



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

Homeless Coalition Friday Meeting

Fri, 4/1 8:59AM • 2:00:26

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

encampments, coalition, meeting, updates, people, chat, conversation, week, share, rob, homelessness, folks, rosemary, good, housing, community, tacoma, pierce county, put, sweeps

SPEAKERS

Jay Worley, Richard, Jeff Rodgers, Patricia, Jeffrey Boyce, Andrea Haug, Gerrit Nyland, Cathy Pick, Sally Perkins, Laurie Davenport, Ed Jacobs, Rob Huff, Theresa Power-Drutis, Sunshine Harper, Ryan, Rosemary Powers, Gerald Daniels, Janne Hutchins, Adam Reichenberger, Verda Washington, Valeri Knight, Shannon Ice

This Transcript is created by artificial intelligence – mistakes are numerous.

Consult the audio at

<https://podcasts.captivate.fm/media/384986b7-29cc-41f1-891d-77f664cb35b4/2022-04-01-CoalitionToEndHomelessnessProviderMeeting-Audio-converted.mp3>

to verify anything that seems crazy.

Rob Huff

All right, we have great we have this morning. I'm just kind of waiting to see Rosemary pop on screen so we can get started. There she is. Alright, so good morning, everyone. And welcome to this week's meeting of the Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness. I am astounded at the attendance early on this morning. That's great. Usually I'm waiting until two after the hour just to get the 30 people on we're at 44. So I appreciate everyone being here this morning. And I don't know if she's ready yet. But rosemary, would you like to kick us off?

Rosemary Powers

Yes, thank you very much Rob. I was stuck in a place I couldn't get there. But I'm here. Today I've gathered my comments for us under the umbrella of poetry pandemic and pertussis. So to be to be explained, April is National National Poetry Month, and I found a delightful story and resource to share that I think you'll all enjoy today. Last year Arizona University poet Tyler Mayer was on a conference



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

call about how the arts could support COVID-19 vaccination efforts and he had an idea he said we use poetry in social settings to show that something's important weddings, graduations, presidential inaugurations and this was important. There's a common and pervasive experience trying to make sense out of what's happened and poetry offers a way to explore that. So he contacted David Hassler, who directs Kent State's poetry center, and uses digital platforms to create community poetry and he pitched the idea to a young poet laureate, poet laureate, young people's Poet Laureate Naomi Shabaab Nye who started composing as they talked. So here's her short poem, she says, save us dear vaccine. take us seriously. We had plans we were going places, children in kindergarten. So many voices in chorus, give us our world again. Her poem became a model for the global vaccine poem project which asked people to add to a collective poem and within five weeks 8000 People had visited the website, adding 1200 stanzas. The responses were from the selja to what life was like before, to hope for what could come and you'll find a lot to explore on that site. I'll put it in the chat, but it's global vaccine poem.com. They're also publishing a book this month titled dear vaccine, Global Voices speak to the pandemic. So that's that and what about pertussis? March was Women's History Month, and I brought a few comments over the weeks honoring amazing women who've changed the world. I know it's April now, but today I asked you to remember the important work of medical research and medical health teams in responding to pandemics in our coalition's collective work to end homelessness and its debilitating effects. I'm especially grateful for the contribution of the Medical Reserve Corps Jan and Verna and Christine and others. And for the continuing updates and advice from our health department representatives, especially Jenny and Rachel, and for the vaccine history and women's contributions. I recently discovered the work of two white women doctors Pearl Kendrick and Grace elderring and their African American lab assistants Loni Gordon, they studied pertussis, the cause of whooping cough in the early 1930s and developed in round the first large scale study of a successful vaccine that says saved hundreds of 1000s of children's lives worldwide. They did this work under poorly funded conditions and faced with ongoing skepticism from the male medical establishment. They further developed the first protest diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis vaccine. It's the basis of very common immunization. And as for today's pandemic, I also want to call out the work of Dr. Because met his Matea because Mattea Corbett who was a key scientist in the development of the Maderna vaccine, so we have wonderful work by wonderful people. And for the tireless efforts to promote health and save lives. I say, Dear women, and dear vaccine, our debt to you is deep. So that's the center for today and we meet together thank you we meet together in this space as an Open Table welcoming voices of all that we can hear during this period of time. And we have a few norms that we use for our participation. These are familiar to most of you, but if you're new, we asked you to keep yourself on mute if you're not speaking to avoid background noise. And if you're doing other activities, also mute your picture or video off. So we don't we don't see this distractions in that way either. We also ask you to use the hand raised function when you'd like to speak, that will allow Rob to be able to see people in some kind of order. And if you don't have the capacity to do that, find some way to get somebody's attention and we'll we all look at it as much as we can so we'll keep him informed as well. We also use the chat function as a way to communicate during the session the time we have together since we have a large group and not everyone gets a chance to speak. Use that there to share your information to let people know what



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

you're interested in to ask questions about what's being presented that you don't have time to ask and we save the chat and it's available for all of us to use as a resource for the future. So with that, I like to invite people who are new or who are returning for being after being away for a while to just let us know that you're here. If you're associated with an organization, what that one is, and if you'd like to put your name in the chat and your organization that would work as well. So I invite people to do that. And Rob, if you'll recognize folks, that'd be great. I can't always see everybody certainly. Well, this is all right, everybody's here from being here before or just hanging out to find out what's going on. So hopefully there'll be a chance for you all to say things you might like to say. And I welcome you all to this coalition meeting for Friday, April 1. I didn't do anything to be foolish, I hope and encourage you all to have a good day. Thank you, Rob.

Rob Huff

Thank you rosemary. And and I'm not doing anything intentionally to be foolish today either, although I still could make a fool of myself. So there's a couple next couple hours we'll see what happens there. Um, so let's get started with our first regular standing item. And that's the this week on the streets portion of the meeting. What we're looking for during this part of the meeting is for folks who are doing direct outreach to people living outdoors and the encampments share what they're seeing what needs have been arising, any observations from what seemed to be almost weekly sweeps that take place? appreciate hearing from folks and what they're saying this week on the streets. So I open the floor again. Use the raised hand function, or simply physically raise your hand if you're on camera. Love to hear what people are seeing out there this week. We are a quiet bunch this morning. Um, so I'm gonna call folks out Richard would you like to share what you're seeing this week? And then I see Andrea's hand up next.

Richard

Sorry, I was trying to find the unmute. I don't know it's starting to feel routine. But there was yet another sweep this time was again under 705. At the higher level up by the Sound Transit railroad tracks, and I'll get down there later today to see how that's progressing. It was a longer stretched out and Campement and I'm going to go to there later today to there's a roadblock there's a road that runs along the railroad tracks. And my understanding is there are a lot more tense up in that direction. And I want to get a look at that. But again, it just continues. The main thing I'm seeing this week is just continues to be lots of ones and twos is all around town and I don't know where people are going to settle yet. So I'm watching to see.

Rob Huff

Yeah, that's been my observation this week as well. Andre, I see your hand

Andrea Haug



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

up. Um, just a lot of movement with the people. I'm having a harder time going back to the same people whereas when I'd make my rounds and in my area, I knew where people were at and now I've lost track of all the people that I started to get to know so um, there's definitely a lot of movement. I noticed that it looked like the combat 35th and Pacific might be bigger, probably just because of all the movement around so um, that's the main thing I'm I'm sad because I worry about the people I get to know and hopefully, you know, they've ended up someplace safe, but um, only time will tell. Thank you.

Rob Huff

Yeah. Is it your sense that people are moving around simply because of the sweeps or is it also just that people are just trying to find new places?

Andrea Haug

I know, because seasonally This is a time where people will tend to travel back and forth and stuff. And so I have watched that but I feel that this is a direct result of moving the encampments. And it just it breaks my heart because every time we go and start to earn some trust from people, they move they're starting out each and you know they're still upset from being up heaves from where they were before. So I really just don't see it being proactive. I just see it as an immediate relief to the people that are directly near it. And it makes them happy in that moment because they've reclaimed some of their space, but at the same time if they don't wish to have an encampment, like zip they push it somewhere else. They're just doing it to someone else. So that's not a solution. And yeah, I'm just really eager to see more mental health services and hopefully addiction services and I was listening to an interview on the radio it was just timely that it came on with Matt Driscoll regarding there being only two beds that take state insurance and Sumner for addiction services. And that was like that was deeply disturbing to me. So um, anyway, I'm sorry. I'll digress. Thank you.

Rob Huff

Thank you for your update. I see Jeffrey has his hand up.

Jeffrey Boyce

Good morning. Mostly what I'm seeing are onesie twosie. He's like everyone else. Although I do see a lot of single people moving during the day, which is unusual. Usually they're moving in the evening. And I can't tell you any particular direction they're heading it is pretty scattered. The encampment on Pacific 34th and Pacific is expanding a bit and it's as much car parking as it is. tent camping some of the people who are tent camping also have cars and so they're they're it's they're being left alone for now. We'll see how much longer that takes up.

Rob Huff

Thanks, Jeffrey Theresa.



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

Theresa Power-Drutis

So we've here at the G Street mural mural camp site since the sweeps began, the latest round of seats again are the group of folks who live on our streets that has at least doubled. And the thing that I'm thinking about this morning is when I was out yesterday, several people talk with me about the fact that some of the a lot of the folks who came from other places adapted to the norms that are here in the community and people work pretty hard to keep the space clean and keep the sidewalks clear and really live in as much harmony as I've ever seen with an A cabinet and community. But some of the new folks who've come in have been very different and there are some spaces that are just the person won't keep it up and the they won't allow anyone else to sweep it up. And it's it's becoming a sort of thing with the neighborhood that wasn't there before. So I think going forward whatever we do, there's a piece of this which is there's there's low barrier and then there's low barrier so people can have if we don't set up a campsite in a way that gives people some agency about how it operates. And just one or two people can come in and make wreck havoc with everyone else's peace in the campsite. I think there's something wrong so it's it's something that we don't talk about much we keep talking about having a place for people to stay, but also that piece of agency. How do we say that if you are homeless, then you need to live with absolutely everyone in every condition. Or do we say maybe you have a little choice. So that's just a thought for the day.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Teresa. appreciate your insight since you have so many folks right on the block there who are in your neighborhood Patricia, you had your hand up as well. Yeah,

Patricia

I hear you Theresa. That is why people sort of move or can't stay in certain places. So his sense of community I also wanted to bring up the traditionally during this time when the weather breaks, people move around anyway, not just necessarily, but with the sweeps. What they're doing is just shuffling people as well. So they'll find a different spot. But Andrea brought up a really great point in regards to treatment models and how Medicaid has very limited you can't find if somebody even wanted to find treatment for themselves, no matter what if it's like mental illness or substance use and abuse or whatever that doesn't exist in a different it does doesn't exist. And I think that they're just finding a place where people can lay their head and pieces one thing you can stop that street homelessness but the other part is how to change their trajectory. And truthfully, is it compassionate to leave some folks in the state that they're at on the street because they can't receive treatment. So thank you for letting me share.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Patricia, and any last comments of what people are seeing on the streets this week before we move on to our first presentation?



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

Richard

Just a quick one, Rob? Yeah, it Jacobs brought up a point earlier this week. And I'm going to add an additional question as I talk to people, which is the number of times that they have individually been swept or moved. That there is research about the amount of trauma and the health outcomes as a consequence of being moved multiple times. And so in my repertoire of questions, that's one of the things I'm going to begin asking people about is the number of times that they've been swept just into some interesting data point for myself and the work that I'm doing out there. Thank you.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Richard. And Gerald as to you have your hand up.

Gerald Daniels

Yeah, good morning, everyone. Um, in the last couple of weeks, we've noticed the rising number of young youth and young adults. And that number is growing pretty fast. Last week, we were out feeding. It was kind of we had kind of break up a little situation between some youth and some of the adults because they didn't want to be in that area, right because it's a danger to them. Because of activity. But it also, you know, puts them in a at risk are vulnerable to street sweeps or attention that they don't want drawn to them because of the young folks there and the potential of you know, pedophiles or whatever. And one of the adults was pretty much trying to intimidate them to get up, get out of the area. So that number is rising, but where do they go? And what are we doing? How do we help impact that so that's something I think we got to keep in mind.

Rob Huff

Gerald, do you have a sense of what's causing that rise right now?

Gerald Daniels

Ah, I talked about a couple of them. And, you know, talking with the youth is Scott hard to reach when you're 56 and someone's 14. You know, but their thought is that, you know, it's time to get out of their parents house and you know, trying to tell the 14 year old you're not ready to get out of anyone's house but it's got to the weather is breaking and feel more confident when they when they have peers who have similar thoughts. So it's kind of a kind of a challenge, but that seems to be the consensus. Yeah,

Rob Huff

well, appreciate that. That background information as well.

Gerald Daniels

No worries.

Rob Huff



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

All right, so um, thank you for sharing what you're seeing on the streets this week. If there's any additional information you want to share in the chat again, that is a great resource. And something that we retain over time, so please do feel free to share and comment there. Um, let's move to our first presentation of the day and I'd like to invite sunshine Harper from Tacoma Community College to tell us about the chat program is part of our community Spotlight Series. Hi, Rob.

Sunshine Harper

Hi. Um, I it made me think when you were talking about the youth and homeless that you know, chat with fresh start and some of our youth education here at TCC. We know take those students and they can get into the chat program. Oh, I want to somehow reach out to whoever is working with that direct outreach out there to let them know to so that these young folks know that they can come and possibly get into housing with the chat program. But anyway, so chap is I'm the chap navigator at Tacoma Community College and we are a housing program for college students or Fresh Start students. Lots of different students and we work with well, some that are housing insecure and some that are homeless on the street. We work with a vast population. And the services we offer is we offer a referral process through TCC through me and I can refer people to either a property based subsidy or a tenant voucher, and it's all subsidized through Tacoma Housing Authority. The so I'm going to kind of explain real quick just the property based and the tenant based the property based is for different apartment complexes that we partner with. And it's sort of like the referral process would be I would refer the students after they apply. We would further students over to the property managers and they go through the process of approving them and, and it's subsidized through a portion of the rent is subsidized through the Tacoma Housing Authority. And then the tenant base is a very different it's a process of me collecting, supporting documents and referring those students over to Tacoma Housing Authority, and then they receive a voucher. And they can take that voucher and shop on the market for a place within 2.5 miles within Tacoma City Limits so both are just very different subsidies. I pretty much anybody who's in six credits or more can be eligible. And sometimes people are over income which is makes things tough, you know, because as we know, the round prices out there are really, really high and so over income is is never reaching what it takes to actually get into a place when you've got for drinks being at 2000 a month at least so um, but we're trying to at least house some people, the documentation that people will need when So how it works is you can go on to TCC's chap page, and we have a link there where you can apply with the student and the application will come to me in the chat. And I'll go through a process of I see the application come in and then I call and we do a screening. And I figure out if they're eligible. I mean, most of the time they're eligible and I put them on a priority one two or three waitlist. So priority one is people living in their cars and you know places unlivable on the streets. And priority two is more people who are have a place to live but they could lose their place or they're not on the lease there may be staying couchsurfing possibly. And priority three is kind of somebody who is pretty secure with their housing but needs cheaper rent, and just really can't get by and they're scraping by. Um, so those are the priorities. The supporting documents that we will need is like things like ID, social security cards, birth certificates for the minors in the household, proof of income, financial aid, TANF, SSI, whatever that may be. And the best way to contact is I put my contact information in the chat earlier I



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

can do it again. After I'm done here so that people can see it. And yeah, and let's see, call it coalition members. I'm trying to go through the questions and answer the questions. I don't have a fancy PowerPoint ready for you all but but chap is. It's a really good program. I really like chap, and along with lots of housing programs that are barriers that we're trying to work out, but it's I do hear all the time from students how they wouldn't been able to graduate from school or get by and be where they are without chat. So it really makes me proud that we haven't. Yeah, and yeah, so any questions?

Rob Huff

So I do see one in the chat and actually a couple now first from Christine was asking what's the capacity in the chat program, how many students can be covered?

Sunshine Harper

Okay, so there's 163 property base units and there's 75 vouchers.

Rob Huff

Okay, yeah. And then Courtney asked, Can you tell what the letters stand for in chat?

Sunshine Harper

Yeah. stands for college Housing Assistance Program. Perfect. Yeah.

Rob Huff

I'm not sure if you can see the question from Teresa.

Sunshine Harper

Yeah, so um, we do have I work directly right next to me with our reentry navigator. And we do have some but like always, it always depends on the background. And it also depends on the property management company, whether or not they will accept that particular background, you know, it's just or how the length of time when it occurred, or you know, there's all those different areas of getting people in with the background. But we do try to do that. combined.

Theresa Power-Drutis

And can they apply while they're incarcerated is my question.

Sunshine Harper

Yes, they can, but they can't be referred over unless they're enrolled with six credits or more.

Theresa Power-Drutis

Okay, so can they be enrolled while they're incarcerated if they know that they're these?



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

Sunshine Harper

Yeah, yeah, yeah, but DLC, and there's they get a DLC voucher. So we try to help people once or do see voucher expires. once they're released. They have the VOC voucher and then we try to help them with that. Once that expires. Go into chat. But a lot of these property management companies also you know, they're just like any other when it comes to the restrictions with backgrounds.

Rob Huff

Great, thanks, sunshine, and we've got a couple of additional hands up here. Starting with Kathy

Cathy Pick

don't necessarily have a question but I just wanted to say that as a former recipient of this program, what this does is it just takes the pressure off. You know, when you're a student, you have a lot of things coming at you all at the same time. And I was housing insecure. I never knew what I was going to face when I when I went home. I never knew what kind of notice was going to be on my door. What kind of harassment I was going to face as I was trying to get home. So having the chat voucher, just relieved me of that pressure so that I could focus on my coursework and not have to worry about that. And also keep in mind that this is one of those unique and awesome embedded services because TCC is committed to you know, serving the whole student. And so to have people like sunshine and other counterparts who who help in other capacities, is just really focusing on providing that equity. You know what that student needs in order to succeed in order to stay enrolled and complete their ed plan and I I personally found it absolutely invaluable to our household. So we really appreciate the chat program.

Rob Huff

Thanks, Kathy. And Ryan.

Ryan

Hi, sunshine. I was curious, what's the out of pocket for your property subsidized programs? And then I'll follow up with about your question but start with that.

Sunshine Harper

So usually it's about \$500. And for a one bedroom and around 600 for two bedroom. Okay.

Ryan

And your vouchers what is a voucher get you?

Sunshine Harper

i They as long as they're approved by the property manager. They can go into any they can shop for any apartment. Um, what do you mean like how much



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

Ryan

is it free is it got a limit but what is about your, you know about anything

Sunshine Harper

with the voucher, it usually covers about 50% of the rent.

Ryan

Okay, so it's a percentage up to a limit. Yeah. Yeah. So, okay. Okay. Thank you.

Sunshine Harper

It depends on the your it depends on your dependents. It kind of there's a whole there's a lot of variables within

Ryan

Oh, so it's need based based on okay. Yeah, thank you.

Rob Huff

All right. So we are a little bit over time. I do see sunshine. There's a question from Adam in the chat. I don't know if you want to answer that one. Briefly.

Sunshine Harper

Read or stand for? Oh TGM for this new chapter. Oh, are you talking about the proposed changes that tha is working on? Um, I can't I was worried someone was gonna ask about this. I can't really comment because I don't know what's gonna happen and I am not sure. So it's that's more what THA is working on. But we're we're hopeful it's it's they're trying to they want to make change the voucher program from being a chapter voucher into more like a section eight voucher. Yeah.

Rob Huff

Okay, more More to come on that. So yeah. Thanks a lot. Sunshine for being here and sharing about the program. Great to see you.

Sunshine Harper

Oh, thank you. Thank you for having me. Thanks for letting me share about the chapter of course. Please reach out if you know anybody who wants my help. I'm right here building 11 TCC. Yeah.

Rob Huff

Perfect. All right. So let's move on to the next item on our agenda and this one goes back to Rosemary to talk about some work that the coalition governance work group has been doing.



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

Rosemary Powers

Thank you, Rob. I will try to breathe make this a little briefer. I've written up some things and I I don't think I want to take up more of our time. If we can make a little shorter but you haven't heard much from us. We were a governance work group we listed on the Zoom calls for people. Before I continue I want to just check and make sure that I'm not doing anything with this speaker that's making people hear things funny. The sound alright. Sounds okay. Okay. So we haven't reported much on what we've been up to, but we started as a group early last year, so early in 2021 and we had a test to focus the coalition's attention on how we might strengthen our collective ability to respond to homelessness. The context for this is that we had we had organized to public zoom summits. Some of you may have gotten in touch with the coalition as a result of those in the fall winter of 2020 and we challenge people from all sectors in the county to strengthen their commitments to the goal of ending homelessness in the context of a terrible winter approaching. And at the time, we described ourselves as a loose network of agencies and individuals who were working to end homelessness. And at the same time, we were championing strategies that often benefit from strong and clear organizational structures. So what we were going to do the need for action to address the emergency was so powerful that most of us didn't want to sit around thinking about organizational structures. So you can imagine this has taken a little while to get very far. And I I won't today, but another time, I think I'd like to present the sort of history of the coalition like how we got where we're at, because that's one of the things that we wanted to know about when we decided that this group would happen is what is it that we have become, in our brief time together as a, an emerging group following these summits? Because the steering committee which is the group that guides our work every week here, and presents miniatures, the agenda for our Friday meetings, was actually the steering committee. For those summits is how it began as a collective and open table approach to our work together. So the second charge of not beyond just describing who we are in our current state. The second charge is to facilitate discussion of options about how we might change things that's a little more daunting. And it also feels a little sometimes like nailing jello to the wall, like what in the world do we want to change? What would be different? How could we do it better? So one of the things we have is a volunteer network that's completely a volunteer network at this point, where individuals are able to make this a part of their paid work, or they're able to volunteer their time and so we don't know can we sustain this? And if not, then what? We've done research then on networks coalition's formal organizations and volunteer organizations, but we don't have any proposals to bring forward yet. So what have we done? Well, we described a coalition in an intensive infographic. March of last year Lori and I worked up something and some of you may remember it, and then we put together a seven page description of what we are about with 12 pages of supporting documentation. So we've we've tried to plumb things to see what where we've been, and it was, you know, it's useful. We also did research on breakout sessions we had over August of 2020 April of 2021. In January of 2022. And of course, and in those, we ask, what's valuable here, what do you want to keep? What do you want to be sure we don't lose. So we have the voice of folks from this meeting to also provide us some context. And we are on record as supporting the newly approved Pierce County comprehensive plan to end homelessness, which is full of opportunities for action, and efforts that a group like ours can champion. So in January, we shared that document of where we're at, and in the



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

past few months, we thought about some sample mission statements because of course, you must do that. If you're an organization, right. So if you've worked on his visioning work in other organizations, about visions and values and strategies, you know how important specific words are and how saturated they become with meaning, at least to those who have held multiple conversations about them. For those outside the conversation. The mission statement may seem just like some words describing the group, but there's a lot more passion, you know, it was no different really, for us a lot of passionate about these words. So we had discussions at three different steering committee meetings, presented some ideas moved a little forward and then last week brought one that we're going to present today, just as a this is where we're at a draft of a mission statement. I'll put it in the chat, but it says the Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness, connects and mobilizes people to take action to end homelessness. I'll say it again in a minute, but there are folks who, who think that our title says enough mean we are the Coalition to End Homelessness, what else do we need? And then there are others who say, well, I need a little more of a kick in the back to get make sure I'm getting going. And others say I want there have to be extra words that really describe what I think this this group does, so that we can really visualize it. So we're not quite there yet. The the steering committee was respectful and had strong differences, but this is sort of one we could kind of live with. And yet of course we want one we want to champion and shout about. So we invite you to continue with us in the conversation knowing that mission statements get revised and reviewed all the time, whenever the group is at a place where it really wants to say, what are we really doing and how will we really get there. So let me just invite you to join us at the governance work group meeting if you're interested in these kinds of discussions. We'll meet again on April 13. At nine in the morning, that's I believe, I don't know which day of the week it is right now, but and it will be the Zoom link will be on the coalition's homepage and we really do hope to hear from you. I'll put that that proposed mission statement in the chat. And if you have any ideas you want to share with us in the chat today. That's be great. As well as coming in joining us for a meeting. So that's our update for today.

Rob Huff

Thank you rosemary, that's a lot to cover in a short period of time. So I appreciate that. And I I love seeing the folks who are commenting on the on hearing the statement for the first time so thank you for that. Alright, so let's shift gears. Garrett has joined us this morning with a couple of quick requests for the coalition to signed on to some funding tasks. So, Garrett, do you want to take the floor and walk through these two items?

Gerrit Nyland

Thank you, Ron. Thank you, everybody. So apparently federal earmarks are back. Although they're not called earmarks are called congressional directed funding or something like that. So some of you have probably seen some announcements from our representatives. So Pierce County is making two requests around homeless program funding. So this is one time capital funding that or it's one time funding we intend to use for capital. So we have two projects that we want to put this forward for. The first one is additional funding for a hotel purchase in Fife. So the intention of this like with the purchase



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

of the Comfort Inn that's now the Aspen quarterly heights operating is that those funds will come together in an RFP for nonprofit organization to then take purchase the hotel and operated as shelter with an eventual conversion into permanent supportive housing. So the meat and potatoes of what we do and in kind of the world of advocacy is asked for both of those things. So I think this fits really well with our comprehensive plan. And with the goals of the coalition, right? We can't stop in campaign tweets. Until we have places for people to go. So that's exactly what that funding is for. The second project that we're applying for funding for is additional funding for a medical respite shelter. So we're looking at a building that has 110 beds that's about \$14 million. So we have four and a half million set aside. And this would be asking for 5 million more and we've kind of kind of got places where we might be able to get the other amount and if that extra doesn't work out it would still be around \$10 million that would allow us to purchase again another shelter Our goal with this and stab 100 bed shelter with about 50 of the beds being medical respite. So that's short term medical support for people that are too ill or injured to be out on the streets, but do have a recovery plan sort of right so they've got wound care going on. Or or a severe illness. And so heightened level of medical care but not a hospital, right. So it's good for our people because they're not in a hospital where you go to get sick. Right. And it's good for the hospitals because it frees up space so that they can do more. So this request is for the coalition to offer letters of support. So I I presented draft letters of support to the steering committee. It's basically yes, please let's build more shelter. Would you please give us money to buy the buildings? So that's, in a nutshell what we're asking the federal government for as the county and what I as a county member. I'm asking the Coalition for letters of support. So we have letters of support now in hand from elevate health from the Tacoma Pierce County. I don't even know what you're called the Health Department. Adam can correct me on the actual Tacoma Pierce County Health Department. And we should have them from the two major hospitals as well. So Homeless Coalition would would put the bow on it.

Rob Huff

Perfect. So I put together a couple polls for this so that we could vote as a group on supporting this right?

Gerrit Nyland

I put in just one pull together and the letters of support are pretty generic. So I've got those if you're interested, but I don't think they're that interesting. So really, I'm just asking for support from the Coalition for acquisition of buildings to operate shelter and permanent supportive housing. So that's the question should the coalition submit letters of support for congressionally directed spending requests? And you've got three options? Yes, no or abstention what's going to play my harmonica solo because I actually set it out this time, but I'm going camping this weekend. So the harmonica is packed in the bag. If I'm leaving, like five one more time, it's just gonna be waiting.

Rob Huff

There is one question for you. Oh, excellent. Yeah.



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

Gerrit Nyland

I'm just drop your email in there Kathy and I'll connect Yep.

Rob Huff

April Fool's. Now this this is actually legit. Not April Fool's.

Gerrit Nyland

I'm still shocked we have earmarks like as a formal program. I was that they had to be backroom deals with smoke wafting through the air and old men with their double breasted suits and, you know, perhaps no connection to reality, but I'm sticking with it.

Cathy Pick

Right. All right. Looks like muted for a minute. Can I ask a quick question, Garrett? Yeah. You say that this is federal should should we be sending this letter to our congressional representatives.

Gerrit Nyland

So this is all goofy as good. I don't really know how it works properly, fully. But basically, we're making three requests for these two projects to three Congress. Rep. So to two our two senators and two. Representative Kilmer. Alec Strickland has a process and I don't know we're not pushing it through her process as well. Each of them has an area of interest. And so I think we're targeting those areas of interest. So we'll actually write letters of letters of support you know, when to each senator and one two representative Kilmer and again if you're interested, just shoot me an email I'll connect you up with the grant writer at the county and we have some templates and and how that goes but we ended up sending them all together so they have to come back to us to get packaged up and sent off. So thanks, everybody I see going on in the pool. I can share the results. Lots of folks saying yes, a few folks abstaining and the eyes have it so I really appreciate this. I sure hope this goes through because Heaven knows we need some more shelter. Thanks everybody.

Rob Huff

We definitely do. Alright, I'm here. Did you want to get a screenshot of that or should I?

Gerrit Nyland

Throw you can print them out. Now out of zoom. So

Rob Huff

okay. I'll do a screenshot anyway. Um, so our next item on the agenda actually goes back to Garrett again, and we're just trying to weekly keep an eye on the comprehensive plan to end homelessness. I'm not sure what updates you have to offer today. Other than obviously, the advisory committee has its



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

first meeting since the plan was approved by the county council this afternoon. That meeting is that one?

Gerrit Nyland

Yeah. That means a one o'clock so that's really the big update is we're getting the band back together. Although it's got some new members which is going to be exciting. Their job is to hold the county accountable for implementation of the plan and provide direction today, a chunk of our conversation will be about the approach to the unified regional approach. Flow, we're calling it now. And, and we're kind of centering on what we're doing. And so I just dropped into the chat, the packet of materials that's not quite on the website yet. And everyone can attend at the public meeting. And the link to join is on the website. There's a time at the end set aside for public comment. But otherwise, it's limited to the the actual board members and support staff engaging during so yeah, I mean, there's a bit of an update about some of the initiatives and it just would love direct feedback from folks on ways you might like to be hearing about updates I'm, I'm struggling a tiny bit with the the amount of information that I can push out which makes updates sort of garbled and somewhat meaningless sometimes if it's a lot to weed through, so would totally appreciate. Like, Karen, I can't figure out what's going on and just if you have hints about what might be some some easier ways for you to consume information about what's going on that would be that would be great. And I'm going to put in a link to the website that hands Hello Rob probably beat me to it already. I'm doing it too, though. Rob. And how do you get older?

Rob Huff

You will Okay.

Gerrit Nyland

Anybody have any? I know we're short on time if you have questions probably offline but don't hesitate to get a hold of me.

Rob Huff

And same for me so I I know Maureen is unable to attend today's meeting so I'll be attending in her as a poor substitute representing the coalition. So whatever comes out of today's meeting, if you're not able to attend, we'll share an update next week. So that we know where things are going.

Gerrit Nyland

I saw a question in the chat before I saw wrapping over back to the the the medical respite, shelter. So the plan is for those other 50 beds to be shelter beds as well, how ever we have a provider that's interested in possibly running 25 beds of substance use inpatient treatment and so we're really interested in figuring out how to provide some more resources in the community, right, because back when MDC gets its detox going, it's still needs places to people to go after detox. So, um, so that's something we're looking at, but probably if that doesn't work, then it'll just be shelter, with the ability to



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

have medical respite. And that would be ideal for people that just enter medical respite and then their medical respite periods done because their wound is healed. And then we'd have to find them another shelter location, it would be great if we could just keep them in the same facility so they can work with the same case managers.

Rob Huff

But we'll see. Thanks, Garrett. So we are adding an item to the agenda here next. The last few weeks Timothy has been Timothy Harris has been putting together a summary of what we discussed in the last week's breakout session, we thought we should actually put an item on the agenda for Timothy to share that summary in a more meaningful way than I have been able to do the last couple of weeks. So, Timothy, I hand the floor to you for review of last week.

Jay Worley

Thanks Rob. Can you do you have the document here that you can put it up?

Rob Huff

Let me find it or

Jay Worley

I probably easier for you to do it then man. I'm just talking while you're finding Okay,

Rob Huff

let me go find find out

Jay Worley

so you know, what I do with these roundups, is I just go through and kind of group it into themes and try to present something that, you know, is an overview of what people were talking about. And the question last week was how can we help create more community support for solutions to homelessness in their own neighborhoods? And i i Not exactly sure what we were after and that question because it can be read a couple of different ways. But what most people responded to was how can we create support for solutions to homelessness in neighborhoods, in the neighborhoods so some of the themes that arose are stories of people with lived experience is one of our most powerful tools and some themes within that are the power of storytelling by those with lived experience and putting on House voices up front and community engagement and education efforts. And another theme was strengthening the sense of inclusive community and how we're all in this together. Down the bottom of that section. Somebody talked about how they prioritize educational events and neighborhoods using role plays in the Boyce's presence of people with lived experience. I just want to note that I've seen that being really, really helpful when we were working to get sanctioned encampments. In Seattle, one of the things that we did was organized a dog and pony show of folks from nickelsville that went around to



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

churches and told their stories and that was a very, very powerful outreach tool. Moving down there is a theme of building a build on common experiences of rising housing costs and economic vulnerability. It's fairly self explanatory. I won't go into that. I'm me communities where they're at and work to build understanding and engagement. Some of the themes within that we're proximity building empathy and building small sanction camps and involving the communities in those camps as a way of, of creating proximity and the empathy that flows from that. There is this theme of it's not us and them we're all we and that when we seem to dismiss people's concerns and assume that they're uncaring, we miss opportunities to really listen and create allies. And another theme and there was needing to understand our gaps and how community resources can be leveraged to to create engagement and then down on the next page Yeah, the creative ideas and gaps to fill that's kind of a miscellaneous section where a bunch of stuff that kind of didn't fit under other themes got put a highlight a few of those there was one about needing to constantly measure progress against the need that's out there talking about a mindset shift, a mindset shift, um, where we're really kind of tracking what's needed and our progress against that and that would be a useful tool. There was an urgent need that was identified talking about disabled and blind unhoused people are being denied shelter, because they aren't independent enough and this is a real need that needs to be addressed like yesterday. So that seemed like something important to pull out. And, you know, a number of the suggestions in this are sort of like whole organizing projects in themselves. And there were several of those that appeared in this column. Several more or, yeah, being more proactive, the city and county basically trying to get ahead of what's happening in the encampments with hygiene services and stuff like that. More support with outreach workers not waiting for encampments to develop into, you know, entrenched problematic places, but you know, doing more to provide services as alternative to sweeps are offering unhoused people employment and cleaning up areas trying to create some kind of program around that. And then there was this idea of offering a financial incentive to property owners to host encampments on their property or maybe allow someone to park there and then it closes with an assertion that people have the right to live in the community in which they became homeless. And that is the summary.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Timothy. A lot to chew on from that update last week. So thank you for everyone participating and for that wrap up what we wanted to consider for our breakout conversation this week was to in you know, in light of trying to keep the the comprehensive plan, front and center. We know that for the plan to be successful, we need to do outreach and there's not yet a defined process for how that outreach will be done, but we thought we could help kick start the process by talking about who we should be doing outreach to, in an effort to move the comprehensive plan forward. I think some of that will be. Some of that will be come obvious as we learn about the establishment of new sites that will be hosted in different communities. But who are some of the folks who proactively we can do outreach to in an effort to move the comprehensive plan forward. So let's spend 10 minutes in breakout rooms today talking about that. Let me open these rooms. What we will do is the same thing that we always do. I'll put you in rooms of five or six people and we will spend 10 minutes somebody please take notes and come paste them back here in the chat. And we will come back here at 1010 away we go.



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

<Breakout Rooms>

Rob Huff

All right. Welcome back, everyone. Hopefully that was a good opportunity to talk about folks who we should reach out to regarding the comprehensive plan to bring our community along in that work. I look forward to seeing folks ideas in the chat. Please do remember to paste those in there so that Timothy can create another good roundup of what everybody talked about today. So I'm sure that felt like a little bit of a short amount of time to consider the topic but we're all here just to kind of network and meet each other and hopefully that was useful. So let's shift to our regular government updates and I know that we didn't we do not have anyone from the city of Tacoma on the call. Today. However, Caleb did send me an email with some updates. I will paste those in the chat. The main thing that I a lot of these updates are pretty routine, but one that he mentions that I'll put in the chat is about private property and campman abatements. And this is what we saw happen down at South 40s and five that that Richard had posted photos and and things from last week. These are removals of encampments from private property being done by as a code compliance response and working in addition with the heal team. So I will paste that information into the chat. There's also updates on shelter performance in campman outreach over the last week and those sorts of things so I will paste those in the chat. Um, let's move on to updates from Pierce County Human Services and Jeff.

Jeff Rodgers

Yes, good morning. Just want to remind everybody that the CEE system enhancement NOFA is still out. That's an over the has \$3.5 million that we're looking to award to nonprofit organizations to improve our coordinated entry system. Two other things I'll mention real quickly is that heard at a federal level, the US Department of Housing and Urban Development is what HUD acronym stands for is accepting registrations for the continuum of care funding. So that has to be done next week. So we're moving into the phase of applying for federal continuum of care funding for homeless programs, and they also have released their NOFO for the youth homelessness demonstration program. Wait wage gap, as many of us call it, which is funding to address youth and young adult homelessness. So we're going to start working with many organizations that work with those targeted populations to submit an application that's due to HUD by June 28. So just some funding opportunities that we as a community need to apply for, that we're starting to work on. That keeps us pretty busy over the next three to six months. That's it

Rob Huff

Thank you, Jeff. Anybody have any questions for Jeff All right. So let's shift over to Valerie I saw you were on the call earlier. I am here for rental assistance and

Valeri Knight

never bored. I'm so new portal is open. We are actually doing a landlord q&a. On April 5, it starts at two and will go to about 5pm. We already have over 300 landlords registered for that. That'll be the Rental



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

Assistance Program, Washington State Department of Commerce landlord mitigation program. The amazing Tacoma pro bono and dispute resolution centers will also be there doing presentations. It's a really good opportunity for landlords to learn about all of the new requirements to get updates on what's happening and to just to ask those honest questions in a very safe environment and to relieve some frustrations. And around on the very next day, we're doing a tenant q&a So if you have tenants, I encourage them to attend because it's the same for people who will be presenting for the Chenot portion. We also have about 12 housing help events. So if you have folks who are in need of applying for rental assistance, or to see to come a pro bono in person, like just pop into any of those public libraries, we're getting ready to add to the library to that group. And I may or may not be on jury duty next week, I will find out at five o'clock today. So if I am suddenly out nothing's wrong. I'm just doing my civic duty. So other than that, we are just keeping going. We do know state's going to release funding. We are we knew the state's going to release funding for a Notice of Funding Availability for rental assistance. We just don't know when yet or what the requirements are. So as soon as I hear that, we will get that out to y'all so you can share.

Rob Huff

Great, thank you Valerie. You're welcome. Any questions from the group for Valerie? Okay, for civic duty. Yeah. All right. I also know that Jenny, let me know that we shouldn't expect an update from the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department this morning. I don't know Adam, if there was anything you wanted to say but I don't have an official update today. From the health department.

Adam Reichenberger

No, I don't have anything from any of the communicable disease stuff. We did get a one of our housing blogs published a couple of weeks ago, I won't be able to put the link in because I'm on my phone. One of the many efforts we're working on to get us more plugged into just the housing response or the homelessness response and House response, I guess. And so that one was had a focus on racism's impact on housing, so

Rob Huff

great. We'll go find that. And I'm not sure if we have anybody from the Pierce County Department of Emergency Management on the call with an update today. So let's create some space for that. Rob, I know Ivan's on vacation. I am glad Ivan's getting a break. All right, so let's shift out of our government updates. And do a slightly related advocacy update. What I'm trying to do again in these advocacy updates is to share opportunities for coalition members to advocate at the city, County, regional and state level. And what I can say right now is next week, that comma City Council's study session doesn't have anything directly related to homelessness, other than there's a review of funding recommendations for community development block grant, the home Investment Partnership Program and emergency solutions grants. So if you work for an organization that receives funding from either of those programs, that is you're probably already aware but that's on the agenda for the noon study session next week. There are only two items on the city council's regular meeting agenda for their five



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

o'clock meeting next week. So very short meeting I would expect one of the items is related to a legal settlement and the other is related to a property tax exemption application for development in the proctor district. So if you typically would make comments about the the limited property tax exemption Program and its impact on budgets and homelessness, that's an opportunity there. I do know that there had been some community thought that there could be a meeting coming up very soon of the council's community vitality and safety committee. The next meeting of that committee, which is the committee that has been making recommendations related to a potential camping ban will take place on April 14, so we've got a little bit of time there before that committee comes back up. I do want to offer a reminder if you're marking your calendars, the April 12 study session for the City Council. The last I had heard is supposed to include an update on the city's homeless action action plan from the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services. So that does not appear on an actual agenda yet at this point, but by this point next week, we will know for sure if that's on the agenda for the April 12 meeting. Just wanted to let folks know that one will be of interest. I am not aware of anything for sure on next week's Pierce County Council agenda that we would want to call attention to Sally any ideas that you have.

Sally Perkins

They don't post their agendas until three o'clock on Friday afternoon. So and they tend to change with some regularity. They are discussing their 2022 Council priorities however, and there's a chunk of information in there about housing and about homelessness and about public safety that might be of interest to members of this group. Rob, I can send you if I didn't already, the draft document that they talked about it their study session on Tuesday the 29th And that study session was is on video. So if you're interested in hearing the the conversation that council members actually had I would urge you to watch that it's one of the more substantive ways they talk to each other about what they want to do. That study session is probably worth

Rob Huff

watching. Great, thanks for that Sally. And I appreciate it being able to lean on you because I know you're tracking next to especially at the county level. I do know one of the things we're keeping an eye on is the is what will happen have the full county council regarding the safe parking ordinance. And so that that's one item we're keeping an eye out on the agendas for next week as well. I do know from a community meeting that took place earlier this week that there has been some concern expressed by some of the county council members regarding that ordinance. So all send a heads up to the home through the coalition mailing list if there's an opportunity to speak up in favor of safe parking. Jeffrey

Jeffrey Boyce

Good morning again. I have had a recent conversation actually two days ago with Ruby who is the site manager for the fob hope site that's going in on at second am Pacific. My church is going to be one of the churches feeding them feeding that camp and they have almost all the tents set up. They are still waiting on the city to provide water and without water you cannot go and porta potties they do not have



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

those in Yeah. This was a site that the city said they wanted started in November. And now we are in April and it's still not functioning but I'm in touch with Ruby once a week. Just see when we have people coming in so that we can start feeding them. Thank you for your time.

Rob Huff

Thanks for that update Jeffrey. Alright, so that's it for this week's advocacy. Updates. The only thing I would do as another reminder is that if you have do have the time to listen in on this afternoon's meeting of the Advisory Committee for the comprehensive plan to end homelessness, that meetings at one and anyone can join in. It sounds like there will be an opportunity for public comment at the end. So that is another advocacy opportunity coming up later today. So let's shift to committee updates, safe sites for all is there anything we wanted to share? Nothing really add okay.

Ed Jacobs

Yeah, it's still percolating. Okay.

Rob Huff

Very good at well, just as a reminder, those meetings take place at noon on Mondays. The links are on the coalition website at PC homeless.org. Anyone is welcome. The updates that are frequently do talk about the status of the ongoing safe parking sites. The last update that we did have on Monday was that all of the safe parking sites that currently exist were full so that you that resource is being utilized quite a bit. We will do an update here with the full coalition soon regarding expansion of safe parking, so any other coalition committee updates that we needed to share today? I know we shifted the governance workgroup to earlier in the meeting anything else Rosemary that we think we want to share?

Rosemary Powers

I would just announce that the race and equity committee has been meeting with representatives of our group Shirley Evans and I have been meeting with a variety of groups in the county, mostly in the coma right now to inform them about the coalition and divide them to participate. So that's an ongoing project. We need more members to focus on how to make sure we are an inclusive and welcoming group. So we meet the first and third Thursdays from three three to 4pm. And those are posted in the webpage as well. So everybody's welcome.

Rob Huff

Thank you rosemary and now magically Oh, go ahead, Teresa.

Theresa Power-Drutis

I just wonder if Lori has her latest infographic that she could share with the coalition. She did. Uh, I don't know if you're ready to do that or not.



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

Laurie Davenport

I can do that. Give me a minute to find it here.

Rob Huff

Yeah, like give me a second to give you have the ability to share. Oh, man, okay. All right. It just gave you the ability to share.

Theresa Power-Drutis

I did I was gonna say that Laurie Sorry. It's so excited about the things that she creates. I want to get it out there so you know that it's available.

Laurie Davenport

Yeah, it's coming. Let's say. You have to jump through any hoops.

Theresa Power-Drutis

while she's doing that. This is a response to a lot of people requested that the outreach crew do something about the many paths to homelessness. So Laurie kind of took that on and created an infographic that it's actually she's got it is it tabloid or it's 11 by

Laurie Davenport

and so loved by 17. So 17 appropriate to be a poster. Okay, I can share it now. Thanks. Okay. Can you see that?

Rob Huff

Yeah, we can. Yes. Okay.

Laurie Davenport

So I know it's hard to read all make it bigger and scroll down through it. So our basic ideas that the things people usually associate with why people end up homeless are mental health problems, addiction, that kind of thing. Actually, the from what I read the the biggest contributors people losing their jobs or having a medical issue, so so that's all in here. Working people who have to live in their car because they can't make enough money. People have lost their jobs, particularly because of the pandemic. It's gotten worse. People who are impacted by a medical problem, no health insurance. Also added in the fact that average life expectancy of people experiencing homelessness is around 50 years of age. People who have just been priced out of their place, cost of living keeps going up. victims of domestic violence and really important fact that 50% of homeless families with children are black families. There's a lot of impact just based on race in terms of who becomes homeless. So that's what we got and it's that's designed to be a poster that can be printed out and posted. So start the process.



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

Rob Huff

where can folks download a copy of this so they can print? It seems like there's a real opportunity here?

Laurie Davenport

Yeah, we'll put it on the little i think it's a Google doc Teresa, I have where all the other graphic stuff is that people can download. And I'll put a link to it in the chat here too.

Rob Huff

Perfect. Yeah, that's, I think that's really appealing and going to be very useful. I'm just imagining that being used for a public information campaign that could be really effective. Great. All right.

Laurie Davenport

We'll get it out there. I will and you can, you know, email me email Teresa, we can send you the file too. And I I am planning to print some copies so

Rob Huff

you're getting a lot of great feedback in the chat. Oh, excellent.

Ed Jacobs

Laurie, this we can only print this out 11 by 17.

Laurie Davenport

I'm working on eight and a half by 11. Two, though that will also be available.

Rob Huff

That's great. Thank you. Go ahead.

Theresa Power-Drutis

But if somebody wants a copy of this to post in a specific place, you should reach out to Lori because she is capable of printing them. We're not going to print out a dozen for somebody but if you if you need some for posting. We talked about this. I'm not just offering it out of the blue. No, no,

Laurie Davenport

we're we're ready. We can give you a printed copy.

Ed Jacobs

Maybe for the city council chambers. Sounds good. Yeah.



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

Laurie Davenport

Well, Gorilla posting that's okay, too.

Rob Huff

Yeah. Oh, boy. Don't get me started. Jennifer. I saw a conversation on next door earlier this week that I decided I didn't want to start a world war. And I just backed away. But this this graphic could be really useful. All right, so we've come to the part of the meeting where we have a little bit of time for people to offer announcements for the full group. So yeah, 11 feet but 70. That would be easier to read. So does anyone have any announcements they would like to share with the group. Patricia,

Patricia

the national health care for homeless network is having their national meeting in Bellevue may 10 to the 13th And they're also going to have a rally in regards to the basic needs of homelessness. I'm going to put a link in to the registration or so far. So thank you.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Patricia. Richard, would you like to share a little bit about your the conversation that took place yesterday the voices on ending homelessness?

Richard

Yes, let me unmute. So, yesterday I hosted a second conversation on ending homelessness that was focused on the comprehensive plan we had Liaquat sim, Debbie Raghava, Dave Alger, Rick Talbert, and no wall Hagen's conversing on that as well as a few people participants that joined in the I will compile the notes on the conversation. It was interesting while really focused in on goal one and four, being setting up the system and then the adjacent systems and coordination. I don't have a lot of takeaways right now. Rob, you were there and might have a view of it. Some great, well experienced people talking about plans and how to make them a reality. I think that a lot of what I heard was, yes, there's a lot of good work going on now. To take the good elements of the plan and proceed as rapidly as possible and that some successes could be had. Again, I my focus then was was listening. I will try to compile the notes over the weekend and make those available but it was a good conversation. One of the outcomes. And one of the things I've already been talking about, although I'm going to be gone for a few weeks, but is to have the next conversation about ending homelessness include people currently homeless, and at first it sounded daunting to me but then I realized I can make that happen. With a little help from the lived experience coalition and others. We could get some phones to people in the encampments, and have them talk about what their needs are, rather than outsiders talking about what we think their needs are. And I thought, Wow, what a simple idea. And so I think we're going to make that happen. We're already getting some suggestions of people that would be perfect for participating. And and just by doing the conversation in its own self would be a means of outreach, as currently homeless. People talked about what their needs are. And if people participated in that call,



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

they could listen in and maybe we could actually get some direct services to the participants. So anyway, that's that's one of the forthcoming ideas, and I'll have notes available before long on on yesterday's meeting. So yeah, it was good. Yeah. Any thoughts from you, Rob, you you listened in as well?

Rob Huff

Yeah. So one, one thing if if folks want to go listen to or watch that, call the Zoom recording of it. Should you want to share that, Richard?

Richard

Oh, I don't know how to share it on the chat. It was certainly anybody's Welcome to it. I mean, it. It's part of the point.

Rob Huff

So I'm not 100% sure how well this is going to work for folks, but I did drop that. That file from yesterday's. It was an hour long conversation on to my my personal Google Drive. So you should be able to watch that there with that link. If there's enough interest we could put it on YouTube instead, but that's just a private link. So if you want to want to take a look at that conversation, I do think it was good to hear the perspectives of the group there. It was a quick paced conversation and only one person swore and it wasn't the one that I thought it would be. So All right, moving on to other announcements and items for the good of the order. Patricia your hands up is that still from before?

Patricia

Sorry. Yep.

Rob Huff

Okay, no problem. And Jay, I see your hand up.

Jay Worley

Yes, actually, can you hear me? Sorry. We can. Um, I was actually hoping to see if you guys would be willing to put that up on YouTube for a couple of reasons. I think it would be really good if we had access to it. So somebody had a question about that conversation. They could see it. Because there's a couple of people in the LEC that are working on a national level. And I think that would really help them from a point of view.

Rob Huff

Okay, yeah, I can. I can work on that. It'll either be on a coalition you to your bar, or I could throw it up on online as well. And I see the others posting about that. Thank you, Courtney, for that request as



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

well. So I'll work on that, too. Later today between meetings. Anyone else? With items for the good of the order? It

Ed Jacobs

earlier this week, I had a meeting with a person who had been a lobbyist had experience. And as we all know, lobbyists get paid and some of them very well for what they do. And one of the things that he told me point blank was if you have to testify in front of a committee, you've already lost. And it was like What are you talking about? That's what we're doing. We're you know, we're advocating. He says, if you haven't talked to everybody on that committee, and lobby them to vote certain ways you've lost so when we start talking about city council, subcommittees or county council subcommittees I would encourage us to maybe have a listing where we could go to get contact information so that we could call them up. Call them up, send them an email and let them hear. I mean, how many of the city council have heard from us that we want them to join the county in that plan? Probably not many. So, you know, until we tell them what we'd like them to do, how can we expect them to even think about it? So I guess that would be my suggestion. Let them get 40 calls from people. That's fine. Then their staff knows that there's a position out there that is being taken. So just a suggestion from somebody who used to do it for a living. So

Richard

that's that's brilliant as also as a former lobbyists. Testimony is just window dressing.

Ed Jacobs

Yeah, there's a story in our family my my father was a lobbyist years and years ago and he brought a nun into town testify in front of a committee, and she always wore a fall habit. And she basically walked in and told the committee what they were supposed to do. And he did that because the chair of the committee was Catholic. I mean, the gloves are off, folks. We need to do these things. And so anyway, thank you

Rob Huff

thanks for that perspective. AD. And yeah, I second that as well. I also agree with Teresa that the primary value of doing the public comment is to sway the public opinions. So So that's, that's another piece as well. Can I see you have your hand up?

Janne Hutchins

Yes, thank you. Um, that's how hard to follow, but I'm going to follow anyways. let y'all know that law says having a breakfast on Wednesday, April 27. And you can get your free ticket through brown paper tickets. Of course, we're going to hit people up for money for our hygiene center. But you're still welcome to come and it'll be on me if you can't make a donation. And I just wanted to say something about this because of the when we were in the smaller groups, somebody brought up the fact that we



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

need to be able to do outreach to people on the street. And one of the funding sources when we were going after many we were we were well received but we also had some Doubting Thomas as and one of the funding sources said why don't you just give people a couple quarters and send them to the laundry? Well, that's because that's not what we're really trying to do. We're trying to help provide dignity and we're also trying to get to know people so that they can come back when they're ready, and ask for more services. So Wednesday, April 27, up the CFO you there, thank you all

Rob Huff

right. So any final items related to related to the announcements for the good of the order? Alright, so let's wrap up today's meeting. I like to offer some space for people to reflect on the content of today's meeting, offer any feedback? What went well, what didn't go well? And and also an opportunity for people to drop into the chat. What are some things that they would like to see in upcoming meeting agendas? So I'll be silent here for a moment and see if people have anything to share about today's meeting.

Richard

I already let him know but he did a magnificent job with those notes from last week's breakout session. And I think he should have that assignment every week.

Rob Huff

Big thumbs up alright, so if folks want to use the chat to share any feedback, that would be fantastic. as well. Yeah, I can't assign me volunteered. That's right. At least he didn't have to be voluntold verta I see you have your hand up.

Verda Washington

Excellent meeting today. Always excellent meeting but I think two days a lot of the information that we received is going to help us to move forward a few inches quicker and also get other people get more people involved. I like the lobbying idea. And I like the the poster because this notion out there. All of us know it, though, that people are homeless on the streets because that's what they want to do that I want to work they want a handout we know that's not true, but finding better ways to get it to the general public. And I think we move the needle that way today, a little bit more. Thank you.

Rob Huff

Thank you for that perspective. All right, and I do want to call people's attention to there have been a couple of announcements in the chat that are good to share. Sheila just shared about collaboration for a cause, which is an event happening tomorrow at the South Hill Mall. That information is in the chat. Also there is information in the chat from Michael Yoder about Project Homeless Connect coming up next week. From 11 to three I believe at St Leo's Kathy, you have your hand up



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

Cathy Pick

I do. We are working on helping with the Tacoma GSAs Housing Committee on drafting a renters Bill of Rights. If anyone has any input on that or if you are if there's already an existing document out there. If you don't mind, I would like to totally steal that line that people have the right to what have you say people have the right to be homeless or to camp in the area? What did you say was so good people have the right to live in the area where they became homeless. And I think that that's a really good strong statement because the the the force, a lot of forces are pushing people out to the margins of the city and the county. So if y'all don't mind, I want to steal that or or borrow it.

Rob Huff

I think I think you have permission to do that.

Cathy Pick

That's a great, that's a great thing to assert.

Rob Huff

All right. Well, I want to thank everyone for being here today. I hope everybody has a safe weekend ahead and that we all can be back here next Friday morning for another round of conversation about how we can end homelessness in Pierce County and beyond. So if you have the capacity and an interest we there will be a group of us hanging out to plan next week's meeting right after this. That is after about a five minute break. Otherwise, have a great weekend, everybody.