



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

Friday Coalition Meeting – Chat – February 4, 2022

00:06:16 - Rob Huff (he/him): - rhuff@mdc-hope.org

00:15:01 - Rob Huff (he/him): - Zoom Norms

Mute yourself when not talking.

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

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

00:15:24 - Rob Huff (he/him): - Community Norms

Lead with a racial equity lens.

Be aware of power dynamics.

Challenge concepts, not people.

Listen to learn.

One person speaks at a time.

Speak from your own experience.

Make space, take space.

Assume best intentions and take responsibility for impact.

Be aware of time and agenda.

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00:17:36 - Rob Huff (he/him): - Community Norms

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00:20:40 - Gerrit Nyland: - I'd like to think the County does have a clear plan. The website for that plan is at <https://www.piercecountywa.gov/7309/2021-Comprehensive-Plan-to-End-Homelessn>

00:21:05 - Rob Huff (he/him): - Thanks, Gerrit! I will mention more about the Comprehensive Plan later in today's meeting!

00:28:11 - Christine Lindquist: - So nice to have this many new people on the call!

00:28:27 - Cathy Pick: - Nice to see you, Sunshine!

00:28:36 - Rob Huff (he/him): - Welcome, Sunshine!

00:29:22 - Sunshine Harper: - Good to see you Rob!

00:29:32 - Sunshine Harper: - Good to see you too Cathy!

00:30:23 - Cameron Montgomery: - I will introduce myself via chat to save time. My name is Cameron "Ming" and I am the new Program Assistant at the HYPE center with CLR. We are a day resource center for youth and young adults ages 13-25 experiencing homelessness. cmontgomery@cmhshare.org

00:31:29 - Sunshine Harper: - Sunshine Harper, CHAP (College Housing Assistance Program) Navigator at TCC, sharper@tacomacc.edu



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- 00:32:41 - Andrew Gelstin: - Andrew Gelstin, Pierce County District Court Resource Center (CRC), please call us if we can help with clothing and/or food. 253-798-7631
- 00:33:13 - Rosemary Powers: - For those who are interested, here is Langston Hughes poem "EVIL"
Looks like what drives me crazy
Don't have no effect on you –
But I'm gonna keep on at it
Till it drives you crazy, too
- 00:34:01 - Aimee champion: - Aimee Champion, Pierce County Alliance 253-205-6685 (cell) championa@p-c-a.org.
- 00:34:05 - Kathy Orlando: - Thank you Rosemary
- 00:35:08 - Wolf Cook: - venmo: [stp_tacoma](https://venmo.com/stp_tacoma) email: servethepeopletacoma@gmail.com please get in touch!
- 00:35:35 - Sunshine Harper: - I love that poem Rosemary!! Thank you!
- 00:36:06 - Gerrit Nyland: - The Coalition's statement (well, letter to the Tacoma City Council) on sweeps - <https://coalitionfiles.blob.core.windows.net/files/TPCCEH%20Statement%20on%20Sweeps%20v.3.0.pdf>
- 00:37:56 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Lionel Donovan <https://www.king5.com/article/about-us/team-bios/lionel-donovan/281-3240199e-5563-4e27-82ff-1fcc56bf745c>
- 00:38:28 - Christine Lindquist: - Thank you, Theresa!
- 00:38:43 - Cathy Pick: - Lionel introduced himself to me at our rally on Wed 26th
- 00:39:02 - Sally Perkins: - Cathy, that is great!
- 00:39:08 - Rob Huff (he/him): - To put the sweeps in context, there are far more people being displaced this week than there are shelter spaces available.
- 00:39:12 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Richard - you are always out there on the edge - thank you!
- 00:39:44 - Stacey Soltoff: - to my knowledge, the community mtg organized by Tacoma Safe that precipitated the encampment eviction @ 705 did not include the voices of the unhoused neighbors in that encampment
- 00:40:16 - Jennie Schoeppe: - Hi folks, at the TPCHD we have limited access to KN95 masks through DOH or can help coordinate with DEM. IF you want masks to hand out to folks in your outreach efforts, please reach out to myself or Rachel: JSchoeppe@tpchd.org, rhauser@tpchd.org
- 00:40:35 - Paula Anderson: - Lionel is the one who went out with my team during point in time count as well....very nice man
- 00:40:47 - Evelyn Lopez: - If you are interested in checking out CompassionTacoma, we have a facebook page, twitter is @CompassionTac, and we are on Instagram. You can send an email to CompassionTacoma@gmail.com, or contact me via email, direct message or phone (evelynflopez@gmail.com, 253-229-2362). Thanks!
- 00:45:55 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Does anyone know if the Fife camp is still being swept? If so - will you direct message me please?
- 00:46:02 - Janet Runbeck: - How many can you serve?
- 00:46:03 - Gail Misner: - How do I refer someone
- 00:46:15 - Jennie Schoeppe: - Hi Bridgette! I just reached out to you via email. ~Jennie
- 00:46:15 - Stacey Soltoff: - link to website?
- 00:46:20 - Gail Misner: - 19 and pregnant
- 00:47:14 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Bridgette - you are amazing! Thank you
- 00:48:28 - Sunshine Harper: - I love your program Bridgette!
- 00:48:32 - Jake Preston W. Pierce Co. RNP - Director: - West Pierce County Referral process
- 00:48:53 - Jake Preston W. Pierce Co. RNP - Director: - (253) 878-6057



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00:49:25 - Jake Preston W. Pierce Co. RNP - Director: -
<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=Slkwa8riH0igXSBcplvleREq4vzj3qRPqv9gdb7lv-ZURTVOVRVRIhKMDAOUVUU1IVSIZLMFIEQi4u&web=1&wdLOR=cF409B090-B2B0-41BC-8C34-26E1860C3FA7>

00:49:55 - Jake Preston W. Pierce Co. RNP - Director: - prestojm@p-c-a.org

00:50:18 - Bridgette Johnson: - BIMA Services

00:52:57 - Bridgette Johnson: - BIMA SERVICES, www.bimaservices.org info@bimaservices.org, 206-393-2273. I am also a license Social Worker, and a license substance use counselor, we plan to start providing individual counseling for Trauma Q4 of 2022. Thank you all again for your time this morning.

00:54:35 - Christine Lindquist: - Aimee, how do you typically link clients with healthcare?

01:01:16 - Christine Lindquist: - Also, how does the housing piece work?

01:03:50 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Aimee and Jake: anything that keeps people from ever entering the criminal "justice" system has my support. Thank you!

01:04:12 - Sally Perkins: - Amen to what Theresa says here!!!

01:04:47 - Sally Perkins: - We HAVE to have services that prevent crises in the first place, bravo!!

01:05:24 - Andrea Kelley: - Agreed! We've already utilized this service and it's just as advertised! 😊 Thank you!

01:06:25 - Jake Preston W. Pierce Co. RNP - Director: - West Piece County RNP Referral

01:06:35 - Jake Preston W. Pierce Co. RNP - Director: - 253-878-6057

01:07:14 - Jake Preston W. Pierce Co. RNP - Director: - Social Referral to Recovery Navigator Program
<https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=Slkwa8riH0igXSBcplvleREq4vzj3qRPqv9gdb7lv-ZURTVOVRVRIhKMDAOUVUU1IVSIZLMFIEQi4u&web=1&wdLOR=cF409B090-B2B0-41BC-8C34-26E1860C3FA7>

01:07:38 - Richard Dorsett: - C'mon down to 705 after meeting

01:08:04 - Evelyn Lopez: - I'm going to have to leave the meeting for another event.

01:13:47 - Stacey Soltoff: - I'm at work so can't participate except thru chat

01:14:39 - Rob Huff (he/him): - Thanks, Stacey

01:20:33 - Stacey Soltoff: - yes yes yes! rosemary! ❤️

01:21:37 - Stacey Soltoff: - sure. homelessness is normal - Situation Normal: All F*cked Up 😬

01:23:08 - Christine Lindquist: - Room 9

One primary issue is in public attitudes/perceptions and the lack of understanding of how few shelter beds are available compared to the number of campers.

Many of the problems of the encampments are related to the campers not having access to services and not being able to kept warm.

What we can do:

Lend our voices as advocates for campers

Impact policy to demand placements for campers that are swept

Improve services

Eliminate barriers to housing

We have to address income inequality.



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It seems like the city is playing contradictory roles - trying to provide care for campers, and further traumatizing them with the sweeps.

01:23:30 - Kathy Orlando: - Spread the news regarding the work of this coalition

Public Support

- - Better news coverage

Revamp outreach

Humanize their stories

Pro Bono work – Dental, Hairdressing

Change the narrative regarding the crime and homelessness

01:23:43 - Verna Lilly: - Room 7

Be a witness when there's a sweep (an easy step that shows support); learn more about interventions that can occur before the step of sweeping an encampment; provide safe camp sites (e.g., at a KOA); facilitate connecting people to available beds (e.g, Harbor Hope Center)

01:24:43 - Liam McEvilly: - Harbor Hope Center - we are a small non-profit based in Gig Harbor who serve homeless 18-21 year olds in our two homes. We currently have 1 space in both our male and female houses. We're on Facebook and Instagram but I can be reached at liam@harborhopecenter.org

01:26:02 - Sally Perkins: - My personal take is that sweeps are a use of force by the City and should be governed by a City Council-debated and passed use of force policy that directly addresses the impacts of the sweeps and how the City plans to address them.

01:26:14 - Andrea Kelley: - Better communication with the public/community about the long-term benefits of stability sites to garner support for development. Contribute to the messaging and influence our own networks. Ask the inconvenient questions: Why were these people moved when there wasn't an established plan in place? Why doesn't the City Council have a use of force policy that covers sweeps? Would like to see the City/County use that lens to justify tactics.

01:26:50 - Sally Perkins: - Thank you, Andrea!

01:27:01 - Cathy Pick: - Bk out room #8: Our group recognizes stopping the sweeps is a difficult topic because our efforts to stop the sweeps has been ignored. Our Coalition has a powerful voice that needs to be heard by both City and County leaders. We need to advocate for more sanctioned camps. We also discussed how landlords are refusing to accept housing vouchers, taking advantage of a loophole. I plan to discuss this issue further with Kat at Inside Passages.

01:27:17 - Cathy Pick: - *topic

01:27:29 - Timothy Harris: - Rm 2 Notes: Would be important for city to report on outcomes of the sweeps they do and what can be learned from that. What should city have in place before sweeps happen? Essential to meet people where they are, keeping people "safe, connected, and supported." An idea to have a focused day of street outreach after these sweeps to let people know there's a community that is looking out for them. Need to increase efforts for designated camping areas so people have places to go when they are displaced from problem encampments.

01:27:42 - Verna Lilly: - I also feel encampment sweeps are a use of force. Thanks for bringing up that point Sally

01:29:50 - Bridgette Johnson: - Thank you everyone, I have to get to next meeting

01:30:39 - Cathy Pick: - I am happily vaxxed and boosted!

01:32:29 - Jeffrey Boyce: - #6 Why hasn't the City put names to those who are unsheltered. It is a major point in the Net Zero programs for homelessness. Sweeps only move people from one part of the City to another.

01:34:29 - Rob Huff (he/him): - - Action alert from WLIHA:

<https://housingalliance.salsalabs.org/budgetpriorities/index.html>



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- 01:35:20 - Jennie Schoeppe: - Please get boosted! Are you eligible? (Spoiler alert: YES YOU ARE!). Find vaccine here: <https://www.tpchd.org/vaxtothefuture>
- 01:36:29 - Jennie Schoeppe: - TPCHD COVID testing page is updated daily, and recently we've worked to make sure there are more walk up (no appointment) options: <https://www.tpchd.org/gettested>, You can also call 253-649-1247 or email epitesting@tpchd.org for questions.
- 01:36:59 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - I hope they are talking about Puyallup's response and choosing not to take us down that expensive & non-productive road.
- 01:37:27 - Jennie Schoeppe: - You may able to find home COVID test kits at your local library: Call Tacoma Pub Lib or Puyallup Pub Lib to see if they have a kit: TPL 253-280-2800, PPL 253-841-5454.
- 01:39:02 - Jennie Schoeppe: - Finally, get your flu shot: <https://www.tpchd.org/healthy-people/flu>
- 01:39:20 - Laurie Davenport: - Room 1, Jan Runbeck, Paula Anderson, Laurie Davenport, Verda Washington and Gaiety Jay. Communications is a huge issue on several fronts: (1) Communication with campers — sweeps do not give outreach workers enough time to connect, work with people and get campers effectively moved into shelter. (2) Communication with the public is key. We need much more effective community education. People think someone else is taking care of the issue so don't get involved, we need to communicate what the root causes are, understand who is homeless and why through listening sessions with people with lived experience, understand the complexity (income inequality, population growth, housing prices, lack of a variety of shelter opportunities, etc.). We need to focus on prevention. What can people do right now? Join the SS4A media workgroup — meetings are now Wednesdays at 11 a.m., join at pchomeless.org and change people's minds about homelessness so they can be positively involved in ending it.
- 01:39:44 - Adam Reichenberger: -
<https://cityoftacoma.legistar.com/DepartmentDetail.aspx?ID=32673&GUID=362BC7F7-59D1-4838-A3E4-CDFB7E0AF06B&R=39205b28-f6c4-4b47-8c7a-8f1d9977dbd6>
- 01:39:50 - Adam Reichenberger: - CVS schedule
- 01:40:07 - Jennie Schoeppe: - Let me or Rachel know how you'd like the TPCHD to "show up" and support before sweeps. We'd like to hear your ideas: JSchoeppe@tpchd.org, rhauser@tpchd.org THANKS.
- 01:41:22 - Janet Thiessen: - Thanks Sally. Going to CVS meetings has been eye opening. (Community Vitality and Safety).
- 01:41:35 - Cathy Pick: - I am determined to add our voice to the prevention of displacement/evictions as the newly selected Lead Advocate for Tacoma Tenants Organizing Committee in partnership with Tenants' Union of Washington.
My work email is cathyp@tenantsunion.org
- 01:42:43 - Gerrit Nyland: - Human Service Committee Meeting agendas and zoom meeting link - <https://www.piercecountywa.gov/5179/Human-Services-Committee>
- 01:42:51 - Rob Huff (he/him): - - Written testimony of King County Regional Homelessness Authority CEO Marc Dones to a Congressional subcommittee yesterday on the steps to ending homelessness: <https://kcrha.org/2022/02/02/ending-homelessness-addressing-local-challenges-in-housing-the-most-vulnerable/>
- 01:43:54 - Jennie Schoeppe: - Want to support what Timothy said above (I was in that group as well). Can we ask the City to provide quantitative data on the number of folks who are moved into shelter or housing during a sweep?
- 01:44:07 - Rob Huff (he/him): - <https://leg.wa.gov>
- 01:44:30 - Sally Perkins: - Not only the data on where they initially moved, but what happens next...



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- 01:44:41 - Gerrit Nyland: - Again, the Comprehensive Plan will be discussed and hopefully approved at the February 15th Human Services Committee meeting - 9:30am on zoom, with approval by the full council at either the February 22nd or March 1st full Council meeting
- 01:45:45 - Rob Huff (he/him): - You can track the work of the Pierce County Council at <https://www.piercecountywa.gov/99/Pierce-County-Council>
- 01:45:50 - Jennie Schoeppe: - Yes, Agree Sally. That would be harder to track longer term. BUT the very least they should be able to do is be able to say if folks went to shelters vs just were pushed to some other area of the city/county. :)
- 01:46:03 - Rob Huff (he/him): - - KING 5 piece on the sweep of the 705 encampment: <https://www.king5.com/video/news/homeless-camp-being-cleared-near-tacoma-dome/281-bf035b08-874d-4ab1-9d1d-a12c9b729351>
- KING 5 piece on Governor Inslee pushing Legislature to pass a bill regarding encampment cleanup and services along DOT rights of way: <https://www.king5.com/video/news/local/gov-inslee-pushes-legislature-to-pass-bill-addressing-homelessness-on-wsdot-land/281-8f60d6e6-8af0-456e-932c-5fdd2abf55a3>
- 01:46:57 - Rob Huff (he/him): - Come on...it created the mob! </sarcasm>
- 01:48:48 - Janet Runbeck: - I was hoping that homelessness would be over in my absence.
- 01:49:08 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Jan - ever the optimist!
- 01:51:11 - Janeen Provazek: - I have to go. Thank you!
- 01:52:02 - Aimee champion: - Thanks, everyone for the warm welcome. Please reach out if PCA or our Recovery Navigators can be helpful or answer questions. Again, I can be reached at 253-205-6685 (cell) or championa@p-c-a.org
- 01:52:31 - Rob Huff (he/him): - <http://www.pchomeless.org>
- 01:53:08 - Christine Lindquist: - It's such an excellent site.
- 01:53:21 - Gerrit Nyland: - A couple week behind again - sorry everyone.
- 01:53:44 - Gerrit Nyland: - Shelter availability is up to date, so there is that...
- 01:54:22 - Kathy Orlando: - Thank you all!
- 01:54:39 - Laurie Davenport: - Schedule for February Housing Pop-Up events: <https://www.dropbox.com/s/qlc5rwwvtlkje0f/February%20Pop%20Up%20Flyer.png?dl=0>
- 01:55:08 - Laurie Davenport: - Thank you Pierce County Library System and Pierce County Human Services Rental Assistance!
- 01:55:27 - Cathy Pick: - Tenants Union of Washington Hotline: 206-723-0500 (hours and information available on tenantsunion.org)
- 01:57:13 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Break out was great
- 01:59:22 - Rob Huff (he/him): - That may be a good add on for the work under the Comprehensive Plan to End Homelessness
- 02:00:16 - Gerrit Nyland: - Thanks for brining that up, Paula. We'll certainly be working on an overall communication strategy around the Comprehensive Plan.
- 02:01:19 - Paula Anderson: - Yes Gerritt!
- 02:01:23 - Gerrit Nyland: - We are talking a lot about how to communicate well - and I think stories are a big part of how we connect to the reality of homelessness. I'll see how we can bring the Coalition in to that brainstorming on how to be effective communicators on homelessness and our progress to meeting the goals in the comprehensive plan.
- 02:11:49 - Janet Runbeck: - What is Faith Homes on N 26th & Pearl?
- 02:13:17 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - something is burning - I'm just going to check how close the source is



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- 02:14:42 - Ed Jacobs: - You may be smelling the fires burning (under control) at the 705 site. Lot's of smelly smoke.
- 02:15:00 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - All is okay - just a very smoky cookfire - but contained
- 02:17:07 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Liability
- 02:18:01 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - I'll reach out to ask the CHAPS program to do a spotlight too
- 02:18:49 - Rob Huff (he/him): - Thanks, Theresa
- 02:19:17 - Janet Runbeck: - Nicole, does UWT have a CHAP?
- 02:20:32 - Cathy Pick: - UWT has a social service provider who can help those with CHAP who are transferring in to UWT. But there is not a direct counter part. I know this because I am the first student who transferred from TCC to UWT with the CHAP voucher.
- 02:24:16 - Cathy Pick: - My thoughts exactly!
- 02:25:05 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - 2/11/22 Partner spotlight: Just Threads (Pierce County District Court Resource Center) Here is the link to upcoming partner spotlight sessions
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1SMrLgOeaOwFt32SuCALF8GZ_k9tdq3raJmKCr_doESw/edit?usp=sharing
- 02:30:26 - Janet Runbeck: - MultiCare just donated chunks of money to several non-profits, one of which says they are a provider for tthose who live homeless:
- 02:32:08 - Ed Jacobs: - Ed Jacobs
- 02:32:51 - Ed Jacobs: - Tacoma Fire Department Chaplain, Nativity House Chaplain, Homeless Memorial Services
- 02:33:27 - Jeffrey Boyce: - Jeffrey Boyce, Missioner for Homeless Ministries, Episcopal Diocese of Olympia, All Saints Episcopal Church/ Tacoma, jeffreyboyce425@yahoo.com
- 02:33:44 - Cathy Pick: - Thank you, gentlemen!
- 02:36:36 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Kevin GC agreed to come to do a presentation on the Block by Block program in Seattle. We could use a little hopeful ideas. I need to give him 2 weeks notice