

In the Know:

Hear from your City



Making a Difference with a Referral: Helping People Experiencing Homelessness Access Services

Assisting individuals, youth and families experiencing homelessness continues to be a priority for the City of Tacoma. During this 30 minute talk you will have the opportunity to hear from the City's expert about the proactive approach the City has taken to address homeless-related matters and how you can be a partner to help address concerns in your neighborhood.

You will learn:

- What the current situation is.
- What the City is doing to help.
- How you can help address the situation.
- What resources are available.



The City of Tacoma's Speakers Bureau offers 30 minutes talks from subject matter experts each quarter. Each talk can be requested by established community, service and neighborhood groups of ten or more people two weeks in advance of the speaking date by contacting cityoftacoma.org/TacomaFIRST or 3-1-1 and submitting a request. For a full listing and detailed description of this quarter's topics visit, cityoftacoma.org/INK.

Meet the Expert



Colin DeForrest
Homeless Services Manager
Neighborhood and
Community Services

Colin DeForrest has been working with families, adults and youth experiencing homelessness for over 12 years. For the last five years, Colin has been the Homeless Services Manager for the City of Tacoma. In his current position he focuses on the identification, clean-up and monitoring of homeless encampments and the ongoing systems innovation in the homeless services system. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology and Psychology from Western Washington University. Colin believes collaboration and communication are the key ingredients in any successful endeavor.