



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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Homeless Coalition Friday Meeting

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SPEAKERS

Jeff Rodgers, Richard, Patricia, Leah Ford, Jeffrey Boyce, Jeremy Walker, Janet Thiessen, Gerrit Nyland, Cathy Pick, Karla Martinez, Caleb Carbone, Ed Jacobs, Carolyn Reed, Jamie Gilmore, Rob Huff, Theresa Power-Drutis, Joe Perva, Rosemary Powers, Tim Harris, Janne Hutchins, Sheila Miraflor, Linda Stewart, Janet Runbeck, Ivan Tudela, Bob Vollbracht, Jenny Lorton, Janae Warley, Monique Brown

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Rosemary Powers

Welcome to the Friday coalition meeting. And as you know, this month is Women's History Month and it's good to remind ourselves of the former others who face challenges not so different. From the ones we face. Today, I want to remind us of the work of Jane Addams, American and American social reformer and peace activists who work to alleviate poverty and injustice in Chicago in the late 19th and early 20th century. Just a word about Chicago. In 1837. When Chicago was chartered it had 4000 residents by 1860. It had 109,000 and by 1890 immigrants made up 40% of the population for immigrants from all over the world. And by the time of the 1918 flu epidemic, the population was at 2.7 million. So that's I mean to cause problems are stark, but these are pretty bad. And into this scene comes Jane Addams, who's a wealthy white woman influenced by the settlement house movement in Britain where volunteer middle class folks lived with in poorer neighborhoods. In an effort to be to be there and to be of assistance. She co founded Hull House in a poor neighborhood in Chicago, live there with other volunteers for many years and provided a variety of services and opportunities. She also worked on garbage which some of you are working on on the streets, right? Now. She organized



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women to inspect and complain about garbage pickup, which there was almost none in the city. And in 1895 She was appointed a garbage inspector for the 19th ward. So you might be that might be in some of your futures as well. Whole House was an organized organized kindergarten to help poor working mothers held free lectures from university professors and others on history labor organization Home Economics, I quickly became a community center and offered Social Services jobs skills, training and encouragement to its neighbors with her upper class background. And her college education. Adams didn't share the same experiences as the men and women who lived in her neighborhood. She was an early proponent of ensuring that those with lived experience participate in informing the policies and practices that would improve their lives. She rejected the old definitions of deserving and undeserving and sought to reform the system itself. She said this, the good we secure for ourselves, is precarious and uncertain, until it is secured for all of us and incorporated in our common life. A lifelong pacifist, Adams opposes the Spanish American War and led an international effort to mediate and into World War One. She was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1931, the first American woman to receive this honor, I imagined Jane Addams would be at home in our Coalition to End Homelessness. And when I feel worn down by the enormity of the work ahead to actually end homelessness. in Pierce County. I remember that Jane Addams did much of her work before us women had the right to vote. I'll end with her common sense observation on the nature of women in ourselves. She said I'm not one of those who believe broadly speaking that women are better than men. We have not wrecked railroads nor corrupted legislatures, Norden, many unholy things that men have done. But then we must remember we have not had the chance. So Jane Addams, a person for us to think about as we do our work today. So thank you, and with that, list a little bit about our meeting for those of you who are new, we have a number of norms that usually I asked Rob to put in the chat, which I forgot to do. So. I'd like to just mention those. We ask that you move, mute yourself when you're not talking and that if you are doing other things that are distracting and waving yourself about a bit that you also take the video off for that time. We also want to encourage you to use the chat for sharing information about yourself. issues you may be concerned about questions you may have, making contact with people to who you hear about who speak during the meeting. And it's not a distraction to us. It's a way to keep the networking going. And then also to point out our community norms that we try to we have as our goal that anyone is welcome here. To this open table as long as we talk with mutual respect. So that's a really important part of our conversation and to not take too long to talk when we have something to say put things in the chat that are follow ups and also pay attention to what we call the power dynamics of the situation. So who's talking and who gets a chance to talk encourage one another talk as well. So with that, I'd like to welcome new people who have not been here before or returning from some time away, just to let us know who you are. And if you're associated with an organization to let us know that so we can be in contact with you. And if you are new, just you can either raise your hand or just unmute yourself whichever you'd like to do for this time. Jeremy

Jeremy Walker

Hi, everybody, my name is Jeremy Walker. I joined this group as a volunteer from the carver back in 2019. Since then, I had to move to Snohomish County for another job, but recently was hired by the



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Department of Commerce and their research services team. And so I'll be speaking for a very brief moment about an exciting opportunity for nonprofits to partake in later in today's meeting.

Rosemary Powers

Thank you welcome very much Jeremy. Happy to have you here. Well, okay, that's it's great to have everybody back. And Rob, I'll let you take it on.

Rob Huff

Hey, thank you, rosemary, and good to see new folks here. Great also to see a lot of familiar faces and folks who've maybe been away for a few weeks, so let's jump into it. So let's start with our regular weekly session about talking about what's happening on the week this week on the streets. This is an opportunity for folks who are doing direct outreach, to share what they're seeing what has been changing this week, and make any comments about what what the needs are changing needs are on the street this week. So I open the floor please use the raise hand function or just wave at me and I'll call on you and love to hear what folks are saying other than a lot of rain obviously. Yeah, Richard

Richard

um, there will be a sweep at second and Tacoma on Tuesday. I'll be down there at 930 or 10 o'clock in the morning. Come join me. If you haven't observed a sweep underway. There's things to be learned. The other thing that was going on yesterday at 11th and I is the heel team and the city contractor were out with garbage pickup, though they got that street cleaned up yesterday.

Rob Huff

That's great. And I know you posted a photo earlier this week of the parking lot under 705 That's now completely devoid of anything.

Richard

It's surrounded by chain link fence which cost \$19,200 It's not what I would think is secure. The upper lot you can drive into the lower lot. Somebody appears to have broken the fencing and so people could walk in there if they chose to. The other thing I posted relative to sweeps was the 72nd eye which was swept a few weeks ago. appears the city said to go purchase 2535 large boulders and using kind of a Soviet style to mean architecture to discourage people from putting their tents back down there. So anyway, still some little things going on out there. But the main thing I'm watching next week, it'll be the second and Tacoma Avenue suite.

Rob Huff

Yeah, and I see Gina and icon in the chat as urgent as to ask in the chat about where that sweep is that second and Tacoma Avenue. So it's, I think the same folks who a few months ago were swept from second and G Street which was adjacent to right Park. They just moved a block down and now we're



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doing it again. Yes. And Kenneth the boulders were installed along east L Street near 70 seconds. Behind Planet Fitness. Ed, I see you have your hand up.

Ed Jacobs

Yeah, I'm driving by People's Park. I saw a tip or two in People's Park, and I'm very interested to see if they're there this morning. I don't know what the reaction of our government would will be having had to renovate that park. What, a year and a half ago or so. Yeah. So that's a big interest to me and see what happens and Richard I'll see. I'll see you on Tuesday morning.

Rob Huff

Oh, and I see Andrea making comment in chat about camping behind in 72nd and Pacific is increasing due to the sweeps. So I do know for those who are individuals who are doing outreach, it is helpful to know a little bit about where where folks have moved to so that that outreach can be done if especially if we continue to have rough weather. Did you have anything else to add add? No. Okay. And, Monique, I don't want to put you on the spot. But I'd love to hear is there been progress toward the site at 82nd and Pacific? Getting closer?

Ivan Tudela

Would love to say yes. However, I drove by yesterday and no changes the fencing is still laying in the middle they were supposed to do the fence this week did not happen. Okay.

Rob Huff

I wonder if the weather impacted that are well.

Ivan Tudela

Let's say that yes.

Rob Huff

Well, thanks Monique. And although not technically on the streets I see Joe Purva from Lehigh on on the screen. Joe How are things going at Aspen court and is are you completely full now?

Joe Perva

We are currently full right now. We have 100 middles at the site right now. Oh you know, our Istanbul we have already we already have five videos transit. Housing. That's great. Since December 16 Which is pretty good. You know what?

Rob Huff

Okay, great. In your your audio was breaking up a little bit, but I did catch that you have had five folks move to permanent housing. So that's since December. So that's great. And thank you for your work.



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Anyone else with updates? about what they're seeing on the streets? Okay, relatively quiet this morning. But I know we're all kind of recovering from cold and wet and that focused outreach that had to be done over the last week and a half so appreciate what everybody's doing. And if there are specific needs that folks have that can be addressed. Please use the chat to just kind of drop those needs in there and where people can take things if that is the situation and let's move on with our meeting. So we're a little bit ahead of schedule. I see Jamie Gilmore on the screen from Tacoma Public Library. Jamie, welcome to the meeting. And would you like to tell us about the mobile hotspot program?

Jamie Gilmore

Yes, thank you for having me. Can I share my screen?

Rob Huff

Let me give you that capability. Okay, you should be able to do that now.

Jamie Gilmore

Okay, great. Can everybody see it? Yes. Okay, perfect. So my name is Jaime Gilmore. I'm the outreach librarian here at come up with library and I wanted to give you just a short little presentation about our Wi Fi hotspots on this first screen, we have articles Public Library website hyperlinks, I'll try to share the slides after and then my own email address which is also

so the hotspots what are they? The hotspots give Wi Fi internet connection using the T Mobile LTE network? People can connect devices like computers, laptops and phones. How do they work? I have one of them right here comes in this little face

if I don't throw it on the floor. You charge it and plug it up and people can connect to it. On all of our hotspots. They have a little name they're all called Chroma library hotspot and they have a password. So people would just have to enter that password and then they can use them each hotspot can connect about 10 devices. The hot spots are free to use from a public library card and the typical ones checked out for three weeks. So these are the three week books that were required the standard car and these are the other ones which I'll talk about in just a sec. So one of the reasons that we introduced hotspots as we notice there's a lot of equity concerns, especially with the COVID pandemic about how people no longer had access to reliable internet so we kind of tried to fill in that gap a little bit or hotspots are available at our Fernhill Sweezy and more locations. We pick those neighborhoods because we saw those neighborhoods as the ones with the most needs. We also have different hotspots that can be sent to any of our branches which are these so how do people get one? Our standard hotspots people have to be city have to come and residents or they have to be residents of Pierce County with the reciprocal card with one of our other library systems. So if they have a Pierce



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County Library card, the King County Library card or Seattle Public Library Park, they can get a hotspot for these they would have to have picture ID and proof of address. Because of the nature of these hotspots, people with the unverified address or people who have transitional homes can't get these yet. I will share more details if that changes. These are the ones that we can typically check out to people who might be living in transitional homes. These are for people who have students in the Tacoma Public School System. We partnered with the foundation for Tacoma students to get these. If somebody has a student into come a public schools, they would contact me directly. I would make them a library card if they already have a part I would erase all fines from it. Because we don't want fines or fees to be a barrier. And then these hotspots will check out through the end of the school year because we noticed that of course if students are in school, they want hotspot till the end of the year. We don't do any checking to verify that somebody has a student in the school district. If they contact me and say I have a student that I will send them a hotspot. We will send these to all eight of our locations. And we have a pickup location at the Eastside community center. People just select which location works best for them. I send it there and then they go pick it up along with their library card. They just talked about that. Also, people are looking for different ways to get internet access. I have another website hyperlink here. It's about to homeschool students and they can find different ways to get internet access. So that was hopefully five minutes. So are there any questions that I can answer?

Jamie Gilmore

Stop Sharing.

Rob Huff

Yeah, I took down the slide. So we could all see each other. So anybody with questions for Jamie? I see Teresa with her hand up.

Theresa Power-Drutis

Thanks for coming. Jamie and I My question is about people who are living in transitional housing. The other three months, the years when school is not open. I'm just wondering if you've considered extending that so that people could continue to use it outside of the school year.

So one of the things this is a new program for us we just launched it this year. And we have talked about trying to extend the due date. For right now what we're thinking is give them to the end of the school year, then try to get them on back just to make sure that we can get the entire fleet back because it is a very long checkout. And as we know people might misplace things. So we just want to kind of call them all home. And then we might try a system where we send them back out because like you're saying those other three months of the year people still do need that internet access. And as soon as I have updates about that I can share. I



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Theresa Power-Drutis

shouldn't have led with that I should have led with the fact that it's wonderful. You're doing this, you're you're really meeting what at a deep need and you can do it for a month at a time. I'm still going to be grateful that you're doing it. So sorry, I started out that way.

Jamie Gilmore

No, no, that's a perfect question. Very valid question.

Rob Huff

There are a couple questions that have popped up in the chat. KENNETH asked, Are there areas of the of the city where these hotspots may not actually work very well.

Not that I have found I've personally used one of the hotspots just to make sure they work and so I can help people through it. If the the way that they work. It's just It's its own little kind of Wi Fi so you don't need to be in an area of the city where maybe the signal isn't strong. It'll just work on its own.

Rob Huff

Right. And Jan asked if many folks are using the free hotspot so far, how what's the utilization? Like?

Yes, so we do we have a lot of people that we're using them especially that's a comic book school. So those are very popular. We got about 50 And I think half of them so far have been used. Some of them have been returned as people don't need internet anymore. But we really did see that they needed those hotspots.

Rob Huff

Right? That's fantastic. And Patricia, you have your hand up.

Patricia

Yes, I think it's a great program. Both the foam I've used the three week one. What I did want to ask or suggest perhaps when you give out like even the school hotspots, is there is there an education about how they might be able to get their own hotspots so that you can bring the other hotspots home and then work you know, for building out Does that make sense? Like to help somebody get their own hotspot that's not a library hotspot for those that are needed more? Is that a possibility?

That is not something that we have considered. I am looking for my notebook so I can write it down. But yes, no, I think that's a great idea. To kind of help people move in that direction. One thing I can say is



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that within Tacoma Public Schools hotspots, since I am emailing everybody directly, they all have my contact information and I let them know that they have any questions or concerns they can reach out to me but I will definitely add that as something we should consider. Thank you.

Rob Huff

Oh, also in the chat, I saw Ivan asking if you have a flyer or one pager about the hotspot program.

We don't have a flyer that I can see about getting one okay, then I see an ask for contact information.

Rob Huff

Yeah.

For my contact information, if you know somebody who needs a hotspot, they can just please feel free to share my email address.

Rob Huff

Right and also your content, your email addresses in the agenda that was sent out for today's meeting as well. So anybody on the coalition mailing list should have access to that. Sheila your hands up?

Sheila Miraflor

Yes. Good morning. Real quick, Jamie Can you provide a link to the slide presentation please?

Yes, can I email it to Teresa, can I email you the entire slide deck.

Rob Huff

You may also be able to drop it in the chat.

Jamie Gilmore

I will try that

Rob Huff

and while Jamie's doing that anybody else with additional questions

Theresa Power-Drutis



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just while we're on the topic of internet connection, I'm guessing people know about the 999 Internet for people who are low income people qualify if they're on food stamps or on any of those other programs. Many of the major carriers offer that so just so that you let people know when they do get their own apartment not to go shopping. Out in the main shopping area check for the low income area.

Rob Huff

Yeah, great, great point and add and then genea.

Ed Jacobs

I guess the the question I have is for outreach workers going out to encampments. Could we take one of these hotspots with us and give them temporary access?

I'm trying to think of how if if you were checking up the hotspot under your own library card, then as far as as far as I'm concerned that you can use that how do you like as long as you you know, return it at the end of the checkout period. I don't think we're we're not so concerned with how people are using them. We're more concerned with getting them out there.

Ed Jacobs

Okay. Thank you.

Oh, I see another question. The domain to access hotspots. So the hotspots can be at every branch. People can place holes on them and get them sent to the regular hotspot so these they can place a hold on it and get it sent to any branch that they would like it to go to because I'm based at Main. If somebody asks for one of these things, I can just take it downstairs and give it to them. And the hotspot also does have charger inside of it. So it's all in one

Rob Huff

great Junya and hopefully I'm not butchering your name, so please let me know.

Janae Warley

It's me, but I think I'm going to change that next time to J just make life easier. Um, two things. One, by hotspot program is amazing. My son had to use it a year ago during the beginning of the pandemic because our Internet just wasn't enough. And so they are helpful. They do help students and I'm out and get carbers so it's great service just about anywhere you can go to the low income Essentials program that you have for Internet is now covered by BBC and usually is free and they're changing that program to another program. That should cover it for up to the next three years. So hopefully, if



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anybody can get on to the the programs for Internet Essentials, they can also get on that subsidiary program and their internet will be three free for three years.

Rob Huff

Thank you for that information. And Patricia, you have your hand up as long.

Patricia

Yeah, just to make the comment. I'm going to like different encampments and so forth. I've used them for outreach where I've taken a laptop and use the hotspot so I can help people fill out forms even for like EBT or whatnot. So it is helpful that way. It was on my purse. It was on my personal account. And I kept it close to me. So anyway, thank you. Thank you.

Can I ask a quick question? Certainly, about using them in ways that serve the community. Do you find that that is something that they're very helpful for? Like is that something that a lot of people are doing just taking it and kind of being a mobile roving hotspot?

Patricia

Are you asking me specifically? Yes, I agree. Yes. So like for outreach workers themselves. You know, you have your phone, but like how do you connect to a laptop because you can't do like the forms to do? Like EBT or the insurances or signing up for, you know, the bus cards or whatnot. And then I do find that like, outreach workers utilize the hotspots, a lot and if they go into different different places that don't have it. Yeah. So that like if you're homeless, you don't have like internet if you're on the street, so they use it for that to collect and try to help people build their build the resources until they're able to get into something more stable. And that's also a way to look at what is open, you know, like, what, what places are and to have a discussion. So that's my input. Thank you.

I just want to take that back and kind of share it with my colleagues because that's a way of using hotspot that I don't think we had considered before. But I do appreciate it.

Patricia

And Jamie, you can reach out to me, you can get my contact from Rob because

Rob Huff

Yeah. Yeah, I'm happy to share that. All right. Any final questions for Jamie? A lot of interest in the program obviously. All right. Well, thank you very much for letting us know about the program and I think I think we've added some new twists on how to use the hotspots. So thank you for being here today.



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Jamie Gilmore

Thank you for having me.

Rob Huff

All right. So our next topic, we're going to talk about the building community funds grant program. And Jeremy, I'd like to turn the floor over to you.

Thank you, Rob. And before I get started, I just want to say Jamie, thank you for your service to the city of Tacoma. Although I live in copper, I'd love to come up very much. And I think it's great. So that's fantastic. So the building communities fund is a grant program for non residential facilities that is offered statewide. So what does that mean? So non residential facilities? could be things like food banks, or community spaces, could be a mixed recreational with some added Social Services office spaces for many of the nonprofit's that you all work in or volunteering. And the work that I'm doing, I'm, I'm a research. I work in the research team. So the project that I am working on with building communities fund is to build a nonprofit outreach tool. For our BCF staff to basically reach out to and say, you know, hey, we're here we want to provide information we want to provide support. We know that grant writing is a tedious task, and also build and improve those relationships with the many volunteer community leaders and nonprofit leaders. So I have a survey and an RSVP that I would like to put into the chat somehow it has just disappeared on me. That's funny. It was just here. But I will

Jeremy Walker

Oh, here we go.

So it just put this into the chat and that is a

just open it and make sure that it is the correct one. Okay, cool. So this is a survey that I have put together with a couple of other folks in our research services team. And really what we're trying to get at is how do we built this tool in the most equitable way. We know that there are many communities throughout Washington state that serve many different specific communities. So there may be different interests, different questions and different services being provided. And our BCF staff, there's not many of them, but when they go out into the community, they would like to provide the most relevant and most cost efficient, you know, information that they can to community members. So we're building this nonprofit tool. That's what I'm working on. And we're interested in getting feedback and information and input from community leaders and nonprofit leaders. Currently, there are six total stakeholder meetings they last, we estimate between an hour and a half to two hours. Long. So it is a bit of a time



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commitment. But most of that time is going to be spent listening to people discuss the questions that we have. And there the three different types are one, it's going to be focused on the data. So how do we count the different organizations? How do we represent the intersectionality of the different groups of communities that do the work right, whether that be in services, or very specific community groups. The second is going to be a review an overview of the prototype tool that I'm going to build based off of the data. And then lastly, there will be a report out by me to provide information on what did we do with your discussions and how did we create this tool? And then what's next? And this is one of seven projects that we are working on around equity program analysis within the building communities fund. So I encourage everybody to fill that out. If you're a volunteer or just an interested person, you know, I mean, it really is open to anybody who who wants to even start an organization, right maybe you're at the beginning phases of hey, we need a food thing. In our community or we need something in our community. Right. So it's not just for the big nonprofits, you know? So that's it. Any questions?

Rob Huff

Right, if you want to have any questions for Jeremy, feel free to raise your hand or wave and I'll call on you. Rene,

Janae Warley

is it just a team that you're doing or is this something that you're doing by yourself? This is a personal question. Are you guys hiring? Like is there a position that you're looking for people to help you with this besides just volunteer information?

Rate question. So at this time, there isn't anyone being hired to do this work. The work that we are doing is being based off of internal staff capacity, but there may be opportunities depending on the work that we do to actually expand this team in the future. So it depends on the state legislature and what they are able to pass and it also depends on just our our success rate and then gauging based on everything that I've seen internally, things are looking really good. And we have over 100 nonprofits so far engaged statewide. One of the reasons why I wanted to reach out to this group is because I didn't see as many nonprofits involved in from Pierce County. So that's why I wanted to reach out because I knew about you guys, and I know you all do excellent work and provide a lot of services within the community. I also want to emphasize that we are encouraging nonprofits that are bipoc LED, so black indigenous people of color LED. We are encouraging you to participate. We're also encouraging buy in for those with lived experiences who are offering those same services were or a part of a particular community. We really encourage those folks to also be joining us Does that help answer your question? Janae.

Janae Warley



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Yes, it does. Um, so most of us should if we can touch our smaller nonprofits in our community and try to get them in touch with you. I know that I personally talked to a lot of people all over the state that are smaller nonprofits are trying to be so I will definitely do my best to influence them to get hold of you could have contacted us.

Yes, in the survey and RSVP. You'll get a response with my email address but I'm going to put it in here right now.

Jeremy Walker

Not sure. Thank you, everybody.

Rob Huff

And Bob, I see you have your hand up.

Bob Vollbracht

Yes. Thank you. Jeremy. My name is Bob volt Brooke. I'm part of the gig. Harbor Key Peninsula Housing and Homeless Coalition. We would like to get in touch with you and invite you to one of our local coalition meetings and ask you to do a presentation. So that'll that'll be coming up pretty soon. Thank you for this very, very important we have a lot of nonprofits in the Gig Harbor keeping insulae area that needs some help right now. So thank

you. Yeah, I would say that I'll need to check with my supervisor first. The only reason being is that, you know, at the state we try to do our best to remain impartial. The good news is that I'm not receiving any actual grant applications. And so if I, but I know like for example, I'm a contract manager for a project up in Seattle for the phpa buildings. To provide some supportive youth housing. So like, I'm not able to be a member of any of those nonprofits, even though I was at the first three meetings of the Gig Harbor, Pierce County,

Bob Vollbracht

and I think, totally understandable. And we just appreciate if you had a few minutes to give a presentation. At one of the meetings on Thursday morning. Well, we'll send you the information and you can sort it out but

yeah, totally. I will. I will, you know and that goes for any organization in Pierce County. I love Pierce County. It is my home. And so I'll check to make sure that there's no conflict of interest. But I certainly my heart is is in the work that you all do. I want to support you guys if I can.



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I see gene had asked a question about low cost daycares. So there are multiple funds that could be available. And my short answer to you is it depends. So there are some VCF facility funding that would be available for that kind of work if it was more general and more open to the community. But there are other programs that are overseen by Adi Craig. She's the manager for the community. Capital Fund Program, which is the umbrella for all these other programs. And there is one that's specifically for daycare. So there's, I think that's the thing that I've learned since coming to the commerce is there are so many funding opportunities, but of course you have to apply for a green. So that's the caveat of course.

Rob Huff

Great, great information. Jeremy. Um, Monique. I see your hand up.

Monique Brown

Yes, thank you, Jeremy. I'm doing this survey. And there's a question that asked about grants. And it says, you know, we have a paid grant writer we contract grant writer, paid staff apply for grants. You know what, nevermind, I just answered my own question. Thank you.

Jeremy Walker

That's okay.

Ivan Tudela

I'm still I'm still I'm still finishing the first cup. I'm sorry.

You and I are like, I see you. I hear you. The same way when I'm finished my first cup of coffee and I'm a wreck, so I get it but you are not. Thank you. I'm there was another question from Cynthia. And it was did you use to come to these meetings several years ago then there's just not much County in our back? Yes, that's the short answer. I was in Snohomish County. I was there. I was the other way water and wastewater district's finance analyst. So I manage their entire budget. And then during the pandemic wanted to be back with my family. I'm a single dad, and so wanted to be closer to my parents to help them through the pandemic and move back and I've always loved Pierce County.

Rob Huff

Welcome back and in thank you for sharing this information. with us this morning. Hopefully lots of folks take up the opportunity to fill out the survey and participate. Great, thank you. All right, so let's go ahead and transition over to our breakout conversations for this morning. What we're trying to do is build on the conversation that took place last week. We had a very shortened period for our



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conversations last week. So we're going to rejoin that and spend a little more time talking in small groups about what shelter options are missing. Right now in Pierce County. So again, the focus of these breakout sessions is to allow folks to get to know each other and, and network a little bit as well as to consider the question, and I'm sure there's going to be lots of folks with things to share about shelter options that that are needed in the county. So I am going to split us up into small groups of five or six and we will spend the next 15 minutes considering this conversation please in each breakout room, someone take some notes and then paste those into the chat when we come back. And any questions before we go. All right, I think we know this routine. So let's go off to the rooms to have a good conversation.

<Breakout Rooms>

Rob Huff

All right. So welcome back, everybody. Hopefully, that was a good conversation. Have a little more time this week to dig into the conversation than last week. So if you had someone in your group taking notes, and you'd like to share those in the chat, we'd love to see those. And if you have suggestions for what we should what we may want to hold a breakout conversation about next week, when you drop those suggestions in the chat as well. We're always trying to fish for meaningful conversations that folks can have while also getting to know each other a little bit better in those small breakout rooms. So I'll

Gerrit Nyland

say something real quick, Ron. Yeah. So one thing we don't do a great job in this coalition is synthesizing what comes out of these breakout sessions and distributing it to everyone so I read them through but it would be really cool if someone on the coalition wanted to do that work like I can easily get you the you know the the chat transcripts of what everybody has put into it. And if they could sort of break that out into the themes that they're seeing and turn it into a little one pager of this is what everybody talked about. I think that would create a lot of value. Again, it's time right? So I always think I'm going to do that and then by the time I get the minutes up and posted I'm out of my love for doing minutes mode, but some of the think about that and they can just get in touch with me or the steering committee. That would just be it would be an hour or something of your time I think give a lot of value. So throwing that out, I think Rob

Rob Huff

Yeah, no, that's a great, great idea. And I actually have an example of that that Rosemary Teresa and I worked on a few weeks ago where we pulled together a document from one of our discussions so it'd be great if somebody had the time and interest to do that. Timothy your hands up.

Tim Harris

I'm happy to Okay. That would be



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Rob Huff

awesome. Yeah,

Tim Harris

I can take that on.

Rob Huff

And Patricia your hands up as well.

Patricia

I'm always a fan of doing like the Zoom polls, you know, to get themes of priorities. You know, if the poll can be done, and then through these meetings, have a zoom poll and then share the results. For others to know what other people are thinking. Just say thank you. Yeah,

Rob Huff

I appreciate that as well. So let's shift gears now. And thank you again, Timothy, for being willing to take that on. Shift gears to our government updates and we will get started with updates from the city of Tacoma and I saw Linda Stewart join us. So Linda, would you like to talk to us?

Linda Stewart

I sure would. Hi, everyone. Nice to see you. Thank you, Rob, for getting us on the agenda. We really appreciate it. And I'm trying to see if us very special person. Yes, he's here. So the reason I'm here today is to introduce you to our new homeless strategy services system program manager who joined the city on Monday. So Caleb Carbone has been here for four days. Today's his fifth day and he's still standing. He's still speaking to me, which I find very encouraging. And we wanted to bring him here today so he could say hi, and meet you all. He will become the representative for the coalition meetings on Friday. At at some point soon here, but I'll turn it over to Caleb, as soon as I express my appreciation for him for joining us and to all of you who've been very patient as we have gone really without a full time homeless program manager for over a year now. And as you know, Alison Griffith and I have been sharing excuse me that role for over a year and we're very happy to have Caleb here. So Caleb, take it away.

Caleb Carbone

Thanks, Linda. And thank you everybody for allowing me to join. Um, I've done work in cities like Chicago, I worked with a nonprofit out there called the knight ministry. And I worked with direct services with like kneel Access Health Care's human connection, stuff like that. And then recently, I was with an organization out in Maple Valley and Kent called Vine maple place helping single families on the service side. So I come from a direct service background. And it is it is super exciting to come and work



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alongside all of you and just to see how much work you guys have already been doing in the city of Tacoma. My wife and I moved here about three years ago and so I'm excited to serve the city that I live in and that I have been growing to love so thank you all very much. I appreciate it.

Rob Huff

Welcome to the group and to your new role. Caleb. So going forward, Caleb, will you be joining us on these Friday meetings when you have the diet the capacity to do so?

Caleb Carbone

Yes, absolutely. Yep.

Rob Huff

Fantastic. We'll look forward to your participation. And not to put you on the spot. But are there any city of Tacoma updates that either you or Linda would like to share with us today?

Linda Stewart

I'll jump in. Really no, no real updates. I mean, this was this is the headline for us. This week. We we continue to have the camping ban discussions that are underway at the council level. This is a council initiated and council led discussion. The next discussion will be at the Community Vitality and safety committee on March 10. But really, unless there are any other questions, we really just wanted to come and orient Caleb to the group so you all could meet him. We were going to have his second week. Next week. The again really rooted in orientation learning where everything is there a lot of systems and and tools that he has to learn about before he can really kind of jump in but I intend to push him off into the deep end as soon as I possibly can. Because he has told me that he learns by doing so. We've got a lot to do.

Rob Huff

Yeah, there's there's a lot to do out there for sure. So Well, thank you, Linda for the introduction and Caleb will look forward to working with you all right, so let's shift to the next updates in our government updates. And I see Jeff Rogers on the screen. Jeff, you have updates from from Pierce County Human Services.

Jeff Rodgers

Yes, good morning. The one thing I want to share is that we will be releasing a funding opportunity very, very soon. It is for the housing and essential needs program. That is a state funded program to assist folks who are temporarily disabled or are enrolled in the state aging blind and disabled program. We typically put this funding opportunity out every four to five years. It's this special type of program qualifications are determined by the Department of Social and Health Services at the state level. So anyone who qualifies for the program must be approved by them to enter into the program. So we'll be



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putting that opportunity out soon. And the program is currently being operated in is it is in existence, but this new contract will start or contracts will start July 1 of this year. That's the only update I have.

Rob Huff

Thanks. Thank you, Jeff. Any questions I do see, first, Kathy and then add with questions.

Cathy Pick

My question is, it sounds like you're talking about the hand program, is that correct? Correct. And you mentioned also expanding that for the aged and disabled. The HAMP

Jeff Rodgers

program initially was just for folks who were disabled temporarily up to 90 days. But a while back the legislature changed that and we're on the state approved aging disabled blind program the abd program as many know it now qualified to enroll in the hint program. So if you're qualified for the aging blind and disabled program, and the housing and essential needs program with the temporary disability, all of folks in both those programs now qualify for the hin housing essential needs program.

Cathy Pick

That is amazing. Now my question is for people with low mobility or no mobility at all is did they still have to go to some type of distribution center or is there a way for those items to get to them? I think we have my neighbor Sarah who has difficulty even just securing shuttle space shuttle service just to get to a doctor's appointment, let alone for services like this. So

Jeff Rodgers

yeah, I think that that would need to be a question to be asked to the Department of Social Health Services. D S HS is the agency that approves or qualifies people to be in the Hynd program. So I could reach out to find out from them but that would be something that would have to be dealt with through BS HS who determines eligibility?

Cathy Pick

Yes, they do determine eligibility but I the reason the other reason why I'm asking is because years ago when we were struggling with housing insecurity, we qualified for him. But I was sent to an office on the east side of Tacoma, that I was not familiar with. I used all of the gas that I had to get there. And it was a secondary intake. It wasn't even the distribution center. So I did not come home with the I use all the gas that I had and I still did not come home with the supplies that we were supposed to be getting. So I have a feeling that this question is more for the people who are administering the program.

Jeff Rodgers



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Yeah, there they have options to connect with people besides going into an office COVID has changed that significantly.

Cathy Pick

So there are healthy Thank you.

Jeff Rodgers

Yeah, there are other access. What I will share is there's not enough resources they have a long wait with course just because at the state level, they're limited in the resource. It used to be a entitlement program. So anybody who went to the state that qualified would be served and get a chunk of money. Very small amount of money doesn't pay for rent, but it's a small amount of money. But now it's basically about the same amount of money monthly, but they only have a set dollar amount and they can't serve everybody was eligible, unfortunately.

Cathy Pick

Sure, totally understood. Thank you. And,

Ed Jacobs

Jeff, my my question is, is more along the lines of how to respond to your RFP or whatever you're you're putting out does the organization have to be pre approved by DSA HS?

Jeff Rodgers

No, that decision is made locally, the agency agency or agencies that will administer these funds that's determined

Ed Jacobs

locally. Okay. Thank you.

Rob Huff

All right. Let's see. So thank you for that update. Jeff. It looks like we have exhausted the questions for you. I don't see Valerie in the room or didn't. So she must be off doing outreach and I believe that's probably where Laurie is as well. So um, so we don't have an update on the on the rental assistance this week. I'm sure that we will hear more about that soon. Do you know Jeff, if the portal is reopened? Do you have awareness of that?

Jeff Rodgers

I'm aware that the portal entity that will provide the portal has been selected. I believe we're in the current process of contract negotiations with that to execute a contract so that we can get it open so it's not open. We're in contract negotiations to hopefully get it open soon.



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Rob Huff

Okay, great. So hopefully more next week. And then I know that Jenny is actually out due to a family situation, from Tacoma. Pierce County Health Department. Do we have anybody else on the call from the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department who has an

Leah Ford

update here? Hi. Hi, everyone. So um, last week, we administered 6009 doses, and 13 101st doses. So that's really great. Um, regarding vaccine percentages were really lagging and five to 11 and 10 to 12 year olds. So just throwing that out there. put links to all our info in the chat. Um, regarding Inq, we have 11 isolation beds available, and no quarantine beds at the moment. And just a reminder, if you have Inq needs, you can call Risto and I'll put that number in the chat and we have secured funding to sustain the Inq capacity. So really happy to hear about that, um, regarding outbreaks, um, we have sorry, my notes just got flipped around. Um, Mm hmm. I'll get back to that in a second. But we do have additional testing capacity. So that if that is a need of your facility or organization, definitely let us know and here we go. Oh, very stupid today. I'm so sorry. Um, so we have two shelters with positive cases. Um, to come a rescue mission and the tivity house. They can TRM can resume activities. On the sixth just a couple days here. Um, and productivity house their outbreak is complete on the Eighth of March. Outside of that everyone else looks good to go. And also last week, there was a question regarding a desire for a fire or information around safety of propane and sanitizer usage. So, we did make that request to our communications team and so they're working on that. Hopefully we'll have that prior, you know, early next week, but I will make sure everyone gets that as soon as we have it. And I think that's all I got. Does anyone have any questions?

Rob Huff

If anybody wants to raise their hand, I'd see a thumbs up from Teresa. And I have not seen any current questions. One thing you didn't mention if there's anything you want to if you want to drop the link to Dr. Chen's beliefs about the the upcoming March 12 date. That might be helpful for folks. I'm sure everybody's seen it. But yes, I will do that. Thank you. Yeah. And Janet, you have your hand up

Janet Thiessen

quick question. Go ahead. I can't figure out what our cases are. I look in the New York Times every day. It seems like our cases are up again. And I'm just tapping. The Department of Health for Washington State said that we were in a search. So what what's going on with our cases in Pierce County? Do you know?

Leah Ford

Yeah, so that's been a bit of for US public health folks with this massive mandate changing or no longer being around. It is a little concerning. And I will post a link to the updated CDC map. It's super helpful



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and kind of uses a color coding situation which lets you know when areas are of high or medium low concern. We are high so I just think I will just send the message that it's really important for folks to do what's best for them, since you don't necessarily have support otherwise. So yeah, regarding our cases the health department will starting next week, we'll post COVID-19 vaccine events every Monday and Thursday. Our data changed a bit because we are no longer getting the numbers at the same rate. So we only will update our data page on Tuesdays. And so there will be a lag in data, which also might cause an influx of how those numbers look. But our our FTES are definitely taking a look at that and hopefully we can come to some sort of resolution on how to communicate that more clearly in a more timely manner, despite folks wanting to pretend COVID no longer here. Sorry, that isn't fully answered.

Janet Thiessen

Thank you. Thank you. Yeah. Thank you.

Rob Huff

Yeah, thank you. And there is a tool I saw from the CDC. Where you can go and look at your county and see whether the hospitalization rates and transmission rates are still high enough that the CDC would recommend you wear masks indoors. The last time I looked Pierce County was high enough that they still recommended that but we have state guidance changing so well, that's to sort out appreciate the work you do. Yeah.

Leah Ford

Thanks, and I'll put that CDC info in the chat as well.

Rob Huff

That'd be awesome. And for our last government update, do we have anybody from Pierce County Emergency Management on the call? I saw Ivan earlier but I didn't see him still on the call. So I think he left so

Gerrit Nyland

I will mention that. Pierce County Emergency Management did a presentation with human services to the Human Services Committee of the county council talking about the December cold weather response and that was in response to request from that committee chair on Pichon. And it was kind of a sterile presentation. I thought nothing personal anybody that was there doing that, but, um, but again, there's some real there's some real interest and some appreciation for the work that the coalition did around that. So there is definitely shout out to the coalition particularly you know, Jan and Mike moisture that they were in the EOC and and again, all of you pushing our governments to do more and so we're not perfect yet. But I'm loving the trajectory we're on. So again, there was against serious hat's off to the work done by the coalition. So that was all of you. So a lot of a lot of holes are still being filled by volunteers. And, you know, systems that need to exist in government are getting built but until then,



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it's the coalition doing a lot of life saving. And Human Services stepped up a lot to like and emergency management like it was a massive different engagement by government and really with us together. So that was I think, going to, you know, really, you know, those types of interactions with government and county council and all of that. I think they're really solidifying the role County's taking on in that respect. So and Human Services is working with city of Tacoma emergency management, you all have emergency management. So I'm again trying to put systems in that work. Well, and as long as I'm talking emergency management, even things like flooding, which we hadn't thought about much, right, but Public Works came to me and said, Oh crap, floodwaters are rising in places we know there's an encampment right, how should we best do this? And, and the government response is well, we'll we'll figure that out. Right, you know, like this is anyway, so we're going to writing protocols up for that too, so hopefully there won't be more emergencies we need to add to the list of smoke and hot weather and cold weather and no flooding. But there's probably something else there.

Rob Huff

Okay. Bad humor. Um, so thanks for that. Garrett. Janae. You had a question?

Janae Warley

Actually, I'm sorry, I've got to add to that list. earthquake response is something we really actually need to probably look at. And I hate to say it, but it is true.

Rob Huff

Yeah, definitely. And that just so a lot of folks in the room know but just the safe sites for all committee and a work group. They're trying to coordinate efforts with the faith community around staging supplies and things that that topic has been discussed there too. So yeah, that's definitely front and center still. So Garrett mentioned the Pierce County Council's Human Services Committee, and the other item that they discussed during their meeting this last Tuesday, was the Pierce County comprehensive plan and homelessness. And suggestion amendments to that before it was be sent to the full Council for consideration on March 15. Garrett, anything you would share from that portion of the Pierce County Human Services Committee meeting?

Gerrit Nyland

Yeah, so one amendment, the which passed and the resolution really was just somewhere as is. So that's guidance for the for the resolution. This is again, the resolution to adopt the comprehensive plan to end homelessness. And that was around recognizing the importance of affordable housing, and that this plan doesn't directly create affordable housing, because that's the role of the affordable housing plan that's been developed. So it's kind of identifying that important connection and what a lot of the time was spent on was the discussion about the idea of a unified regional office and how that should kind of be designed. And so that's where the an amendment was, was, was whatever created but then the vote had failed. I can't even I don't even know the right words, Rob, but, um, so it didn't pass as an



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amendment. But there will be probably an amendment related to that when it comes to the full council. So that's the next step is it goes to the full council on the 15th of March. So that's, that's a week and a half from now. And so they'll probably be discussion. My take is that it's going to continue to be pushing for an outside consultant to help put together what the best design of a unified regional office in Pierce County would be. But we'll see what that is. I am not really in the loop on that. And there'll probably be one other one other amendment that has to do with allocating some of the reserve ARPA funding, probably going to case management. Basically expanding the critical time intervention model that's being implemented by inside passages coming won't go to inside passages. It'll be a, you know, open RFP or NOFA process but but that so that's all I know. And I think, you know, when out of the went out of committee with a three to two vote, right, and the two votes were really concerned about the way that the unified regional office was, was being designed. And that if it if it makes it out of council with a split vote will probably be because differing ideas on that, and I can all go ahead and put in the chat links that you can listen in to the conversations if you're interested in that. So let me dump some stuff in chat. Actually, I'm just going to send it to the coalition.

Rob Huff

There you go. That's great. That's great. And Timothy, yes. Other than these amendments, does the plan remain as originally written? One thing that you did change right in the plan was the implementation date of the regional unified office.

Gerrit Nyland

Yeah, so that was simply changed in the plan and not through an amendment process. So we had originally thought that there was going to be a long term trust building exercise and might take a few years and so he said, basically, a three year timeline on that and, um, county council was not interested in things delayed in that way, and that we should accelerate that and so that and among many other people, and so I am the minority voice, I think and thinking that's going to take longer than the 15 months that we know how so that has a due date of July of 2023.

Rob Huff

And then the last update on this item is regarding the advisory board for the the comprehensive plan, and because the plan hasn't the vote at the full council has not happened yet. The next the first meeting of this advisory board has been postponed to April one is that

Gerrit Nyland

right? April Fool's Day, Rob

Rob Huff

I was gonna let you make that joke. So. All right. So let's shift over to a very brief advocacy update. And it'll be brief because time is at the state legislative. The current session wraps it up next week on March



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10. Yesterday was another major deadline for legislation where items that were originated in one hat one, a part of the legislator legislature had to be passed by the other portion of the legislature of today is that deadline at five. One item I did just get an update through the automated process. Is that that House Bill 1620, which relates to extreme weather, was placed on second reading. This was a delayed a well actually it says March 4, so I haven't had a chance to see when that is happening today. But it is on the calendar for today. So that's an item that Representative Leavitt was has been helping get through the legislative process and both Ed and Jeffrey I believe have been doing testimony to support that. And I have signed on Pro for the coalition on that particular legislative item as well. Again, if once I receive updates from the Washington Low Income Housing Alliance I will pass those along through email to the coalition's mailing list. Typically those come to come out on Friday afternoon. Today it could be a little bit delayed because of the interaction with the various deadlines. But we are down to the last you know final straws for the legislative session. So the one thing I will say is that the budget negotiations are also continuing and Olympia and those are largely behind closed doors. There are organizations doing lobbying efforts around budget items as well. But yeah, as Cynthia is saying the reconciliation process is what we're looking at for the last few days of the session. Getting beyond the state legislators process. You heard Linda Stewart give the update about the city council's community vitality and safety committee meeting that will take place next Thursday at 4:30pm. That meeting is going to continue the conversation about the potential for a camping ban or something similar and part of that is going to be a panel conversation to try to bring in different perspectives regarding the potential any potential legislation. I have been asked by a chair and Deputy Mayor Bushka to participate in the panel conversation at that meeting. So on behalf of the Coalition, so and I know there will be other folks with varying viewpoints in that conversation as well. So if you have the time and capacity, you can find the link to sign up to attend on Zoom and encourage you to do that there should be public comment opportunities at the end of the meeting as well. And as a reminder, just for context, the community vitality and safety committee is still on track it to provide their guidance to the full council regarding the camping ban before the end of the month. So that's what the timeline is for the consideration of that item. Any other items related to advocacy that folks would like to share. I can't pretend that I am able to keep all of this in my heads Okay, and and you can see Kathy pics comment in the chat Kathy, would you like to say something?

Cathy Pick

Um, yes. So I did put that in the chat because back on December 6, the city hosted a q&a session. Linda Stewart did an outstanding job in moderating that meeting. And there was a poll taken and 59% of the attendees so that they were opposed to a camping ban only 30% supported it. And 11% said they needed more information or they weren't ready to declare. Which baffles me why this is why we're even still talking about it. But I digress.

Rob Huff



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Yeah, and I think I think from what I understand there's just a following through a process going on and and we shall see what recommendations come from the council committee to the full Council at the end of this process.

Cathy Pick

I'm glad you're taking part in that panel. That's going to be a very important meeting and I'm just gonna stay calm. It's just something that I'm very committed to defeating. I have a sticky note right here on my computer. Well, it's more permanent than a sticky note my label maker defeat ordinance to AIDS is my life's mission right now. But I digress. Um, as far as advocacy goes, I am not sure if we talked about did we talk about the McKinley apartments last week and the notification that the people got and that their boiler was off. Did we touch on that last week?

Rob Huff

Oh, we have talked about that off and on a little bit over the last couple of weeks, but we haven't provided any further updates.

Cathy Pick

I have an update. Okay, if

Rob Huff

you have a quick update that

Cathy Pick

I do. The boiler was turned on on Monday of this week. Good. And the tenants have asked us I hope you noticed that we voted unanimously to change our name. So we are now the Tacoma tenants union. That doesn't mean that we're requiring membership. It's just more in line with our goals right from the beginning as well as our affiliation with the state tenants, the tenants union of Washington, so we're more aligned with who we are and what we're doing. And we will be attending the meeting of the McKinley tenants next week to help them organize so that they have a plan for the rest of this time that they have before the 120 days expires. Right, that was their relocation notice that they were given so that expires at the end of June. And my proposal is is that those who are helping with the navigation process, kind of, you know, maybe split it up and in each organization take on a few take on a few tenants that way no one is overwhelmed or overburdened with helping these folks get the relocation assistance that they need as well as actual relocation plan. Sorry, I don't think I've had enough caffeine today. I hope that that made sense.

Rob Huff

It did. And just want to say thank you for your work and advocacy and that issue. I mean, I'm sure it means a lot to those tenants. So



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Cathy Pick

well. Yes. It does. And our main goal is to prevent displacement but also to help you know to help others with the self advocacy, self advocacy skills that we learned when the Tiki and the hotel Merkel situation happened and our our group was born. The community I have to say everything worked the way that it was supposed to they reached out to the landlord tenant coordinator at the city and Shikata elder jumped into you know, her awesome hyper organized mode and and got everything done in short order during a short week when we had, you know, a Monday holidays. So I just feel like the whole the community as a whole has learned from our mass displacements. And in in that way we were able to come to the aid of the McKinley apartment folks and it's just I am informed by what we're doing here. That's why I make sure that I'm I'm here as often as I can be. So thank you for your services that you're providing it helps inform our work as well.

Rob Huff

Thank you Kathy for that update. Let's shift gears now to an update from the safe sites for all committee, Jan.

Janet Runbeck

Yes, good morning, everybody. On Monday at noon, you are invited to join us as we zoom on safe sites for all the two big issues that we're talking about is the fact that this coalition is the proud mother of safe parking network. And it's so successful that we actually convinced Pierce County Human Services to consider taking it on as a funded project. So as the program expands, we would like to see folks come in with with ideas, suggestions, the sights, any any kind of help or creative thinking the other big thing that we've taken on right now is, as Rob mentioned, both cold and hot weather events, made it glaring that government was not necessarily risk responsive to the needs of those who are unsheltered, at least not in a timely way. So we know there will be more severe weather events. We know that as volunteers so Ed Jacobs and I are heading up a creation of a network of faith based organizations throughout the county who are willing to act as distribution sites for supplies that will be identified and thence they will there should be funding of it. We're coming up with funding sources. We're coming up with the most effective communication policies and procedures triggers what triggers an extreme weather event. Government doesn't know. So that leaves it to us. To understand what triggers an extreme weather event. Also, what level of response do we need to do in any given circumstance? So please come join us. voices are welcome. Thank you,

Rob Huff

Jan, and you mentioned communication. So I would like to put Teresa on the spot. Did you want to share a little bit about the efforts that the safe sites for all campaign has been working on?

Theresa Power-Drutis



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That would be great. Can I share my screen?

Rob Huff

Let you let me give you that.

Theresa Power-Drutis

One thing that this group does really well and we don't tend to notice it because everybody's doing it. But it has an impact on the community. Many of you are talking with the greater community about all of these issues. And so one of the things that Laurie Davenport has done, she's a great artist who keeps donating her work to us. So I want to make that work available to everyone. I want to show you the two latest things. One is an infographic that she did about sweeps. And it's got a lot of dense information in the middle but basically it's saying sweeps don't work. They aren't legal and we can do better. So this is available. I'm going to show you another one. That is a you know the SEC. This one is a PowerPoint slide. So if you're doing a PowerPoint presentation to a group and you want people to understand what Martin V Boise is, this is a really simple explanation of it. And as a group, we're going to keep trying to come up with materials that are helpful to people doing outreach in the community. So you're always welcome to join us. We have a half hour meeting each week about how to frame the issues around homelessness in a way that helps engage the community instead of creating and US them sort of situation that we figured the more people know, the more likely they are to support the efforts of ending homelessness. Most of the really awful stuff that comes out tends to come because people don't really understand. So here I'm putting in the chat. A link to a folder that Laurie has filled with things that can be used. Please take them use them. You can modify them, you can put them in your own materials, but they're kind of great. I think she's not here to hear me saying that she's great but she is so welcome. Welcome and come on by on Wednesdays at 11 If you like the link is on the coalition website,

Rob Huff

Theresa and next we have time for coalition committee. Updates. Any other committee updates rosemary? Yes.

Rosemary Powers

So the Race and Equity Committee has done some work on outreach to organizations that might not know about the coalition or might not be up to date on what we've been doing in the last couple years. And we made some presentations. We have a flyer which Laurie is also responsible for helping us create that's available and that will post to the coalition page for anyone to use. If you are part of a group that would benefit from having us come for five minutes to say what the coalition is up to that might encourage your members to participate. Just let me know my email is in the agenda and I can also put it in the chat. Also. We are beginning a conversation as a coalition about how we might strengthen our structures and processes to become more effective in our work in the community. Not



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that we will be changing necessarily a lot of things at all, but we do want to have this conversation and the Race and Equity Committee was re instituted in the hopes that we would address issues around race and equity in all of our programs and processes. So we meet to the committee meets every well twice a month on the first and third Thursday from three to four. And at the next meeting we'll be talking about what are questions we want to be sure we we deal with as we consider this question. of reorganizing. So if you're interested the web link will be or the zoom link will be on the coalition page. Our next meeting will be March 17

Rob Huff

gastic thank you and that brings us to an opportunity for folks to share if you have general announcements that would be helpful for members of the coalition. We still have 53 folks here in the room. So anything new to share announcements, events, anything you think would benefit the group, Carolyn.

Carolyn Reed

Hi, everyone. I just want to remind you that the revenue for housing group continues to try and get in front of the council to talk about the need for more money in order to implement this plan. And we would be great to have more voices from the compute community especially if you know or do live on the east side. Just contact me and I will put you in touch with Carol who gets you on the schedule to speak at a council meeting in that regard.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Carolyn. And that's what the Pierce County Council. I can't remember if he said that or not. But I want to reiterate that. Thank you. Yeah, Patricia.

Patricia

I just want to let everybody know, I think it's May 10 through 13th that the National Health Care for the Homeless network will have their national meeting in Bellevue. And I'll try to give Rob the information to send out thank you so much.

Rob Huff

Thank you and Ed

Ed Jacobs

on the 20th of March, we will have a homeless Memorial. It'll be at five o'clock and and next week, I'll tell you exactly where so we're putting that together and hopefully we can see many of you there or when it's live streamed you can can log on so thank you.

Rob Huff



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Thank you, Ed and Sheila and Sheila, you're speaking you are muted.

Sheila Miraflor

I thought I unmuted myself sorry about that Rob Pierce County Community Engagement task. Force and goodwill are going to be hosting collaboration for a cause 7.0 And I keep saying ang, who's woulda thought that a one off that would be going to years later. And it's going to be at the South Hill Mall second from 12 to four. It is my understanding that it is a drive thru event. I will be providing more details as I get them. But people are free to go to the Pierce County Community Engagement task forces website and click on the collaboration for a cause for more information. Thank you

Rob Huff

so thank you, Sheila. And Richard, I saw you're raising your hand to

Richard

just a reminder and a plea. Once again. My understanding is the coalition opposes sweeps the city is sweeping on Tuesday. Come on down. I'll be there 930 or 10 o'clock. That timeframe. Ed I hope to see you there but others need to come on down and see this if the coalition opposes sweeps we need to oppose sweeps. And one way to do that is to be present to witnesses sweeps and pay attention to what's going on is the city does its work. Thank you.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Richard and anyone else with items for the good of the order All right, so the last item on our agenda is just an opportunity for folks to reflect on today's meeting. You can raise your hand or you can drop something in the chat. What we're hoping to hear is hear from folks is what was good from today's meeting, what needs improvement and what we might do better next time at our next meeting. So if anyone would like to offer some live feedback, this is an opportunity you can tell me that my hair is bad. It could be anything. All right. So thank you all for being here. I know we're all busy people and have things to do so yeah, what hair? That's a great question. So,

Jenny Lorton

so well with a piece of positive news. There you go. There we go. We we have 10 people this week with the HV vouchers

Patricia

wonderful

Rob Huff

awesome. And how many vouchers are still outstanding?



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Jenny Lorton

10 may seem like a small number, but that's huge in this market and the amount of work we have to do with landlords. So it's a victory for us.

Patricia

Full time

Jenny Lorton

so for the vouchers, there's about 50 of those vouchers left between diversion and rapid rehousing. And then so I'm pulling out another batch of referrals off the list today. So some of you who you know do direct service maybe hearing from us and then Pierce County Housing Authority. They've got about 30 vouchers left and they're doing their own direct service. So I have no idea who's been housed, who's in process, anything like that. But we are supporting maybe five of those on our CTI service side. So I can certainly ask them for an update about how many have been housed so

Rob Huff

great. And Patricia, you won't have the last word.

Patricia

Yeah, thank you for the last word. I just want to bring up I know you had your flag going Rob, but we are we will be getting Ukrainian immigrants and resettlement that you know there's a very limited time so we're coming into statuses that are coming from homelessness in their own lands to coming here homeless. Just have that heads up. So thank you and also honor no war, no matter what. Thank you.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Patricia. So I want to wish everyone a safe and happy weekend and if you have an interest in helping plan next week's meeting there will be a group of us here. Starting a follow up meeting in about five minutes. We'll take a short break but otherwise everybody see you next Friday.