

TAPROOT THEATRE

CONVERSATIONS

Raised Voices: Homelessness

Thursday, March 28 @ Taproot's Jewell Mainstage Theatre

Taproot Theatre is excited to partner with the Church Council of Greater Seattle and The Sheri and Les Biller Family Foundation to present **Raised Voices**—a series of events celebrating the stories of Seattle activists who are speaking into specific areas of injustice in our city. *Raised Voices* is a chance to put real faces onto “issues” that are often impersonalized in the news. For tonight’s discussion, we welcome two speakers who are actively engaged with the homeless community in Seattle:

Jennifer Adams, Case Manager, Bridge Care Center

Rex Hohlbein, Founder & Creative Director, Facing Homelessness

Moderator: Sonja Lowe, Resident Dramaturg, Taproot Theatre Company



Jennifer Adams is the Case Manager for The Bridge Care Center, a drop-in center for men and women experiencing homelessness or economic hardship in the Ballard area of Seattle. Jennifer is a big part of the homeless community in Ballard. Having lived in her van for 5.5 years on the streets, she approaches her work with on-the-street knowledge, with 10 miles of patience, with a value for human dignity and a deep-seated belief in each person’s potential.



Rex Hohlbein is the Founder and Creative Director of Facing Homelessness, a non-profit that began as a social media project dedicated to “humanizing” the experience of homelessness by sharing black and white photos and stories from individuals in Seattle’s homeless community. Facing Homelessness continues to act on the belief that we can and will end homelessness when we invite community to be a part of the solution.

Raised Voices: Resources

There are several resources that will help you learn more about supporting Seattle’s homeless community and many ways that you can get involved. Here are just a few recommendations about places to start:

How Do I Learn More?

Read Real Change. The *Real Change* newspaper has articles and current information about policies that affect Seattle’s homeless population.

Read Facing Homelessness. Go to the photos section of the *Facing Homelessness* Facebook page. Click on a photo—every photo has a story and each story will help you learn more about your neighbors.

What Can I Do Right Now?

- Prepare an emergency kit to keep in your car. Ask someone if it would be helpful before you offer it to them. Make eye contact, say hello and tell them your name.
- Contact your local food bank or drop-in center and ask what they need most. (Hint: Men’s jeans for The Bridge Care Center!) Or you can download the Samaritan app to your phone. <https://www.samaritan.city/give>
- Check out The Block Project website. This project has a place for everyone to get involved right now in a community way. <http://the-block-project.org/get-involved>

Questions, Responses or Stories to share?

Email Sonja Lowe at sonjal@taproottheatre.org
Or share your story of activism with us by using #TTCresist and tagging @taproottheatre on social media.
We’d love to continue this conversation with you!

This CONVERSATIONS event is held in conjunction with Taproot Theatre’s production of We Will Not Be Silent by David Meyer and in partnership with The Sheri & Les Biller Family Foundation and the Church Council of Greater Seattle .

