**GHKP Housing & Homeless Coalition-**

**May 1, 2025 Meeting is Cancelled**

**Next Meeting - May 15, 2025**

**Meeting Agenda -**

**\*Introduction** - new/rejoining intros

**-PC Human Services** Update Valeri Almony

**-KPCS** Outreach / Case Mgmt - Delci Whiten

**-Family Resource Center -** Kate Landon

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\***How to File for Property Tax Exemptions:**

(provided by Adria Johnston / PC Foreclosure Avoidance Coordinator

For those seniors and those with disabilities, when it comes to the property taxes, make sure they are looking into the Exemption program.

[Senior Citizens Or People with Disabilities | Pierce County, WA - Official Website](https://www.piercecountywa.gov/702/Senior-Citizens-Or-People-with-Disabilit)

**PRESENTATIONS / Discussions:**

**OLYMPIA – As the measles outbreak in the United States surpasses** [**800 confirmed cases**](https://links-2.govdelivery.com/CL0/https%3A//www.cdc.gov/measles/data-research/index.html%23cdc_data_surveillance_section_10-measles-cases-in-2025/1/0101019668f64fec-b91505ce-479c-44a5-8fdf-bf97b5100495-000000/gW2ylRSkPLnHGkohWetSB2D2er-0qMceODmngnB8Zqg%3D402) **across 24 states, including** [**a fifth case reported this week**](https://links-2.govdelivery.com/CL0/https%3A//kingcounty.gov/en/dept/dph/about-king-county/about-public-health/news/news-archive-2025/04-22-measles-infant/1/0101019668f64fec-b91505ce-479c-44a5-8fdf-bf97b5100495-000000/jGqSFTbAitC5nlik6zMR1JJr9Rn89gdOXj9jOqAkFUs%3D402) **in Washington state, the** [**Washington State Department of Health (DOH)**](https://links-2.govdelivery.com/CL0/https%3A//doh.wa.gov//1/0101019668f64fec-b91505ce-479c-44a5-8fdf-bf97b5100495-000000/PUXPlv104wiVhh6g_194kMYV7gOK5A_uep1uAkMWiys%3D402) **is urging parents and caregivers to make sure their children are protected from the disease by getting two doses of the Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR) vaccine. Adults are also strongly encouraged to verify their own measles vaccination status by checking their immunization records online at** [**MyIRmobile.com**](https://links-2.govdelivery.com/CL0/https%3A//myirmobile.com//1/0101019668f64fec-b91505ce-479c-44a5-8fdf-bf97b5100495-000000/71-sf040fIG3LiiV7dy_ulLC5DICXv_nsURbUKZxuBg%3D402)**, or by speaking with their provider to make sure they’re fully protected.**

**\* April was Child Abuse Prevention Month, a time to raise awareness about the impact of child abuse and how we can work together to prevent it. Throughout the month, various organizations and communities come together to promote child safety, offer support to victims, and educate the public about recognizing and reporting abuse. Consider making a donation to the Homestead Community to help us with this mission.**

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**\*Key Free Clinic** - Open the first and third Thursday of each month. Check in is between 430 and 5pm It is located at the Corral in Key Center. 9013 KPHN Lakebay WA 98349. It is not an urgent care.

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**\*Pierce County Begins Development of Five-year Homeless Housing Plan**

**\*RESOLUTION NO. R2024-253**

**The Pierce County Council adopted** [**Resolution No. R2024-253**](https://online.co.pierce.wa.us/cfapps/council/iview/proposal.cfm?proposal_num=R2024-253)**, approving the 2024 Affordable Rental Housing NOFA funding recommendations and associated expenditures, on Tuesday, Feb. 11. As a result, Pierce County Human Services announced over $17 million in Maureen Howard Affordable Housing Sales Tax awards to support affordable housing initiatives countywide. These investments will help create, preserve, and maintain over 330 affordable housing units in Pierce County.**

| **\*\*\*WA State HB 1217 - HB 1217 was amended - UPDATE…****—---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------****\*\*\*PC Continuum of Care - For all who are passionate about ending homelessness, please join the Continuum of Care as a “Member” or “a Board Member”**[**https://www.piercecountywa.gov/FormCenter/Human-Services-18/The-Road-Home-Membership-Candidate-Appli-566**](https://www.piercecountywa.gov/FormCenter/Human-Services-18/The-Road-Home-Membership-Candidate-Appli-566) **.—--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------****Other Legislative Actions:****Here is a quick overview of where each budget landed on key housing and homelessness priorities. We will provide a thorough overview at our Friday Advocate’s briefing at 2pm. If you aren’t signed up,** [**you can do so here**](https://click.everyaction.com/k/104635005/535990987/1868793201?nvep=ew0KICAiVGVuYW50VXJpIjogIm5ncHZhbjovL3Zhbi9FQS9FQTAxNy8xLzEwNzIxMyIsDQogICJEaXN0cmlidXRpb25VbmlxdWVJZCI6ICIzNGNmY2Y1Ni00ODBiLWYwMTEtOTBjZC0wMDIyNDgyYTlmYjciLA0KICAiRW1haWxBZGRyZXNzIjogIlZPTExCTUBDT01DQVNULk5FVCINCn0%3D&hmac=OwW2YxL6ERVtq_coT8YM7vSpDlz5xs3i5IetLlCOs9U=)**.** * **Preventing Cuts to Homeless Services The House provides $40 million more than the Senate to backfill homeless programs normally funded by document recording fee revenue.**
* **Right to Counsel Eviction Prevention The House provides more funding than the Senate but is still over $2 million short of the funds needed to serve the many people facing evictions across the state.**
* **Housing and Essential Needs Both budgets fully fund this program.**
* **Aged, Blind, and Disabled Cash Assistance The House budget delays implementation of a bill passed two years ago that will end the practice of the state taking the cost of the ABD cash benefit out of people’s Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments. This isn’t technically a cut, since the bill wasn’t set to into effect until this fall, but it is something that will impact low-income, disabled people.**
* **Apple Health and Homes The House budget sweeps $15 million in unspent funds from the Apple Health and Homes Program.**
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**\* AA/NA Services -** [**https://www.pugetsoundaa.org/find-a-meeting**](https://www.pugetsoundaa.org/find-a-meeting) **for local meetings.**

**\*\*\*Learn more at** [**FentanylFacts.org**](https://fentanylfacts.org/)**.**[**Follow our social media accounts**](https://tpchd.org/i-want-to/about-us/sign-up-for-notifications/) **and** [**sign up for the Your Reliable Source blog**](https://www.tpchd.org/i-want-to/about-the-health-department/sign-up-for-notifications) **for regular updates on this and other important public health topics (more below in text).**

**TPCHD - FREE WATER TESTING FOR WATER WELL OWNERS.**

**To Qualify : “Live in Pierce County on the Key Peninsula & Have a Private Well**

**Email:** **ehdrinkingwater@tpdhc.org** **or** [**www.tpchd.org/drinking**](http://www.tpchd.org/drinking) **water**

### [**Veterans Crisis Line: A free resource for veterans in need of support**](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDEsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vbWVkaXVtLmNvbS9wLzQ0MWMxZDlkNzhlNCIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyNDA2MDUuOTU4NDg3MTEifQ._kmSRXrZuXsSD1jakazYLsV8bcYqL1ix8st0T-0dxN4/s/1121713882/br/243676242395-l)

## **The Veterans Crisis Line offers confidential support to veterans and service members in crisis**

**The Veterans Crisis Line began operating in 2007. In 2022, it became one of the** [**988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline**](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDIsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vOTg4bGlmZWxpbmUub3JnLyIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyNDA2MDUuOTU4NDg3MTEifQ.iC2Jg5Vd73J7sCpB_n5duuvseE-OPcO60ekxBCb7x7k/s/1121713882/br/243676242395-l) **subnetwork lines.**

**As of April 2024, the Veterans Crisis Line has answered more than** [**7.7 million calls, 377,000 texts, and 941,000 chats**](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDMsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3LnZldGVyYW5zY3Jpc2lzbGluZS5uZXQvYWJvdXQvYWJvdXQtdXMvIiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDI0MDYwNS45NTg0ODcxMSJ9.jNFD6JIvJe-9Aok9Sfih6LhmKOIN1X8fKUvdZYaKjmo/s/1121713882/br/243676242395-l)**. Crisis responders have also made more than 1.5 million referrals to Veterans Affairs suicide prevention coordinators\*\*PCHS Behavioral Health Tech**

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## **\*Protecting our youth with facts about fentanyl - February 9, 2024**

**Chelsea Amato** [**Fentanyl-Facts-Not-Fear-Flyer-EnglishDownload**](https://tpchd.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/02/Fental-Facts-Not-Fear-Flyer-English.pdf)

**Just over 3 years ago, Pierce County Council passed a 0.1% sales tax to fund work to improve Behavioral Health in our community.They did so as more people and more younger people were dying of fentanyl overdose at heartbreaking rates. January 2020–June 2022, 60 people under age 24 died of fentanyl overdose in Pierce County. And fentanyl was involved in another 342 drug-poisoning-related emergency visits.**

**Tacoma-Pierce County Opioid Task Force gave us funds to create and run a youth fentanyl prevention campaign last year.**

**Public health at its best. This work is an example of what public health does best: Confront big health threats to our most vulnerable neighbors. In this case, that’s youth at risk of fentanyl overdose.**

**We used approaches honed during our** [**award-winning responses to complex public health threats**](https://granicus.com/success-stories/how-pandemic-lessons-shifted-digital-community-outreach/)**, like COVID-19 and mpox, to partner with the community and reach our youth.**

* **Talked face-to-face with people in our community**
* **Gathered local data to learn more about the youth who need help.**
* **Asked local youth to help develop messages.**
* **Educated youth about fentanyl and how to make decisions that reduce harm.**
* **Worked closely with local groups that work with youth.**

**Reaching youth where they are—millions of times. You probably saw our fentanyl facts messages—especially if you’re a younger person. In a few short months, we launched a campaign that drew 25.45 million ad impressions and 75,000 visits to our new** [**fentanlyfacts.org**](https://fentanylfacts.org/) **website. We ran the ads where kids go online.**

**Grants went to: Clover Park School District Innovative Change Makers Multicultural Cultural Child Family Hope Center Our Church Foundation Priceless Inspiration Foundation, Recovery Cafe Orting, Tahoma Indian Center Therapy Fund Foundation**

**What’s next? - Our work on this campaign was a constant reminder of fentanyl’s unique danger and how much work we all have left. Fentanyl presents an ongoing threat to our community.**

**Fentanyl is a strong opioid—as much as 50 times stronger than heroin.An amount as small as 2 grains of salt can cause an overdose. And it can be mixed into other drugs like pills, meth, cocaine, or molly without you knowing because you can’t taste or smell it.**

**It’s never safe for youth to use illicit drugs. But we know some do—and in the age of fentanyl, far too many of them overdose. That’s why our messaging offers ways youth can stay safer if they use drugs. In public health, we call it harm reduction.**

**We make sure youth know it’s only safe to use drugs prescribed by your doctor. We also help them understand** [**they can stay safer when they**](https://fentanylfacts.org/sample-home-page/stay-safer/)**: Use test strips. Carry naloxone. Don’t use alone, or don’t use in the first place**

**Learn more at** [**FentanylFacts.org**](https://fentanylfacts.org/)**.**[**Follow our social media accounts**](https://tpchd.org/i-want-to/about-us/sign-up-for-notifications/) **and** [**sign up for the Your Reliable Source blog**](https://www.tpchd.org/i-want-to/about-the-health-department/sign-up-for-notifications) **for regular updates on this and other important public health topics**

**Contact \*\*NEW** [**www.thechangeprogram.com**](http://www.thechangeprogram.com) **- Leaving prison can be really tough**

 **Peer to Peer Life Counseling - A new way forward**

**Thw**