



# The Road Home

Tacoma / Lakewood / Pierce County Continuum of Care  
In Partnership with Pierce County Human Services

## Continuum of Care Meeting Minutes

February 19, 2020

Tacoma Housing Authority Bay Terrance – 2550 S G St., Tacoma

### Members Present

Amanda DeShazo, Aff. Housing Consortium  
James Pogue, Comprehensive Life Resources  
Valorie Crout, Associated Ministries  
Cacey Hanauer, Tacoma Housing Authority  
Dr. Eric Jackson, Bethlehem Baptist Church  
Erica Azcueta, City of Tacoma (rep. Allison)  
Jeff Rodgers, Pierce County  
Kari Haugen, Workforce-Central  
Keith Galbraith, Family Renewal Shelter  
Neal Rogers, Community Representative  
Patti Spaulding-Klewin, CCS  
Rachel Silis, Dept. of Veterans Affairs  
Sean Raybell, WSD of Corrections  
Tiffany Speir, City of Lakewood  
Tonya Tunnell-Thornhill, Exodus Housing

### Members Absent

Andy Rohr, TPC Health Dept. (EA)  
Dana Orr, PC AIDS Foundation (EA/proxy)  
Diane Powers, City of Tacoma  
Ellie Ottey, Pierce County Housing Authority  
Janice Pitt, Dept of Child, Youth & Families (EA)  
Marilee Hill-Anderson, Sumner Schools

### Staff

Heather Moss  
John Barbee  
Valeri Knight  
Vy Yun

### Call Meeting to Order

James called the meeting to order at 9:07 am.

### Introductions

Introductions were made for CoC members.

### Approval of Minutes

James asked for a motion for approve the December and January minutes. Eric motioned, Cacey seconded, unanimously approved.

### New Member Positions Review and Vote, Valorie Crout

- Potential CoC Candidates were introduced: RoxAnne Simon, Tara Newton, Kirby Christopher, Larry Seaquist, Taniesha Lyons, Benjamin Feldbush, and Dr. Arunga.
- More applications have been received – will need more time for vetting process.
- A quorum (66%) was not present to vote on adding additional seats to roster (this is a vote to change the governance charter). Valeri will send out a vote to members via email.

Proposed Seats 2.19.20	
Community Stakeholder Group	Target Population
Fair Housing Provider or Expert	
Criminal Justice System	
Lived Experience	Intersectional Identity (PoC and LGBTQ)
Lived Experience	A person of Color with lived experience
Advocate group led by Persons of Color	
Case Manager at a Homeless Shelter	
Agency led by Latino American	
Agency led by Asian American	
Agency led by African American	
Agency led by Korean American	
Tribal Government	*representation of all tribes

- Clarification was made that the 7 candidates would be filling "Open Recruitment" seats on the current roster.
- Concern was made that if the CoC is not clear on their makeup, would it be a good idea to bring on new members? These are types of questions we can ask TA (i.e. committee size). Valeri will send out the name of the agency providing TA.
- Membership Subcommittee will be reaching out to individuals that have been absent from meetings to see if they are still interested in serving.
- Question was asked if one person can represent multiple positions on the roster. Valeri answered that one person can represent no more than two seats per the governance charter.
- James suggested cancelling the March CoC meeting to allow space for Executive Subcommittee to look and create recommendations to share with the CoC. Another recommendation was made to wait on cancelling the March meeting until after we hear from TA this afternoon. It was later instructed to keep the March meeting on the calendar. Notice will be given a week before if we have a meeting in March with TA.

#### **Governance Charter Update, Amanda DeShazo**

- Amanda reported that the governance charter and timeline were discussed at the Executive Subcommittee meeting.
- Deadline was pushed to 4/1/2020 so members had time to discuss changes to charter and for people to come forward that want to serve on the subcommittee. Tiffany states they are waiting for the ok to go forward with work.
- CoC NOFA is released anytime between May and July. We want to have the charter updated for the application.

## 5-Year Strategic Plan Yearly Action Steps, James Pogue

Subcommittee	Chair(s)	Updates
Housing	Tonya Tunnell-Thornhill Kevin Bates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No updates</li> </ul>
Stability	James Pogue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Some items done.</li> </ul>
Racial Equity	Erica Azcueta Valorie Crout	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Merging with Housing Coalition Racial Equity Subcommittee.</li> <li>Currently have 10 members, the merge will add another 10 members.</li> <li>Goal 3.1 Develop Street Outreach may not be under this subcommittee. James will verify with 5-Year Strategic Plan.</li> </ul>
Community Partnership	Tiffany Speir Kari Haugen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initial meeting to gather data, meet and talk to people.</li> <li>Confident goals will be completed by end of year.</li> </ul>
Executive	Amanda DeShazo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Received good suggestions, such as presenting to Mayor's Roundtable and to County.</li> </ul>
Membership	Valorie Crout Erica Azcueta	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Made a lot of progress – success is shown today with 7 candidates present.</li> <li>Previously was announced that current members would have to reapply for their seat, but it was decided it was no longer expected for members to complete another application.</li> </ul>

By-Name List		
Subcommittee	Chair(s)	Updates
Chronically Homeless Individuals	James Pogue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pierce County chosen as early adopter of one of the Trueblood programs.</li> <li>Trueblood program is not using Pierce County funds.</li> <li>First meeting included providers from Tacoma Rescue Mission, Associated Ministries, Catholic Community Services, Greater Lakes Mental Healthcare, and Comprehensive Life Resource.</li> <li>Will pull from Chronic Master list in HMIS.</li> </ul>
Families	Andy Rohr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No updates (not present).</li> </ul>
Veterans	Rachel Silis Patti Spaulding-Klewin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Have been meeting for 5+ years as By-Name list mandated by funding.</li> <li>Completed 2 tasks on list.</li> <li>Next task is meeting with Landlord Liaison Program (LLP) to find out how to partner</li> </ul>

		<p>together and exploring more shared housing options.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subcommittee meets twice a month.</li> <li>• Homeless Veterans Taskforce will be presenting to Council soon – Mapping homeless services in Pierce County specific to Veterans and gathering data on reducing barriers.</li> </ul>
Youth & Young Adults	Haili Crow Cyc Cacey Hanauer Devon Isakson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Valeri reported Pierce County is the 3<sup>rd</sup> community in the nation to have reached real-time quality data for youth and young adults</li> <li>• ACI and the By-Name List groups meet twice a month.</li> <li>• Goal is to end YYA homelessness by 12/1/2022.</li> </ul>
Domestic Violence Survivors	Keith Galbraith Tonya Tunnell-Thornhill	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Need to reconnect with DV shelters.</li> <li>• City of Tacoma and Pierce County have been working together in collaborating efforts the last 18 months.</li> <li>• Focused on Pierce County Commission Against DV. Thinks process will be finished this year, then the CoC will be informed and brought into the process.</li> </ul>
Individuals	Neil Rogers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No updates.</li> </ul>

- Suggestion that all By-Name Subcommittees meet to come up with procedure to use HMIS data. Jeff will take lead on pulling group together.
- Request to add a checkmark by completed items on document.

### **Pierce County Update, Heather Moss & John Barbee**

- Heather shared a grievance letter received from the CoC that was signed anonymously. She extends an invitation to the writer to reach out so they can have a conversation.
- The letter had 11 requests regarding racial equity, repairing relationship (between Pierce County and CoC), trust, and transparency.
- Heather responded to some of the requests saying that we have work to do to infuse equity. Pierce County staff are not trying to cause distress or impede any racial equity work done today. The County can, and should, be sharing information and being transparent (budget and deadline), but there are also some requests we cannot do. She added that Pierce County does not have any expectation to who is on the board.
- Heather asked how do we prove we are meeting the demands and those we cannot? How many CoC members feel this way?
- Heather shared a comparison of Snohomish and Spokane County's Continuum of Care funding compared to Pierce County's. The comparison shows the reality of what a high functioning CoC is capable of. The document shows Snohomish County having a similar population to Pierce County but receiving a significant amount more each year.

- Heather suggested taking a pause, convening leadership (Pierce County and Executive Subcommittee) to think of next steps to reestablish trust.
- Request was made on if we could visit Snohomish County's CoC or have them come to us. It would be helpful if we had insight on how to pursue that – what should this CoC look like?
- It was pointed out that we received a score of 30/100 on community involvement. Community involvement is the key to succeed. Suggestion was made to query other applicants that scored higher and reaching out to non-funded organizations.
- Question was asked if Executive Subcommittee meetings were open for other CoC members and/or public to attend. James said he will have an answer at the next meeting on who can attend.

### Good of the Order

- Amanda had sent an email regarding the 1/10<sup>th</sup> of 1% Behavioral Health Tax. She thanks everyone who came out and testified.

### Public Comment Period

- Al is impressed with the number of required slots that are not filled. He noticed names on roster that have not attended regularly and encourages us to clean the role.
- Marissa thanks Heather for sharing grievance letter. She asked why HUD dollars were brought up in the conversation. Racial equity should be centered in itself. She points out that Snohomish and Pierce County have different demographics and offers Building Changes as an agency we can reach out to.
- Larry said he did not see a formal decision to bypass agenda item to vote on new members. He said if we want to spruce up the organization, bring in TA, now is the time to add new members.

### New Member Positions Review and Vote, Valorie Crout (continued)

- Tiffany motioned to table agenda item to vote on new members until the next conducted meeting. Motion was not seconded.
- Request was made to ask what subcommittee new members would like to serve on. Valorie answered it is the expectation that all members participate on a subcommittee and that it would be explained during orientation.
- CoC votes on new members to join:

Name	Stakeholder Position	Votes
RoxAnne Simon	Domestic Violence Advocate	All vote in favor; none opposed
Tara Newton	LGBTQIA Service Org	All vote in favor; none opposed
Kirby Christopher	Substance Abuse Advocate	All vote in favor; none opposed
Larry Seaquist	Homeless Coalition	All vote in favor; none opposed
Taniesha Lyons	Homeless Subpopulation Advocate	All vote in favor; none opposed
Benjamin Feldbush	Young Adult Advocate	All vote in favor; none opposed
Dr. Arunga	University	All vote in favor; none opposed

### Meeting Adjourned

James and Amanda adjourned the meeting at 11:21 am.