



Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness

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

Friday Coalition Meeting Chat – December 30, 2022

00:08:12 - Janet Runbeck: - Sally, do you attend Peace Lutheran?

00:08:29 - Sally Perkins: - Yes, I do, Jan.

00:08:46 - Sally Perkins: - at 21st and Cushman in the Hilltop

00:09:01 - Richard Dorsett: - Down and Out in Tacoma (December 29, 2022)

“Don’t nobody understands us but us.” Seems about right. Even on days when you might think it’s quiet on the streets, it’s never really quiet. First Presbyterian Church was out delivering food on 25th & Puyallup Avenue. Freedom River Outreach offers meals tonight followed by a freedom prayer after every service. Whatever you are struggling with, they offer prophetic prayer. These are not my crew, but they too are doing good work, providing food and essential services. I also enjoy meeting unaffiliated people who find others in need and who take action, whether it’s distributing water, sleeping bags, or freshly made tamales. There is all sorts of outreach underway that is never counted or measured, but it helps people in need. On Saturday, a doctor will visit tents at the Union Street Loop for checkups. Who it is doesn’t matter so much, the work gets done.

Winter has arrived and after six weeks of rain and snow, canopies for the tents at 35th & Pacific still

00:09:21 - Janet Runbeck: - Sorry about the loss of your past pastor. Does PL offer homeless services in its neighborhood?

00:10:43 - Keith Helmka, Virginia Mason Franciscan Health: - I wanted to mention that this weekly meeting fell off my calendar and I had to re-register. That may have happened to others.

00:11:08 - Richard Dorsett: - Federal courts have paused sweeps in San Francisco and Phoenix, paying attention to Martin v. Boise, while Tacoma sweeps with abandon, in knowing violation of federal law. I turned in my law license many years ago, and this continues as the rare occasion I wish I had not. Another sweep cleared the vehicular encampment at 66th & Tacoma Mall Blvd. where there had been a fire recently.

Advice of the day, “always have your next camp site scouted.” An encampment might be swept or take a quick turn for the worse when stolen cars or traffickers move in. Some resistance is planned for next Tuesday’s sweep at 25th & Puyallup. We will be on-site about 9:30/10:00 and you are welcome to join us. I have some resistance posters left over from an earlier sweep and will try to get them up and visible.

00:11:45 - Sally Perkins: - Yes, Pastor Plaehn was amazing. We own and manage five affordable housing houses that we rent to families who would otherwise be displaced from the Hilltop, we do community meals every Friday evening, etc...where a number of unhoused people get dinner...

00:13:22 - Sally Perkins: - Do the people at 35th and Pacific have their extra weather protection for their tents yet?

00:15:54 - Rob Huff (he/him): - Yes, Keith, these meetings were originally meant to end two weeks ago, and then a new series would be posted for the new year. I have extended the meetings using this same link through next year, and that will be posted on the Coalition site later this morning.

00:15:54 - Sally Perkins: - My internet connection is bad, what was the answer about 35th and Pacific?

00:16:10 - Rob Huff (he/him): - Still no canopies on those tents, Sally

00:16:13 - Sally Perkins: - Thank you.

00:17:03 - Sally Perkins: - The lack of information from the City is worrisome and I have to think it's not a coincidence,,,



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- 00:17:45 - Janet Runbeck: - Adam, is there progress on getting hospital data secondary to inclement weather and the unsheltered?
- 00:17:59 - Richard Dorsett: - Zara saw inside tents. Early on, when it was wet.
- 00:18:47 - Dionne Jacobson: - I'm working on putting together our supply distribution data for Jay- would this info be relevant or needed for anyone else?
- 00:19:05 - Kenneth King: - the details we knew about, verified by staff and campers, was that the tents were not water proof or resistant, the tarps didn't cover the sides, they had a electric panel burn out due to wetness in the tents that had electric wiring
- 00:20:51 - Janet Runbeck: - Dionne, yes please. Supply info helps to support the outreach teams.
- 00:21:21 - Sally Perkins: - Yes, Dionne. And thank you so much for your hard work.
- 00:22:07 - Richard Dorsett: - Who is kicking them out?
- 00:22:16 - Dionne Jacobson: - No problem at all, thank you to all of you for your support and partnership
- 00:22:41 - Kenneth King: - "three months"
- 00:22:54 - Janet Runbeck: - Jay, we spoke to the needs of FOB Hope. The need for bottled water, and no City staff available to assist. It took the coalition to respond to the request.
- 00:23:00 - Jay Worley: - Sorry I'm late what did I miss
- 00:23:11 - Sally Perkins: - Snark alert: :) Let's nominate the boulders for a satirical City of DEstiny AWARD.
- 00:23:26 - Kenneth King: - I have to go. possible emergency
- 00:23:44 - Jay Worley: - Thanks Janet
- 00:23:50 - Janet Runbeck: - Rob has another client who is medically fragile.
- 00:24:06 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Love it Sally!
- 00:24:30 - Rob Huff (he/him): - I don't believe that person's situation has been addressed yet either...
- 00:25:05 - Jay Worley: - Please do there others that may contact you
- 00:25:50 - Janet Runbeck: - The medically fragile have a whole set of additional needs, very hard to support on the streets.
- 00:26:06 - Keith Helmka, Virginia Mason Franciscan Health: - Keith Helmka, social worker, Virginia Mason Franciscan Health (St. Joseph Medical Center and St. Clare Hospital).
skeith.helmka@commonspirit.org
- 00:26:16 - JEROME JOHNSON SALAZAR: - TDF CARES FREE MEDICAL TRANSPORT VAN 253-534-8734
- 00:26:20 - Jay Worley: - Thank you Keith
- 00:26:33 - Jay Worley: - Thank you Jerome
- 00:27:00 - Janet Runbeck: - TFD Cares transport stops todmoorw.
- 00:27:08 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - We should offer a "homeless resource reality check" in-service for hospitals and other institutions trying to manage referrals for people releasing without addresses,
- 00:27:15 - JEROME JOHNSON SALAZAR: - ok no go then .. smh 🙄
- 00:27:50 - Jay Worley: - we need city transport or public transport ave we talked to partransit?
- 00:28:21 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Does TRM have any contracted respite beds like Nativity House has?
- 00:28:24 - Jay Worley: - par transit dose have emergancy service to thos on most state care
- 00:28:41 - Janet Runbeck: - TRM does not have respite beds.
- 00:29:36 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Does NH still have them? If so, who can refer folks?
- 00:30:48 - JEROME JOHNSON SALAZAR: - Our Outreach team in tacoma have been going to 25th pacific
- 00:30:50 - Janet Runbeck: - Yes, NH has 18 beds. The only way to admit is by discharge planners at hospitals.
- 00:31:08 - JEROME JOHNSON SALAZAR: - 19th Tacoma ave
- 00:31:16 - JEROME JOHNSON SALAZAR: - 26th Bay



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- 00:31:22 - JEROME JOHNSON SALAZAR: - 25th G
- 00:31:28 - Verna Lilly: - It's gone, I was there Wednesday
- 00:31:51 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Jan: That was what I thought - so, if hospitals are sending people to TRM. those beds must be full
- 00:32:36 - Richard Dorsett: - Is 72nd the one behind Fred Meyers's?
- 00:32:51 - Jay Worley: - Thank you Andrea
- 00:32:58 - JEROME JOHNSON SALAZAR: - There being moves for sure
- 00:32:59 - Keith Helmka, Virginia Mason Franciscan Health: - I coordinate our 10 medical respite beds at Nativity House for SJMC and SCH. "Full" is a fluid term, and fluctuates daily.
- 00:33:00 - Rob Huff (he/him): - The City's web page about the camping ban and sweeps is here: <https://www.cityoftacoma.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=169&pageId=133588>
- 00:33:27 - Sally Perkins: - Is anyone else dismayed at the lack of communication from the City on these sweeps?
- 00:35:09 - Richard Dorsett: - They also swept at 66th and Tacoma Mall Blvd. (a vehicle encampment).
- 00:35:17 - Rob Huff (he/him): - That is going to be a growing issue
- 00:35:31 - Jay Worley: - we may need to set up pop ups
- 00:35:39 - Jay Worley: - at the edge of the boundries
- 00:37:38 - Richard Dorsett: - Contractors are often at Fife Street and Union Street Loop. A 300-gallon garbage can is at site. Purple bags have also been distributed. We will deliver some food about 4:15 this afternoon.
- 00:40:40 - Jay Worley: - would it help to have a incident template to fill out and post to the full coalition listserv?
- 00:40:42 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - An interview with TNT is one good way to communicate with the public about the reality out here - nice going Rob
- 00:41:15 - Richard Dorsett: - We have multiple agencies collecting identical information and not sharing, but they are getting paid from same tax dollars.
- 00:41:21 - Verna Lilly: - We need a public facing message too. As long as the city can keep the dialog between us and them and out of the public sight they have room to operate.
- 00:41:30 - Jay Worley: - maybe we do need to consider media as a tool
- 00:41:41 - Sally Perkins: - The city is far more worried about their own liability than they are about the well-being of the City's residents.
- 00:41:56 - Janet Runbeck: - Rob and Richard have been our recent heralders. Thank you , gentlemen.
- 00:42:07 - Verna Lilly: - Jay, you and I are thinking the same thing
- 00:42:27 - JEROME JOHNSON SALAZAR: - 1305 Tacoma ave Wednesday-Thursday Free Cricket cell phone to those eligible with state assistance. (But if they previously had Cricket phone its not accepta
- 00:43:01 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - One problem is that many people go by street names and - for many reasons - are typically not eager to share personal info.
- 00:43:18 - Rob Huff (he/him): - Yes, Theresa. That is definitely the case.
- 00:44:47 - Dionne Jacobson: - Some kind of shared ROI might be helpful, great idea Jay.
- 00:45:55 - Rob Huff (he/him): - The County is also working on the creation of a by-name list, and we could ask for an update on the status of that process
- 00:46:11 - Lavada Kent-Napier: - greetings my housing fell through
- 00:46:19 - Lavada Kent-Napier: - I'm still looking
- 00:46:27 - JEROME JOHNSON SALAZAR: - congratulations
- 00:48:14 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - SVDP and Dionne are great partners
- 00:48:46 - Dionne Jacobson: - Thank you again Jan



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00:49:45 - JEROME JOHNSON SALAZAR: - thank u all 🙏

00:50:02 - Jay Worley: - street names can work for a data base and would be just as efficient and keep a level of privacy.

00:50:32 - Jay Worley: - many people go by a nickname in everyday life.

00:50:57 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - Carolyn - good to repeat this message next Friday when we're having a full meeting too

00:53:12 - Jay Worley: - maybe bring up public speech at the first meeting of the new year

00:53:36 - Sally Perkins: - Have to run, let;s have a rowdy New Year on behalf of our unhoused neighbors.

00:53:51 - Jay Worley: - Happy New year Sally

00:54:05 - Theresa Power-Drutis: - See you next year! Happy New Year

00:54:08 - Richard Dorsett: - Biting tongue.

00:54:53 - Jay Worley: - paulas off monday

00:54:58 - Jay Worley: - i will

00:55:32 - Rob Huff (he/him): - I have been on "vacation" for the last two weeks...

00:55:32 - Jay Worley: - i agree richard

00:55:45 - Janet Runbeck: - Richard, you are the voice of passion and reason.

00:55:56 - Jay Worley: - hardest working "vacation"

00:56:21 - Lavada Kent-Napier: - thanks you

00:57:05 - Lavada Kent-Napier: - it raining andbim cooking outside Gumbo raising funds to secure housing

00:57:23 - Jay Worley: - Thank you Lavada

00:57:39 - Jay Worley: - your a blessing

00:58:58 - Kenneth King: - I just got back. What is happening?

00:59:51 - Jay Worley: - meetings over into 5 min break before planning

00:59:54 - Jay Worley: - brb

01:00:42 - Kenneth King: - OH... that makes way more sense. I wasn't what the heck was going on. Thank you

01:03:10 - Jay Worley: - Back

01:05:05 - Jay Worley: - Rec

01:06:19 - Jay Worley: - rob we are still recording