

➔ **Puget Sound Equity Summit**

Register Now! <http://pugetsoundequity.org/>

**Free Event
November 8-9, 2013**



**PUGET SOUND
EQUITY SUMMIT**

*Friday evening launch event
& Saturday Summit at*

Highline Community College

*Student Union (Building 8)
2400 S. 240th St ~ Des Moines, WA 98198*

Be a part of an action-oriented summit
to promote equitable development
and healthy communities.

Sponsored by:
The Seattle Foundation
Bullitt Foundation
Loom Foundation
Kirkpatrick Family
Foundation
Social Venture Partners
Russell Family
Foundation
Growing Transit
Communities

More info & to register: www.pugetsoundequity.org



➔ **Washington Healthplanfinder Enrollment Tour**

November 2, 11 am – 3 pm

Tacoma Mall – Eastern parking lot – facing JCPenney & Sears, Tacoma

The new way to find, compare and enroll in the health plan that fits your needs and budget.

Experts available to answer your questions & help you sign up for health coverage.

For more information, please e-mail navigator@tpchd.org or call 855-NAV1G8E (855-628-1483).

For other Pierce County times & locations: www.piercecountylibrary.org search ACA

➔ **The Affordable Care Act - Helping Washington State Organizations Improve the Health Assets of Their Communities.**

Register Now!

DATE: Wednesday, November 13, 2013

TIME: 10:00am-11:00am

LOCATION: Your Computer (Webinar) - Your Phone (Listen in!)

HOSTS: Sue Waldon, Partnership & Training Coordinator

Jefferson Rose, Bilingual Community Outreach Specialist

Join us for an overview of the Affordable Care Act and learn how the health care law is changing the way people access health insurance in Washington. This webinar is geared towards community organizations and professionals who want a basic understanding of Medicaid Expansion and the new options for health care coverage on Washington Healthplanfinder, our state-run Exchange which launched on October 1, 2013.

To connect your clients to health and food resources today, please visit ParentHelp123.org

➔ Hedrick Smith lecture: Who Stole the American Dream?

Best-selling author and former *New York Times* reporter

11-14-13 William Philip Hall, UW Tacoma

6 pm – reception

7 pm – lecture and discussion

8 pm – book signing

[Free event - Please RSVP](#)

➔ 2014 COLA Announced

Since the increase is now verifiable information, we must include this increase amount when determining household income for households that receive social security.

Today, the SSA announced a 1.5% increase to the benefits paid to recipients beginning January 1st, 2014.

To obtain a copy of the announcement, click [HERE](#)

To determine the benefit amount after the increase you can either:

- Multiply the benefit amount by the COLA % to get the amount of increase. Then add the amount of increase to the current benefit to determine the current benefit or,
- Multiply the benefit amount by 1 plus the COLA expressed as a decimal. (1.5% = 1.015)

➔ NCRC Supporting Inclusive Communities Through Fair Housing Planning Colloquium:

Learn from the experts at the National Community Reinvestment Coalition's (NCRC) Supporting Inclusive Communities Through Fair Housing Planning Colloquium. Are you a public or private sector fair housing planning practitioner? Would you like to learn more about producing an effective Fair Housing Plan or an Analysis of Impediments on a state, regional, or local basis? Would you like to learn about the new proposed HUD rule affecting this area? If so, we invite you to join your colleagues - including community development and housing professionals, public and private sector leaders, & local government officials – for this immersive, interactive and engaging hands on program to learn about the latest fair housing planning developments, best practices & models that are being realized nationwide today. Actual case studies and barriers to fair housing choice - and possible solutions - will be reviewed, useful fair housing resources and “tools of the trade” will be shared, and model solutions will be identified, discussed and applied by participants. Participants will learn about model programs and innovative approaches from fair housing experts and discuss how to comply with existing fair housing planning requirements, including the obligations of Community Development Block Grant program recipients and related HUD-funded initiatives that engage in government contracting, consulting, supporting, training and other

services to ensure equal housing opportunity. Participants may use HUD funds to attend this training with approval from their HUD contract officer. Please join the National Community Reinvestment Coalition at one of the following scheduled locations:

November 18-19, 2013 - Seattle, WA, Registration information at:

<https://sictfhpseattle.eventbrite.com/>

➔ **Hilltop's "Medical Mile" opening an anchor clinic** ← Link to TNT 10-31 story

Hilltop Regional Health Care Center holds a public open house Saturday to celebrate the completion of its newest medical, dental and urgent care clinic...

➔ **Temporary food stamp hike expires Friday** ← Link to TNT 10-30 story

A temporary boost in food aid for poor families expires Friday, meaning a reduction of roughly \$10 a month for an individual or \$36 for a family of four.

➔ **Ready to Rent – presented by Pierce County Housing Authority**

A course that gives the participant additional tools and skills that are helpful when searching for housing in the private market. Many of our participants express issues finding rental housing due to credit issues, poor rental history such as evictions, criminal history or some combination of the three. The class addresses these issues by examining how a landlord views the potential renter and what a person can do to put themselves in the best possible position. Topics covered include: repairing credit, budgeting, banking, accessing community resources, understanding landlord-tenant law, and the proper process of moving in and out of a unit.

The course is two full days with each day running from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm. Classes are in the Tacoma area and are held various days including Monday through Wednesday and some Saturdays. Unfortunately, children are not permitted in the class and childcare is not provided. We also highly suggest people bring a sack lunch.

This class prepares participants to rent in the private market with everyday landlords who have units available at fair market rent. It does **NOT** qualify or put participants on lists for emergency shelters, transitional housing, low-income permanent housing, section-8 or the HOP program and does **NOT** help the participant find landlords who only require 30% of income to go towards rent.

The course is **FREE** and open to anyone and everyone who thinks they could use more information/knowledge about being a better renter. Upon completion of Ready to Rent, participants will be referred to the Landlord Liaison Project for additional help with finding housing. The Landlord Liaison Project helps directly connect Ready to Rent graduates with landlords who may be willing to rent to them given the individual's personal circumstances. The Landlord Liaison Project works with landlords on their flexibility when it comes to their screening criteria.

➔ **Job Fair in Tacoma – Tacoma residents are encouraged to apply!**

For Construction of Nativity House

Sponsored by Walsh Construction

Friday, November 15, 10 am – 2 pm

Catholic Community Services, Tahoma Family Center, 1323 S Yakima, Tacoma

➔ Smoke-free housing - *the next trend!*

Washington Multi-Family Housing Association, Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department and Public Health- Seattle & King County Presents **Lunch & Learn**

November 13, 2013

Noon-1:30pm

Washington Multi-Family Housing Association

18300 Cascade Ave S. Suite #130, Tukwila, WA. 98188

This free lunchtime session is for apartment owners, managers, and property management personnel and will focus on:

- Benefits of smoke-free housing
- Lessons learned from property owners
- Landlord rights
- Marijuana-How do we handle it?
- How to develop, implement and enforce smoke-free policies
- Incentives available

Space is limited, so register today!

FREE LUNCH WILL BE PROVIDED!

To register, please contact: George Hermosillo gghermosillo@tpchd.org 253.798.7664

➔ [Giant investment funds fuel new boom in Pierce County real estate](#) ← Link to 10-28 TNT

Last fall, the good news began trickling in. More homes are selling. Fewer homes are on the market. Sale prices are inching higher. What hasn't...

➔ Federal News from Coalition on Human Needs

[Government Shutdown Ended; Negotiations Now Trying to Undo Sequester and Avoid More Crises](#)

On October 16, Congress brought over two weeks of government shutdown to an end, voting to extend the FY 2013 levels of appropriations (\$988 billion) through January 15. [More>](#)

[SNAP Recipients Brace for a Cut in Benefits](#) On November 1, all who receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) will see their benefits cut. [More>](#)

[Major Glitches with HealthCare.Gov Cause Enrollment Woes for Millions of Americans; the Administration Vows to Fix the Problems by the End of November](#) Affordable health care has become one of the most important pillars of Barack Obama's presidency. [More>](#)

➔ Prescription Discount Card Program available through City of Tacoma

The City of Tacoma is participating member of the Prescription Discount Card Program through the National League of Cities. This program provides discount cards to Tacoma residents without health insurance to help reduce the cost of prescriptions. Attached is the Program FAQ and you can visit the website at <http://www2.caremark.com/nlc/> for additional information on the program and participating pharmacies. The City has the cards and information available in both English and Spanish at several City sites, but we would like partner with community-based organizations to have the cards available at a variety of locations throughout Tacoma so they are more accessible to those in need.

It is my understanding that many of you have in the past, or are currently partnered with the

City and are making the cards available to residents I am the new Program Assistant for the Neighborhood and Community Services Department with the City of Tacoma and will be your new contact for the Prescription Discount Card Program. If you have any questions about this program or are in need of more information and/or cards, please contact me directly.

Jaime L. Jackson | HSPC Program Assistant

Neighborhood & Community Services | 747 Market Street, Room 836 | Tacoma, WA 98402-3793
P (253) 591-5047 | F (253) 591-5050 | TTY (253) 591-5153 jjackson@cityoftacoma.org

→ City of Tacoma CDBG/HOME/ESG Funding out for public comment

(1) Citizen Participation Plan, and (2) Funding Priorities for the program years 2014 and 2015. Both items will be in effect for the next funding round/program year.

The Tacoma Community Redevelopment Authority (TCRA) will accept public comments on both items at their Board meeting next Thursday, October 24th. The Funding Priorities will be presented to the Committee of the Whole on Tuesday, November 5th. The Citizen Participation Plan will not be presented to Council at the committee level as it is an update to a procedural planning process.

Both items will be presented for Council approval on December 3rd; the Council will take public comments at the start of that meeting. Written comments may be submitted prior to November 18th. Any written comments should be directed to Ricardo Noguera, Community & Economic Development Director, 747 Market Street, Room 900, Tacoma WA 98402.

→ Housing and Homelessness Advocacy Day

January 28th Olympia

→ TPCAHC Excellence in Affordable Housing Awards – Celebrated 10-24-2013



ADVOCACY: League of Women Voters, Pierce County

This year, the League held Voter Registration drives at Pierce College - Steilacoom, Work Source, Gates High School (an alternative school in the Franklin Pierce School District) and the Puyallup Fair. At The Fair, approximately 400 people visited the booth to discuss issues and vote on which local issues were important to them. In the past three years, the League of Women Voters Pierce County chapter has helped more than 100 people through Project Homeless Connect register to vote and/or update their addresses with the Auditor's office. They have also helped those convicted of a felony learn how to regain their voting rights. The Pierce County chapter recently sponsored, co-sponsored, and moderated Candidates Forums for TV Tacoma, the Tacoma/Pierce County Affordable Housing Consortium, University Place, Milton, Puyallup, Sumner, and Northeast Tacoma, thus helping to increase the number of people who have information about the candidates appearing on their ballots, and enabling them to ask questions and personally connect with candidates. The League also organized a Ballot Issues Forum in coordination with the Student Union at University of Washington-Tacoma. As a direct result of their advocacy work, more voters are registered, more people have information about candidates and issues, and more people are empowered, and more people will participate in the electoral process.



COMMUNITY IMPACT: Gray Lumber

Gray Lumber is a successful family owned business that has operated in the Tacoma/Pierce County community for over 100 years. They are Tacoma's oldest lumber yard, and have become an integral part of the community. Members of the Gray family and Gray Lumber employees have served on many nonprofit boards, including Associated Ministries, Habitat for Humanity, Rebuilding Together, and The Broadway Center for Performing Arts. They have deep relationships in the construction industry and are longtime supporters of Paint Tacoma Pierce Beautiful, Habitat for Humanity and Rebuilding Together. Each year Gray Lumber holds a benefit golf tournament in support of Paint Tacoma Pierce Beautiful, Rebuilding Together, and Habitat for Humanity. They also provide labor for Habitat neighborhood construction projects. Gray Lumber is an active supporter of affordable housing.



SUSTAINABILITY: Master Builders Association, Pierce County

The Tacoma-Pierce County Built Green® Program is a certification program--including land development, new single and multi-family home construction, and remodeling components--that recognizes industry members who build above and beyond regulatory code. MBA of Pierce County developed the Built Green® program with financial assistance from the Washington State Department of Ecology, City of Tacoma Solid Waste Management, Puget Sound Energy, and Fannie Mae Corporation, with additional assistance from Tacoma Power. The mission is to work in partnership to create safer, healthier and more efficient homes, reduce impacts of construction and development, and improve and protect valuable community and natural resources. The program promotes energy efficiency, good indoor air quality, site ecosystem protection, water conservation, and "green" building materials. It not only educates builders but also establishes meaningful standards that are easily interpreted by the general public to validate the value of sustainable features in a home. 2013 marks the program's 10th anniversary, and in that time the program has dramatically increased the number of sustainable, healthy homes in Pierce county.