

Hello Maryland Balance of State Providers!

The 2021 Point in Time Count (PIT) is rapidly approaching, and we need your help to ensure we get the most accurate count possible! The PIT is a count of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness on the night of Wednesday, January 27th.

In the 7 days following count night (Thursday January 28th- Wednesday February 3rd) sites will conduct surveys with guests who report that they stayed in unsheltered locations on the night of Wednesday January 27th. Unsheltered locations might include streets, vehicles, parks, abandoned buildings, busses, train stations, airports, under bridges/overpasses, woods or outdoor encampments, or ER waiting rooms.

Sites can conduct surveys any time between midnight on the night of Thursday, January 28 until midnight on the night of Wednesday, February 3rd. You choose your own hours, based on your agency's capacity, although we encourage everyone to expand their coverage as much as possible to help reach the most accurate count.

Safety is the number one priority for this year's count, so please consider your capability to facilitate surveys with proper social distancing, PPEs and other necessary protocol. Sites are not encouraged to use volunteer assistance this year in light of the ongoing COVID pandemic but should instead rely on existing staff and street outreach teams, where possible, to facilitate surveys.

The PIT Count helps identify individuals, families and youth experiencing homelessness and connect them to much needed housing and support services. It also helps stakeholders gather important data on the needs and characteristics of people experiencing homelessness. This information is used to inform community planning and the development of effective interventions to end homelessness across Maryland.

To register your agency as a PIT survey site, [please follow this link](#). We need one registration per site.

Additional training will be provided as we get closer to Count Night.

Please reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns.

Thanks!

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