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This Week from the Mayor

Denis Law, Mayor

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Comments, questions or suggestions, or just want to share all the great things that are happening in the city, please email me. Thanks for reading.

City tackles homelessness with community resource events

HOMELESSNESS IS A MAJOR CHALLENGE facing our entire region, but through a series of community resource events, we are actually doing something about it and seeing results.

One of the major obstacles facing families experiencing homelessness is not having access to vital community services. They have to travel from one place to another for basic items and they are just not able.

The city’s Human Services Division, along with the help of several leaders in the Renton community, has created a solution. For the past two months the group has held a monthly Homelessness Resources event at the downtown Renton Library. The event brings under one roof community providers in healthcare, housing, banking, public transportation, human services (food, clothing, hygiene) and infant care, to name a few.

The first event in September had six providers who assisted 15 clients. The numbers increased significantly at the October event with 56 clients and 12 providers: Catholic Social Services, Kindering, Compass Housing, Valley Cities Behavioral Health Outreach, Valley Medical Center, Pacific Medical Center, King County (Orca Card), Mary’s Place, REACH, SKY Urban Empowerment and Transformation Center, St. Matthew’s Church and Wellspring. In addition they also distributed 200 pairs of socks, 30 backpacks and personal hygiene packs.

My appreciation and thanks to this dedicated group for coming together to take this major step in bringing needed resources to our homeless population. I look forward to these events growing and reaching more of our homeless population in the coming months.