


Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness Weekly Meeting Agenda February 14th 2020

9:00	<p>Introductions and Announcements Purpose: know who is in the room and prepare for the meeting Leader: James Pogue, Comprehensive Life Resources - jpogue@cmhshare.org</p>
9:20	<p>State Legislative Bill Update Purpose: Learn about opportunities to take action on bills of interest at the State Leader: John Stovall, Washington State Low Income Housing Alliance - johns@wliha.org</p>
9:55	<p>Homeless Assistance Voucher Pilot Program Purpose: Learn about a proposed program to subsidize housing for people experiencing homelessness who are on hospice care Leader: John Wetherington, Seasons Hospice & Palliative Care - jdwetherington@gmail.com</p>
10:35	<p>Increase emergency shelter capacity and Address homelessness in Tacoma Purpose: Learn how to assist Metropolitan Development Council, Associated Ministries, and the Tacoma Ministerial Alliance as they engage the community to increase shelter capacity. Leader: Rob Huff, Metropolitan Development Council - rhuff@mdc-hope.org</p>
10:40	<p>Advocacy Update Purpose: understand how to advocate for policy improvements Leader: Maureen Howard, Senior Policy Analyst - maureenhowardconsulting@gmail.com</p>
10:45	<p>Networking Purpose: “The most desired gift of love is not diamonds or roses or chocolate. It is focused attention.” – Richard Warren Leader: James Pogue, Comprehensive Life Resources - jpogue@cmhshare.org</p> 

Next Meeting: Friday, February 21st - 9:00am – The Salvation Army Church

Contact Gerrit Nyland (gerritn@ccsww.org or 253-304-5105) to add an item to the agenda.

Coming meetings, meeting minutes, listserv self-signup and more at <http://www.pchomeless.org/>

Resources Guide: <https://www.piercecountyresources.com/>

T-shirts are free – grab one

COMMITTEE 2019-20 WORK PLANS

RACIAL EQUITY

CHARTER: Better serve communities of color

LEADERSHIP TEAM:

Heidi Nagel – Comprehensive Life Resources –
hnagel@cmhshare.onmicrosoft.com
Benjamin Feldbush, Comprehensive Life Resources -
bfeldbush@cmhshare.org

GOALS ➤ In Development

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

CHARTER: Increase income through employment

LEADERSHIP TEAM:

Kelly Blucher, Goodwill - KellyB@goodwillwa.org
Sherry Jensen, Valeo Vocations sherry@valeovocation.org

GOALS ➤ Get 10 organizations enlisted in the 253Works Job Club program
➤ Organize 3 Hire253 hiring fairs
➤ Increase Hiring success at Hire253 to 110% of all attendees

ADVOCACY

CHARTER: Advocate for better laws, policies and funding around housing and homelessness

LEADERSHIP TEAM:

Cynthia Stewart – League of Women Voters - stewdahl@comcast.net
Carolyn Read – St. Leo's - readcarolyn@comcast.net
Maureen Howard, Senior Policy Analyst –
maureenhowardconsulting@gmail.com

GOALS ➤ Connect to 4 other key advocacy groups around homeless issues
➤ Develop selected policy and funding action agenda for Pierce County, Tacoma and 2020 WA St. Legislature

INNOVATIVE SHELTER TEAM

CHARTER: Increase temporary and permanent shelter stock for individuals with very low income

LEADERSHIP TEAM:

Theresa Power-Drutis, New Connections - tpdutis@nctacoma.org

GOALS ➤ Identify rural tiny house village site and agency to fundraise for and operate site
➤ Establish Tent City site and agency to fundraise for and operate site
➤ Advocate for other alternative, temporary shelter options: Safe Lot; Youth Shelter; Urban Rest-stop.

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

CHARTER: Increase housing retention and client stability with the newly housed

LEADERSHIP TEAM:

Richard Berghammer, FBC - ministrycounseling@comcast.net
Pamm Silver – Pamm.Silver@MolinaHealthCare.Com
Sheila Mirafior – Molina - Sheila.Mirafior@molinahealthcare.com

GOALS ➤ Develop a Mentoring program with periodic care conferences are recommended.
➤ Maintain continuity of support, beginning with Stability Site (or wherever) to their home.

Pierce County 1/10th of 1% Behavioral Health Tax Information and Data

Dates to testify:

- 9:30 - 11 AM on Tuesday, February 18 at the Human Services Committee Meeting
- 3 PM on Tuesday, March 10 at the Pierce County Council Meeting
- Location for both: Pierce County Building, Room 1045, 930 Tacoma Ave S, Tacoma, WA

Learn more about the tax and contacting your council member:

- Info Sheet [“How will Pierce County use the one-tenth of 1% Sales Tax?”](#)
- Pierce County Council [1/10th Behavioral Health Webpage](#)
- Pierce County Council Ordinance text (which includes data in the “Whereas” sections- [Proposed Ordinance 20-24](#))
- How do I know who my council member is? - [Find out here!](#)
- Comment on legislation by visiting the [Ordinance Webpage](#) and clicking “comment on legislation” in the upper far right corner

[Click Here for Template Email to Sent to Council Members](#) (emails listed below)

[Planning to testify in person? Help us by filling out this form!](#)**

**this form is only for planning purposes, you must show up and sign up in person at the Council Meeting to testify

Learn more about the issue and need in Pierce County:

- [Mental and emotional suffering: Local data on a national issue](#) – This is a data heavy info sheet from the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department that looks at local consequences for children and Youth, adults and military families
- [Decrease Despair, Raise Hope](#) – is an assessment of strategies from the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department. It starts with policy strategies, moves to prevention and then intervention
- [Revised 2018 Briefing Paper](#) Pierce County Behavioral Health System Study by the Human Services Research Institute - four page summary of revised recommendations
- [Revised 2018 Addendum](#) Pierce County Behavioral Health System Study by the Human Services Research Institute - full study of behavioral health needs in Pierce County including recommendations for next steps

It is critical that we are able to convey that an investment in behavioral health services and resources *across Pierce County* is wanted and needed. It will cost an average of \$19.35 per person per year. This would have raised \$13.1 million in 2019. We know we have a regressive tax system that can only be fixed through the State Legislature. But we also know we are not saving any money by *not* having the tax. With a tax, we are able to have transparency and accountability for how the dollars are spent and most importantly, increase access, coordination, collaboration, education, and so much more for all who live, work, and enjoy Pierce County.

The ordinance will have a first and final reading before the Pierce County Human Services Committee on **9:30 AM - 11 AM on Feb 18, 2020**. This will be at the County City Building (Room 1045, 930 Tacoma Ave S, Tacoma, WA 98402). **Supporters are encouraged to provide a 3 minute testimonial. Public testimonial is extremely helpful at this stage.**

Once the ordinance is out of committee, it will then go before the full County Council. A super majority vote is needed which means at least 5 of the 7 Council Members will need to vote aye/yes for the tax to pass. The final vote will take place at the **March 10 Council Meeting at 3 PM at the County City Building (Room 1045, 930 Tacoma Ave S, Tacoma, WA 98402)**. Public testimony will be heard. Supporters are encouraged to provide testimony.

If you cannot testify, please email the Pierce County Council and share why you are supporting this investment in behavioral health.

Emails: Dave.Morell@piercecountywa.gov; Pam.Roach@piercecountywa.gov;
Jim.McCune@piercecountywa.gov; Connie.Ladenburg@piercecountywa.gov;
Marty.Campbell@piercecountywa.gov; Doug.Richardson@piercecountywa.gov;
Derek.Young@piercecountywa.gov;

Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness
Show Up and Speak Out
Feb. 14 - Feb. 21, 2020

STATE

Bills must clear their House of Origin by **5pm February 19, 2020**

Follow the Washington Low Income Housing Alliance Alerts -

Contact ALL Pierce County Legislators - ask them to support Homelessness and Housing bills including Tenant Protections.

Legislative Hotline: 1.800.562.6000

PIERCE COUNTY

Feb. 18 9:30 a.m. Pierce County Human Services Committee, Pierce County Council Chambers, 930 S. Tacoma Ave., Room 1035, Tacoma, WA 98402

Proposed Ordinance No. 2020-24 - This is the 1/10th of One Percent

Title: An Ordinance of the Pierce County Council Amending Chapter 2.51 of the Pierce County Code, "Chemical Dependency Advisory Board," to Replace the Chemical Dependency Advisory Board with the Newly Created Behavioral Health Coordinating Commission; Amending Chapter 4.28 of the Pierce County Code, "Sales and Use Tax"; Amending Section 4.48.020 of the Pierce County Code, "Special Revenue Funds"; Authorizing the Levy and Collection of an Additional Sales and Use Tax of One-Tenth of One Percent for Behavioral Health and Therapeutic Courts; Providing for Allocation and Use of Taxes Received; Making Declarations and Findings Related to Behavioral Health Disorders and Establishing County Goals and Priorities; Providing for Administration of Taxes Collected; Prescribing Violations and Penalties; Directing Tax Collection to Begin at the Earliest Date Consistent with Revised Code of Washington 82.14.055; and Adopting a Planning Framework for the Behavioral Health Coordinating Commission. (Sales and Use Tax for Behavioral

To learn more about and follow Pierce County Council's efforts, visit their [One-tenth of 1% for Behavioral Health website](#)

CITY OF TACOMA

Maureen's Policy Recommendations:

1. No one should be unsheltered in the City of Tacoma.
2. Tacoma should have a Response to Homelessness Plan equal to the Affordable Housing Action Strategy with equal investments in its implementation.
3. Tacoma should have a Safe Shelter Task Force or Table where the best ideas are constantly available to policy makers and to staff.

Feb. 18 from 10:30 - noon at Mason United Methodist Church, 2710 N. Madison St. **MDC's Convening Process** - even if you can't participate in person, you can participate virtually - email your comments to impact@mdc-hope.org

Please visit the [Temporary Shelter page](#) for notes from the previous public meetings on this topic, as well as background documents related to this effort.

Maureen's note: take a look at Gerrit's This Week Snapshot under Background Information - just scroll down.

Feb. 19 at 5:30pm in the City Council Chambers, 747 Market. The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on **At Home in Tacoma on** You can also provide written comments by Feb. 28, email comments to planning@cityoftacoma.org and request updates from the same email. For additional information, go to www.cityoftacoma.org/planningforhousing. You do not have to be a housing policy wonk to add value to these meetings. Common sense goes a very long way in practical, viable, reasonable, equitable solutions. If the Planning Commission doesn't hear from you, they don't know what you want.

From the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department on the 1/10 of 1% Tax

We care deeply about people in our community struggling with despair and mental health challenges. To contribute to this robust community conversation, we have developed a [Pierce County mental health fact sheet](#) as well as [Addressing mental health and substance use disorder in Pierce County](#)—an overview of strategies communities have used.

A coordinated and comprehensive behavioral health system can improve lives and strengthen our community.

Below are some local resources on the topic.

On www.tpchd.org/behavioralhealth:

- [Pierce County mental health fact sheet](#) – Local data on mental health and substance use disorder in Pierce County.
- [Addressing mental health and substance use disorder in Pierce County](#) – Examples of how communities are addressing this issue through policy, prevention, and intervention.
- [Youth Behavioral Health Infographic](#) – What's on the minds of Pierce County youth.

On www.tpchd.org/CHIP:

- [Community Health Assessment](#) – 2019 assessment of key health issues in Pierce County.
- Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) [Pierce County priorities](#) – Top five priorities for action identified following the community health assessment.

To learn more about and follow Pierce County Council's efforts, visit their [One-tenth of 1% for Behavioral Health website](#). The Human Services Committee will be hearing this proposal on Tuesday, Feb. 18.