**Seeking People Interested in Addressing Homelessness**

**Who Can Add a Racial Equity Lens to the Board**

The **Tacoma/Lakewood/Pierce County Continuum of Care (CoC)** Board is a board of volunteers who meet one or more times a quarter and are responsible for developing and managing implementation of a plan to address homelessness in Pierce County. This plan is the foundation of the federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funding allocated to Pierce County, which the CoC then allocates to successful applicant organizations, consistent with the plan.

The **Racial Equity Committee (REC) of the CoC** is responsible for supporting the CoC in addressing racial equity in the homeless systems, with providers, and in outcomes of plan strategies and goals. As one action related to this responsibility, the REC is recruiting for vacancies on the CoC Board that could augment the current racial diversity of the Board and/or help the CoC achieve its racial equity commitments. There is also a Membership Committee, who would evaluate and make final recommendations for Board appointments, and the REC will be making recommendations to that group.

The current categories of Board vacancies that could and should be filled include those listed below.

The REC invites those who are interested in this effort or in applying for the CoC to **join the REC at its next meeting, February 8, at 3:00 pm, by Zoom** to learn more, and to brainstorm names and contact information of people who might fill these vacancies. Please also help by forwarding this invitation to other people who might be interested.

To participate, please contact Cynthia Stewart, REC Chair, at [stewdahl@comcast.net](mailto:stewdahl@comcast.net), or Carolyn Weisz, [cweisz@pugetsound.edu](mailto:cweisz@pugetsound.edu), who can provide additional information and a Zoom link for the meeting.

**Open CoC Seats Needing Representation:**

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| Mental Illness Advocate  Youth Advocate  Serving Survivors of Human Trafficking  CDBG/HOME/ESG Entitlement  Behavioral Health  Org serving persons living with HIV/AIDS  Local Jail(s)  Hospital(s)  EMT/Crisis Response Team(s)  Mental Health Service Organization  Substance Use Service Org  Disability Service Org  Affordable Housing Developer  Non-CoC Funded Homeless Org  CoC Funded Victim Service Org  CoC Funded Youth Homeless Org | Homeownership Transition Expert  Department of Justice  Fair Housing Provider or Expert  Criminal Justice System  Lived Experience  Lived Experience  Advocacy group led by BIPOC  By and For Agency led by Latino American  "By and For Agency led by Native Hawaiian  Pacific Islander Asian American"  By and For Agency led by Black  Tribal Government  Civil Legal Aid  Philanthropy  Chamber of Commerce  Homeownership Transition Expert |