

KPCS

Food Pantry
Senior Meals
Senior Center
Homeless Outreach

Your Community Connection

17015 9th Street Ct NW
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Connecting People to Build Community

May 2025

Rooted in Care, Growing Community

By Delci, Housing and Homelessness Program Manager

At KPCS, we believe that strong communities grow from compassion—nurtured by connection, kindness, and the willingness to see each other fully. This spring, as the season shifts and new projects begin to bloom, we're reminded that growth isn't just about programs or buildings. It's about people; everyday moments of care, and the grace we extend to one another in times of need.

Our outreach team meets people every day who are doing their best to survive circumstances most of us will never face. Their stories are complex and courageous, shaped by challenges like trauma, disability, and systemic barriers. And yet, we've seen harmful words used online—judgments thrown at individuals who are doing nothing more than existing in public space. It's easy to make assumptions when you've never had to worry about where you'll sleep at night, or how you'll stay

safe. But real community calls us to pause, to reflect on our own privilege, and to extend understanding instead of criticism. Everyone deserves to be treated with dignity, even—especially—when their struggle is visible.

If you're interested in helping us grow, come talk with someone on our staff. We'd love to welcome you into this work. We're especially looking for help with our garden beds and in the food pantry—Wednesdays are our busiest day! Volunteering isn't just about giving back—it's also a beautiful way to build new friendships and connect with others in meaningful ways. To get involved, stop by during open hours or reach out to us at (253) 884-4440 or info@yourkpcs.org. You can also visit our website at www.yourkpcs.org to learn more. There's a place for you here. Let's keep growing—together



**Join us for the 21st Annual
Livable Community Fair**

SATURDAY MAY 10, 2025 10AM - 3PM

Fun for the whole family • Music • Concessions • Games • Touch-a-Truck
Local Info • Lakebay Fuchsia Society Plant Sale

Your Key to a better life on the Peninsula

Proudly sponsored by:
Still accepting sponsors!



Visit Our Booth at the Fair!

- ♦ **Talk to staff about programs**
- ♦ **See how KPCS serves the community**
- ♦ **Have your face painted by local artist Kathy Best**



From the Crew's Quarters
by Peggy, Office Manager

It has been a busy four months in the office with year-end just past and sitting on the cusp of summer. Brandon and I are still working on the client files. We have merged the SAIL and Tai Chi files into the client files. The volunteer files now only have current volunteers and prospective volunteers. Brandon has gone through all the disenrolled files, and I have been working on the current client files. This is something I have wanted to do for 4 years but could not devote the time to it. Brandon and I are job sharing and he also works with Teresa. We have a total of 3 large projects to complete by year end.



“Thank you” to Bobbie and her SAIL class. With her guidance and support, I have been back exercising with her on Mondays, Wednesdays, and most Saturdays. I have been wrestling with English Ivy in the garden. I am coming up on my 6 month anniversary from my back surgery and have been able to resume my gardening chores. Gardening, kayaking, and paddleboarding, are 3 of my favorite things to do and Bobbie's class has helped me stay fit and work on my balance. She offers classes 5 days a week, so come in and see what is happening. It will help you too!

Ahoy Matie,

Peggy



Lessons with my Visit: a Memorial Service

By Bobbi, Fitness Instructor

Recently, I attended our friend, Mike Fay, memorial service. It was a room filled with people who loved him and will continue to love him even in death. Many people shared a short story about how Mike had added to their lives in profound or in small funny ways. I mentioned that he personally made, just for me, the best mashed potatoes in the world. It is one of the happy memories I carry with me.

Still, we assume we know someone well until we go to a memorial service for that person. An amazing thing can happen; we learn things we never knew about them. I have found that we know only a small portion of who that person really was. A wise woman said that "Mike is a totally different person to Every Person in this room." It floored me and I had her repeat what she had said. And In that "aha moment" I got it. Each person has a little picture and we think that is who that person is. Perhaps this is true even of ourselves. We have a story of who we are and think this is "me." Yet, my close friend sometimes knows me better than I know myself. It can get complicated very fast..

I recently watched a TV program that gave us the background of each of the characters that gave an insight as to "why" they behaved the way they did in that situation. It could have been a childhood trauma or something they did in the past or some other clue as to why they were doing what they were doing. It helped the viewer to understand, but not the other characters in the TV program. To have that unique opportunity to see the bigger picture of the character also helped us to not only understand but to even offer compassion to that person. Even when they did something wrong. Wouldn't that be miraculous if we could offer compassion on the faith that we only know a fraction of someone too?. Even our partners? And perhaps even more important, to have compassion for ourselves. Because even we do not know all that helped to create the person that we call "me" either.

With love and gratitude

Bobbi

**FREE TABLES
2ND & 4TH FRIDAYS!**

**Get stuff, leave stuff
Please only usable items**

**We need volunteer to help
set up and tear down tables**



Nourish Your Body with our Fresh Meals

Our dietitian-approved menu meets 1/3 of your daily nutritional needs.

We make each meal fresh, here daily with quality ingredients and an abundance of care.

We're committed to serving everyone, with a \$3.00 suggested donation for guests over 60 and a \$5.00 fee for those under 60.

Join us in making our community healthier and stronger, one meal at a time!

Fourth Thursday of the month is PotLuck!

**JUST LET
ME GO
YARD
SALE-ING
AND NO ONE
GETS HURT**

**Let Teresa do the driving!
Friday, May 30th, Depart 9:00AM**



Need a meal?

Know someone who does?

Ask about our meal free program.

**From the Free Clothing
Bank:**

By Peggy

The Clothing Bank is such a success! We have all kinds of clothes to look through. However, we still need summer items. We are purging the winter items for now and hope to have those put away soon.

We ask you leave the hangers and don't take them with the items of your choice. We occasionally get hangers in that we will put on the free table.

Another request... do not go through any tubs or sacks that may be in the Clothing

Bank. They may be items that we have folded to put away for this fall and we don't want to have to refold everything.

There are new signs in the garment room. Please read them.

Thank you to Larry and Gail for taking care of the Clothing Bank.



Please call by
10:00 am
to reserve
your meal

May

60+: \$3/ea.
suggested
donation

Under 60: \$5/ea
required

Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1 Veggie soup, apple slaw, garlic bread, pineapple upside down cake	2 Spaghetti w/ beef sauce, Caesar salad, Mandarin oranges
6 BBQ chicken, broccoli salad, 3 bean salad, roll, fruit	7 Taco bar w/ shredded pork, chocolate cake	8 Tuna casserole, green salad, grapes, lemon bars	9 Prime rib, baked potatoes, mixed veggies, fruit
13 Grilled cheese & tomato soup, pea salad, fruit	14 Chinese chicken salad, sherbet	15 Scalloped potatoes & ham, green beans, orange slices, strawberry shortcake	16 Tuna salad, pasta salad, roll, fruit
20 Spinach & asparagus quiche, hash browns, fruit salad	21 Cheeseburgers, French fries, baked beans, root beer float	22 Chicken noodle soup w/ grilled PB&J, green salad, cake	23 Pork stir fry, rice, fruit
27 Fish portion, baked potato, coleslaw, roll, fruit	28 Vegetarian chili, corn bread, fruit	29 Tater tot casserole, asparagus, fruit	30 Chicken salad, green salad, roll, fruit

What's Happening This Month?

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat Sun
4:00 S.A.I.L	8:30 S.A.I.L 9:45 Tai Chi	9:30 Cards/Games 4:00 S.A.I.L	1 8:30 S.A.I.L 9:45 Tai Chi 1:00 BINGO	2 10:30 Food Smarts 1:00 Fiber Group	3/4 8:30 SAIL 11:00 TRIP: Les Mis
5 4:00 S.A.I.L	6 8:30 S.A.I.L 9:45 Tai Chi	7 Siete DeMayo 9:30 Cards/Games 9:30 TRIP: Redwind Casino 10:00 VA Assistance 1:00 PCHS Mobile Clinic	8 8:30 S.A.I.L 9:45 Tai Chi 11:00 Pierce County Social Services	9 Happy Mother's Day! 10:00 FREE TABLES!! 10:30 Food Smarts 12:30 MOVIE: Dirty Dancing	10/11 8:30 SAIL 11:00 TRIP LIV COMM FAIR
12 4:00 S.A.I.L	13 8:30 S.A.I.L 9:45 Tai Chi 10:00 Tacoma ProBono 12:15 Medicare Talk 12:30 Medicare Help	14 9:30 Cards/Games 10:00 Hair Cuts 4:00 S.A.I.L	15 8:30 S.A.I.L 9:45 Tai Chi 1:00 BINGO	16 Birthday Lunch 11:30 Blood Pressure 11:30 PCHS Medicare Assistance 1:00 Karaoke	17/18 8:30 SAIL
19 4:00 S.A.I.L	20 8:30 S.A.I.L 9:45 Tai Chi 10:00 TRIP: Walmart	21 9:30 Cards/Games 12:20 TALK: Pawson's Insurance 4:00 S.A.I.L	22 8:30 S.A.I.L 9:45 Tai Chi	23 10:00 FREE TABLE 12:30 MOVIE: Casablanca	24/25 8:30 SAIL
26 4:00 S.A.I.L	27 8:30 S.A.I.L 9:45 Tai Chi 9:30 TRIP: Visit Belfair w/ Jennifer	28 9:30 Cards/Games 10:00 Hair Cuts 4:00 SAIL	29 8:30 S.A.I.L 9:45 Tai Chi	30 9:00 TRIP: YARD SALES! w/ Teresa	31/01 8:30 SAIL



These services are supported by funding from Pierce County through its Human Services Department.

June 4th TRIP: BJ's Bingo



Spending the summer at a Catskills resort with her family, Frances "Baby" Houseman falls in love with the camp's dance instructor, Johnny Castle. 1987

Friday 9th, 12:30 1hr40min Rated PG



A cynical expatriate American cafe owner struggles to decide whether or not to help his former lover and her fugitive husband escape the Nazis in French Morocco. 1942

Friday 23rd, 12:30 1h42mins Rated PG

News and Tips from Tacomaprobono Community Lawyers

Come see us at the Livable Community Fair at the Civic Center on Saturday, May 10! And of course we'll be out to Key Peninsula the following week for our regular 2nd Tuesday pop-ups on May 13 -- KPCS 10-noon, Mustard Seed from 1-3 p.m. and Gig Harbor City Hall from 4-6 p.m. We'll also be at Gig Harbor City Hall on Monday, May 19, from 10-noon. All our Legal Aid Pop-Ups are free and open to all.

Are you eligible for 'Blake Relief'?

State v. Blake is a 2021 Washington State Supreme Court decision that says the state's drug possession law is unconstitutional. If you were convicted of drug possession on or before February 25, 2021, you can get those convictions, going back to 1971, cleared ("vacated") and removed from your criminal record. You may also seek a waiver or refund for restitution/ Legal Financial Obligations (LFO's) paid on pre-2021 drug possession convictions, such as drug treatment costs, Department of Corrections (DOC) costs of supervision and electronic home monitoring. The law the court found unconstitutional is "Unlawful Possession of a Controlled Substance" or "VUCSA – possession" (RCW 69.50.4013 and earlier versions of that law).

Living with Conviction will help you navigate the process of vacating convictions for free. Call 206-307-3028 or email info@LivingwithConviction.org.

If your case was in Pierce County, the Prosecutor's Office has an online form you can fill out to have your conviction vacated; it may take some time but they will take care of it for you. <https://www.piercecountywa.gov/7229/Blake>

HOUSING JUSTICE PROJECT TENANTS' RIGHTS CLINICS IN PIERCE COUNTY!

Moore Branch Tacoma Public Library
Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday
1-3 pm

Main Branch Tacoma Public Library
Every 2nd and 4th Tuesday
1-3 pm

**Lakewood City Hall**
Weekly on Thursdays
9:30-11:30 am

**Puyallup Public Library**
2nd Monday of the month
2-4 pm

Sumner/Bonney Lake Family Resource Center
1st Wednesday of the month
2-4 pm



You can get an appointment to attend a clinic by filling out our online intake form, visiting our main office for an in-person intake Monday-Thursday 1-3 p.m., or you can also walk in to a clinic that's convenient for you. If you do walk in without an appointment that's OK, but do plan to arrive as early as possible and bring any notices or other documents related to your issue. If you walk in and haven't already done an intake, an HJP paralegal will screen you for income eligibility at the clinic but you do not need to bring proof of income or ID.

The schedule for all our pop-ups, including the HJP Tenants' Rights Clinics, is on our website, www.tacomaprobono.org.

In addition to the pop-ups, the best way to contact our program if you need help is through the online intake form on our website, www.tacomaprobono.org, or in person at our downtown Tacoma offices, Monday-Thursday 1-3 p.m



BLAKE REFUND BUREAU

Washington State's official online reimbursement center for court-ordered fines or costs paid in connection with Blake-related drug possession convictions.



Learn more about Blake-related convictions, find resources to help you get started, and apply for your qualifying refunds at www.courts.wa.gov/blakerefund or call 360.704.1913.

SCAN HERE



For information on how to find your case, contact the court of your conviction or call the Washington State Office of Public Defense at 360.586.3164, Ext. 218.

Food Pantry News

By Brett, Food Pntry Manager



Food Pantry Expansion Update:

As we work with an architect to get drawings of our expansion that match our vision, we have put up a temporary “garage”. Items in there will include baked goods, produce and TEFAP canned goods. In addition to our standard selection, other items may be available based on current stock and circumstances.

When you visit, please sign in. This is VERY important to help us keep the food supply coming.

We ask that you keep your visits to once per day and only take what you and your family will use.

Hours in the “garage” will be the same as regular Food Basket hours, 10am to 3:30pm on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday and 10am to 5:30pm on Wednesday. The “garage” will be CLOSED for lunch from 12 noon to 12:45pm.

Food Pantry Needs:

- Canned Soup
- Canned Stews & Chili
- Canned Tuna
- Personal Hygiene Products
- **VOLUNTEERS!**



Wool-gathering

By Erin, Receptionist

Contrary to popular belief, sheep aren’t stupid. While linguistic metaphors regarding sheep’s (lack of) cognitive ability abound, modern science has shown that domesticated sheep are nearly as smart as pigs. Ovis aries (domesticated sheep) have great memories for faces- they can recognize 50 of their woolly friends for over 2 years! Ovines form complex hierarchical societies within their own flock, and are shown to prefer the company of certain animals over others- i.e. they make friends! To anyone who is familiar with sheep and their behavior, this information may seem like a no-brainer, but it’s only recently been explored and proven by scientific study.

Speaking of sheep memories: Billy Joel, one of my Shetlands, was so offended after I gave him his shots and trimmed his hooves one year, he held a grudge for nearly

three months! He wouldn’t let me come anywhere near him (prior to this vaccination offense, he was a huge cud-dlebug and would literally try to crawl in my lap). He finally forgave me and let me pet him again after I repeatedly bribed him with strawberries, animal and saltine crackers.

So, next time the term “sheep” is bandied about, remember that it might not be quite as insulting as many people think!

Remember! Sheep are good for more than entertaining stories.

Join us for our Fiber Group to explore the wonderful world of wool! **Friday, May 2nd, 1:00.**



Billy Joel, grudge-keeper extraordinaire (L) and Whitney Eweston (R)

Thank you for making our Bikes & BBQ Fundraiser a Huge Success!



Recognizing our Dedicated Coordinator, Teresa, and amazing supportive Staff

We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to our incredible Program/Volunteer Coordinator for her hard work and dedication in organizing this fantastic event. Her efforts were instrumental in making this fundraiser a success, and we cannot thank her enough for her tireless efforts.

We would also like to acknowledge the invaluable support of our amazing staff who stepped in to assist Teresa: Erin T, Erin W, Delci, Judy, Brett, Carol, Natalie, Lisa, Brandon, Peggy, Vivian, Robin, and Jackie. Their commitment and teamwork were essential in ensuring the smooth execution of this event.

Events such as these take a lot of effort and we really wouldn't be as successful without the help of an astounding group of volunteers: Karl, Sandy, Patricia, Cindy, Lana, Cliff, J.J., Madeline, Mackenzie, Mia, and so many more.

Furthermore, we are incredibly grateful to our generous partners and donors who contributed.

- Indian Motorcycle Rider Group for their contributions and for sharing their beautiful bikes
- Kiwanis for the delicious burgers
- Washington State Department of Health for providing the Care-A-Van with vaccines
- And our generous donors: Pawson Insurance Agency, Foxglove Farm, El Sombrero, Purple Gorilla, Madrona Café, Salon 302, In City Remedies.
- And everyone that came, bought, danced, laughed and had fun. That's what these events are for.

**Your support and contributions helped make our fundraiser a
memorable and successful event!**

