



Burien Homeless Think Tank

AGENDA

The main goal of tonight's meeting is to gather together individuals who have a desire to do something about the homeless situation in the Burien area. Individuals who may have different perspectives in regards to the cause of homelessness and how to fix the homeless problem, but agree to do nothing is not the solution.

Tonight is a 'trial run' to see if local citizens with strong opinions and feelings regarding homelessness are able to show respect and honor to those of varying opinions, and willing to acknowledge there are many ways to address the homeless problem. Agreeing there is no one fix all solution, participants are willing to hear the passion and views of those who have a concern to see homelessness reduced in the Burien area.

Main Objectives:

- Give individuals an opportunity to share their concerns and recommendations regarding the homeless problem
- End the meeting with some individuals committed to devoting time and energy to help resolve the homeless issue.

Guidelines:

The focus of tonight's meeting is not to be a 'gripe session'. The focus of tonight's meeting is not to attack specific organizations or entities that are dealing with the homeless situation. Participants need to show honor and respect to those speaking and truly listen to what they have to say.

TURNING TO EACH OTHER

There is no power greater than a community
discovering what it cares about.

Ask, "What's possible?" Not "what's wrong?"

Keep asking. Notice what you care about.

Assume that many others share your dream.

Be brave enough to start a conversation that matters.

Talk to people you know.

Talk to people you don't know.

Talk to people you never talk to.

Be intrigued by the differences you hear.

Expect to be surprised.

Treasure curiosity more than certainty.

Invite in everybody who cares to work on what's possible.

Acknowledge that everyone is an expert about something.

Know that creative solutions come from new connections.

Remember, you don't fear people whose story you know.

Really listening always brings people closer together.

Trust that meaningful conversations
can change your world.

Rely on human goodness.

Stay together.

-Margaret Wheatly

I. Introduction by Richard Dover

- A. Anger and frustration
- B. Stereotypes
- C. The deception of “my solution is the only best solution”
- D. Unwillingness to work together as a community
- E. Commit to find solutions, knowing there is no quick fixes
- F. Respect for the Homeless and the Community

II. Introductions

(2-minute introduction of who you are and what brings you to the meeting.)

III. How to deal with the homelessness problem

(2-minute sharing of suggestions on how to deal with the homeless problem.)

III. Homelessness issues to address in future meetings:

- Factors that contribute to homelessness
- General causes of homelessness
- Existing resources for the homeless
- Problems of the homeless
- Problems of the community by having homelessness
- Possible Solutions and How to Measure Success
- Implement Top Solutions

IV. Commitment to Take Action

- A. Are you willing to commit time and energy to be part of the solution?
- B. What steps are you willing to personally take to help reach out to the homeless and to help resolve homelessness?

V. Fill out Survey