**Heat Emergency After-Action Report v. 1.0**

**We Saved Lives**

June 21 - 30, 2021

**THINGS THAT WORKED WELL - We Did!**

* Coalition key volunteers stepped up - got water, found out who needed water, got water out to people in encampments, kept everyone informed about how to get water, and about cooling centers both formal and informal
* Nourish Pierce County - our first ten pallets of water and their lift truck
* Our informal communication hub - phone, email, website, social media
* Our Outreach Chart - who would go where and when
* The community response when we asked for water to be donated
* Outreach workers drew on prior relationships with people living unsheltered
* “Back office” volunteers drew on prior relationships with key local leadership
* “Outrageous” Coalition volunteers- contacted TPU, asked for water truck, called Mayor, called local government staff and leadership, called Dept of Emergency Management
* CCS allowed us to use the Stability Site 24/7 delivery and distribution
* People worked well together across “official” provider and volunteer and activist lines

**THINGS THAT MADE IT HARD**

* No government emergency plans for getting enough water to unsheltered people County-wide - every person, every pet, in every encampment, every single day
* No knowledge of how much water we would actually need
* No place to stage the water
* No actual list of all the Homeless Outreach Workers or contact information
* No understanding of how each Homeless Outreach team works, where they go, and when
* No outreach from any jurisdiction about their plan for unsheltered people, contact info, etc.
* No current list of all known encampments
* No Coalition plan
* No requirement that anyone share information with the Coalition
* No easy way to track all the community cooling center efforts
* No info on Pierce Transit schedules and routes near encampments
* No security for people’s belongings in encampments
* No preparation for pets
* No transportation for people needing medical care
* No plan to pick up garbage bags of empty water bottles

**THINGS WE NEED TO DO DIFFERENTLY THE NEXT TIME**

* Have a public local jurisdiction plan - each one of them
* Have a Coalition Emergency Plan
* Have at least ten pallets of water on hand at all times for County-wide use
* Bring “cooling centers” to people in encampments