



Homeless Coalition Friday Meeting

Fri, Dec 16, 2022 9:00AM • 10:55:20

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

meeting, homelessness, housing, folks, pierce county, share, rob, conversation, tacoma, great, updates, state, coalition, minutes, councilmember, home, hand, community, week, people

SPEAKERS

Jeff Rodgers, Jani Hitchen, Tod Gunther, Giovanna Schachere, Patricia, Jeffrey Boyce, Kenny Coble, Mari Leavitt, Jennie Schoeppe, Jay Warley, Po Leapai, Yasmin Trudeau, Caleb Carbone, Paula Anderson, Sharlett Mena, Ed Jacobs, Rob Huff, Robyn Denson, Theresa Power-Drutis, Kenneth King, Chris Gildon, Rian Booker, Cynthia Stewart, Janne Hutchins, Isaiah, Tim Harris, Valeri Almony, Courtney Love, Janet Runbeck, Laurie Jinkins, Marty Cambell

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[CoalitionToEndHomelessnessProviderMeeting-Audio-conv.mp3](https://podcasts.captivate.fm/media/9cff6083-61f6-40de-99fc-9e775b2c59e9/2022-12-16-CoalitionToEndHomelessnessProviderMeeting-Audio-conv.mp3) to verify anything that seems crazy.

Rob Huff

all right. So good morning, everyone. And welcome to this week's meeting of the Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness. Hope you're having a good friday so far that you have some coffee or tea or whatever gets you going in the morning and let's get started. And would you like to kick us off this morning?

Ed Jacobs

Sure. Thank you Rob. I'm doing the Welcome this morning because Rosemary can't be here and maybe a little problematic because she gave them a microphone to a preacher. So I'll try and keep it short. Today, I welcome everyone to our Open Table. When we take time each week to learn about efforts to respond to homelessness in Pierce County and renew our commitment to actions promoting safe and secure housing for all. We gather on the homelands of the pure Tribe of Indians who have stewarded this coastal home for 1000s of years. We call ourselves to listen and to uplift the voices and experiences of the indigenous people of this land and beyond. Thank you for reaching out beyond yourselves to care about the homeless next Wednesday, December 21. We will honor 167 people who



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died while being homeless in 2020. In Pierce County, we join a national campaign to remember all who died while being homeless. These are people who have not been remembered in a service. We use the word remembered however, it truly doesn't fit because most of these people we don't know. And we'll never know. So instead, I use the word honored. Yes, honored as fellow human beings without the mantle of earning an honor. So when you sit down to enjoy Christmas with your family and friends, please take a moment just to yourself. A quick moment to think about these 167 people and remember the service that honored them and then turn back to your celebration with a full heart that you honored them just for a moment. Or better yet attend the service on Wednesday, December 21. at Shiloh Baptist Church, it will be at 6pm and we will send out a notice. One other thing I call on us today to be able to discuss, teach, argue for the cause of homeless people in Pierce County passionately with each other while honoring the people we're talking with and today's meeting. Honor all not because they held office or a position of power. Honor them for being fellow human beings that are reaching out to talk about a very important subject. And with that, I will turn it back over to Rob.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Edie and I do hope that everyone has an opportunity to attend. I know we will have some weather between now and memorial service. But if folks can get there, I think it would be a good way to honor those who we all work so hard throughout the year to try to advocate for and find solutions for in our community. Before we move on with the meeting, I wanted to briefly share the coalition meeting norms and our community norms. So usually Rosemary kind of walks through these briefly. I wanted to put them on screen today. Just as a reminder, our zoom Nona norms. Please mute yourself when you're not talking. Zooms raise hand function if you're able if you have something to say and try to limit distractions by turning off your camera. Camera if you need to. Take another call or do something that is going to be distracting on screen. And then I urge you to take a moment. I'll keep these on screen to take a look at the community norms. Among them, we ask that folks lead with a racial equity lens during these meetings that we stay aware of power dynamics and that we you know, keep the conversation civil and challenge concepts, not people. We're all here to learn. And we want to hear from everyone. So please take space and make space as the meeting goes on. So we're going to depart already for that from the agenda here at the beginning of the meeting, so that we can turn the floor over to Pierce County Council members Janney Hitchin. Janney, you wanted to offer a quick update on the affordable housing sales tax and what happens next in that process so you have the floor.

Jani Hitchin

First off, thank you so much to everybody that activated to help us get the message out. The everybody that wrote in, signed in, shared the message and testified it was a very powerful Tuesday meeting. And so just wanted to start with an acknowledgement of things. The second thing is we are really hopeful it was not a no, it was truly I still have concerns. And so going forward. What we will be doing is really working with across the aisle with several of the council members that raised concerns to see what their concerns are and how do we get to a yes, and the willingness to actually dialogue, the commitment by council member morale to actually set a specific date and really think about what that



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means as far as when the money can go into effect. And so I think, I think and believe we can get there, Councilmember Mello and myself and outgoing Chair Young and incoming councilmember Denson and Councilmember Campbell are all really, I guess, positive. It took multiple meetings and many years to get the behavioral health tax passed. I think this will be a much shorter day. They know on both sides of the aisle and even at the executives desk, that this is a need across the county. So just the plan going forward is to see what the concerns are what do we have to do to make them feel more comfortable about raising attacks? And then figure out what that means and my colleagues on the council are willing to do that work and have those conversations and the fact that we have a specific deadline of March means we know what's in front of us and we have the time to do that work. So that's my quick update. I don't want to take any more of your time I'm actually at the Emerald Queen casino for the Attorney General's missing and murdered indigenous women and people Task Force as I'm a member so I'm going to be signing off but always everyone on this call feel free to reach out to my office if there's something or you have further questions. So Rob, is there anything else that you thought I might want to share?

Rob Huff

No, just if there's anything in particular that you think these 74 folks in the room can do to help move this forward. I know that I'm going to be sending a message out from the for those who signed on to the county council letter later today with some tips but if there's anything you wanted to share in that regard

Jani Hitchen

I think right now it's pause and stay ready. Take take some time. I know many people are actually going to be activated in a different way from this call. You guys are going out to help our unhoused neighbors so focus on that because that saves lives. We will have those conversations in January and in February we will come up with an action plan to figure out what we need to do. We need to get the newly elected council member Robin Denson on boarded and make sure she knows what's going on and have those conversations. So I think February we'll probably come back to this group and go here's the plan. Here's what we need to do. Here are the assets and talk through what that looks like.

Rob Huff

Thank you to Councilmember Hitchen and thank you for the update this morning.

Jani Hitchen

You are welcome. Thank you everybody for your work on this and with our community members. And to Edie I appreciate the reminder about the meeting. I'll get it on my car that ceremony and event on the 21st I'll get it on my calendar. Thank you all have a wonderful and safe holiday.

Rob Huff



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Thank you you too. Alright, so let's shift back to our agenda. Just a word about our agenda. Of course, you probably if you receive the email, realize that we're gonna spend an hour this morning between 930 and 1030. Meeting with elected officials and in a in a conversation with elected officials. So we have limited time leading up to our 930 time. So we have the next 10 minutes where we could share about what we're seeing on the streets this week and then offer any need and share type of items at 920. I'm gonna ask my colleague from the Housing Alliance poli pi to give us the 10 minute run through of the 2023 public policy priorities. But before we get there, that's just a teaser for Paul. Before we get there. We will talk about what's happening on the streets this week. So, again, this is the section where we want to hear from folks about what they're seeing as the weather is growing cold. What their what the needs are and how this the 80 plus people in this room can help meet those needs. So we'll start with Jan.

Janet Runbeck

Ah, yes. Good morning, everybody. On November 28, I went out to an encampment on six in Perl, six and Perl and Tacoma, Washington, USA. There were three campers there. One was I'll use his initials, T W. He was 56 years old, black history of diabeetus a Veteran. I'm speaking with him. He was very afraid of what he was seeing in the trees behind us. He was pointing to the trees binders, which led me think that he had some mental health issues because there were no people that you know, I turned around there were no people in the trees but he really saw them. He was the other tent made had asked us to look at him because he was doing poorly. His fingers were bloated his color was poor. His cognition was shaky. I called 911911 came promptly was wonderful, but he refused care. I went back three days later, when it was colder so that was the beginning of December. He agreed to go to shelter. I called several agencies and Crystal Lee, thank you so much. When on our inclement weather listserv and put the call out for transport. All I needed was transport every agency. Every agency is absolutely stretched to the max. Nobody has staff available. Nobody has resources. Nobody has the ability to respond to yet one more crisis. So the man was not he was willing to go to shelter that day, because it conditions got worse. I went back yesterday to find him. His tent mate said he's dead. He was found on six and Pearl dead a few days ago. Okay, so the man is 56 years old which makes him in the category that is higher risk for consequences. Chronic Disease or diabeetus. If you don't maintain your your blood sugar's you are at risk for severe events. He's black, we've got implicit bias in our healthcare system. He has mental health issues, unless somebody is a is a known immediate threat to self or others. There is no care for folks with mental health. He is a veteran. Our veteran services are proud of of having the best response to homelessness that as a category, the VA has one of the better responses to homelessness. It didn't help this guy. It didn't help this guy. So what if I had called 911 and he had agreed to go to the he still would be dead. We already know from statistics that people who live chronically homeless already will have about a 20 year shorter life expectancy. He was 56 years old. He wasn't gonna make it anyway. Right. So I am really really glad that today we have our legislative representatives here because homelessness is a social determinants of health. And the owner this man TW was already dead man walking as far as I'm concerned. Even if he had been picked up while alive, he already was going to suffer poor consequences. The only thing we can do to



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concentrate on to do this is prevention. And the only way to prevent this kind of tragic, tragic, inexcusable and excusable way that we treat our neighbors is through prevention and affordable housing.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Jan. Thank you for your advocacy and and passion and that shouldn't have happened. Okay, so we have a couple other folks with hands up. Giovanni.

Giovanne Schachere

Yes, hi. Thank you so much, Jana. That was really helpful. And I appreciate just hearing from you and hearing the passion and voice about what is unacceptable in our community. My name is Giovanni sacht and I am the Chief of human services for a new program in the community that is extremely concerned with the health of our unhoused neighbors. And as you spoke about prevention, we are also a program that wants to prevent people from having to go onto the streets because of different situations. That they're facing on a regular basis that sometimes caused them to not be able to make their ends meet. So rental assistance, utility assistance, and we all know that the weather is getting colder, much, much much too cold for people to be outside. We want to try our hardest to get people inside and indoors. Mysteries adult and Family Services provides field based case management. We provide case management and supportive housing and supportive employment. We also provide moving assistance, rental assistance, utility assistance and any type of financial assistance that is necessary to keep people housed and to also move people towards housing. We are funded by the state of Washington to increase the health of all low income Washingtonians in our communities through the supportive services. Thank you so much for your time, and please visit Misty cares. That's Mysti speed a r e s.org. And you can also submit referrals via our telephone at 1-800-524-4827. And if anybody would like to have us to present to any of their community members or community partners, we would love the opportunity. Please utilize this we would like to be there to support you through this situations that we're seeing on the street. Thank you so much.

Rob Huff

Yeah, thank thank you Giovanni. And if you want to drop your infant that contact information in the chat that would be a great resource for folks. Let's shift over to Jan I see your hand up as well. Hi,

Janne Hutchins

thank you. So um, this is Janet Lhasa and I've worked with people experiencing homelessness for many years. Yet I do not really have experience in how to work with somebody that that Jan just mentioned. I'm one of my neighbors. I live in an affluent neighborhood. My neighbors know what I do for a living and so they've been coming to me lately, because all of a sudden they see that homelessness is real. Specifically they're concerned about a woman that is living on the corner of pining 37. And so I wanted to know if there's a way to find out if somebody has reached out to her. I



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found it interesting that my neighbors were willing to quote a doctor. I'm talking to them about the possibility of maybe adopting a tiny home and they wanted it to be dedicated to her and I'm trying to educate them that that's not the way it works, but want to be able to encourage their generosity and concern. And yet, despite the fact that I've worked in this field for a number of years, I lacked knowledge of working directly with someone on the street. So I would love to have anybody private message me with some suggestions. Thank you.

Rob Huff

So I'll share with the full group what I do in situations like that. That has been successful and that is I do if it's within the city of Tacoma, I usually try to reach out to James Pogue personally from comprehensive life services and see if his outreach team can make contact with the individual and I'll drop James's email in the chat. We have time for one more comment before we go over to Pope Patricia you want to close this out?

Patricia

I just wanted to speak on why the way like with the tiny homes it should work that way. If a community is coming together to rise somebody up and get a tiny home and support that for an individual I think it should work like that. And we've created systems in which it doesn't. And I'll leave it at that because I want it's very important that we're here with the others. Thank you.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Patricia and let's see so let's shift over to pull and pull. Let me give you the ability to share your screen

Po Leapai

Thank you, Rob.

Rob Huff

Yeah, you're welcome. And you're ready to go.

Po Leapai

Thank you, everyone. Thank you for having me. It's good to be in space with you all and appreciate all the work you're doing out there. My name is sorry, I'm a little under the weather, but we let's get it. My name is Polina pi. I'm the advocacy organizer at the Washington Low Income Housing Alliance. My pronouns are he him and I joined you joining you all from the stolen lands of the pure tribe here. It's como. I am the advocacy organizer, like I said at the housing minds I also come with lived experience of low income housing. And I was I experienced homelessness months after my release from prison in 2005. I'm here to share our Housing Alliance 2023 legislative priority agenda and invite you to help us advocate for these agenda items. This upcoming legislative session for impacted communities policy



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advocacy as a way to turn their pain into purpose and their purpose to promise it's an opportunity to educate lawmakers and the public on the importance of tenant protections, homelessness prevention, and affordable permanent supportive housing. Our mission at the Housing Alliance is as follows. We changed public policy so that people in Washington of all races, ethnicities, abilities, genders and identities can live in safe, healthy homes they can afford. We do this through educating decision makers, organizing and amplifying the voices and priorities of people and communities. most impacted by housing instability and homelessness. Now, I would like to share my screen here we go. Bear with me, not the most tech savvy but we're gonna make it happen here along with sharing my screen, sorry, I lost the thing I would like to do in the chat there. This is the link to our 2020 through housing, housing Alliance legislative priority agenda for your referencing if you'd like to follow along, that'd be awesome. No, I don't want to send optimize originals. Make this beautiful for everybody. There we go. Cool. Can y'all see that? Yep, looks good. All right, cool. I'm just gonna begin here we go. Each year the house mines creates a both a lead or priority agenda and also a support agenda for the upcoming legislative session. The Housing Alliance seeks to center policy priorities that will do the following. Have a statewide impact, reduce race based and other inequities? increase equity, fairness and poor opportunity and have both immediate and long term impacts on preventing and ending homelessness and increasing affordable housing. Oh, sorry. Here we go. I'll let you follow along on there and I wrote a little piece for this part right here. If you can find that bullet on the link I sent you where it says the state should make a significant investment. 400 million in affordable housing, construction and preservation to build more permanently and deeply affordable homes. All of you have probably heard lawmakers complain like, when is this going to end we put millions of dollars into housing and homelessness or it's only getting worse, or you all haven't done enough. We are continuing to see people fall into homelessness because we are not preventing homelessness. Now we're going to get to the solutions on your screen is a big investment in affordable homes. And remember this, coupled with rent increases was by far between all stakeholders the most urgent priority and the theme that people said will make the most significant impact on their lives. It is a bold is a big bold request. But as you I'm sure you all know this capacity in the capital budget. We've already had we've already been meeting with lawmakers key lawmakers and it's only a matter of will and a matter of where lawmakers decide to prioritize these firms. All of you have probably heard lawmakers saying all of that nonsense. And so why we also want to create a new permanent fund source for the Housing Trust Fund. State Representative Frank Chopp, as most of you know is the previous speaker and a big champion for affordable housing and homelessness. He has crafted a bill to create an a permanent fund source from REITs. The real estate, the real estate excise tax. Some of you have been around a couple for a couple of years now. We did this a couple of years back the state legislator legislature love the tiered REIT idea that our bill created but took out the appropriation for the housing trust fund. So this is another try and a little different from the way it was crafted because we already have read. What this would do is create a new higher real estate excise tax on properties that are valued at \$5 million or more. And then revenue would dedicate it to the Housing Trust Fund. Both Apple Health and homes, permanent supportive housing and the competitive pool of the Housing Trust Fund. Another bill that he's working on also creates a local option for an additional real estate excise tax. For most communities, that would



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be a third iteration of the state authorized local tax. It would require local action though. We know that some of the communities or some communities are more poised to pass a local option than others but having both the state option and the local option would be ideal. We're very happy to Frank choppers taking lead on this. Next slide their funding for homelessness prevention and hand rental assistance is the next one I'd like to share with you. And I'm not reading all of the priority agenda items on there but just specific ones for the sake of time and relevancy. The next slide is another big priority of the Housing Alliance is going to be generally to invest into End Homelessness Prevention and homelessness solutions. And this includes the hand housing and essential needs program cash assistance to the aged, blind and disabled program. Each of these bullets are a separate item because each of each of these in and of itself is a huge lift and very important and a very important list. Document and recording fees are the main source of funding for homelessness prevention programs in our state because the economy has slowed down and because those are specifically fees on real real estate related transactions. And as we all know, real estate transactions are slowing down. People are not refinancing their homes and are selling at the same rate. So we're facing an up to 50% decline in funding anticipated for homelessness prevention. If the state legislature does not address this in their budget, we will see a reduction in services. This is absolutely unacceptable. At a time when the only thing we should be doing is increasing services. We would be seeing a reduction in state and services statewide. So our ask is for the state legislature to use the general fund the big pot of money in the state's operating budget. We want them to make up the gap out of the operating budget. This will be a small feat but it is doable. What we need to do is raise awareness, sound the alarm and educate lawmakers about the importance of this. Some questions we're getting right now. But are these homelessness services working? And other others are saying Can't you just do more with less? Those types of things will be asked and that's where advocates are going to need to weigh in and educate each of the lawmakers each of our lawmakers in the state to ensure they prioritize this. Now I think a lot of you are familiar with the housing essential needs rental assistance programs. For people with disabilities and they qualify for it until they get social security disability payments from the federal government. When this program was created in 2011, it was conceived, conceived of as a gap filler and a security safety net to help people as they were applying for federal disability. benefits. However, as we all know, federal federal social security benefits do not come anywhere near what it takes to pay the rent in Washington State. Right now in order for rent to be affordable. If your source of income is Social Security or social security disability, your rent needs to be under \$300. And that's fairly impossible to find unless you are able to secure a slot in a subsidized apartment building or home. The benefits Cliff happens when people lose their housing essential needs rental assistance but still can't afford the rent. This program pulls out the support from under people when the federal government has agreed that the person has a long term permanent disability and won't be able to work. So we want to fix this because we are seeing people fall back into homelessness. After they get their federal social security benefits. We were able to over two budgets have what we call an SSI pilot, meaning it was a temporary and it was in the five highest cost currently is where the biggest gaps between rent and Social Security benefits and the hand benefits where it is a pretty hefty list but a very important if Joe and finally I'd like to bring your attention. This slide here. The state should support and stabilize the nonprofit housing and



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homelessness workforce. They should make a 2020 to one time Department of Commerce grantee administrative increase permanent. This would impact nonprofit organizations providing affordable housing and homelessness services that are funded through the state budget. They would be required to raise wages and take and take other actions to stabilize their workforce and fill vacant positions. Now, thank you all for the time. I'd like to open this up and I'm gonna stop my share here. How do I stop it? I forgot.

Rob Huff

I can always do it for you to pull. But the what what I wanted to say here let me stop the share is that we actually have reached 930. So if folks have questions for Pope and want to use the chat for that, that'd be fantastic. Thank you, Paul, for joining this morning. Sorry, you're under the weather but thank you for going through the priorities. And I'll drop the link to the website where the priorities live as well. And hopefully if you can hang out for a few moments, you might see some questions in the chat. Thank you. So Cynthia. Would you like to help get us squared away while I start setting up breakout rooms? Sure. I would be happy to do that. So as we talked earlier, before elected officials began arriving. We are having a session today to both congratulate them on their election or re election and also have a conversation about what they would like to know from us and we would hope that they would do for us in their respective roles. First, I want to say thank you to Rosemary powers for all the work she did to recognize this part of today's agenda. She did a tremendous amount to set this up. And I want to say thank you to those of you who are elected officials participating today. We really know how busy you are and we appreciate your taking the time to join us. What we're hoping for today is to share information. What are you as elected officials wondering about related to housing and homelessness but those of us in the room who are service providers and advocates can share and what do you those same providers and advocates think elected officials should know about what is going on and how they could help. We're going to start by hearing very brief self introductions from each of the recently elected or re elected officials who are here. And each of them will say just one or two sentences about who they are, what they represent, what their role is and then a couple of questions that they have that they would like to have us talk about. And then we will go into the small group discussions in breakout rooms for 20 minutes in each case, and then we'll come back and hear from them what they're taking away from this conversation. When we get into the breakout rooms, each one will have an assigned facilitator. And so each of the people in the coalition please introduce yourself by saying what organization you with what your role is, what you see as the unmet need and what government can do when you're in those groups don't don't repeat information that has already been shared. Just explain that you have the same perspective as ex or whoever you want to name. So now let's hear from each of our elected guests. Right now. Senator Chris Gadon is in the room and he has been recently reelected to that role and congratulations, Senator do that. Let's start with you. And can we spotlight Robert,

Cynthia Stewart

are you able to do that?



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Rob Huff

I have a hard time doing that. Well, I'm also setting up your co host and I can do it. Yeah, certainly. Okay. Okay, are we ready? I'm not a co host yet. So, Senator Gildan. Go ahead and get started and I will spotlight you as soon as I can make that possible. Yes.

Chris Gildon

Thank you so much. And thanks for the invitation to come join us here today and listen to you. I am Chris Gildon on your senator from the 25th Legislative District which pretty much covers piala South Hill and some of the surrounding areas. First elected to the House in 2018. And then over to the Senate in 2020. So I have about two more years left on my term and I previously served on the Senate, Human Services reentry and reintegration committee as the ranking member. I've since moved off of that committee for the next year. And so I won't be in that world quite as much but still very interested in everything that's happening in this area because we've got so much so much need out there and quite frankly, so many competing resources for that need. So I really look forward to the conversation. Thank you.

Rob Huff

Thank you. We appreciate that. Let's go next. To Senator Yasmin Trudeau and the 27th district who was recently reelected. Senator Trudeau. Hi,

Yasmin Trudeau

thanks everyone for having me. I have to preface this with I have a baby who is sick and is struggling to sleep. So if you see me, turn my camera off and come back with a wiggly nugget. You know what's going on? But happy to be here with you this morning. from Tacoma, the 27th Legislative District represents large parts of Tacoma dash point. And now with redistricting we have the lovely city of Fife also included in that I currently will last last session. I served on housing, human services with Senator Gildan. Nice to see you this morning, Senator Gildan and lon justice as vice chair. This session I am continuing to serve on the housing committee. I will be working on capital budget environment in law injustice but still paying very close attention to what's happening in the human services space. And I've really appreciated working with Senator Gildan and others on those issues. So nice to be with you this morning and ready to learn what you guys are doing and thinking and thank you so much.

Cynthia Stewart

Thank you.

Rob Huff

Let's go to Speaker Lori Jenkins from the 27th district in the House of Representatives.



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Laurie Jinkins

Say Thanks, Cynthia. I guess we're all having little problems this morning. Just as you started speaking my other computer went kind of Nadeau and now I can't shut it off but it's this loud buzzing noise so my apologies if you hear it in the background. And luckily I have a second personal computer that works. I'm happy to be here with you all today. Senator Trudeau just described our district. I've been serving in the legislature for 12 years and this will be my second full term. As a speaker of the house. I no longer serve on committees anymore other than chairing the Rules Committee. At that I'm responsible for kind of the floor action in the House and what bills we moved to the floor. So I'm excited to hear that conversation and the priorities that you all have. It's also been really good for me as someone who also works in public health and works a lot with Jan. I still I work at the health department also. So I've been coming to your meetings pretty regularly during the interim on Friday mornings and it's been very helpful both in my public health role and in my role as speaker so it's thanks for having me.

Rob Huff

Thank you very much. I thought I had seen representative Charlotte Mina in the group and now I can't find her. Here. I'm here

Sharlett Mena

because my hair is why earlier than usual Ghanaian.

Rob Huff

Please go ahead. Thank you. Well, good

Sharlett Mena

morning. I'm Representative elect Charlotte men on the 29th District, which includes South and East Tacoma, Parkland Spanaway and a little bit of Lakewood, too. So I'm really excited to be here. You know, housing is a priority. I think for everybody serving in the legislature and certainly something that's top of mind for folks in the 29th I will be serving on the environment, transportation and state government Tribal Affairs Committee, but that doesn't mean I won't be involved in a lot of these, you know, really big pushes to meet the needs of the folks in between I and you know, meet the needs that we have in terms of housing head on. So I'm really excited to be here today and hear from you all that have lived experience and lived work experience. And you know, I have a lot of questions about what you all think, is the most effective thing we can do as legislators and we'll be happy to take yours as well. Thanks for having me.

Rob Huff

Thank you. Um, I don't see Senator Steve Conway here, or Spencer Hutchins representative from the 26th district so we'll move to Robin Denton, newly elected Pierce County Council member from district seven Good morning, everybody.



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Robyn Denson

So great to see you all. Thank you so much for all of your work. And just wanted to say that housing and homelessness is these are key issues in Pierce County as they are all over the state and I wanted to let you all know that even though I don't have a whole lot of super recent experience with housing. My past professional history was very heavily related to housing. I worked for a community action agency where we had a homeless shelter. We handled all the section eight program for the state of Connecticut, and then I worked for Habitat for Humanity and then I worked for five sessions for our state house of representatives as the housing analysts, and it was mentioned before the document recording fee for homelessness that assists all the counties. That was part of that was legislation that I helped draft back in, I think 2005 2006 and also the multifamily tax exemption program which you know, has evolved a bit since that was something else that I worked on. So these are issues that I'm really passionate about. And what I'm looking forward to hearing from you all is what we can do at all levels of government to really move the needle and make a difference. What I think we're all hearing from our constituents is they want to address homelessness with compassion, but there's a lot of frustration out there, and you all are the experts. So I want to know what best practices you have, what resources you need, so that we can help you do the work that you do and know how to do so well. So thank you all.

Rob Huff

Thank you. And last but not least, we have reelected Pierce County councilmember moody Campbell from district five

Marty Cambell

Hello, everybody. Thank you for having me here for Am I looking forward to working with Robin coming up? Pierce County Council District number five, representing kind of the central area of Pierce County Eastside Tacoma Midland Parkland Spanaway summit Waller, ne coma dash point and five and others. I'll be serving on Human Services. I'm currently on the board of health Pierce Transit, lots of areas where we intersect and I understand we already got updates earlier about our work this week on homelessness. So the work continues. But we're committed to really moving the ball forward on this and getting better plans into place. Thank you, everyone.

Rob Huff

Thank you. So

Mari Leavitt

Cynthia, this is Cynthia, can you can you hear me this is replimat I've been here the whole time. Just let

Rob Huff

me show you on there. So thank you, Representative Levitt from the 28th district recently reelected.



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Thank you and I do represent the 20 Legislative District serving since 2019 have served on the Housing Committee, the house Housing Committee and all its iterations since the time that I was elected and will continue to serve on our housing, just housing all things Housing Committee in the House, this upcoming term and serving as the vice chair and look forward to learning from all of you. Thank you.

Rob Huff

Thank you. I'm so glad you spoke up. So next we're gonna go back to rob and he will put us into small groups for the breakout discussions and we will take it away. Thank you. All right. Thank you so much, Cynthia, and for everyone who's joined us this morning. So what I've done is I have set up, there will actually be seven rooms where folks can go, I'm allowing folks to kind of select their own room. At this time, however you're not there just labeled by the room number not by the legislator who's in the session. The hope is that we'll end up with a roughly equal number of people in the six rooms that we have assigned and then if you stay in this main room, you'll be here with Cynthia and I and I believe representative Levitt so so I am going to open the rooms and just I apologize ahead of time. If I do end up shuffling you to another room. I just want to make sure that we have a relatively equal number of people in the room so everyone has an opportunity to talk to one of our elected officials today.

<Breakout Rooms>

Rob Huff

So Cynthia, do you want to lead us through the next part of this meeting? Sure. Sure. So let's go ahead and do the elected official in the same order that we did introductions. So I'd like to start with Senator Jay Gould on Senator What are you taken away from this conversation?

Chris Gildon

Yeah, no, thank you. That was a great experience. Very, it was like a Rapid Round going around. So in our group, I just informed everyone of some of the things in the pipeline related to housing did I know we're coming up and I asked Are we headed in the right direction. And overall, the feedback was very positive. We spoke about my reading glasses on site and read my notes. It's that time of my life. We spoke a little bit about ending generational poverty and providing people the chance to get into housing so it doesn't continue from generation to generation we spoke about interesting thing is the ability to provide services to people in the case of inclement weather events, and some solutions for that we spoke a little bit about some safe parking. We spoke about the intersection of mental health and the services that are needed as it relates to homelessness. And then we spoke a little bit about some of the sustainability issues that our nonprofit partners are seeing these days. And so really good, good conversation, and I'm very appreciative to everyone who took part. Thanks.

Rob Huff



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So do you have, do you have a particular action that you want to take when you get back into session?

Chris Gildon

Well, I'm going to be on the housing committee again, this upcoming year and I think one of the biggest things that we're going to be doing is probably going to be in the area of zoning and potentially increasing density and certain areas of our state to allow for more housing to meet the needs.

Rob Huff

Thank you. Thank you for that. I'm gonna go to our representative my level she was in your group, I believe at the very end and I just want to catch her before we lose her again. So, Representative Levitt, are you still with us?

I am and I think Senator Gildan did a nice job of talking about it. And I think Jerry and her in the group, I'm near the tail end as well, is increasing density in our transit centers and transit areas and working on increasing our housing supply and streamlining to ensure that we're removing every barrier that we can to get housing built and built quickly. Thank you.

Rob Huff

Thank you very much. So let's go to Senator Trudeau. Senator Trudeau. What is your take away from this conversation?

Yasmin Trudeau

Yeah, so we talked a lot about, you know, mapping out who's at the table, mapping results, because it's a lot of folks doing a lot of different types of work. So the opportunity to collaborate and learn from one another. The importance of lived experience we talked about some barriers that folks have regard to language access, cultural access to housing. And so and I talked a little bit about some of the issues that represent the yield on predatory representative guild on Senator guild on my assistant. It's a little distracting at the moment in terms of generational wealth building. So I would like to plug that one of the issues that I hope we will continue to discuss, in addition to the zoning and density conversation is the Washington Future Fund, which is the opportunity to really disrupt some of that generational those generational issues and begin with some wealth building. So I wanted to put in a plug there and I hope to work with Senator Gildan and others on both of those issues. Moving forward, but yeah, a lot of what we heard is really getting to know each other and figuring out left hand right hand and how do we make sure that folks are accessing the types of support and services they need in order to access housing regardless of how much of it is available? So, anybody jump in, if I got that wrong,

Rob Huff

thank you. Um, so let's go to Speaker Jenkins, Lloyd Jenkins. Thank you.



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Laurie Jenkins

My only report about my assistant is that I've been able to turn off the computer that was buzzing so anyway, that's my victory this morning. We had a great conversation that really started us off I think by grounding us in the idea that we need to value people's dignity in the decisions that we're making in the legislature, but we talked about a really broad range of things, everything from kind of how we kind of strengthen on people's voices in our democracy by use of rank choice voting, and single payer health care and things like that. Then down to kind of more specific housing issues related to how do we incentivize people to build more ad use? How do we disincentivize folks from buying up multiple single family homes for rentals and instead have those in be in the market for purchase? And then linked with that is how we deal with generational wealth and get more communities in engaged and more people that are able to buy homes. I would just say that Representative chop and I have been talking about a proposal that he has to really focus on that issue and bring some funding to that. This session. So we'll see how that goes. A lot of support in the group for some form of rent control, and making sure that we're not destroying already existing low income housing and replacing that with much higher income housing. So paying attention to that. Giovanni talked a little bit about the foundational Community Support Program, and just that it's a great program that people don't know well, and it's founded through the Medicaid transformation grant. And so maybe doing some more work to help people know and understand that program so that it's better used and then we ended by talking a lot about mass incarceration. And and I can't remember who it was Teresa May be who really I'm not sure that this will be a state legislative issue might be but setting a specific time when jails are allowed to release people so that people aren't released in the middle of the night. And that there's a time when service providers could know that they can be present to help people navigate, which seems like an awesome idea that I hadn't heard of before. So those were a number of things that I heard about some great conversation, great ideas.

Rob Huff

Thank you. So much. Now we have representative Charlotte Minar.

Well, thank you for letting me be a part of this robust discussion. Some of the things that I heard that were different. were huge investments in building more units. I think we all understand that we are just we just simply don't have enough housing but one of the most important things I heard was sustainable funding. Not one time, big funding, but sustainable funding that is going to help keeps keep folks in permanent supportive housing and accounts for you know, folks that may need longer term stay low barrier housing. And like I said, long term supports. Another thing I heard from the group was, you know, those essential wraparound services and having a robust mental and behavioral health system, as well as ensuring that you know, when folks are working, they are making a living wage. So we had a really great discussion. I have my marching orders. You have been heard, I want to encourage folks on



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the call to you know, to govern with us, you can be a part of this process and accountability doesn't have to come at the end of session when maybe we've done something that doesn't really quite hit the mark. So I encourage folks to stay informed be a part of the process, be a part of the policy making my best testifying committees, reach out to our offices ask us for meetings. We've got a big job in front of us and I think we'll do a much better job if we do it together.

Rob Huff

Thank you. I'm hoping that all of you who are legislators will hang in there until we hear from our two county council members. And then we'll have about 10 minutes of q&a if that's okay. So the next person would be councilmember Marty Campbell.

Thank you, and thank you for doing this great conversation. We talked a little bit about you. One of the items that came up is when inclement weather when we're deciding that we need to open up more services can be inconsistent across different governance. We need to get a standard when it is and that needs to be not simply when weather becomes lethal. But far before that to make sure that because actually the definition of when weather can impact you can really depend on your health status. So we need to have different levels there. Need to work on more rapid rehousing adult family homes. We're seeing more seniors out there. So what are we doing to help support seniors so that they're getting getting support. We need to make sure that we are looking at not concentrating affordable housing 100 Plus units of affordable housing in one building creates a concentration that's not necessarily healthy or the best, how can we do smaller ones 25 units or so or focusing more on mixed income within the same building to help build community that way? And we heard the discussion about the immorality of sweets and that they should be illegal or have a very high bar and make sure that they're we need to do more mental health crisis response because we're not it's really not there yet. We still don't have the mental health crisis response that we need with homelessness. And I think that was a lot Oh, the other was car repair something to help people who are experiencing homelessness with their car repairs. Both funding to help them get critical parts replaced on their car. Or new tires. So they have a safe vehicle. So they get to and from work or to reside in or whatever, but how can we create a system that helps with car repair?

Rob Huff

Thank you. Thank you. And next we have councilmember Bob and Denton.

Yes, thank you well, all the things that you all discussed are discussed in our excellent group as well just highlight a few things. Marie mentioned mental health. Everybody in our group mentioned the need for more mental health resources and services. So that was a big one. The point was made that it's really important that we don't make assumptions that we go talk to the people experiencing



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homelessness and all its different forms to understand what actually will work for them what they need instead of just assuming what we think would be best for them. So that's really important. Also the importance of communicating to the public realistic expectations, kind of explaining how difficult this work is and how nuanced and how these things take time and how much is going into it. But just letting them know that just because they pass the Affordable Housing Tax for example, which hopefully we will get done next year or you know there's an increase in recording fees. It doesn't mean that in two months, homelessness is going to be gone. This is going to take some time and that's a challenging conversation. I appreciated some of the case managers and navigators mentioned the importance of pay our nonprofit service providers, a living wage so that they can support their family especially since a lot of these folks might have come from homelessness and in challenging situations themselves. That's really important for sustainability. I'll mention the affordable housing tax that we'd like to get passed at the county. So any any help that can come along with that and the conversation around gentrification, which I think Marty mentioned a little bit to making sure that we have affordable housing for people to access which you know, we've, we've had a reduction of over the last couple of years with the big boom, the housing boom, and then Todd from ording mentioned something that I just want to end with and that is having the political courage because when we're faced with constituents that are upset, and we understand their frustration, we need to have the political courage to do the right thing for our communities for the long term. So thank you for that.

Rob Huff

Thank you. And now I'm going to open this up for questions and if you would use the raise hand function we can call on you. And for those elected officials who are still in the room, there's a lot of compliment and thank yous in the chat that you might want to check out. So who has a question and for whom? Raise your hand I using the raised hand function, please.

Theresa Power-Drutis

Okay, everybody was satisfied.

Rob Huff

Awesome. So thank you. Thank you so much to all of our legislators and our two county council members, and we look forward to working with you during session and in the year ahead of accounts members. Thank you again for being here and taking your time today. We appreciate it. Back to you, Rob. Thank you and appreciate everyone are elected leaders and everyone who participates in the coalition meetings for that. That session. I think this is a great format for us to be able to all learn from each other, and especially helpful this is this is our last regular Friday meeting of the Coalition for this year. So this is a great way to end the year and to set ourselves up for a more successful 2023. So thanks to everyone. Before we get into the government updates, I do want to let folks know that although we will not hold a regular two hour meeting in these last two Fridays of the year that are coming up. We do intend to hold short, very function focused sessions on both of those Friday morning starting at nine o'clock, but we're only going to focus on items like this week on the streets, the need



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and shear and any kind of cold weather response, anything that's functional to helping those who are currently outdoors because we want to honor everybody's holiday time. So let's move to our regular weekly government updates and I would turn the floor over to Caleb from the city of Tacoma and he updates this week. Um, yeah, Thanks, Rob.

Caleb Carbone

I have one update. If you listen to study session. On Tuesday, we gave an update about a safe parking site that we are working on starting to operate in January with Catholic Community Services at the Holy Rosary site. Just as a quick introduction to it, it'll be serving about 40 individuals and possibly around 20 vehicles. And that site is hoping to be an operational starting in January and we will have a community meeting that second week. And as soon as I have the details finalized in terms of location and date, I will send that out to the listserv.

Rob Huff

Thank you Caleb. And anybody with any quick questions for Caleb, please just drop those in the chat. And we'll see if we can get those addressed. And let's shift over to Jeff Rogers from Pierce County Human Services. Good morning.

Jeff Rodgers

Excuse me. The only update I would like to remind everyone is at the homeless Point in Time Count is coming January 26. We're still in need of volunteers

Rob Huff

got it? Yes, anything you I see you dropped the link in the chat anything else you wanted to share from the county?

Did my Miko mute it or something?

Rob Huff

It did? Yeah. I don't.

I don't know why. Sorry. I was just saying that I would we need volunteers and I will put that link into the chat for those who want to volunteer for the PIT count on January 26.

Rob Huff

Weird Okay. That's it. You know, technology is rearing its head here at the end of the year. So it says it's time for a break for folks. So, earlier I know Valerie was in the meeting Valerie anything if you're still



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here anything you want to update about rental assistance. And maybe Valerie stepped away. So folks from the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department. Any updates this week, I see Jenny coming off

Jennie Schoeppe

me. Good morning, everyone. Um, I just have to kind of quick things to share with the group the federal COVID Test Kit program is up and running again. And they'll start shipments on home antigen COVID tests on the 19th of December so I'll share the link for that. Good time to stock up again and check expiration dates on all the kits you have at home. I know we have a stockpile here at our home. Accidental stockpile but things do expire. Um, so yeah, get some more. Dr. Jarvey said he ordered Jan saying there's more. There's some of the library. Oh sorry. She's not talking about test kits. She's saying library needs socks. But anyhow, I will share the link for the test kit program ordering program. Another big announcement. For those that get updates from GPC HD. You may have seen this but masking indoors is you know we don't have a mandate. I've been saying that for months. But all the state health directors got together and made a joint statement recommending masking and doors in light of the strain on our hospital systems due to flu RSV, COVID. All of that coming together in this season. And so I know folks are really concerned about cold weather understandably but wanted to share the news release about masking. Unfortunately, since we're no longer in a COVID emergency response on DM is not providing masks necessary necessarily. We don't have a whole lot but I do have some masks that I that I have to share with folks so it folks I'm gonna prioritize those for my for congregate shelters who I've already reached out to but if folks need masks and can't get them through their normal channels and you can reach out to me, I will do my best to try and get you some. Those are the announcements for me and I'll share both the news release about masking indoors and the COVID testing program. testing kit ordering in the chat and I'll hand it over to Isaiah or someone from the Environmental Health team. Thanks, everyone.

Isaiah

Thanks, Jenny. So yeah, so I can go ahead and get updates for Environmental Health as far as I know. Oh, currently we are not activated. I do know that the interim thresholds for activation have passed but I don't believe we are activating I'm not high enough on the chain to exactly know why but I'm hoping to figure it out more as we go along. But other than that we've been a lot of work this week to try and get some colder weather supplies out to providers. I dropped off some cold weather injury cards over to West Pierce Fire Department as well as over the top home where we also dropped off some hand warmers and we were able to give them some donations. So we are collecting donations for our houses neighbors over at the D Street location over at the Pierce County Health Department. That's still ongoing. I'm doing some advertising over here at to get some more people to engage with I know there was an ask for some cold weather gear like gloves and hats for kiddos especially. So I'm working to get that sorted out, especially in regards to our family resource center. And I also know that we I think Cindy she's not here today, but Cindy Haverkamp, our climate justice coordinator. She was able to drop off some injury kits are called by their medical kits over two. I believe it was New Hope I believe today.



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So yeah, so we that's the updates as far as I know, and we're still monitoring things as we go along. To see whether or not we're going to activate

Rob Huff

Thank you, Isaiah and Jenny as well. Great information as always. Do we have anybody from Pierce County Department of Emergency Management on the call for an update I know that they were participating just for the awareness of everyone who's not plugged into the cold weather outreach meetings that have been taking place. The folks at the Department of Emergency Management have been active this week. And both Jan and Jay from arc Coalition have been active in at the Emergency Operations Center. So there there is planning underway to make sure that we can do what we can to keep folks alive during the current cold weather as well as the potential for snow that starts next week on Monday through Wednesday ish, at least in the current forecast. So so the may not be here right now, but they've been very active this week. So So let's shift over I wanted to carve out a little bit of time this morning still for our review of last week's breakout conversation. So MSP can I put that on? Oh, go ahead. Representative Levin.

Rob. Do you mind just real quick? I'm related to what you were just talking about extreme weather. We have a bill House Bill 1012, the extreme weather protection act that provides assistance to local jurisdictions during times of extreme heat cooling, as well as poor air quality so as it got all the way through the Senate rules and just languished on the last day in the Senate floor. So we'll be bringing that back. This year. And we hope that you'll support that and it will serve our seniors and our most vulnerable I'm and communities that are disproportionately impacted by environmental concerns all across our county and of course across the state. So hope you support that. And that's House Bill 1012 But it'll address exactly what you're talking about making sure our local jurisdictions never give the excuse. They didn't have enough resources to open early or stay open late.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Representative Levin. So let's shift over to Timothy I saw you drop the document in the chat. Let me share it here on screen and if you want to walk through what we talked about last week, sure. Um

Tim Harris

great just a second. So always happens to me. It's always happens to me, I'm like looking at my document on screen and then you share your document and I go fullscreen and I have to like, get back to my document. So to sum up last week's discussion the question was what are we prepared to advocate for in 2023? And what else do we need to feel prepared? We have the great quote from Audrey Lord up at the top that Rosemary offered last week these always seem to somehow be super relevant to whatever we're talking about. Thanks to Rosemary for that. Um, issues for advocacy. That



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was kind of mixture of specifics stuff like more funds into the Housing Trust Fund and really big picture stuff. Like advocating for equitable systems and things of that nature. So you can just you know, rather than me reading up everything on that list, you can just cast an eye over that and see what some of the things people brought a particular needs that were specified in terms of what can be helpful to people advocating you know, somebody brought up this point, it's kind of the diffusion of responsibility thing, never assume that somebody else is doing the advocacy that we need to be doing. Somebody brought up the idea that power mapping is essential work for advocacy. That's something I'm not aware, being done if we've been doing that. There was some discussion about limitations that people have on their ability to do advocacy within their organizations. I know that that's a dilemma that some of us are familiar with.

Rob Huff

There was there were a

Tim Harris

few requests in regard to the the tax that is being considered that people wanted talking points around that can can be used across constituencies. Um Can people want to know what bills are related to homelessness are in front of the legislator Pope legislature Pope kind of spoke to that this morning a bit about the broad priorities and and it was brought up that you know, again, the regressive tax thing came up and in terms of talking points, people wanted arguments that would be relevant to low income people that have the concerns about the funding source. And then there was this broad point about accountability. I'm not going to go over all of the suggested tactics that people talked about because I want to keep this brief. And then there is also some general comments that people made about this that I encourage you all to just, you know, download this document and take a look at that and see what people had to say. And then at the end of it, I just put together a bunch of kind of little announcements and things that were brought up during the call and and I think that I'm going to make that an ongoing part of this round up. So there we go.

Rob Huff

Thank you so much, Timothy. This really does add a lot of value to those conversations and brings us all back. So thank you, and it's possible. Timothy, do you want to send that document to the coalition mailing list or should I I don't know if it's been posted on the website yet and I do apologize. The website updates will be a bit limited over the next couple of weeks because many of those are done by Garrett and Garrett is out of the country. So

Tim Harris

we go Why don't you go ahead and post it because I'm not really quite sure how to do that. Sure. Yeah,
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Rob Huff

can. I'll do that after this morning's meeting. Yeah, thank you. So Cynthia, you should receive that in on the mailing. list here in a little bit. So we're actually ahead of our agenda, believe it or not. So let's shift over to updates from Jan and the safe sites for all committee.

Janet Runbeck

Yes, I have a request from Tacoma Public Library's specifically the Swayze and the more branches more branch is to 15 South 56 Swayze is the Narrows and Sixth Avenue. Really close to power donuts if you got a buck 25 to get a great donut. They are asking for hand warmers, gloves, hats, socks, and non perishable food. So oftentimes folks who are mobile and unsheltered and are able to get away from their Campement they will seek assistance at a library they'll use the library as a warming center. The libraries however, are closed during inclement weather and budget cuts has put a big constraint on when libraries are open. But libraries all libraries have folks coming in for assistance. So remember your library and have a request into the Pierce County Library to see if they are also in need of those kinds of items. If a well we are meeting daily in the morning with inclement weather with human services, and or de em. So there are there are daily meetings except on the weekend of course. So if you have any desire to be involved with the weather and the unsheltered jump in on those meetings, and if Paul Anderson is still here is Rob is Paula in the room.

Paula Anderson

Let me see here.

Janet Runbeck

Take it away, Paula.

Paula Anderson

And what are we talking about this a parking Sorry, I was on a phone call.

Janet Runbeck

Yeah, safe Park. What was the current status of safe parking?

Paula Anderson

So right now we're continuing to have people in there. We're supplying some of our warm or cold weather items to them, especially the ones that aren't allowed to go into a building. And we're, we're continuing to move people in and out. We had a family house last week and we just I just got word that we got a family house this week, too. So we're super excited about that. Yeah, it's the just our real quick share. The one family that we got housed last week took three different agencies and an incredible incredible story of finding are seeing the need and then all of us coming together to help it so it was good.



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Rob Huff

It was good. Thank you, Paula, and anything else genuinely wanted to share?

Janet Runbeck

I'll put the wish list for libraries in the chat

Rob Huff

and you probably saw Teresa's comment about having 250 pairs of socks she could part with but just needing to know where they can go.

Janet Runbeck

Are you talking in terms of where they can go as far as a distribution site for outreach workers or folks on the street?

Theresa Power-Drutis

So I was thinking specifically about the libraries. Yeah, they're looking for socks. Yes. Yes. Yeah. So if I don't know who to call within the library system to say do you want these socks? Oh, I know

Janet Runbeck

for a fact that those two less weighty and more want the socks and then they will distribute them throughout the entire Tacoma Public Library system.

Theresa Power-Drutis

Yeah, that's what I was thinking. Yeah. Okay. Good thing.

Janet Runbeck

Yeah. Okay. I will put that I will put that in the chat.

Rob Huff

All right. Thank you, Jan, and thank you, everyone. I did want to add just a little bit of context there's and bring it into the larger group. There's still 58 of us here in the room. The coalition has our email address, that's info at PC homeless.org. I just wanted to share that I have I received those emails and have been trying to help refer folks to to shelter resources and coordinated entry during this time there's I have seen an increase in the number of people seeking help. I know that Jessica from greater lakes has shared that there are more people seeking help. The folks from Luis and the folks from the Tacoma rescue mission have also made the comment that more people are seeking help and it's not. Yes, it's being driven a little bit by the weather. But it also seems to be driven by the increase in the number of people who need help. So I just want to say I appreciate the work that everyone's doing to try to find



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solutions for people like Paula shared, you know, it taking the effort of three different agencies and multiple individuals to find solutions for an individual household. You know, it's hard work but this is probably the most rewarding work to so thank you for sharing that those success stories, Paula. So we have time now for some good trouble announcements. Anybody with things that they would like to share with the larger group, just use the raise hand function or do it with your hand and I think I saw Todd's hand go up. So I'm gonna get started with thoughts.

Tod Gunther

So for quite a while I have been having a private endeavor to go across Washington State and speak to as many school districts as I can to increased unhemmed State student recognition. So last night, I visited the first school district and I'm going to visit another one Monday and do my three minutes to podium and see if I can make a dent in the world. So thank you.

Rob Huff

Thank you, Todd. Anyone else with good trouble announcements to share with the group? Yeah, Jim.

Janet Runbeck

I received a letter from the William Kilworth Foundation KeyBank as the trustee is pleased to announce that the Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness has been selected. To receive a charitable donation of \$5,000 in a separate mailing to be used for the inclement weather response.

Rob Huff

Fantastic. That is great news. Thank you for that chance. And, Ed, I see your hand up.

Ed Jacobs

Yeah, just a couple of things. We're at 167 people that will be honoring for the homeless Memorial. Those are folks that have have died in the last year. And there are banners going up. One down on Tacoma Ave. And then I think another one will go to Shiloh Baptist Church. So we ordered banners and they're going up.

Rob Huff

Yeah, and again, hopefully folks can attend the memorial service to honor those. Those folks. this coming week. Yeah. And Jeffrey, your hands up.

Jeffrey Boyce

Hello, everyone. This is good news. I'm working with the City of Tacoma through Allison purpose to make it easier for the churches in the city of Tacoma to house safe parking. This is to get it out of the permit process. Because it shouldn't be in the permit process. You already have a permit to have a parking lot. You don't need another permit to use it. And that was the argument I used and the city



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listened. So I should be getting a draft document next week that the city would like me to look at in regards to increasing and helping churches do say parking in the city of Tacoma.

Rob Huff

Thank you. Thank you for your continued work on that Jeffrey. Anyone else was items for the good of the order.

Ed Jacobs

So Jeffrey, when when you negotiated this did the caller help?

Jeffrey Boyce

Course gets me in the door

Rob Huff

whatever it takes Jeffrey, whatever it takes. Teresa,

Theresa Power-Drutis

I just want to put this pitch out there that although I have abundance of socks and socks coming out my ears, I'm still working on getting those holiday outreach bags together and could really still use some beanies and some hand warmers and a few other things if you want to look at the list of things that we're still working on. Also, I have I'm having people make up some extra bags. So if you are going to be doing outreach to campsite it's not for any day centers. It's just for overnight camping. If you want to check with me I can let you know if someone else is already going there. And I can also set aside a few bags for you if you have especially if you know of a small campsite that you tend to go to to check like do wellness checks or whatever. These bags. I'm going to make those \$10 McDonald's cards go as stretched as far as they possibly can. It depends on how many come in. So you may or may not get those. But you would get like socks and gloves and hand warmers and some Christmas candy, that sort of jazz. So I'll put my email in the chat. Be in touch with me if you're interested. And I will make this stretch as far as it will go. Even if in the end we ended up giving out a bunch of socks with candy canes attached to them. I'll try to give you something anyway thank you all all everybody has already helped anybody who can between now and when they go out. Thanks.

Rob Huff

Thank you Teresa. And anyone else yeah coordinate

Courtney Love

ation of almost 200 backpacks from and I've me and my coworker have put some time into building up you know, put into the backpacks. So we don't have hats or gloves in them. But for what we have we have maybe 100 backpacks ready to go. So we have some supplies ready to go. But they would be



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nice if they were fleshed out a little, you know, fleshed out a little more and they're at stored at the First United Methodist Church.

Rob Huff

Great, thanks, Courtney. And if you want to drop just contact information for how people can get a hold of you to get you items for that that'd probably be helpful in the chat. Alright, so I want to wish everyone have a safe and happy holiday season and a great new year if you're not able to join us that the next couple of weeks short meetings. It's been great to see everybody and to work with everybody through 2022 I can't believe that the year is coming to a close. But you guys give me really strength and I know you're giving the folks in our community a lot of strength through this these tough times. So thank you everyone. As always, if you have the capacity and want to stay on the line in about five minutes, we will do a brief planning session for these last two meetings for the year. And otherwise, thank you everyone and have a happy holiday season All right.