

What creative new ways can we think of to increase the supplies that we need to access in the cold this winter?

Group Discussion Summary • Tacoma Pierce County Coalition to End Homelessness • 10.27.23

Ideas for ways to access supplies

- Hygiene or cold weather supply drives outside stores.
- Americorps teams could help with this.
- Asking for donations directly from stores and organizations.
- Utilize VFW for funding/resource drives.
- Chamber of Commerce - next meeting November 1, need to get on schedule.
- Request through Buy Nothing groups on Facebook.
- Tacoma Comedy Club drive.
- LEC could utilize 501(c)3 status to secure supplies.
- SSVF (veterans' services) team will do outreach/distribution.
- HOPE Team works 7 days/week, happy to hand out needed supplies. Located off of Ruston. Have case manager who could pick up and store.
- Use social media to engage folks to donate supplies.
- Re-connect with Superior Linens to get blankets again.
- Amazon Wish Lists.
- Need a long-term plan for narrative of those with out homes or shelter to increase empathy.
- City and County Councils have lucrative salaries and perks and could easily contribute towards large amounts of needed supplies. Have them use their position to contact manufacturers of hand warmers to get a large donation.
- Storage needed for larger donation distribution.

Things that help during cold weather

- Warming station in the middle of the night when it is the coldest.
- Always huge demand for cold weather resources like coats, blankets, tarps, etc.
- Hot water bottles for warmth
- Gift cards are a way to give people flexibility on meeting needs.
- Waterproof sleeping bags
- A lot of enthusiasm for a blanket recycling project that pulls wet gear out of camps, washes, dries, and redistributes. Maybe somewhere with industrial equipment could help.
- favorite help item: https://www.amazon.com/Zippo-Hand-Warmer-12-Hour-Matte/dp/B013HLGU02?ref=ast_sto_dp&th=1

Etcetera ...

Discussion around how fentanyl has changed street scene: drug use has become much more dangerous since you can assume everything that isn't a boutique drug has it. There is a real demand for getting harm reduction info to people on streets and to counter harmful myths.



Notes and Resources List

New and Notable

Coalition Social, Thursday, Nov. 2, 4-6 pm, Richard and Liz's House, 812 N. Ainsworth

The HOPE Teams go out after hours and over the weekends. Aleesia Morales would be able to connect with anyone who can assist with our team providing snacks, water, and items that support people who are out in the cold weather. I can be contacted at tfdhope@cityoftacoma.org

stevi rayne is a good direct contact for Tacoma Mutual Aid. Their instagram is a good way to contact regarding needs, [@tacomamutualaid](https://www.instagram.com/tacomamutualaid) stevirayne@icloud.com 253-281-9081

Common Good Tacoma at FUMCOT on Tacoma Ave will share whatever they got. Plenty of outreachers have access to their supplies but y'all can contact me to coordinate additional access needed. Jake Nau 253-320-4429 nau.jake@yahoo.com

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

Participate in making October a Month of Action by taking action on this page from the Washington Low Income Housing Alliance: <https://www.wliha.org/takeaction>

League of Women Voters Candidate Forum recordings.

https://lwvtpc.org/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=843000&module_id=612433

Needle Exchange Locations: 3716 Pacific Ave, Tacoma WA 98418; S G St & S 14th St, Tacoma WA 98405; Portland Ave E & E Wright Ave, Tacoma WA 253-381-5229 for deliveries

We Care Daily Clinics Recovery: <https://www.wecaredailyclinics.com>

WA DOH data dashboard for COVID/FLU/RSV: <https://doh.wa.gov/data-and-statistical-reports/diseases-and-chronic-conditions/communicable-disease-surveillance-data/respiratory-illness-data-dashboard>

ORDER free COVID tests for home: <https://www.covid.gov/tests>

Where to find free adult vaccines in the community.

<https://www.tpchd.org/home/showpublisheddocument/1715/638163732748330000>

TPCHD webpage. <https://www.tpchd.org/healthy-people/provider-resources/homelessness-providers-toolkit>

Cold weather activation thresholds

https://kcrha.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/KCRHA_Cold-Weather-Activation.pdf

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

Other Upcoming Dates

November 1: Collaboration for a Cause puts resources and services in in one place at one time to help find find stability and quality employment in their own community. 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, coming to the Tacoma Dome on Wednesday, November 1st from 10am-4pm! Registration for a vendor space and sponsorship ends on September 14, with standard vendor registration ending on October 1. Register here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/collaboration-for-a-cause-vendor-registration-registration-685886865077>

November 4 Tacoma Reads Event with David Ambroz and Mayor Victoria Woodard. Link to registration page.

https://tacoma.bibliocommons.com/events/64c82269c0db8d2800c94789?_gl=1*1c5c4hj*_ga*Mjk3MjYyMjU0LjE2OTY2MTI0MzI.*_ga_FKNVC3J3FG*MTY5NjYxMjQzMi4xLjEuMTY5NjYxMjQzMi4wLjAuMA..*_ga_G99DMMNG39*MTY5NjYxMjQzMi4xLjEuMTY5NjYxMjQzMi4wLjAuMA..

Ongoing Resources and Needs

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>