



Homeless Coalition Friday Meeting

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SPEAKERS

Jeff Rodgers, Kenny Moultry, Dora Williams, Richard Dorsett, Dana Peterson, Jeffrey Boyce, CC Mendoza, Jay Warley, Gerrit Nyland, Stacey Soltoff, Caleb Carbone, Sally Perkins, Kevin Roberts, Laurie Davenport, Ed Jacobs, Leah Ford, Rob Huff, Rosemary Powers, Tim Harris, Don Pritchard, Janet Runbeck, Jenny Lorton

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Rosemary Powers

Thank you, Robin. And good morning, everyone. When I looked at the agenda this morning, I was I was thinking about the unacceptable hamster wheel experience of encampment sweeps and that we'll be having a breakout session on how we talk about the dramatic effects of drug use and mental illness among our unhoused neighbors. I was looking forward to being with this community, when so much around us in our local and national and global context makes it really challenging to imagine that we'll be able to bridge our differences and solve our common problems. And I realized that I was holding my breath. I think we're all holding our breath a lot of the time, which is why it was so important last week to reflect on what inspires us literally the word from the Latin Inspiron ray to breathe or blow into. We were asking what helps us breathe. So just for a moment, I invite you to focus on your own breathing. This morning, you might close your eyes or whatever works and just notice the in and out of your breathing and the depth of it and give it all you've got. We'll just take a moment together for that so thank you all for breathing with me and whoever had your mic off breathing that was really wonderful to hear same time breathing together. So thank you, Donald. I think that might have been you. Anyway, so welcome. Have and you know it's as we're all breathing in our different spaces, I also had to think about are still pandemic time when breathing together in the same space has its own complications. So breasts



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important and keep us focused on it. So welcome again, everyone. And I see some folks I haven't seen before or haven't seen in a while. So I first will remind everyone of how we run our meeting together and then invite you to just introduce yourself if you're new or haven't been here for a while. And while this is a short time, it's not meant to be an explanation of what you do other than what you might be associated with so we can contact you if we are interested in networking more. So in terms of our norms, we have a few things we asked you to do on Zoom, which are pretty typical ones. We have a raised hand function when you want to be recognized, and Rob would do the recognizing in general. And then if you are not speaking we asked you keep your mic on mute so that we don't get distracted. By outside noises. And if you're going to do something else during the session that you need to do answer a phone or whatever else to take your video off as well. So we don't have lots of hand waving going on as some people use when they're talking even if they're not in a room with someone. And then we use the chat to share information to network with each other to have ongoing conversations and it does not mean at all that you're not engaged in the meeting. So take that space, talk to people individually or communicate to everyone. If you're new and have a question about some general concept that's a good place to ask it and someone would respond there which means we can have two things happening at once sometimes. And for our community norms. We haven't heard them for a while. So I just wanted to remind us of those. And I know Rob us he puts these in the chat but if you don't have time to read them or if you just joined us, we ask that we try our best and challenge ourselves to lead with an equity lens to be aware of power dynamics, to challenge concepts rather than people to listen to learn. That one person speaks at a time and from our own experience, and that we make space for others but that we also take up some space so we can hear the voices of all who are concerned to assume best intentions and at the same time take responsibility for impact. Not having good intention. Having good intentions is one thing but we sometimes that's sometimes not enough and then to be aware of time and agendas. So not speaking more than our share and we're being aware of what might be coming up next. So with that, if you're new or returning, let us know that you're here and who you are and what group if you're associated with the group, just raise your hand for that and we'll we'll get going so, Donald, are you raising your hand so that what you're doing there? I think you might be on mute. Well, we'll come back to you in a minute when you figure it out. You're still on mute there so. All right. We'll come back. Dora. Was that you? Yes. Okay.

Dora Williams

Good morning. Everyone. My name is Dr. Williams work here at CMR Community Health Center on the hilltop. I am a homeless case manager here. I've been here for close to two years. Matter of fact that we use June 30. I do

Rosemary Powers

are looking forward to hearing from you. Yes. To hear from you in just a minute a little more detail. So thank you very much for coming and we look forward to talking with you in just a minute

Rob Huff

and Donald ice i You're still not unmuted and I'm trying to remember I think it might be star seven or I'll send you a request to unmute.



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Rosemary Powers

He's actually been unmuted. It's just that when he is unmuted, it's still his voice still doesn't come through. So I think it might be the mic. Oh well, Donald, I just say Welcome back to here and to your passion for this issue and look forward to having whatever conversation you have to share today. shared with us when that will work and Rob we'll send you what he can to help you get the mic to work. And Julie, I see you have something in the chat. Julie Hoffman Oh yeah, just saying hi. Introducing myself excited to be here and to learn more. Thank you. Well, thanks for joining us. Look forward to having you all right. And Kenny, I know you're back with us. So welcome. Just letting you know that we're happy to have you back as well.

Kenny Moultry

Happy beer.

Rosemary Powers

Thank you. So anybody else who may would like to put your name in the chat or any organization you're associated with? And give it back to rob and we'll hear from Dora and others shortly. So

Rob Huff

fantastic. Thank you, Rosemary. And it is great to see everyone this morning. So let's get started with our first regular item that we do every week, and that is to talk about what we're seeing on the streets this week. The purpose of this portion of the meeting is for folks to be able to share with those in attendance about what's changing. And boy is there a lot changing this week. And also what you see is a chain of changing needs out there that maybe others in the room can help address so I would like to open the floor to folks to talk about, among other things, the sweep that's taken place in the hilltop this week, and where folks have shifted to and anything else that would be worthwhile updates about what's going on in the streets this week. And First hand I see up is Jeffrey

Jeffrey Boyce

Good morning, everyone. I wasn't there for most of the sweeps that I did drive by evergreen after dropping my wife off at work. There are now 10 tents around the Evergreen campus. There are two new ones down on seventh and to come. There are three over on the big grassy hill on Tacoma Avenue South South of 21st. Haven't seen too many tents there before There are currently three tents there. And that's what I've seen there were some problems with 34th and Pacific earlier in the week with a suspected meth lab and attempt blowing up somebody moving a big huge trailer onto site and another couple stealing a van that involved the police the person who's van was stolen, got it back and all his tools. That was the good thing. Those three people or five people that were involved in these incidents have now been kicked off out of that campsite. The people who living there said you cannot do that and live here. So they're all gone. That's pretty much what I've seen this week. Oh, and they are taking people in over at the veteran's village. They have power now. And they have 12 people.

Rob Huff



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That's great news. Thank you for sharing that Jeffery. And Richard, I see you dropped some.

Richard Dorsett

I'm just pretty much fed up with this the they swept the 40 to 50 people out of L and M as Jeffrey said there's 10 tents now reset over at the Evergreen campus. They the word out there as they'll post 72 hour notice to do a quick sweep over there. There simply is no place for these people to go and they need to stop this sweeping. It's ridiculous. As I posted, one woman is pregnant, she's swept. You know Tommy's got cancer. He's got stomach cancer. He's been swept everybody out there. He's got their own story and they're messed up and the city keeps sweeping they have to stop doing this. There is no place for them to go. There is not congregate shelter. There is no permitted campground and I'm a little frustrated little fed up. And so hence my comment to the city council. From me as an individual, expressing my opinion to them about this circumstance is intolerable. I compare it to civil rights actions. They're going to continue to sweep people as if they're debris and I think that they need to be held accountable and to this date they have not been so it's frustrating. Keep watching though I think that this sweep is is one to many these are long time homeless campers and we're we're getting ready to see people start settling as the weather warms. So keep your eyes open. Thank you

Rob Huff

Thanks, Richard J and then Teresa.

Jay Warley

Honestly, we can all be very upset about this and that is true. We are upset about this. But at the same time, there are things that we could be doing. We could be working together when we hear about this leap. Take the first week to organize and then take the second week to act in action work with these people and try to get as much done as possible before the sweep. Or we can continue to be upset about it make plans behind the table and sit in inaction besides our works. So I feel like it's very important that we start looking at how we can network together given the time that we have and work together since we're here at this table and try to get certain assistance to them within that week timeframe before this week at least. It'd be nice if other things happened. But this would be super super awesome to see. Like medical attention in the week before they leave so that they have enough time to heal before it's time to move. That would be super helpful. And if we give these people a little bit more backing and treat them a little bit more humanely, they may be more willing to go into shelter and otherwise right now they're just feeling super rejected super hated, super displaced. So those are all things that we could do in this situation that we might want to look at working on.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Jay. Appreciate that perspective and and definitely appreciate actually meeting you on site earlier this week. So I really love your perspective. Theresa, I know you wanted to talk a little I asked you to talk a little bit about what has happened in front of your home on G Street in reverse. I guess in response to what's been happening with the sweep

Rosemary Powers



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Yeah. First, I do want to say that it's it. I know from going up there that it made a real difference that Richard and Jay and a number of other people that lived experience coalition was up there. What Jay is talking about was happening to some degree prior to the sweep and during the sweep and the fact that the coalition is showing up some and I really do credit, Richard with putting the match under our behinds about that more than anyone else in the coalition. Though there are a lot of other people engaged but what happened. Richard also alerted me said Teresa, you're not gonna like this. He told me that people were being told that when they asked Where should we go, which is the most common question that you could find. They were being told, why don't you try down at 15th and G which is my block and they were told, why don't you try down at the Tacoma rescue mission which is that long row of tents that I thought at first kind of ticked me off and then I thought, what are these people going to tell people there are very few places that people are not going to just instantly try to push them out. There's a reason they went back to Evergreen. There's a reason they're coming down here. There's a reason they're going down there and it's because we don't have another place for them. So my blog is really over the last several sweeps. We keep getting more and more people here. The core community has been impacted by it. We have a lot more noise, a lot less sleep, a lot more neighbors starting to get irritated, which is not what we want. So just you know, yeah. What what, what everyone's saying is absolute truth. This is ridiculous views. Not only the people who only care about money and taxes ought to care about this because we spend a lot of money moving people out and so that they can move back in when we move them out of the next place. Evergreen is a perfect example of that. So yeah, we if you are interested in what Jay suggested that maybe we do something preemptive, we do something, some kind of action that that really hasn't makes a difference. Come on to those Wednesday planning meetings and let us know you're interested because there are a group of us who are trying to figure that out. Thanks.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Teresa. And appreciate your perspective as well. Anyone else who wanted to offer some information, Donald, I see you raised your hand are you able to unmute? Yes, perfect. That's

Don Pritchard

it. I know I've been away for a while but I've been keeping up. We for nine years we've done everything out of pocket. As we can't get a great thing. So I mean, I'm not complaining. This SPD God has given me so what we've done is transitional house. Downstairs. We are are orchestrating a homeless facility downstairs from the transitional housing Hall seven man. We've been donated to the band setting the lockers. So that's what we've done in our neighborhood and relationship with the the Tacoma police, the State Police Department, they come down and patrol basically there for homeless people. So they come up and down the street, gotten rid of the meth cars. Also, the meth house. We had the officers get that off the block awesome. So working with the common Lakewood police station, we're able to do more, because they're not putting them in jail or anything. They're just taking them out out from behind houses, and so forth. So that's what we've been doing and it's and it's been successful. So

Rob Huff

great to hear. So where's the location of the site? You're doing that at all?



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Don Pritchard

3030 3737 And one of the key is 37th Street.

Rob Huff

Okay, all right.

Don Pritchard

I've lost. I've lost a lot since I had the stroke. So bear with me.

Rob Huff

No, that's perfectly fine. And it's really good to see and hear from you this morning. Thank you. So I know Sally we had talked about we thought maybe it'd be good for you to talk a little bit about what you noted before our meeting started about what's happening at the jail. And then we can close up on the street section. So

Sally Perkins

I've had occasion for different reasons to be checking the jail roster this week several times and what's happening is are very few bookings into the jail now only for significant domestic violence offenses and violent crimes like murder. And so that's been true for the last couple of weeks at least and maybe a little bit longer. There is a COVID outbreak at the jail in the jail is taking the necessary precautions to keep incarcerated people safe from illness which they should be commended for. But what that also will mean is that the narrative is likely to pop back up on the street about how we call the cops and they can't do anything because nobody goes to jail. And so we just need to be prepared for that because for anywhere where there is activity that the observing person thinks is criminal activity, the frustration level with what happens to the people who might be arrested is going to go up again. That's going to create, I think, additional stresses on unhoused people in general just because of the rhetoric

Rob Huff

Yeah. Thank you for that context, Sally. So appreciate all of the conversation about what's happening on the streets this week. And I hear the frustration I share the frustration. I may have been a little more outspoken than I should be this week on Twitter, but it's good to see people pulling together to try to help folks so let's move to our first item. Regular first presentation on the agenda. I can't speak this morning, and that it would be an update on Health Care for the Homeless from folks that CMR and I know Kevin Roberts is on the call. And Kevin and Dora I believe we're going to talk with us this morning. So Kevin, I give you the floor.

Rosemary Powers

All right. Good morning, everyone.

Kevin Roberts



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It is good to see everyone and it's good to just be a part of such a big group of people that are focused on this. It's easy to feel siloed and alone in this you know specific things that you do but it's good to hear everyone else that's working to do the same work. So I work for committee see Mark committee health clinic. I am the program manager for the Community Health Action Team or chat. We provide medical behavioral health and case management services direct to the shelter so it's an outreach program that takes the nurse practitioner out and the behavioral health specialists and also case managers out to try and you know, give some direct, you know, patient care. And we've been doing that for almost three years now. With Elliot Bagwell, a nurse practitioner and Anna she's the behavioral health specialists and I have a few case managers that go out with me. And it's it's been a very educational experience. And what we do again is try to find we tried to bridge them back into health care, regular health care and behavioral health. Care and in also connecting them with social services and then we try to you know, advocate for them and support them and then connect them with like ongoing services after so, we I like to say that if the infirmity the situation is inflamed in their life, we try to address the inflammation and put them in a position to entertain other solutions. Because they're not in a position to entertain solutions and to take care of the core issues which in my what I've seen is it's usually behavioral health or medical. And so we try to get them connected and support them. Through the you know, entry into back into services. And then we try to find appropriate ongoing long term services. As far as an update, we did not get the grant funding that we were hoping for and then also my nurse practitioner has decided to to move on so we won't be moving forward past June 16, which is very unfortunate. We've been able to have about 30 people and we used we were a part of a grant collaboration the ESC g v grant from the county which also it kind of incentivized a lot of the collaboration that we've done with associated ministries and different things like that. And we've been able to get some people house through there most recently was one of my clients that was at the is at the tiny house on 69th and South proctor what I ended up doing was getting him connected with all of the treatments that he had because he had Hep C. And we got him connected with the treatment for that he's on his second round of the medication. So He's almost done with that cure. He's connected with behavioral health services. He's he's been consistently going to his doctor's appointments and now in a couple of weeks we'll be moving into his apartment. But what I tried to stress with them is that there is a lot that is there has to be done to help them and it may seem really slow while you're on the waiting list waiting lists here. So let's focus on your health here. Let's focus on the things that we can do. Check those off. And this gentleman actually when I saw him, he looked so different, because he decided that he wanted to shower that day. And he told me yeah, in two weeks, I'm moving into my apartment. So it's those we have many of those types of stories that we've been able to. It's, you know, you can count on one hand you'll get a handful of people and get two or three people out of that that actually Excel but we'll take it and we work in collaboration, of course with telemetry medical, which I'll have Dora kind of expound upon what she does. Here. Because we do a lot of collaboration per course. So I leave the floor for door.

Rosemary Powers

Thank you, Kevin. For one, my camera is not working well, so I didn't want it. Freeze and you have this hot looking issue expression. So I didn't want to get distracted. Like I said before, I've been here close to two years, and what my job is I help I help the homeless whether it's low income, it doesn't matter.



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race doesn't matter. It doesn't matter gender, they come in and any any form of assistance. Who I met here at CMR we have behavioral health also in the building as well. So whenever the done or break me, I tried to you know, have an immediate period, the immediate barriers, maybe needing a shower you know, needing clothes needing hygiene products made me walk through of how to schedule an appointment with our behavior or how to get in contact with our behavioral health. specialists or or even to seek help outside of TMR. I help homeless with in their IDs. Sign up for unemployment help them sign up for food stamps. Medical you heard it on their behalf for us their housing is the art and housing. They have any issues with their landlords. I have contact come pro bono and I deliberately hold their hand through it any situation that they may be facing. Allowed moments to come and sit in my office in desktop may not have been before homelessness in with the two year period, especially women to protect down they get a mess. Try to stay away from being attacked or robbed I had a young lady who are winning one of the shelters that are referred to have a connection to Bethlehem Baptist Church, shelter, family, shelter and also with Shiloh is well known personally. So I tried to get people in and out of most places. So I had a young lady who wanted to talk about wanting to go through the processing thing. But she said I'm homeless. I'm staying on the street and you know, I gotta stay high. Keep, you know, be protected. And if anybody knows me I'm a minister. I believe in Christ. I believe in loving people. I believe in encouraging them and when she walked out of my office to pull away her her pipe away the cigarette lighter and not just work with her with her feet. And I let her know that the guard was thicker. You gonna be fine. Pouring stuff away. Yeah, we contact Beth. And we're back into that shelter and she goes into treatment at the end of months. I'm a hands on person. So I believe in with Seymour's back able to take Bernie any with the client, and this is what we can. When it comes to the homeless. We are all one step in some form away, becoming homeless. We have blinders off and understand the person that sitting in front of us, you know, no judgment. Some of them are very intelligent, educated and had a great life and someone who's a bump in the road. I sometimes find out. I have stuff over, you know, in my office or to them. I'm just a cheerleader, spokesperson advocate. For anybody who comes at door who's in me. It doesn't matter what it is. I can put my hands on it normally with Kevin, we come together and I say hey, I have this person. I meet their person need their ID. They need their social security card. And out of that they want to work also, how do we get that versus from another state? How you know, while we were, you know, anyone who who have funds available back and have and there's times where I've even come out of my own pocket. No pay for a hotel stays to make sure that women taking care of women at a young lady who's in serious domestic violence. You need to come out at home and draw for the Portland make sure that she was okay. So here at St. Mar we were not judgmental. We've got best love on anyone that comes for now our programming showers. We do showers it am to about 11 720 1130 we take a break between 12 in one for our medical staff take a break. And then we resume one and we stop about three 320 I give clothing out Thursdays all the way up at 330. We have laundry facility here as well. So it's first come first serve begins at eight o'clock. First laundry load goes in it in second person, then all goes in at one o'clock and one of the reasons why it's stressed out that way. So nobody stuff have a need for that stuff to be stolen. Feel like you know, I mean important. We've got brand new washer and dryer. So they have opportunity to feel good and we supply when they take showers. We supply the soap. We supply the towel. That's the quote only we don't give out his razor. One we found him pick razor apart and I put him in a train. You don't know what can be done in a bathroom. So we stopped back. But other than that, we just about



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someone with everything. They need socks and underwear. I gave those out lately. It may not you know, wanting to shower they may just want to change their clothes when they have an opportunity to have socks. Underwear daily. I know I like having seen growing underwear. So imagine everybody else does too. I don't do full case management on Fridays. That's my research day. That's my going out to one community research. Economic clients that have been housed have to advocate on anybody try to do with that okay, because the rest of week it's making sure that people's needs are met as manager stays in the building. So the chat team when they're out if you need anything, they were not anything I get a phone call on Saturday we do run downstairs and you know, get all stuff going for me so I'm just gonna come in, grab it. Leave also make hygiene. When they go out, make sure that they have dark underwear, clothes, pens, whatever that they are going to need. Where they go out and take normally go out about Wednesdays as a group, make sure and even I get phone calls from other agencies that they work with outside and they say hey, Mister agency meet, don't have an issue. I stopped when I'm going and I come get it and they go right back out in the street. So I'm just a community partner. And I just feel like we all together dollies, buildings COVID and all these empty houses due to COVID funds could be way where we could just not I mean, it's coming together open up these buildings. And so we have a

Dora Williams

chance to really, really sell.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Dora. So I did want to carve out a little bit of time for folks to ask questions. So I see Teresa has her hand up.

Rosemary Powers

So first I want to say that I witnessed or been very welcoming at the center and it's good to have such a place in the neighborhood. And the showers are important. I have a couple of questions. And I'll ask them both. One is do you have? Do you have a waiting list for the showers is that are there lots of people waiting in line for the shower or do you tend to have enough time to have everybody who wants a shower or who wants laundry? To have it done? If so wonderful. I'll send more people there. If not maybe is there a possibility that something could improve that? And the second question is about the chat. The chat team and wondering who is somebody else taking over that work? Or is simply not going to be done? Also, where did your wonderful provider head out to it? Where will he be working? So

Kevin Roberts

the short answer is no, we won't be resuming. I know that. I got a new boss just right at the end when we found out that we weren't getting the funding. And he was still very interested in coming out with us and looking at the work that we're doing and all the resources that we you know, amassed all of our collaborative, collaborative agencies and stuff. And so they have expressed interest, tremendous interest in doing this work again. We probably want to you know, the things that we learned from the first pilot, we want to try to do that differently when we form it. But it doesn't look like we're dead. I wouldn't have a timeline as to when we would be back. Because that new that new manager at least



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he's there, and he's gathering information is what he's doing. And I think that what we're gonna do if we do this again, then we're going to do some things differently. So I couldn't tell you when the work the outreach portion is and Elliott has not either he hasn't found a, you know, place where he's going to land or he just hasn't told us yet. So I don't have that information as to where he's going. But I know his heart was for the outreach work, and that if there was an opportunity he would likely jump on it. He was very, very amazing in his position. I witnessed a lot of really cool things like we would take a hot coffee out with us and there was a young lady who had an appointment with suboxone clinic but she just couldn't get the energy to get up to go. And she said if I could just had a cup of coffee, I could just have said that to herself. And here we go is traipsing through the woods over there and DLT land and five with our hot coffee. And she says wow like it to kind of restore her faith in the system. You know, just that little grin we didn't know we were just bringing coffee you know? But we gave her a bus passes to you know where she was going and I thought was also very interesting that there were no they didn't want any services until after the coffee. And then there were just a wealth of information about their health and they wanted this. We got two visits out of it. Being healthcare professionals. It's counterintuitive to bring cigarettes but I've seen I've seen this guy refusing services and we're like off of Tyler down in the in the woods because you know between Tyler and close like fifth, the sixth and ninth and Tyler all of that area over there. Near forget what there's a lot of factories and services but there's lots of trees and they're down in there. And we went down there and the guy was saying no, no, no to services and then he was offered a cigarette and I watched both his shoulders just lower. He just relaxed. He leaned he started smoking and he said yeah, I have this medical thing and I have this and this and that. And it's just kind of the way in which we approach to gain access to them. And they're It's just different. It's unconventional. But we get it and I learned that he can he speaks their language. You know. They call him Dr. House because they think he looks like house. And and he does and he just does a really good job and then my care coordinators, just unconventional grassroots. They go to their Facebook and they'll ask for donations for different things. Because my philosophy really is that all of society all of our community has the answers to this problem. If everyone would weigh in and everyone would get what would feed them this day. You could just do a day or a time during the day. That's how we'll get to the end of this problem. And so we try to engage the community and they feel they feel pretty good at the little by having a hand in something small hand in what a bigger picture of you know, what, where are we going to take these people? What are we going to do? And then one last thing is that Elliott also has a relationship with the Sheriff's Department. And we've been pre sweeps a lot of times just to figure out where these people could go before they sweep. So there's been a whole lot of collaboration with a hot team and the Sheriff's Department.

Rob Huff

Thanks, Kevin. And yeah, it's unfortunate to hear you that the program is going to mothball for a while. I do hope you're able to bounce back. What are you going to be doing?

Kevin Roberts

So I'm going to mount back into the Cushman clinic. I have a leadership position there, so that'll hold me while I look to make some other some other moves, possibly within CMR. I'm trying to see if they're interested in that and try to I'm going to try to be a big part of when we start back up again. Because



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that this is my heart. I've lived in Tacoma all of my life. I was born to Tacoma general, and I watched as the you know, the young man that I did finger paintings with in kindergarten, begin to join gangs, you know, because I'm 44 years old, so that was my time. But I also saw that there was our Davies and the, the boys clubs, the people center. There was lots of things that we could do to take our time. You know, we didn't you know, play sports, we could play music, you know, we're here, there was always these types of things that the community had the answers and so I'm looking forward to getting back to that place where the community works together like that. And this coalition is very encouraging you know, I think we could do it. Thank you, Kevin.

Rosemary Powers

I'm sorry to answer three questions. I tried to quickly put it in the comment section, but Chow was our first come first serve basis. They normally line up. Probably around 737 45. Come in a name. birthdate don't have to show ID. It just makes you sign in and as one. They have 20 minutes to shout whether your time or as one goes out in my screener on myself who ever worked in that door goes out and call the next person. So right now we're not overloaded. They're coming in kind of straggling now but we know during the summer is when get strong though. We are going to and we have Jowers upstairs and downstairs. And right now we're only using one shower for security purposes, to protect things that are downstairs, but it may be we will open sack and our downstairs.

Rob Huff

Right. Thank you, Dora. And I want to thank both Dora and Kevin for coming to this morning's meeting. If there are additional questions, please use the chat and hopefully Dora or Kevin can answer those. And and again, just thank you. sad to hear the news about the program mothballing but I sure hope it can bounce back.

Kevin Roberts

I think we will. I think we will.

Rob Huff

Thanks, Kevin. All right, so next on our agenda, we wanted to do a short update on the effort that Richard talked about last week about a mapping for encampments and also the current planning effort. To pre plan for any upcoming weather emergencies. So I I know we wanted to make this brief but just kind of let folks know where things are at.

Richard Dorsett

Okay, I'll make this brief and I did not intend to be the mind but it is for the moment. Essentially I had a document and I don't have it up but sort of five steps that need to be worked on. One is I have some language I sent to Christine I don't know her last name might look like being based on a National Weather Service advisory for heat or cold and potentially air quality. And there's some good language out there. I took I took words from the King County protocols that they have in place and suggesting that as a draft. The second part is outreach, how to do it. Christine also had a beginning of a spreadsheet with government, nonprofit and other volunteer organizations and individuals. That could



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respond. And I know that Garrett has a developing draft. Even more extensive on who those people could be to get that out. Third part, getting supplies purchased which again, Christine has a short there are five items that would be purchased. And that request has been sent to Garrett and I think there's some process going on there on how to get those supplies purchased once they're purchased there needs to the storage of the supplies. And I'm not exactly sure who's on first but I know that there's been some discussion so that there would be supply store in the key Peninsula out in the county, a couple of locations in the county and then perhaps two locations. Within the city of Tacoma so that supplies could be made available. And then finally, in my interest on this, having done some of this during last summer in over the winter events is some sort of mapping or identification of where encampments are. The frustrating thing was the obvious encampments. Everybody knows where they are, and they tend to get over served, whether it's meals or blankets, outreach, whatever everybody goes to those places, which results in the less known places, not services. So the idea of getting some sort of mapping and I had put out a request to the listserv, encouraging people to let Jeff Rogers know if they have an encampment, or identify an encampment which could also include approximate numbers of tents, and I am including encampments down to the level of one or encampments that have been in place for many months. That is a single structure or tent. And even though it's only one I'm including those on my reporting, if it's transitory, if it's an overnight tent, I'm not doing it. But if it's something that's been there that's stable, I'm including those in the list. The The point is, is that without a listing of where the encampments are, any outreach of those prior things that having supplies and and trying to do the work, we're going to be ineffective. And so my hope is in the coming weeks and as somebody had pointed out on the recent call, June is much closer than we realized. I think we're What 10 days away from June. We can have a weather event. Hot weather, it seems like we can have a cold weather event the way things have been going, but we couldn't have a hot weather event in short order. And I think we need to keep pressing to be ready with that, with knowing where the knowing where the encampments are having the supplies, having an outreach strategy, and knowing what our trigger is for responding to an event. So there you go. That's That's my short outline.

Rob Huff

Thanks, Richard. And I do see Stacy has her hand up

Stacey Soltoff

hoping you all can hear me I'm on my cell phone today. Um, my question is one that keeps appearing. Every time the idea of creating a consolidated map of encampments comes up as to what policies or procedures we're going to put in place to ensure that these locations are not misused by the city. And this is not a this is both a concern that like in order for all of us as partners to like be able to share this information, there has to be trust that that information will not be misused. But also I think as as far as we have been upset by the increasing number of encampment sweeps like it is a privacy concern for agencies that are working with clients directly to give consolidated information to the city or that might be accessible by by folks that do not have good intents towards the unhoused and I just want to know what we are doing to ensure that this information is protected.

Richard Dorsett



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I can take a quick response to that. And then I'm going to let it go. But I hear some people don't trust the city. Some people don't trust the county. Some people in the county don't trust the nonprofits. Some people don't trust me, some people. I hear this fictitious parade of horrors and I frankly I don't believe it's real. I think it's a I don't believe it's real. consolidated list it can be a unconsolidated list. But the choices are. Do we find out where these encampments are to provide services? Or do we let our paranoia take over and we just don't provide services at all? You know, I don't think it works that way. I don't believe I mean, I've had somebody tell me they're worried that the change of the executives office if somehow they use it for political retribution and go at it No, I'm not. I just can't go there. I'm not a conspiracy freak and you know, I don't see it happening. I'm still taking off my shoes at airports or somebody that tried to do a bomb 15 years ago with a shoe bomb. It's not going to happen. And I don't think anybody that wants to harass or harm people in encampments would use such a list. How to Protect it how to do it, is we'd be careful. I mean, we're not going to put it on a website. We're not going to broadcast out a list of where encampments are, but rather for those people that are looking to go give services that's the people that we will be providing information to. An alternative is to trust, you know, have Jeff Rogers or somebody do the assigning of work so that somebody could do outreach in the key Peninsula. Somebody else could do it in South County. It doesn't have to be a consolidated list. But if we have no list, if we have no information about where these encampments are, they're not going to get services and that's what I would like to avoid. So there you go. Thank you.

Rob Huff

Yeah, thank Thank you, Richard. I do know the privacy and security concerns. They do come up every time we have a conversation about mapping. And I think in the past that maybe has paralyzed us a little bit and we need to just devise some workarounds to make sure that people are kept safe. I. J, I see your hand up, go ahead.

Jay Warley

I think the biggest point is, at what point do we make the choice that for the good is what we're working towards. If we continue to block ourselves from doing the best work that we possibly can we are needlessly continuing this in a timeframe. It doesn't need to be continued.

Rob Huff

Yeah. Thank you, Jay. So yeah, I appreciate I appreciate all the concerns. I do think we need to move on. And if if you do have information about sites that you don't feel as safe to share, then then I think it's up to each of us to make that decision. But let's move on in our agenda. We are a bit behind. So I am looking at who's in the meeting. Let's see she left. Let's shift gears and start our government updates. A few minutes early. And then we will shift to the breakout conversations right after the government updates. So first on our list of government updates today would be Caleb from the city of Tacoma. Caleb Do you have information you can share with us?

Caleb Carbone

Oh, everyone, yes, I do have a couple of updates here. I know I've gotten to see a lot of you this week and we've had a lot of conversations around a lot of different things. And I'll just be as broad as that



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because I know the city is doing a lot of things. And I know I'm part of the point person right now in a lot of those occasions, but I do love talking with you all. So please reach out to me, I gave my contact information. Again. I do encourage you guys to reach out to me so we can talk a little bit more. We do have another posting happening next week on Tuesday. On East 11th street and Heil Abbas. Is that how you say hi, Lobos Thank you, which is adjacent to that waterway. And so that posting will happen on Tuesday and it will be a 72 hour posting. The reason why we're doing that that posting is because of the infringement that's happening on the waterway and some of the protected in gate endangered speech species and the salmon fishing and water access is a big concern there. So if you have I'm sure you all have will have questions about that. Please feel free to please do ask. So those that's the big update that I did want to give I will post some stats as well about what the city is doing just for time sensitive stuff.

Rob Huff

Okay, Caleb, one question I did want to ask is Do you have a sense of how many folks are currently residing at that space? And I presume that's on the other side of the bridge from downtown. Close to marine View Drive?

Caleb Carbone

Yeah, that's a good question. So here's what I understand it to be. It's, you know, the bridge comes over and there's, it's on the I think it's on the south side. And there's that pull off area, and that's the that's the area specifically that we're looking at. And it looked like the estimate was about 20 individuals were at that location.

Rob Huff

Okay. And has outreach been done there. Leading up to this posting that will happen next week?

Caleb Carbone

Yes. It has. And I can give those stats here, here on what we're going to be posting as well. So I can put those into the chat on what Sir, yeah. And of course there will be continuing outreach efforts happening starting as soon as on Tuesday. To be able to connect with folks. There has been a lot of availability, even this week, in some of those Aspen courts and tiny homes. We've had an opportunity for couples as well that we've been trying to communicate with Lehigh and other providers. I think we had a couple of spots at the stability site that we've been trying to offer folks so that they can they can get housed as well. And that's including the current encampment cleanup as well.

Rob Huff

Okay, thank you, Caleb. And I see Ed's hand up.

Ed Jacobs

Caleb i I can't keep my mouth shut. So in that environment, how many fish have we seen in that encampment, because I see a lot more human souls and fish souls for in the endangered fish argument. And do you realize this is the 12th sweep this year? You had six last year. This is the 12 this



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year. So you're you're you're playing Whack a Mole with these people all over the city. Your police we're following them to the Evergreen location from the that current location and said they're going to be swept there too. So this is getting well, this doesn't border on the ridiculous this is ridiculous. What are you spending our money chasing people around to coma? So I'm sorry, you're the point person so you, you get this? This is absolutely ridiculous. Sorry, but that's the way it is. So I'll shut my mouth. Thank you.

Caleb Carbone

Thanks for the feedback. I appreciate that. I will say for the inclement weather stuff too as well. We are also preparing on the city side to make sure we have enough water and also masks just in case of if we have high smoke in the area. Because there's been some turnover in the staff. I know a lot of things that have been missed in terms of ideas in the past. One idea that we did remember that was really important is that we're not just providing water that maybe if we can provide electrolytes to as well along with that. Water. I know the cold part keeping them cool as much as possible is always a concern. And I don't think we have access to a cold storage to be able to do that but we will be storing a mental stability site. So on top of the conversation that we're having about coordinating how to get resources out to folks. We would love to be a part of that too, as well so we can help in any way.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Caleb. So let's shift shift now to think I saw Jeff Rogers on the call Jeff Do you have updates from Pierce County Human Services?

Jeff Rodgers

Have one quick update I can provide. We just recently released a request for proposals RFP. We are soliciting for a qualified consultant to assist our homeless service providers with developing organizational capacity to improve their behind the scenes work that they do is organization or financial work they do we during the COVID pandemic have done way more contracting with agencies that are new to us and new to this kind of work with us. And I always say that getting government money is the easy part but complying with all of the regulation rules and requirements that come along with it can be overwhelming. So we feel the need to identify a consultant that can work with providers to help them build that organizational capacity to be successful in managing government funds. So applications are due by June 10 at 4:30pm and we're using a chunk of the American Recovery Plan act or ARPA funding that our council has graciously given us to use for this effort to work with our nonprofits and get them up to the standard we need them to be apt to successfully do the work we do. If you want access to the RFP. It's on the Human Services website. If you just Google Pierce County Human Services, there's a link there to solicitations and competitive bids and it's easily found. If you are you know anybody that may be interested in wanting to apply to help us with this work. That would be great.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Jeff. And I see Danna with her hand up.

Dana Peterson



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Yeah. Good morning, Jeff. According to the NOFA of the Coordinated Entry System enhancement. The timeline said that those awards were going to be announced on May 6. So we haven't heard anything yet. So I'm wondering if you if you know when those are going to be announced?

Yeah. We always put approximately So that may 6 was an approximate date. I do know that those were awards have been determined. It's just that we have not been given the green light to put that notification out. I asked that question before this meeting this morning of the staff is working on that and they said we're not ready to release it yet. So hopefully, hopefully, it's coming soon. So yes, there there is some great work and some rewards that are coming with those funds. Very, very soon. Okay, thank you.

Rob Huff

And Jeff, one last question for you. I'm pretty sure you're on the call when Richard spoke about the weather planning and mapping request earlier. Anything you can update on progress on that.

I have a meeting with my supervisor this afternoon. And part of our discussion will be discussing that I've I've asked a couple questions and

we'll have answers to afternoon and I plan to specifically reach out to Jen robux specifically because of her concern last week, but we will share with the whole coalition but I do feel a need to make sure that I do reach out to Jim individually as well. Okay, so, more to come. I will tell you that we do for the severe weather. We're working on a policy. I heard the mention of the King County policy. We have that King County policy, we're aware of it. We're looking at that as a base template for what we're doing. We're working with Pierce County Department of Emergency Management. The City of Tacoma has their own Department of Emergency Management. And we're also working with pure luck, who has its own city department emergency management as part of this work, to work with other jurisdictions within Pierce County so that we're all as close as we can be to in alignment and agreement with how we proceed and what all of our different policies say regarding this work. Okay.

Rob Huff

Appreciate that update and please keep us updated as we go along.

Jeff Rodgers

Yes,

Rob Huff

thank you for your work. So let's see next on our list. I don't see Valerie on the call. Right now and I'm sure she's out and about. I don't know Laurie if you wanted to say anything. And you're muted. There you go. Yep. No,



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Laurie Davenport

here I am. Hi, everybody. We are continuing to go out with some theory keeps interrupting me. I think we're continuing to go out with the real assistance providers. But last week was really busy. We've been out on keeping it until a three times in the last week or so. We're next week. We'll be at South Hill on Wednesday. There's a there's a list of places where we're going to be with rental assistance on the Pierce County Human Services website and also on our housing Justice Project website. So check there there are some other things going on that art Pierce County Library events. We're also going to start being in June. We're going to be at Tacoma Public Libraries, and I think those events are only going to increase we're also out at sunder Bonney Lake Family Center that in a couple of weeks and again in June. Yesterday, I was out at the Culver recovery center not with rental assistance but just starting our pro bono and that was that was a great experience. I think everybody I spoke to was actually homeless but working through stuff and wanting to solve problems that was pretty inspiring. So rental assistance is going to run out we got a report about that from commerce. One of our meetings which I didn't attend, but for people who are providing eviction prevention services. I think I can share that with people. I just got a link to it myself. Just kind of explaining what's left and what's going to take the place of it. We've had billions to spend, it's going to run out. The state provided funding that's going to take its place is like \$40 million. So it's we're going way down. I think Valerie is working on setting up the requirements for our Pierce County programs. It's looking good, there's going to be it's going to require some buy in from tenants in order to get that rental assistance. They're going to need to do some preparation to you know, know their know their rights, or how to be a tenant how to you know make sure you can keep paying your rent, that kind of stuff, which is really important and we haven't had those controls before so so there's a lot going on, and Valerie could explain it in great Valerie fashion. I'm just trying to kind of get it all out there.

Rob Huff

Great. Thank you, Laurie. For that continue to work. And there's

Rosemary Powers

one more thing. Yeah, go ahead. One more

Laurie Davenport

thing. Anyone who gets a 14 day notice does not mean you need to leave in 14 days broken record. Contact us if you need information about how to deal with that. Sometimes you're going to if you get that notice you're going to need help because there are other things going on mostly stay in your place. Talk to your landlord it does not mean you need to leave just because you can't pay. We still have money.

Rob Huff

Yeah, yeah, say that that message enough. So appreciate it. Oh, all right. Excuse me. So I know Jenny was not able to join us from the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department. But I'm not sure if anyone



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else is on today's call who wanted to offer an update? If not, I know she sent an update to our mailing list, but wanted to offer the opportunity if someone else is in today's meeting and wanted to speak.

Leah Ford

Hey, rabbits, Leah, I do not have an update from Jenny and I wasn't prepared this week. So I'm so sorry. But if anyone has any questions, just put them in the chat and I'll follow.

Rob Huff

Thanks Leah. And yeah Jenny did send something to the mailing list. So I think we're covered but just wanted to offer the upper opportunity in case someone was here. So appreciate you offering to be available in the chat. And I also don't believe we have anyone from Pierce County emergencies emergency management on today's call. Not seeing any hands go up. So let's shift as as promised to do our breakout conversation, and we will start with a review of last week's conversation. Timothy I can bring the document on screen if you would like to kind of walk us through what you pulled together.

Tim Harris

Great happy to do that. And I just dropped the document in the chat as well for people who want to download it. This was a kind of a I mean, it's always fun to do this, but this one was unusually cool to do because it was just so great to see what inspires people about being here. And as always, I did my best to just kind of break it into categories to make everybody's feedback more digestible. And, you know, the first thing that came up is the successes that we see not just here but in other places. And the information that gets shared about that. A lot of thoughts about how our community inspires us. A lot of people talked about the struggles and the strengths. unhoused people that we work with and drawing inspiration from that. People talk about spiritual inspiration that they draw from from their faith, and other sorts of spiritual inspiration. People talked about the people that they work with co workers, volunteers, or radical comrades, people who really, really work hard and truly care. We see that here every week. Which brings us to the coalition shout outs a few of the giants among us were mentioned by name. Somebody said it's inspiring to see what everyone here is bringing to the struggle. People talked about the breakout sessions being something that they particularly appreciate a way to interact and get to know each other. And how the passion here becomes action turns into action and policy. People talked about how much they liked that we're getting back together once a month, the first Thursdays I'd like that so much that I put it in the notes twice. And then people talked about various readings and music and just to help people find their way if they're interested in looking at that I found a few links that you can click on. Men, some folks just talked about some of the practices that they have that the things that they do to kind of keep themselves inspired and and fresh. One person brought up the idea of a gratitude board. I didn't know what that was. I had to look it up. It's kind of a cool idea. I think a lot of us that have been in this work for a long time know how much how important gratitude is to keep being inspired and and recognizing recognizing the pain, the parts of this that that keep us going. And

Rosemary Powers

yeah, I think that's about it.



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Rob Huff

Great, so thanks. Thank you as always, for your help pulling that together. Let me see if I can get my tutorial back. Great, now I'm having technical issues. Garrett Do you can you stop the screenshare so that I get my controls back? Since you're here I guess there's a first time for everything here.

Gerrit Nyland

Does that work?

Rob Huff

No. Well, at least not on my end. Let me There we go.

Gerrit Nyland

Now Garrett's sharing out there we go. That's how I stopped it was by sharing myself because I don't know how to do it the other way.

Rob Huff

Yeah, I don't know what happened there. But technology was was not our friend for a moment. So let's move into today's breakout conversation. I wanted to set aside some time. This was actually a topic that was raised by Garrett at our steering committee meeting on Wednesday, and we thought it would be important for folks to share how they talk about the issues of substance use and mental health challenges. As it relates to our current homelessness challenges. And I think the setup for this is that quite frequently in in years past, we've there's been an effort I think on the part of advocates to separate the issue of homelessness from the stigmatizing issues of substance use and mental health. And there's a movement understandably, to try to actually address that head on and and so we thought it would be helpful for folks to share how they talk about those two issues of substance use and mental health as it relates to homelessness. So you know the routine at this point in terms of the breakouts, I will send you two rooms with tried to have five or six people in every room and if someone in the room could take notes and bring them back here and paste them in the chat at the end of our time. We will pull have Timothy pulled together our summary document and talk about next week. Anything that I'm missing in the setup for this Garrett. Okay, all right, so let's go. I'm going to cut this a little short because we're running behind on our agenda. So why don't we spend about 10 minutes today talking on this topic? And we'll come back here. Well, we'll come back here at 1030. So we'll do about 13 minutes. So away we go.

<breakout sessions>

Rob Huff

all right. So welcome back, everyone. I see everybody's one of the best things about coming back from breakouts is everybody has their camera on very briefly. So a lot of fun to see everybody. So a reminder please, if you took the notes in your room, put those notes in chat, so that Timothy can do his hard work. And I am going to shift on to the rest of our agenda because it's going to be a bit of a sprint



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to get done today. So let's see. The next item I would like to do. Jenny, would you like to do a quick update about where things stand with housing vouchers? Sure.

Jenny Lorton

Yeah, no problem. So update on emergency housing vouchers. I'll share the numbers with you. For Tacoma Housing Authority. As a reminder, there's 135 vouchers total available. There are currently 37 households that have been leased up and there's 33 more that have been issued. So that means they are in various stages of looking for a unit looking for housing, maybe waiting on an inspection something like that. So current utilization for the vouchers is 27.41%. That is low but I will tell you it's on par with the national average for other jurisdictions and their EHV. Because I don't have to tell all of you, getting people into housing and getting that lease signed is our biggest challenge, right? It's not getting them a voucher in their hands. Pierce County Housing Authority they have a total of 62 vouchers available. They currently have 11 households leased up and they have another 37 that have been issued. So their utilization is at 17.74%. And just as a reminder, that utilization number is something we're tracking heavily because any vouchers that we have not utilized and utilization is based on they have a signed lease and they're in their unit. Any vouchers we haven't utilized by the end of December, so December 31. Will be recaptured by HUD and basically taken from us. If we have all of them utilize then we can request more to come into our community. So we're really really pushing for that. But it's it's a lot of work. I will tell you all it's a ton of work, getting landlords to move these these households in and get them voucher it up. We all know it's illegal to deny someone who has a housing voucher, but it doesn't mean that landlords don't put up as many barriers as they possibly can for these folks, so it's really great that they do have the services attached to these vouchers because it is such a struggle. These households would be really hard pressed to get least up on their own. There's any questions I'm happy to take them.

Rob Huff

Great. Anybody want to ask a question directly or it can also be done in the chat. So not seeing any right now. But Jenny, I appreciate you giving us an update. And maybe we can just periodically do this as we move through the year. We're all fingers crossed hoping that we get you utilize all those vouchers and maybe even bring more to Yeah, happy to give numbers anytime you want. KENNETH I see your hand up any

Kenny Moultry

questions? The restrooms are only for people who are renting the back an apartment or a house right? They can be used to share living homes.

Jenny Lorton

They can actually we can house people in a shared living situation. What happens with the voucher is if we put someone into a shared living situation, the amount that's paid against the voucher is prorated by the housing authority. So it would be less that would be paid by the voucher dependent on varying things like what the community spaces look like you know all of that kind of stuff. But we have done that already. We've we've put some we've leased some folks into shared housing situations.



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I'd like to talk to you more about that. We're developing a program called the World Gold Foundation. And we're taking homeless people immediately off the street in the condition they're in and housing them while we provide services to them

Kenny Moultry

and preparing them to rent

at that, and so a lot of that's going to be done in a shared living environment. And there was what they call them long term shared, shared housing that we're developing. So we're interested in the voucher program.

Jenny Lorton

Okay, yeah, I'll drop my email in the chat. I'll drop my email and you can drop send me an email and we'd love to, you know, hear about what's going on with your program as well.

Rob Huff

Great. Let's love seeing those connections and Donald I see your hand up.

Don Pritchard

Yeah, just want to say we really need those programs that she talked about. I have guys that has been there, three, four years, and don't want to go anywhere. So but I knew if we had something else to present them with far as housing is concerned. It would better be better for our program. It'd be another step while programming. So, I mean, if it's going to it's going to be on the chat. So I'll find out our information. I can talk to it.

Rob Huff

Great. Sounds good. So thanks, everybody for that conversation. Let's shift in our agenda. I wanted to offer a quick advocacy update. And part of this is super timely. So I didn't realize until looking at this upcoming week's agenda information that the Tacoma City Council is actually holding a special workshop meeting today at one down at the Center for and waters and among the topics that they're going to talk about at this meeting is workshop, our briefings related to community safety, safety and housing and homelessness. So I am going to drop in the chat. The information about how to attend today's meeting at one if folks have an interest. This can be done. Let's see here. Now it's not working for me. This can be done also on Zoom. So if you have an interest in tuning in on zoom that will be an option as well. And there's the information about how to join either on Zoom or in person. Again, that meeting is the workshop. So my assumption and it might be wrong, but my assumption is that there will not be a public comment portion of this meeting. So it'll be very informational with the councilmembers speaking with each other around these priorities, and I see Sally's hand up if you want to add some more information.



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Sally Perkins

It will be recorded, and the city clerk says it should be posted on the city's website by the end of the weekend. If everything works the way she hopes right.

Rob Huff

So so that is a special meeting, not a normal occurrence, but an opportunity to listen and hear where the city council's priorities are on both community safety and housing and homelessness. They're also going to be talking. There's a third topic regarding workforce development and other priorities. So that would be of interest if you have the time to tune in the study session that's coming up on next Tuesday at noon. includes an update on what how the city is planning to spend the dollars raised from the 1/10 of 1% sales tax that supports affordable housing. That's that's the funding that was that's being collected within the Tacoma City Limits. The same funding that the Pierce County Council currently has not enacted on the county wide level. So that that would be an interesting topic for us to follow next Tuesday, and then during the Tuesday evening meeting the council's regular meeting is a community forum. That's an opportunity for folks to talk with directly with the City Council about you know, what we would like to see them do regarding sweeps and more so rather than even complaining about sweeps is to encourage and demand that the city create safe sites where people can actually go and so we can answer that question of where can I go? It seems to be the question every week and we don't have an answer and we've been spinning our wheels in the same position for well over a year. So that's an opportunity at the meeting Tuesday night at five. The Pierce County Council next week is going to be scheduled to hear and decide on a revised safe parking ordinance. That ordinance as drafted would allow up to four civic sites to host safe parking in addition to the churches that are already allowed by state law to host safe parking and this would be an interim regulation under ordinance of the county council meeting where this will be decided is on May 24 at 3pm. You can go Google the Pierce County website and get the information to join that meeting either in person or virtually. And then I wanted to also share an opportunity that folks could if you're interested. There's a training taking place next week. That's being run in cooperation with an organization that I'm working for now the Washington Low Income Housing Alliance. This training is related to the housing justice narrative, and I will post a description of the training in our in the chat as well as the link that you can use to sign up and join this training. It takes place on Tuesday and Thursday. Next week, online from two to 4pm on both days, so wanted to share that opportunity for those who might be interested and this really is around training advocates for how to use the language around housing justice, to frame the conversation around affordable housing for all

Gerrit Nyland

Grom. Also next Wednesday, the county council is having an in district meeting. So this is District Six, which is Lakewood parkland. So councilmember Hitchin, and it's it's a special meeting that they do they do. Each district has one every year. Right. So there's the normal Council meeting on Tuesday. And a special council and district meeting on Wednesday at six o'clock. Lots of discussion around homelessness. So, Bill Vetter is going to present I think, a really pretty brief overview of the Eco Northwest report. There's going to be a little bit of context around homeless work that the council is



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doing. I'm presenting on the comprehensive plan, sort of an update of where we are, and then three mayor's are going to come and talk about their initiatives around homelessness, or at least discuss homelessness in their communities. So that's Jason Wallen, the mayor of Lakewood run Frederick, the mayor of DuPont, and Dick Mary, the mayor of telecom. So I think it'll be interesting. So I'll be there with Del Mar, LT and Heather Moss, our Director of Human Services. So again, it's at at the liquid council chambers 6pm Wednesday. And you can google it on the county website as well.

Rob Huff

You will there'll be a virtual option for people to listen in or do you know,

Gerrit Nyland

I would expect so let me

Rob Huff

if you see that, just drop it in the chat.

Gerrit Nyland

Yeah. Okay. Yes. There is. Yeah, there's no.

Rob Huff

Perfect. Thank you for that. That's a great addition. So Garrett, touched on the update about the Pierce County comprehensive plan to end homelessness. We don't really have other content to share related to that this week. The next meeting of the Advisory Board, which I sit on as a representative of the coalition as a as a second. Second for Maureen Howard who's been have been able to attend the next meeting of that advisory board takes place on the first Friday in June. So there will be updates coming from that soon, but nothing to share this week. Let's see we talked about so let's shift on to an update from Jan about safe sites for

Janet Runbeck

all. I'm Yes. Acting as a co lead and I'm not sure do where we're going to put this before the coalition that I can act as a co representative with Edie Jacobs on the DM. I went ahead and presumptively asked DM if I could attend the in their planning session for adverse weather, which was scheduled for today. At one o'clock and it's been canceled. So I don't know if that's a good omen or a bad omen, but my first meeting has been cancelled with no news as to when it might be rescheduled. So Rob, was there was there a need for the coalition to take action on on whether or not I would there isn't okay,

Rob Huff

that's no we just wanted to let folks know that you are going to be joining it and sitting in on those meetings. Okay. Right.

Janet Runbeck



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It was just sitting in on the first meeting yet to be determined from this point on I'm Richard Dorsett has done a good job of research he has provided some articles and suggestions on what we should consider as thresholds and triggers. That has been our problem there is not there seems to be a jurisdictional either absence of acceptance of what should trigger an emergency response or not a let's say complete acceptance of what should get us into motion as far as having any kind of concerted effort if there's an emergency for weather and Richard has provided some documents for that. He's also found some policies from other jurisdictions that we are going to take a closer look at. And we're finding we're inviting all government agencies that have any kind of emergency management system to join our Monday zoom meetings at noon, just go to the Kohler coalition website. And Christine Lindquist has sent our request for funding of the five essential items that we would like to know if we can actually provide those who are living unsheltered to Human Services, the Pierce County Human Services so we'll see how our request for funding for purchasing is seen by them if we get the money or not. And then I'm glad to hear that we've got a new language that's been drafted for a revised edition of an ordinance that is considering for civic sites. Our safe parking network is acting and we are the experts. We have successfully completed a pilot project for safe parking. And we've not been pulled in very deeply into the conversation with the county ordinance. But we are very interested in what the county is doing. So I'm pleased to hear that civic sites are being considered and I'll let anybody else jump in here.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Jan, anything that you wanted to add it or Richard that's fine if you don't So next on our agenda, any coalition committee updates that we would like to share.

Rosemary Powers

Nothing from governance or race and equity this morning.

Rob Huff

Okay. Thank you, Rosemary.

Rosemary Powers

And

Rob Huff

so that brings us some opportunity to talk about any announcements that would be good for the folks who are still in today's meeting. I do see your question, Timothy about the Forward Operating Base hope sight and I think Jeffrey's waving his hand vigorously so he'd like to answer that.

Jeffrey Boyce

I do. I do. Monique is not here and she has asked me to speak for the camp. They have electricity. The generator got turned off last night. And thank you, Caleb, you really did some pushing on that. Thank you. They have 12 people in there right now. We fed them last night, my church and anybody else who wants to step up and help defeat them. It would be greatly appreciated. Three couples, and six individuals are there. And several of them have dogs that met my dog yesterday. So everybody had a



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good time. And I heartily encourage everyone to go out and check out the site. Ruby is the site manager and she would love to give any of you a tour of what they've been doing out there. It's been a tremendous job. Thank you much.

Rob Huff

Great, and I see your hand up

Ed Jacobs

yeah I heard or I was told that that site is now full because of a waiting list. Okay, so we need to know if there are beds at that site if there's room for folks.

Jeffrey Boyce

To the best of my knowledge, there is a waiting list but they're filling up very slowly. And things are in a flux currently as I see it. So I would encourage if you run into somebody who's a bet and is in need, referral. It's the more names we get on that list the better it is for possibly getting a second site set up.

Ed Jacobs

Refer them as in have them call to see if there's room. Yeah, rather than just tell them that there's room. Yeah. Okay.

Rob Huff

All right. Thanks for that. Question. Ed and Teresa your hands up.

Rosemary Powers

Geoffrey is right. It's a wonderful thing to go out there and they've done a great job of setting it up. Very welcoming. I want to offer I my friend Elliot gives me these they come with medicine. And they have a nice little lid. They're made out of Styrofoam. And no one likes to have Styrofoam be a single use item. So Oh also are these little freezer bags in the end if you're willing to come and pick some of these up? I'm willing to freeze these for you. I'm hoping they might be useful to somebody I said yes. I have 10 More coming very soon. And I would be delighted to not have them on my porch but have them in the hands of somebody who can use them. So I'm going to put my contact in the chat. please be in touch. Also. I send out something to the listserv and I know you all just pour over everything that I send out but in case you missed it. Forward Operating Base still needs five pillows. If anybody is interested in helping with that. Let me know I'm going back out there this afternoon to bring the pillowcases and a few other things. Also, in that email, there's some stuff that the rice center needs. So I sent it out not so much thinking that any of you might be able to meet all of these needs, but that maybe you would know somebody who could help. So please take a look at that. And that's it.

Rob Huff

All right, thanks, Teresa. And those, those coolers could come in handy. We get warm weather, so anyone else with items for the good of the order? All right. So I do want to remind folks, if you have reflections on today's meeting, please sent use the chat to let me know what worked well. What didn't



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work well. And what can we do differently next week. We're always looking to improve these meetings. And one of the things that that we actually just started recently to improve these meetings, is to carve out space for people to share success stories. So I know the folks from CMR shared a couple of those earlier but does anyone else have success stories that they would like to share today and I see Jan's hand up

Janet Runbeck

Yes, earlier in May, we had a feature program. Thomas Loreen Thomas from elevate health, who talked about the coordinated effort to do some medical respite for those who are medically fragile living on the streets and fine experiencing homelessness. And then we had a breakout session. This coalition Friday coalition had a breakout session. And Timothy Harris did an amazing job of compiling the notes from all the different rooms. And I forwarded that to Laureen Thomas from elevate health and she was very grateful to hear that not only was her presentation well received, but she's taking those ideas and observations back to the work committee that is creating this medical respite center. So thanks to all

Rob Huff

Thank you, Jan, and we have a couple of moments if anybody else has a success story they'd like to share. Yeah, Kenneth.

Just want the new protocol, whether they go Foundation, and we partnered with the RISE program. In the last 660 days, we took 30 homeless people off the streets and got them on treatment with ongoing services and housing. So I'm excited about this new model. And approach we're doing towards homelessness and look forward to sharing more with

Rob Huff

you. Thank you, Kenneth. Great news and rosemary.

Rosemary Powers

This is not a success story that I knew about till today but seeing Donald seeing you here and and recovered, recovering. It's wonderful to have you back. That's a good success. And I look forward to having your work continue in the world. So that's it.

Rob Huff

Yeah, I think there's a lot of us who agree with that. All right. So if we would like to get a couple minutes back in our day, we're at 1055. We have actually runs through today's agenda. So I want to thank everybody for being here today. And hope to see you again next week. If you have the time and the ability to hang with us. We will have a small group planning next week's meeting right after this, but we're going to take a five minute break. So have a good safe weekend and enjoy the sunshine. We'll see you all next Friday.