

→ **Legislative update from WLIHA:**

<http://wliha.org/blog/housing-advocacy-action-week-march-27>

→ **End Homelessness Alliance:**

HAVE YOU LOOKED AT YOUR EMERGENCY SHELTER SYSTEM LATELY?

Emergency shelters are critical to ending homelessness. Their purpose is to ensure safe, temporary shelter during times of crisis and connect people to permanent housing. But barriers often negate their effectiveness.

Join the Alliance for a new learning series designed to help those looking to improve their emergency shelter system. The series kicks-off Wednesday, April 26 at 2 p.m. ET with The Role of Emergency Shelter in a Crisis Response System, a webinar focused on how emergency shelter fits into community efforts to reduce homelessness.

Stay tuned for the full schedule of emergency shelter webinars.



[Register for the webinar »](#)

→ **Youth Mental Health First Aid – Free – May 6, July 29, October 14**

The Jordan Binion Project, HopeSparks, and CHI Franciscan Health’s PAR Initiative are very pleased to announce **free Youth Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) trainings for Pierce County parents and family members of youth with mental health challenges** (youth aged 12-17 years).

This is a great opportunity for folks you may know. Please feel free to share with others. This is a great opportunity for parents and family members.



Youth Mental Health
First Aid Training for F

→ **Shelter Force: Alternative to an Immoral Budget**

<http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?m=1102090206336&ca=6c75a101-8632-4d74-81df-e1dabeef55bf>

→ **Tacoma, State officials consider how to solve homeless camp under I-705**

<http://www.bellinghamherald.com/news/state/washington/article139450438.html>

San Francisco is **looking to Seattle and Portland** as examples of how to “do encampments right.”

Tiny Houses: Salvation for the homeless or a dead end?

This feature on Othello Village is the Guardian’s first feature on homelessness in Washington State for this series. If you scroll to the end you’ll see how the Action button works for donations to our org.

→ AAA sponsors Medicare 101 meeting

You're about to be bombarded with Medicare information. How do you decide what's best for you.

Medicare doesn't cover all of your health care costs 100 percent. So it's important for our AAA Medicare-eligible members to learn about all of their Medicare choices. Additional coverage can help prevent substantial out-of-pocket costs should you get ill or need surgery.

AAA wants to give you the Medicare story. That way, you can find the solution that best suits you. Join us at our "Medicare 101" meeting to get the full picture.

Space is limited.

Call today to reserve a spot for you – and a friend.

844-583-2649 (TTY 711)

5 a.m. to 5 p.m. PDT, Monday through Friday

April 12 - AAA Tacoma Store - 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

→ Trump's proposed budget misses an opportunity to empower states & localities Brookings Institution

https://www.brookings.edu/blog/the-avenue/2017/03/17/trumps-proposed-budget-misses-an-opportunity-to-empower-states-and-localities/?utm_campaign=Metropolitan%20Policy%20Program&utm_source=hs_email&utm_medium=email&utm_content=49063428

→ Direct constituent interactions have more influence on lawmakers' decisions than other advocacy strategies. Invite your Representatives to Visit Homeless Assistance Programs in Your Community

<http://us9.campaign-archive1.com/?u=466b34a51377a9504fb2ebd8f&id=fee118b151&e=dad56c4430>

→ Master Builders Association of Pierce County 2017 Housing Forum!

Presented by Newland Communities & Phillips Burgess PLLC

Join us on **April 6, 2017 at 11:00 a.m.** at the Pioneer Park Pavilion in Puyallup, to hear the 2017 economic forecast and more.

Speakers and topics will include:

Josh Brown, Executive Officer for the Puget Sound Regional Council - PSRC goals and directives for the region and how those tie to the economic projections for Pierce County.

Bruce Dammeier, Pierce County Executive - Vision and plan for economic growth in Pierce County.

Matthew Gardner, Chief Economist for Windermere Real Estate - Economic forecast and its impact on the real estate market for 2017

Registration for this event will be **FREE** for MBA members, **Affordable Housing Consortium Members**, Elected Officials and Jurisdiction Staff. Lunch will be provided. Registration for Realtors and Affiliates: \$15.00
Registration for the general public (non-MBA members): \$25.00 **Supporting sponsors for this event are Soundbuilt Homes, Quadrant Homes, and First American Title Insurance Company.**

Contact Jeremiah Lafranca for questions: jlafranca@mbapierce.com

➔ Executive Dammeier's State of the County – good news for mental health & housing

Video: <http://www.co.pierce.wa.us/index.aspx?NID=4999>

Excerpt: Our region (also) faces significant behavioral health challenges. More than 29,000 people in Pierce County struggle with serious mental illness. To put that in context, that's 6,000 more people than can fit in the Tacoma Dome.

Many of these people end up in jail or hospital emergency rooms - the most expensive and least effective ways for them to get care.

Last year, more than 1,000 kids in Pierce County experienced homelessness, where they are at greater risk of sex trafficking, drug abuse, and violence.

While we face significant challenges in Pierce County, with the right strategies and partnerships, we can make major progress over the next four years. But we must start now.

This afternoon [03-15-2017], I will submit to the Council a \$10.7 million dollar supplemental budget proposal. This proposal focuses on increasing public safety, spurring economic growth, and taking specific steps to address homelessness and behavioral health issues.

This proposal is both fiscally and socially responsible.

➔ Jobs Report – Elliot Eisenberg, PhD Economist

February's net job growth was 235,000 and January's number was revised up 11,000 to 238,000! The unemployment rate declined to 4.7%, the labor force grew by 340,000, Y-o-Y wage growth rose from 2.6% to 2.8%, those working part-time involuntarily declined by 136,000, the employment-to-population ratio hit 60%; best since 2/09, and construction employment grew 58,000, the best monthly growth in over a decade.