

March Virtual Community Meeting

Due to the coronavirus social distancing mandate we successfully held our first virtual community meeting, using Facebook Live, with Brendan, Alyssa, and Kristine on camera from the HAC office. The meeting focused on resources for kids and families to cope with the schools shut down.

Journal – First digital edition inspired by COVID.



Grab-N-Go for Hilltop Youth



Brendan and Alyssa organized Grab-N-Go spots for youth to pick up lunch, books to read, and packets of activities. Books and activity packets were also routinely stocked in community Little Libraries.

April

April 20th Virtual Community Meeting

We'll continue with the virtual format at least through June's meeting. With ability for people to access the recorded meeting on Facebook, over a thousand people have been reached; our reach is expanding far beyond our usual audience. Brendan stated we may want to continue with a live video/recorded meeting as an add-on when in-person meetings have resumed.



UWT Internship Partnership

Jimmy McCarty has indicated that UWT plans to move forward with up to three interns for HAC. Interns could help with the Journal and community outreach.

Virtual Weekly Updates

Ideas for future updates: a focus on each of HAC's strategic goals; keeping things less formal and presenting current info; and featuring a hello from a local organization or local business.

Hilltop Hot Spots

4 Hot Spots have been issued to date.

May

UWT Internship Program

Brendan stated that UWT has gone from a 10-week to an 8-week summer quarter. Starting June 2nd we'll have two interns, one to work on the Journal and one to work on community outreach.

June

UWT Internship Program

UWT Interns began working at the HAC office with social distancing measures in place. Aaliyah Walton will be a Journalist, Jessica Curry and Stephon Graves will focus on Community Outreach. Stephon led HAC in using Instagram as an additional social media platform and worked with Effie Gurmeza on brand photography and social media strategy skills. Effie met with Kristine to carry on with Instagram after her 3 month contract ends (City of Tacoma to support the Business Crawl).

July

Board Retreat

A Mid-Year Retreat was held on July 18th with 2 UWT Interns in attendance: Aaliyah Walton and Stephon Graves. Discussion focused on a new Mission and Vision statement for HAC, along with the new direction the organization is moving towards.

August

COVID-19 Free Drive-thru Testing at Evergreen College Tacoma

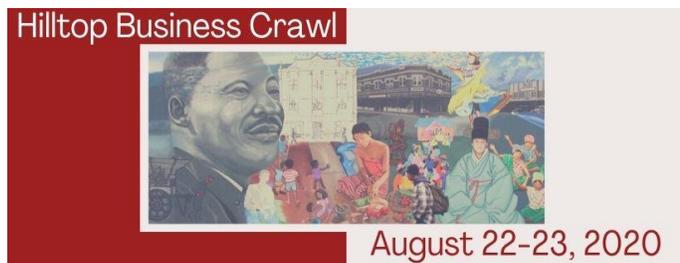
HAC partnered with Evergreen College Tacoma to provide free drive-thru COVID-19 testing through the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department. More than 100 people were tested. HAC passed out Hilltop Action Journals and Hilltop Business Crawl Save the date flyers to vehicles in line.

Hilltop Business Crawl

HAC partnered with THA to provide a community connection opportunity during Hilltop Link construction and COVID-19 restrictions on August 22nd and 23rd. Sound Transit provided a \$2500 sponsorship. 16 brick-and-mortar businesses and 9 micro-businesses participated. A Passport encouraged community members to visit participating businesses over two days with completed Passports entered in a Business Raffle. Passports had a voting option for the People's Choice Award (Johnson's Candy Company won!). Survey results from businesses and attendees fully supported future Hilltop Crawls. About 200+ people came through the HAC office.

HAC Virtual Weekly Updates

We found very different viewing responses in Facebook to Weekly Updates and Community Meetings and decided to suspend Community Meetings for now. We will continue with Virtual Weekly Updates every Monday.



September

EcoDistrict Collaboration with THA

THA reached out to us about a year ago regarding Eco-Districts. Brendan and Alyssa went to training on planning and place-making in sustainable ways. There are lots of layers to this, including the possibility of a land bank/land trust. Our community has been certified to do this work and no other organization in the Hilltop currently has the capacity to do this work. Two Hilltop Incubator workshops were held around a new community development platform with a broader focus on community housing, health and safety, and arts and culture.

October

COVID-19 Free Drive-thru Testing at Evergreen College Tacoma

HAC partnered with Evergreen College Tacoma to provide another free drive-thru COVID-19 testing through the Tacoma Pierce County Health Department.



Tacoma Community House Drive-Thru Trunk or Treat

HAC partnered with TCH and THA to provide a safe alternative for families on the Hilltop to celebrate Halloween. The line into the TCH parking lot was full the entire time. Happy faces behind masks let us know the effort was well worth it!



Halloween on the Hill



HAC also worked with HBA to provide a more traditional way to Trick-or-Treat by supporting community outreach and opening up the HAC office for some social distance candy hand-outs.



National Night Out

NNO was postponed in many districts due to COVID-19 precautions. Kristine handed out 6 NNO bags filled with face masks, hand sanitizer, sidewalk chalk, Hilltop Action Journals, Hacky Sack balls and pencils.

November

Warming Bags Make & Take

HAC reached out for donations and volunteers to put together Warming Bags for those experiencing homelessness. The outpouring of donations was tremendous and allowed HAC to support other community members who were following our lead to make Warming Bags. All volunteer spots were filled! It was sad to cancel the event due to COVID-19; however, HAC Board Members and Staff put together over 150 Warming Bags! 100+ Warming Bags were delivered to Comprehensive Life Resources Homeless Outreach Team. Tacoma Community College Black Student Union picked up 50+ bags and extra supplies and clothing donations.



MAKE & TAKE
WARMING BAGS
For People Experiencing Homelessness

Sat, Nov 21st, 10am to 2pm
Hilltop Action Coalition Office
1116 Earnest S Brazill ST

Social Distancing Guidelines in Place
Register today!
Call 253-391-7722 or email
hacoffice15@gmail.com
Donations Appreciated

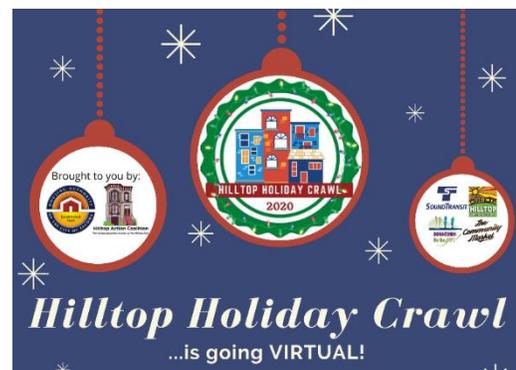
Caring & Sharing Opportunity

The poster features a blue background with white stars. At the top right, there is a photo of hands holding a red heart. At the bottom right, there is a graphic of several white hands raised against a green and blue background with stars. A small photo of a brick building is in the bottom left corner.

December

Hilltop Holiday Crawl

The Holiday Crawl went virtual by providing a Virtual Marketplace and Passport and extending the Crawl for an entire week (Dec 14th - 20th). Sound Transit provided a \$2500 sponsorship and we increased community partners by added Safe Streets (luminaries) to our group (THA and Downtown on the Go). The virtual platform generated increased 4th quarter sales for 18 Brick-and-Mortar businesses and 17 Micro-vendors. Survey results encourage more Hilltop Crawl events.



Brought to you by:

HILLTOP HOLIDAY CRAWL 2020

Hilltop Holiday Crawl
...is going VIRTUAL!

The poster has a dark blue background with white snowflakes. It features three circular ornaments. The central ornament is the largest and contains a map of Hilltop with the text 'HILLTOP HOLIDAY CRAWL 2020'. The other two ornaments are smaller and contain logos for 'Sound Transit' and 'Community Digital'.

HAC Virtual Holiday Gathering

HAC went virtual with a Zoom and Facebook platform for their annual Holiday Gathering. Although we didn't have catering, we did have Kwabi Amoah-Forson (Peace Bus) as Hilltop's Black Santa to light up the Holiday Season. Santa's dancing video went viral!



HILLTOP ACTION COALITION

Holiday Gathering

LET'S HAVE FUN AND BE MERRY

Monday, December 14th

Wear your ugly sweater
Bring your favorite holiday beverage

FUN STARTS AT 6 PM

The poster has a black background with gold snowflakes and a gold outline. The text is in white and gold.

