

What holiday meal and other resources are you aware of for the coming season?

Group Discussion Summary • Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness • 11.03.23

Perhaps the World Ends Here

The world begins at a kitchen table. No matter what, we must eat to live.

The gifts of earth are brought and prepared, set on the table. So it has been since creation, and it will go on.

We chase chickens or dogs away from it. Babies teethe at the corners. They scrape their knees under it.

It is here that children are given instructions on what it means to be human. We make men at it, we make women.

At this table we gossip, recall enemies and the ghosts of lovers.

Our dreams drink coffee with us as they put their arms around our children. They laugh with us at our poor falling-down selves and as we put ourselves back together once again at the table.

This table has been a house in the rain, an umbrella in the sun.

Wars have begun and ended at this table. It is a place to hide in the shadow of terror. A place to celebrate the terrible victory.

We have given birth on this table, and have prepared our parents for burial here.

At this table we sing with joy, with sorrow. We pray of suffering and remorse. We give thanks.

Perhaps the world will end at the kitchen table, while we are laughing and crying, eating of the last sweet bite.

"Perhaps the World Ends Here" from *The Woman Who Fell From the Sky* by Joy Harjo.
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The Big Alphabetized Holiday Resource Grab Bag

50 stockings for Larchmont Elementary from Jeffrey Boyce's Episcopal church

99 Stockings project (Theresa, Rosemary)

AA has open doors on Thanksgiving and Christmas Day. Go to website "Puget Sound AA"

Adopt-a-family through CCS

Amazon wish lists (family/individual needs)

CCS Family Housing Network, Harley Hogs sponsors meal/toy/fundraising ride.

Camp Second Chance film event and panel discussion, 12/3. Jeffrey Boyce will be participating.

Caring for Kids/Clover Park School District Lakewood and Springbrook is offering food to Lakewood residents

Eastside Community Center Metro Parks, Nov 16 free thanksgiving dinner:
<https://www.metroparkstacoma.org/event/friendsgiving-ecc/>

Eloise's Cooking Pot - ?

Empowerment Center on Pacific has both Thanksgiving and Christmas meals.

FISH Food Bank event

Giving trees - ?

Marine Corps Toys for Tots

Metro Parks Thanksgiving activities <https://www.metroparkstacoma.org/activities-and-sports/category/holiday/>

Needhelppayingbills.com (Holiday meals/kids toys)

Nourish Pierce County Mobile food bank with goes into neighborhoods, no ID, no problem

Peace Lutheran Church Friday night meals, 530p, as well as connection to other services (Sally)

Pierce County Resource Guide, 11th edition. Also available online

St. Leo's Food Bank - food baskets, possibly with turkeys

Salvation Army – SHIELD and family shelter

Springbrook Connections/Lakewood

Tacoma Mutual Aid --- has cold weather clothing donations that they want to distribute (Stevi Rayne)

Tacoma Police Department Turkey giveaway and Toy giveaway

Tacoma Rescue Mission has both Thanksgiving and Christmas meals.

Trinity Presbyterian Church, Thursday 5-7p meals, resource navigator there and many other services

United Way's 2-1-1 has a list.

Urban Grace Church also does Thanksgiving meal

Etcetera ...

- Things to Include with Food Distribution: Can openers. A way to cook.
- Lots of discussion of value of volunteering that creates proximity to issue and deepens understanding. Be aware that there's a need for volunteers year-round.

- Reminder that PNW has largest concentration of urban Indians in nation and that there is sensitivity to use of “Thanksgiving”
- Tacoma Fundraising National Mutual Aid Network for housing for displaced trans community for relocation from non-supportive states.

Notes and Resources List

New and Notable

Join WLIHI’s Resident Action Program (RAP) to help build power for housing justice!

Saturday, Nov. 18. We’re changing policy and when we come together, we can win! RAP helped win the right for low-income tenants to have a free lawyer in eviction court and helped changed the law so landlords must have a good cause to make someone move – no more 20 day notices to move without even giving a reason!

When: Saturday November 18, 2023 Time: 12:15-3:45 pm Location: Kent Senior Center, 600 E Smith St, Kent, WA 98030 Register for this free event by November 15. If you need accommodations register by November 8, 2023 Register here:

<https://forms.gle/rfzLj2XJtj2zcse89>

Project Access NW’s new mental health program:

<https://projectaccessnw.org/programs/pro-bono-counseling>

Shea Smiley is the new Housing, Health and Human Services Program Manager for the city of Gig Harbor. Email: ssmiley@gigharborwa.gov or phone: 253-530-7070

Let's give the streets an actual voice. Link to street survey handout.

<https://list.pchomeless.org/fullcoalition/cache/23637724/2.pdf>

Jay or working on an outreach booth at Tacoma Santa Parade. Volunteer here.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe8Ck9BcSA4PDj2le0UXXWzB5BiHrGxn2JW DmN0Yd5TDqGF6A/viewform?usp=sf_link

Inclement Weather Update: For the 2023-2024 winter weather season, the City of Tacoma has partnered with funded shelter providers to ensure that unsheltered individuals have access to indoor shelter options. These efforts have expanded the City’s shelter capacity by 170 beds. For the seasonal beds, Tacoma Rescue Mission will operate a shelter at Holy Rosary Church starting November 15, 2023, until the end of March 2024, this shelter will provide 50 beds; anyone wishing to access these beds should go to the main Rescue Mission campus.

For acute inclement weather events (when the forecast is for 35 degrees with wind/rain or 32 degrees and colder) the below locations will be open to provide shelter, which is a total increase of 120 additional beds:

- Tacoma Rescue Mission will expand Holy Rosary Church an additional 20 beds
- Catholic Community Services’ Nativity House (702 South 14th Street) will be providing overflow shelter beds for an additional 80 beds.

- Valeo Vocation (415 South 13th Street) will be providing 20 overflow beds for young adults 18-24 years of age at the Beacon Young Adult Shelter.

ACI NOFA is out for YYA funding. Due Date: Fri, Nov. 17, 2023 2:00 pm Apply on opengov <https://procurement.opengov.com/portal/piercecountywa/projects/64837>

Nourish Pierce County's 50th anniversary celebration and fundraiser Saturday, Nov 11. <https://nourishpc.org/events/>

Just a reminder...if you encounter an emergency Mental Health Crisis in the community, you can call 911 or 988 and ask for the TFD HOPE team. we are staffed with a licensed nurse, MHP and case manager.

<https://www.pierce.ctc.edu/news/20161205/stay-warm-fed-holiday-season-and-help-others-do-same>

Link for the Coalition's cold weather resources page: www.craft.me/s/f0GVFmAubX8YUg

SVdP is willing to store any items for sharing- including massive amounts of socks. We have systems in place so outreach workers can pick up supplies every day between 10am-5pm. Just text Dionne. 253-355-5868

Community Spotlight Opportunity: Tell the coalition about your organization's good work. Contact tpdrutis@nctacoma.org to schedule a brief presentation. 🙄

Recent Press

Supreme Court leaves Indian Child Welfare Act intact

<https://www.npr.org/2023/06/15/1182121455/indian-child-welfare-act-supreme-court-decision>

"Curing a Broken Spokane" A little bit of reality and a lot of spin: Claims that allowing people to camp on public property "causes homelessness" and is the reason for rising crime. The proposed solutions DO NOT include more housing - unless you count a new 1000 bed jail as housing. <https://www.curingspokane.com>

Ongoing Resources and Needs

Outreach and Supply Need/Share Form:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Kh2OBOLT-SXN8cq7L7Z1Bb04iXxCf6Nfv_RBP-FOSZk/edit#gid=1277137782

Free Food & Resources Market, Saturdays, 10-12 AM, 4819 S 12th Tacoma WA. everyone welcome. You can pick up food for others.

Free wound care clinic every Friday afternoon, TNE clinic at the STD room at T-PCHD on S 37th & Pacific. Spread the word.

Safe Sites

<https://ss4a.pchomeless.org>

Outreach Supply Need and Share form: <https://forms.gle/2zfK8Y5JvC1K5eXLA>

Please sign up to the inclement weather listserv at

<https://www.pchomeless.org/Home/Listserv>

Pierce County Comprehensive Plan to End Homelessness can be found here:

<https://www.piercecountywa.gov/7309/Comprehensive-Plan-to-End-Homelessness>