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Mayor Jim Ferrell Introduces New Task Force on Homelessness

With the goal of examining homelessness in its totality in Federal Way, Mayor Jim Ferrell introduced a new Task Force on Homelessness during Tuesday night's City Council meeting.

The robust group includes representatives from the City of Federal Way, Federal Way Public Schools, Veterans Affairs Puget Sound Health Care System, the King County Library System, South King Fire & Rescue as well as members of the local business and faith community.

Sharry Edwards, a community health nurse with Kaiser Permanente, governing board member of the Federal Way Community Caregiving Network, board member of Ashley House, and former co-chair of the Homeless Mothers and Children Initiative (HMCI), will chair the task force.

Mayor Jim Ferrell said:

"Now that the Homeless Mothers and Children Initiative has, through the good works of New Hope Christian Fellowship Pastor Rick Miller, achieved its most urgent objective of launching an overnight winter shelter for families with children in Federal Way, this new task force gives us an experienced, resourceful and well-rounded group of individuals who can help us really wrap our arms around this multi-layered and complex issue of homelessness in our community.

"I want to personally thank Sharry Edwards for taking on a key leadership role with this task force. She has shown herself to be a valuable asset when it comes to leading discussions and brainstorming solutions on this very important issue."

In addition to Edwards, the Task Force on Homelessness includes: **Chantel Arnone**, Emergency Department Clinical Manager for CHI Franciscan Health; **Jeff Bellinghausen**, Captain and Community Affairs Officer, South King Fire & Rescue; **Elric Bey**, Federal Way resident; **Sarah Bridgeford**, CDBG/HS Coordinator, City of Federal Way; **Jeanne Burbidge**, former Federal Way Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and City Councilmember; **Angela Coe**, Regional Operations Director, Valley Cities Behavioral Health; **Robin Corak**, Executive Director, Multi-Service Center; **Dan Dizon**, Executive Director of Human Resources and Community Relations, Federal Way Public Schools; **Jack Dovey**, US Carrier Relations and Business Development Director, GPS Lockbox; **Willa Gaines**, Advisory Board Member, Reach Out; **Lawrence Garrett**, Executive Director, Advancing Leadership; **Kabal Gill**, Owner, East India Grill; **Marty Hartman**, Executive Director, Mary's Place; **Byron Hiller**, Property Management Division President, Coldwell Banker Commercial Danforth; **Peggy LaPorte**, Executive Director, FUSION; **David Larson**, Judge, Federal

Way Municipal Court; **Kimberly McGlynn**, Operations Manager, King County Library System; **Tom Medhurst**, Member, City of Federal Way Planning Commission and President and CEO of L & L Nursery Supply, Inc.; **Rick Miller**, Pastor, New Hope Christian Fellowship; **Jackie Muth**, Partner, Mahrt & Associates CPA, Federal Way; **Stephan Neal**, Deputy Chief, City of Federal Way Police Department; **Lynn Ormsby**, Advisory Board Member, Sound Alliance/Federal Way Day Center; **Shelley Pauls**, liaison for Federal Way faith community; **Shelly Pricco**, Executive Director, Nexus Youth and Families; **Stacie Scarpaci**, Probation Officer, City of Federal Way Municipal Court; **Rebecca Stephens**, Acting Associate Director, United States Department of Veterans Affairs Puget Sound Health Care System; **Ken Stark**, Vice-Chair, City of Federal Way Human Services Commission; **Jeff Watson**, Community Services Manager, City of Federal Way; Yarden Weidenfeld, Senior Policy Advisor, City of Federal Way's Mayor's Office; **Dan Wise**, Director of Homeless Services, Catholic Community Services in King County.

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