



HENNEPIN COUNTY
MINNESOTA

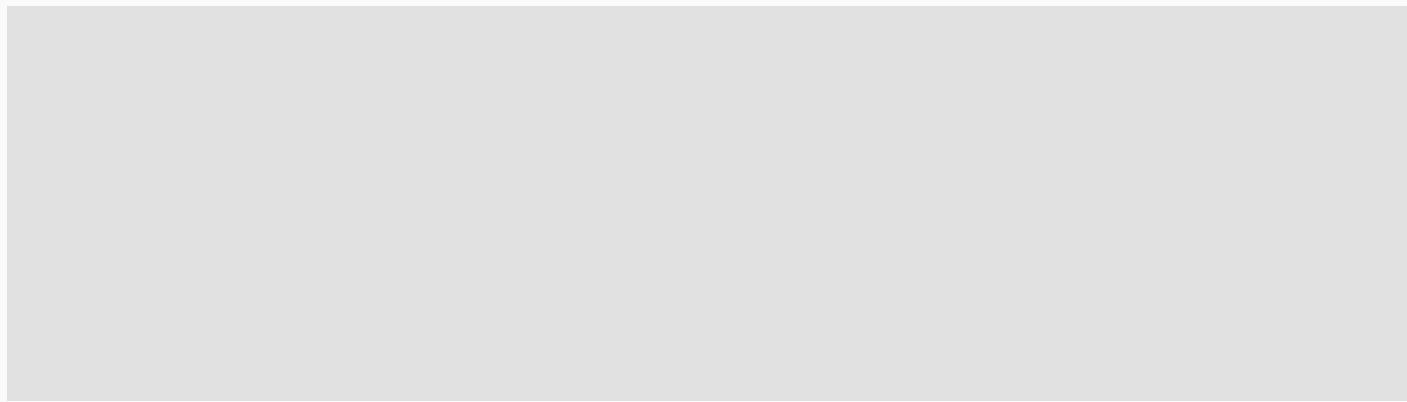


2023 Unsheltered Point-in-Time Volunteer Training

Agenda

- Welcome
- PIT Overview
- Unsheltered PIT Plan and Methodology
- Presentation from ICA
- Best Practices
- Resource Lists Overview
- Volunteer Updates

Welcome



PIT Overview

What is the Point in Time Count?

- A literal count of all the people experiencing homelessness in our community on a single night (i.e., at a **point in time**)
- A “snapshot” of homelessness on this one night in our community
- Federally required annual count
- Communities across the country conduct this count each year in the last 10 days of January at least every other year
- Identify how many individuals and households are homeless in a community, including those living on the street, or other unsheltered locations, and what some of their key characteristics are
- Understand the depth and breadth of homelessness helps our community
- Measure our successes and further understand our challenges from one year to the next.

Who is counted in the Point in Time count?

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD's) [definition of "homeless,"](#) for the purpose of the PIT count, includes two main types of homelessness:

- **Unsheltered:** Individuals or families whose primary nighttime residence is a public place not meant for human habitation
- **Sheltered:** Individuals or families residing in a place dedicated to serving people who would otherwise be unsheltered
- Unsheltered: Counts people sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation (Vehicles, Tents, Sheds/garages, Bus/train

The **Unsheltered** Point in Time Count - Hennepin County

January 25, 2023 PIT date (the evening of Wednesday, Jan 25th)

- Led by each Continuum of Care lead agency – Hennepin County
- Inclusive of the entire CoC's geography– 45 cities
- Partners: Nonprofits, community partners, faith-based partners, residents
- People with lived/living experience **conduct surveys**
- Intentional planning around various sub-populations:
 - Youth
 - Families
 - Veterans
 - Indigenous

The PIT allows us to

- Use data to **identify and plan** for real need, not just anecdotally, by understanding scope
- **Demonstrate real need** to funders, like HUD
- **Raises awareness** among community members who can participate in the solution
- **Distribute information** about resources to unsheltered households and connect to services ... *more than a count*

Unsheltered Count Plan and Methodology

Methodology

Night of PIT

- Tool: Observation form
- Who and where:
 - People observed staying in places not meant for human habitation (e.g. sleeping in cars, RV, etc., on the streets, in a park, campground, bus/train stations)
 - Focus on surrounding suburb

Days following night of PIT

- Tool: PIT LIVE (entry of survey responses)
 - Prioritize entry directly into PIT LIVE
 - Paper surveys available if absolutely necessary
- Who and where:
 - People visiting service locations who report they did not stay in shelter on the night of the PIT
- Limited exceptions for outreach teams, site leads, and other predetermined groups to use observation forms when surveying is not available

Observation Form

Observation Form

- [Observation form](#)
- Collects aggregate information on the number of people observed staying in places not meant for human habitation- including number of persons, guesstimate of ages, genders and races, and location of observation
- Should only be used as the primary data collection tool on the night of the PIT with volunteers observing in suburban locations
- Can be used by outreach teams surveying at encampments following the night of the PIT but ONLY if team knows person/HH is unsheltered and they cannot/will not complete a survey
- Note household makeup and any demographic information that can be determined.
- Record any identifying information about the person/household and location that could help with de-duplication
 - Color of clothing, street name where observation occurred, landmarks, etc.

Survey Overview

Survey

- [Short survey](#)
- Qualifying questions and consent
- Identifying and household information
- Basic demographics
- Housing history
- Sensitive questions
- Additional household members information (adults only)

PIT LIVE FORM

- [PIT LIVE](#)
- Google form where all PIT survey responses are entered
- Responses can be entered at the time of survey completion
- Can have paper PIT survey responses entered in later when necessary

SURVEY REVIEW AND PIT LIVE DEMO

Best Practices

Good Practice for Conducting the Survey

- Be respectful of people's physical space and property
- Ask permission/consent to sit down next to them and begin the survey
- Be clear in your explanation of what the PIT survey is, how long it will take, and that they can pause or stop at any time
- If the person is seeming agitated uncomfortable, offer to pause or stop the survey
- Thank them for their time!

Resources

Resources

- Site folders, including:
 - Observation form instructions
 - Volunteer FAQ
 - Site-Lead FAQ
 - Resources for participants
 - Veteran resource list
- ICA resources
 - [PIT Count Training Materials](#)

Volunteer Shift Sign-Up

Next Steps for Shift Sign-Up

There are 3 kinds of shifts:

- Middle of the night (observational) suburbs: Wednesday night-early Thursday morning
 - You will be sent a map on the area.
- Community sites (surveys): Thursday-Monday.
 - You will be sent the name of site leader and details about the site.
- Street outreach (surveys): coordinated through Erin Wixsten primarily Thursday
 - Outreach coordination meeting scheduled for Monday 1/23.

Next Steps for Shift Sign-Up

We will send you a link to a sign-up genius. Each community site will have a “site leader” who will have materials.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094fabaf2ba3fec07-unsheltered#/>

Follow-up with Jenna with questions:

jenna.tomlinson@wilder.org

Site leader: quick information

Site leaders will be asked to pick-up a packet of materials at Wilder Center on Monday, 1/23 or Tuesday, 1/24.

We will follow-up with you to provide information about your site.

Site leaders are asked to return any completed paper surveys to Wilder Center by **February 1, 2023**.

Final information

- Email will be sent to all who signed up via sign-up genius to give you the final information about your participation and role on or before 1/19.
- If you have not received the info. by 1/20, please email Jenna at jenna.tomlinson@wilder.org
- Thank you so much for your help!!

Questions

