



TACOMA / PIERCE COUNTY  
**AFFORDABLE  
HOUSING  
CONSORTIUM**

**NEWS UPDATE 04-12-2011**



**State Legislative Session** → Support HB2048 to continue successful programs and services that prevent & end homelessness. Link to Fact Sheet & Summary:

<http://www.affordablehousingconsortium.org/client/assets/files/04-2011%20Summary%202048.pdf>

**State Advocacy Update 04-11-2011** →

[http://salsa.democracynaction.org/o/2685/t/0/blastContent.jsp?email\\_blast\\_KEY=1211263](http://salsa.democracynaction.org/o/2685/t/0/blastContent.jsp?email_blast_KEY=1211263)

**Housing & Homeless Bill tracker** → click and go to bottom of page:

[http://salsa.democracynaction.org/o/2685/t/0/blastContent.jsp?email\\_blast\\_KEY=1209223](http://salsa.democracynaction.org/o/2685/t/0/blastContent.jsp?email_blast_KEY=1209223)

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**DSHS Connections** → DSHS has launched a new web-based application called "*Washington Connection*" that replaces our Online Services Application (OSA), also referred to as the "Online CSO". Through *Washington Connection* [www.washingtonconnection.org], residents can easily and securely learn about and apply for a broad array of programs and services online: food, cash, and medical assistance; child care subsidies; long-term care services and support; and drug and alcohol treatment.

For services that require different application processes, the portal provides contact information and links about where people can apply for those services. Examples include the Women's, Infant, and Children (WIC) Nutrition Program, Housing Assistance, Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LiHEAP), Tribal TANF, Basic Health, assistance for Veterans, Child Support, Vocational Rehabilitation, and Supplement Security Income (SSI).

By Monday, April 25, 2011 your organization will need to shift from using the old OSA to *Washington Connection*. Attached is an invitation to a community meeting where you can learn more about the changes and opportunities available to your community. You can find more information about ***Washington Connection Community Partnerships*** at:

<http://www.dshs.wa.gov/servicereform/communitypartner.shtml>

**Regional Training Information:** <http://www.buildingchanges.org/washington-connection>

**Pierce County Training:** *Pierce North CSO*, May 31 2011, 12 noon-5 pm,  
1949 S. State St, Room 195, Tacoma, WA 98405

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**Calendar →** Tacoma Housing Authority invites you to a “Welcome to Tacoma” Reception  
Sunday, May 1 5:30 – 7:00 p.m Hotel Murano 1320 Broadway Plaza, Tacoma  
Please join us for an informal get-together of affordable housing and community development  
professionals from the four-state region of the Pacific Northwest Regional Conference of the National  
Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO).

- Complimentary hors d’oeuvres
- Cash bar
- Entertainment

If you would like to attend please RSVP to Nancy Vignec ([nvignec@tacomahousing.org](mailto:nvignec@tacomahousing.org)) by April 18, 2011.

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**AHC website →** <http://www.affordablehousingconsortium.org>