So many options. So the idea behind this permanent takeover rob the idea is all right. I got \$10 million, extra say hypothetical. Okay, I really do and how should we be prioritizing and we've talked before we found almost the same poll before I'd love you to pick three things that matter the most to you right now. I almost feel like these priorities change over time. And, and we can peanut butter it put a little bit everywhere we can focus in on certain things. But yeah, I'd love I'd love your thoughts. Right. So again, rent assistance is just pumping money into households at risk. You know, allow basically extending the second one allow our risk of homeless doubled up to use a homeless system, right. That's something we don't do. Marina was talking about that challenge. We've talked about it a long time. If you're paying for your own home motel stay for three nights, we don't help you. That's kind of crappy. But also if you're going to get evicted in a week, we don't help you. That's kind of crappy, like not even financial just let's talk about options. The rest are pretty straightforward.

Rob Huff

Alright, so it looks like about 30 of us. Yeah, thank you for participating. We're up to 68 70% participating. So we'll give this a little just a little more time and then share the results here in a moment. Alright, looks like we are up to 42 out of 48 of us. I'll give five more seconds let's share the results. So it looks like 69% saying we should build more affordable housing 43% saying permitted permanent supportive housing 36% About allow at risk homeless homelessness double up to use the homeless system shelter for 33% and then on down to rent assistance at 26%. So very interesting results I'm going to do a quick screenshot of this so I have it and let's shift gears to an update from the safe sites committee with jarran back Can Can you do give us an update?

Janet Runbeck

Ah yes, we have four very active sites on the website is the contact information for Paula Anderson for applicants for potential placement in one of our sites. And everybody is welcome to join us Monday at noon. To zoom go to the website for the Zoom address. Thank you.

Rob Huff

Thanks, Jan. And anybody with questions regarding safe sites or questions for the safe sites committee?

Laurie Davenport

Give that just a moment.

Rob Huff

All right, not seeing any. Let's shift over to coalition committee updates. Any of the coalition committees have something to share this week. Rosemary,



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Rosemary Powers

this is just a very quick comment. The race and equity committee will be meeting on February 3 at 3pm. So if you're interested in working with us on outreach issues and holding ourselves accountable to the important issues of equity, that's a good place to join us. We welcome anybody who's wants to share with us that will be on the coalition page that you can sign up whenever you're able to but February 3, three to 4pm Secondly, the governance work group is completing a description of the coalition as best we can that is that who is who it is we are right now. As a preliminary to ongoing discussions we hope to have soon about any decisions we may make for changes in our the way we do things or our priorities. And the comments today from the breakout sessions will be very useful as we think about missions and visions and values and, and, and practical practical ways to be so if you're interested in having some of those conversations, coming to the steering committee meetings on Wednesday at three is a good time because we are devoting some time to that discussion right now. So that's it.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Rosemary. And just as a reminder, if anybody has the desire to drop in on any of the committee meetings, coalition committee meetings, they're all listed on the PC homeless.org website with the links to join those meetings and register. So please join in if you have the time and interest. So now we can open the floor for just any announcements or or updates that folks want to share with the larger group we still got 51 folks in the room. So this is our good trouble section of the meeting. If you if we have something that hasn't been covered yet today and you'd like to share. This is the opportunity and just use the raise hand function.

Rosemary Powers

Rosemary I don't know if Cheryl is still on the call, but she put in the in the chat information about a food bank that's available and I don't know if everyone saw that but surely if you're still here and wanted to comment on it, that'd be helpful too.

Bobi Foster-Grahler

I am. Yeah,

hopefully everyone can hear me sorry for any background noise out really quickly. The food bank is open from it. 4819 South Fourth Street from 12 to two. We don't put any limits we don't last Friday. We don't just take what you want. You can pick up for other people. We have a very large supply. In fact, I have 150 Something boxes, you don't have to take everything that's in the box. We have a separate area where if you just want to pick through and take what you want. That's more than welcome to do that as well. There's no restrictions just come and get it.



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Rob Huff

Thank you for that update. Great resource thriller Maureen

Maureen Howard

Yeah, back to emergency management. One more piece. Do all of your organization's have any extreme weather emergency response plan? Something written down that any staff person any volunteer knows where it is, and what it means and what to do or is that something we might want to hold a separate, you know, little one hour session on what ought to be in that?

Laurie Davenport

Does anybody have a plan? I can speak Yeah. Yeah.

Rob Huff

I can speak to the organization I work for does have a plan but it's it's largely functional for the different programs that we have. But yeah, I think it'd be good to share, especially if folks have templates for plans that could be helpful for folks

Maureen Howard

you know, because the ideal is first you know, that stupid Ania and that raging from dem keeps talking about it's in layers and the first layer is, you know, the individual, your family, then it's your workplace. And that workplace doesn't matter if it's paid or volunteer. But if that that workplace and then it's what Pierce County or your local jurisdiction provides that you can't provide for your own individual family or your organization. And then after that, Pierce County de m picks it kicks in and then it goes to the state after that some magical way.

Rob Huff

Yeah, great topic to bring up Maureen. Anybody else with just go to the Order Items Alright, so do continue to use the chat if you have something you want to share there. And the last item on our agenda today is just to carve out some time to reflect on today's meeting and offer an opportunity if folks feel like there's some feedback you'd like to provide what worked well today, what? What didn't, what things we should add for next week's meeting. I will say that, that that feedback can be offered either by raising your hand now or dropping something in the chat. Whatever you're most most comfortable with. I think Jan's first and then I've

Janet Runbeck

Yes, there was a lot of discussion about building a network and the role of the coalition and building a network of sites strategic throughout the county that can stock in advance. emergency supplies and I you know, having been intimately involved in both of the inclement weather incidents of 2021 water, blankets and first aid supplies we need both donations of and sites willing and a network that can



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manage communication and all of that. So I've already I've had two people chat privately, to me, both of them associated with networks, both are faith based networks. So if there are others who have ideas as part constructive ideas, not necessarily opinions, opinions are fine, but maybe another day. Any ideas just let me know and I'd be willing to start the conversation.

Laurie Davenport

Thank you. Jan.

Rob Huff

And Ivan, did you have something bad?

Ivan Tudela

Thanks, Rob. No, I just wanted to highlight what Jenny put in the chat from our room when we talked about the housing first model and the need to possibly discuss that more as a as a campaign or as a public service announcement. There's a lot of institutional knowledge in this team's meeting. Right now everyone's aware of the housing first model, harm reduction principles. Crisis Intervention as such, for the unaffiliated folks may not be aware that you know, in order for individuals to start to take the steps to address substance use or mental illness, they have to first have housing, and that's something we all agree with in this room. But But what about the general public and I just want to highlight that and turn to to my room mates to see if they want to jump in on that conversation too.

Laurie Davenport

Thanks, Ivan. And Mike. Yeah, I

Mike Boisture

just want to follow up with Jan, I didn't would meet with the ELC at PL up and brought up the trailers and they would give us space to park a trailer on city property up there. And so also, I've talked with a couple churches so it's when we start getting that plan together. Let's talk

Rob Huff

if not tonight. And Ivan again.

Ivan Tudela

My guest just reminded me I really want to thank Mike Jan. And was it Mike and Jen, I feel like oh and Garrett and of course Human Services was in our EOC for the recent winter weather response. It was excellent collaboration. So thank you, Mike. moisture and Janet runback.

Laurie Davenport

All the Human Services partners Awesome.



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Rob Huff

Alright, so I do urge you if you want to use the chat to provide additional feedback, that's great. We are trying to end these meetings around 1050. And what do you know it's 1051. So let's wrap up today's regular meeting. I appreciate everybody being here and I hope you have a safe weekend. We'll see you back next Friday. If you have an interest in helping us plan for next week's meeting, we're going to take a little five minute break and then do planning right after this. So thanks again everybody.