

GH / KP Housing & Homeless Coalition Mtg Agenda - Sept 7 , 2023

***Pierce County Human Services** - Valeri Almony

***Emergency Food Network Update** - Mikel Priddy

PRESENTATION:

***Rachel Carpenter** - Blue Star Family Organization - www.bluestarfam.org - newly established in Pierce/Kitsap County to support active military families.

***MDC - Update** - Josh Resnick will continue to direct MDC's "Educational Programs"

***Affordable Housing Options discussion.** - Update w/ Assoc. Ministries "Shared Housing Svcs"

**Scott Willard / CEO Kitsap Homes of Compassion will present at our Oct 5th meeting*

*****Update on Workforce-Central visit/Mtgs on the KP - KPCS/KP Partnership/FBP4kids,/CHSW**

Workforce-Central joined us for meetings with KPCS, KP Partnership for Healthy Community, Food Backpacks 4 Kids and CHSW. Nov. 1 Job Fair at Tacoma Dome. May be providing bus transportation from KP/GH to Tac Dome. Working on providing local job fair. Mts in GH coming

*****Update on Outreach Teams schedule / strategy to serve our GH/KP homeless** - new rack cards and resource materials are being distributed and are available.

"Opioid / Fentanyl Update: 8/25 NOTES from Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness - Tacoma Needle Exchange's Dr. Paul Lakosky confirmed continued growth in Fentanyl use. (Fentanyl has become "drug of choice" as Covid shut down borders, the availability of black tar heroin was significantly reduced and Fentanyl was cheap / available. *PC Homeless deaths 1/22 - 7/23 = 96 (39 related to Opioid Overdose), as well TPCHD has seen an uptick in STD's and more families with kids u/5 yrs old on the street..

*****Sept /13- 2:00-4:00 p.m. - Tacoma Pro Bono, MCFHC and Share & Care House at GH Library**

Coalition Updates: GH/KP is unique - While we have many challenges in providing access to housing, healthcare, education, food/clothing and transportation to our homeless and at-risk residents, we have one "significant advantage" —. Our GH/KP community is able to provide individual outreach/care to those in need and follow up to encourage/mentor and support them.

A majority of our neighbors in need are truly "our neighbors". We know the families, students, children and relatives by name and not "a number". The community's commitment to our residents is key in providing ongoing support, mentoring, listening and outreach to them as they work through Fed/State/County service organizations services.

Resource Links / Materials

Greater Lakes - www.glmhc.org

Refugee Women's Alliance - www.rewa.org

www.tacomaprobono.org

www.trm.org Tacoma Rescue Mission

MDC - www.mdc-hope.org

Books - "A Place Called Home" - David Ambroz

www.homesteadcommunity.org

"Love in the Time of Fentanyl" *www.meaningfulmovies.org -

Miracle Messages - reach lost family - www.1800MISSYOU.org

****Oct 5th. Homestead Community - Spargo House in GH for foster children, HopeRaiser Confirmed! www.homesteadcommunity.org**

*****Oct 7th, Soroptimist Int'l of Gig Harbor - Electronics Collection Event - United Methodist Church 7400 Pioneer Way, - Suggested donation "Bag-\$10 / car-\$25/Full Load-\$50**

*****Nov. 1 - 10:00 a.m - 4:00 p.m. Collaboration for a Cause - Job and Resource Fair - Kelly Blucher / Workforce-Central is organizing. Event at Tacoma Dome, providing resources for "basic needs, employment, health, education" (see below)**

***** Nov. 15th deadline - Soroptimist "Ready To Begin a New Life" - provides cash grants to women who are working to better their lives through "additional" schooling and skill training, (tuition, fees, equipment, transportation, and childcare).**

*****The Coffee Oasis - As of right now, the biggest needs in [The Loft Shelter](#) are for hair products (hair brush, hair pick, gel and cream, particularly textured hair products), deodorant and washcloths. Their "[Amazon Wish List](#)" will be updated seasonally including for Christmas needs.**

Dec. TBA - Children's Home Society of WA. "Holiday Helper Program"

Dec. TBA - GHP Fish Food Bank & Community Svcs - Family Toy/Gift Program

General Information Updates: PIERCE COUNTY - AFFORDABLE HOUSING TAX Update -

On March 21, 2023, the Pierce County Council passed ordinance 2022-81s, also known as the Maureen Howard Affordable Housing Act, implementing a one-tenth of 1% sales tax for housing and related services. The Housing and Related Services sale tax ordinance is dedicated to Maureen Howard, who dedicated her life to fighting for housing, shelter and dignity for people experiencing homelessness.

[Contact Us](#)

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The impact to taxpayers in Pierce County will be ten cents for every \$100 spent, with groceries, medicine, certain medical supplies and hygiene products exempt from the tax. This tax is expected to generate approximately \$20 million in revenue each year. State law requires income generated from this tax supports programs and projects for individuals at or below 60% of the area median income (AMI) and have behavioral health conditions, are veterans or senior citizens, people who are currently, or at risk of, experiencing homelessness, unaccompanied homeless youth or young adults, families with children, people with disabilities and/or domestic violence survivors

*****Regional / City of GH "Emergency Preparedness Update from Mayor Markley -**

MULTI-AGENCY COORDINATION CENTER (MACC) - Emergency Preparedness is paramount in today's world. The City of Gig Harbor has adopted Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP) that functions as a complete all hazards approach to managing emergencies and disasters. The plan's purpose is to save lives, protect public health, and return the city to "normal" as soon as possible. The plan is in effect and is reviewed regularly so we are ready to act within the city limits should an emergency or disaster occur.

Regionally, a MACC plan was developed for all Pierce County land west of the Narrows Bridge. This plan dictates how all peninsula agencies will collaborate on resources in the event we're cut off from the mainland during a disaster.

City staff recently participated in a collaborative MACC meeting to determine if the plan is still relevant and should remain in place. Everyone in attendance agreed that the

MACC is valuable and should be continued. It's already proven useful in emergency responses, such as the 2006 windstorm and previous major snow events.

Representatives from the city, Gig Harbor Fire, Pierce County, and the Health District will meet soon to begin drafting an update to the MACC Plan

*****Workforce-Central / Kelly Blucher - Nov. 1st.**

Pierce County Community Engagement Taskforce/ United Healthcare / Metropolitan Development Council - NOVEMBER 1, 2023 (Registration tab below, contact Kelly Blucher, Workforce-Central

[Collaboration for a Cause: Pierce County](#) is coming to the Tacoma Dome on Wednesday, November 1st from 10am-4pm!

Collaboration for a Cause offers an easy way for individuals and families to access resources and employment opportunities right in their own community. Employers, education providers, and organizations throughout Pierce County will connect with our community in one place at one time to connect people to resources and services to find stability and quality employment.

Attendees can connect to a variety of services including basic needs, employment, education & training, health, youth, LGBTQ+, veterans, and disability services. We expect over 1,000 people in attendance for this one day event.

Please use the link below to register for your table today! Registration for a vendor space and sponsorship ends on September 6, with standard vendor registration ending on October 18.

[Register here for Collaboration for a Cause: Pierce County](#)

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*****Air Quality Index -** The Short Answer: Air quality is measured with the Air Quality Index, or AQI. The AQI works like a thermometer that runs from 0 to 500 degrees. However, instead of showing changes in the temperature, the AQI is a way of showing changes in the amount of pollution in the air.

What is in the air? The air in our atmosphere is mostly made up of two gases that are essential for life on Earth: nitrogen and oxygen. However, the air also contains smaller amounts of many other gases and particles. AQI tracks five major air pollutants: Ground level ozone - Carbon monoxide - Sulfur dioxide -Nitrogen dioxide -

Airborne particles or Ground Level Ozone are the 2 air pollutants that pose the greatest risk to human health in the United States. They are also the 2 main ingredients in smog, a type of air pollution that reduces visibility.

What are some of the things that cause bad air quality?-

Ozone is a gas you've probably heard of as a layer high up in Earth's atmosphere. This ozone layer is a good thing—it helps block us from the Sun's harmful radiation. However, ground level ozone is bad for human health. It is created when sunlight reacts with certain chemical emissions (for example nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide and methane). These chemicals can come from industrial facilities, car exhaust, gasoline vapors and other sources. Airborne particles are solid and liquid droplets suspended in the air. These particles become airborne at construction sites, smokestacks, car exhaust pipes, wildfires, volcanoes and many other places, too. The particles can also be formed from chemical reactions in the atmosphere. Ground level ozone - Carbon monoxide - Sulfur dioxide - Nitrogen dioxide - Airborne particles, or aerosols. Ground level ozone and airborne particles are the two air pollutants that pose the greatest risk to human health in the United States. They are also the two of the main ingredients in smog, a type of air pollution that reduces visibility. What are some things that cause bad air quality? Ozone is a gas you've probably heard of as a layer high up in Earth's atmosphere. This ozone layer is a good thing—it helps block us from the Sun's harmful radiation. However, ground level ozone is bad for human health. It is created when sunlight reacts with certain chemical emissions (for example nitrogen dioxide, carbon monoxide and methane). These chemicals can come from industrial facilities, car exhaust, gasoline vapors and other sources.