


Ohio
Balance of State Continuum of Care

2018 Youth Point-in-Time Count Training:
November 30, 2017



OHIO
Balance of State
Continuum of Care

Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio | 175 S. Third St. Suite 580 Columbus, OH 43215

Webinar Information

- All participants' lines are muted
- Submit questions using the questions or chat feature in your GoToWebinar control panel
- This presentation will be posted to COHHIO's website
- We are attempting to record the presentation

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Agenda

- Introductions
- Purpose of Webinar
- Benefits
- Review key items from Youth PIT Planning Worksheet
- Youth PIT Volunteer Training Overview
- Questions
- Closing

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BoSCoC Staff Contacts for HIC/PIT

- Erica Mulryan, CoC Director
- Barbara Miller, CoC Coordinator
- Sandy Sechang, CoC Specialist
- Genelle Denzin, HMIS Data Analyst
- Matt Dicks, HMIS Technical Assistance and Training Support Coordinator
- Amanda Wilson, HMIS Support Coordinator
- Keli Sobers, Mediware Consultant

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Purpose of Webinar

- To be used in conjunction with Local PIT Planning Webinar
- To discuss ways to plan for identifying, approaching, and engaging the Youth in your PIT Count:
 - Youth PIT Planning Worksheet
 - Survey Tools
- Provide a platform to share ideas

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PIT Benefit

- Data helps to improve youth service delivery
- Data provides guidance for youth program development
- Data supports the Community's needs when applying for Federal and local grants specifically for youth
- Assist with resource allocation
- Opportunity to conduct and identify areas for Youth Community Outreach

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PIT Planning Worksheet

- Meant to be a checklist
- Can be used for all participating in the PIT Count
- Identify steps by your role
 - Sheltered (HMIS Participating Provider)
 - Sheltered (Non-HMIS Participating Provider)
 - Unsheltered
 - Street Count
 - Service-Based Count



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Identify PIT Coordinating Committee Members

- School Homeless Liaisons
- Homeless Youth, or Families
- Domestic Violence Survivor or Sexual Assault
- Volunteers from Homelessness Service Providers
- Youth Outreach Team Members
- Mental Health Providers
- Organizations serving LGBTQ Communities

POLL: *Have you been in touch with your local schools homeless liaisons?*

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Partner with Youth Service Community

Build relationships with Youth Service Providers

- Ask them where to find youth
- They may include:
 - Schools
 - Youth Drop ins
 - Libraries
 - Afterschool programs
 - Youth Employment Programs
 - Juvenile Justice Workers

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Unsheltered Counts

- Street Count
 - Sending enumerators to various locations to be interviewed:
 - Possible locations:
 - Parks
 - Under Bridges
 - 24-hr Businesses
 - Abandoned Buildings
 - Bus or Train Stations
 - Public Storage Locations
 - Parking Lots (Cars)
- Service-Based Screening/Interviewing
 - Interviewing homeless Clients in the days following the PIT. These should be Clients that were not housed during the night of the PIT AND were not previously interviewed during the Street Count.
 - Conducted at Meal Sites, Food Banks, Youth Day Center, etc
- Try to survey locations beforehand

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Incentives

- Identify possible sources for incentives to give to the homeless, approach:
 - Restaurants
 - Walmart/Target/Kmart
 - Convenience Shops
 - Churches
 - Shelters
 - True Colors Fund
 - Schools
- If incentives are secured,
 - Make note of donation and who from to thank them
 - Make someone responsible for obtaining them
 - Secure before the Count
 - Identify places for volunteers to access them

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Develop Volunteer Recruitment & Deployment Plan

- Determine # of volunteers and roles
 - Roles: Enumerator, Logistics, Incentives
 - Identify Teams
 - Assign teams to geographic areas
 - Volunteer Recruitment Letter Template, Social Media, Flyers
- Incorporate Youth as much as possible, particularly with Social Media
- Try to team Youth and Adult volunteers together

POLL: *Have you utilized Youth in your PIT Count in the past?*

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Volunteer Training

- Types of Training
- Publicize Training Dates for volunteers
- Send Emails, texts, etc. to get info to volunteers
 - Express the need to attend
 - How they can attend
 - Time commitment involved
- Conduct Training
 - Document Training Attendance

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Volunteer Training Street Count – How To Approach

- Try to make them feel good, compliment them
- Make eye contact
- Smile
- If they are sitting, kneel or sit at their level
- Do not shine the light in their face
- Be cognizant of body language
 - Avoid crossing arms
 - Leaning back
 - Frowning
- Be respectful, don't talk down to them

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Volunteer Training Street Count – Safety First

- Stay with assigned team in assigned area
- Carry a cell phone
- Don't wear much jewelry or expensive clothing
- Dress warm and comfortably
- Follow traffic laws
- Trust your instincts
- Don't enter abandoned buildings (unless instructed otherwise)
- Leave a situation where you and your team are not comfortable
 - If person becomes hostile or threatened, apologize and leave
 - Record in *Unsheltered Observation Form*

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Volunteer Training Street Count – Safety First

If site becomes unsafe

- Drop any unnecessary items and run
- If street fighting occurs, get away from scene
- DO NOT Interrupt sale of sex or drugs
- Report dangerous areas back to team lead

Avoid Becoming a target by

- Not carrying personal info or valuables
- Keep cash in pocket, shoe, etc. for emergency
- Not appearing critical or judgmental

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Volunteer Training General – How To Ask ?'s

- Try to start conversation casually
- Try not to seem scripted
- Don't try to force an answer, let the Youth feel they are in control of what information they want to share
- Watch for cues
 - Always looking away as if worried who is coming or watching
 - Using profanity
 - Ignoring
- In terms of how to ask the specific questions, please see the Local PIT Count Planning Webinar.
 - I would suggest trying to make the questions as simple as possible
 - Repeat what you believe their answer is for confirmation if they seemed unsure when they answered

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HIC/PIT correspondence should be directed to:
ohioboscoc@cohhio.org

HMIS correspondence should be directed to:
hmis@cohhio.org

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Additional Information

- Questions regarding HMIS data should be directed to the COHHIO HMIS staff at:
hmis@cohhio.org
- Question regarding the HIC/PIT Process should be directed to COHHIO CoC staff at:
ohioboscoc@cohhio.org

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Additional Information

- HUD Guidance on conducting PIT Counts:
<https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/hdx/guides/pit-hic/#general-pit-guides-and-tools>
- Ohio BoSCoC 2018 HIC/PIT Count Guidance:
http://cohhio.org/information_resource/training_materials
- HUD Model PIT Count Surveys for Youth Experiencing Homelessness:^{*}
*not required as part of the Ohio BoSCoC 2018 PIT Count
<https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/5183/model-pit-count-surveys-for-youth-experiencing-homelessness/>

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Ohio BoSCoC Youth PIT Count Planning
November 30, 2017
10:00am

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