



Butte Countywide Homeless Continuum of Care

Point in Time Committee

Wednesday, August 24, 2022 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81910763182?pwd=YUJmbktYN1hIREJFM0xQN252T04vdz09>

Phone: +1 669 900 9128

Meeting ID: 290 119 1379 **Password:** 220824

PIT COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Aimee Decker, Nation’s Finest	Hilary Crosby, Safe Space	Meagan Meloy, BCOE
Amanda Gaylord, CHAT	Ian Clement, DESS HH	Michael Wright, DESS HH
Amanda McAtee, ORM	Isabel Alaniz-Alvarado, DESS HH	Pahua Thao, DESS HH
Amber Abney-Bass, Jesus Center	Jay Coughlin, DESS HH	Sarah Frohock, BCDBH
Annie Terry, ORM	Josh Jamison, OHC	Shelly Forbes, Nation’s Finest
Benson, Community Member	Kaitlyn-Storm Sherrill, DESS HH	Shelly Storkan, BCDBH
Breauna Hodnett, ORM	Keesha Hills, Haven of Hope	Shelly Watson, Jesus Center
Briana Harvey-Butterfield, DESS HH	Kevin Thompson, Haven of Hope	Taylor Storey, TNHA
Carol Zanon, GCHTF	Leslie Johnson, CHAT	Tami Ritter, Board of Supervisors
Charles Withuhn, NSSST	Lisa Currier, CHAT	Tracey Stogsdill, 211/Helpcentral
Codie McCormack, Caminar	Lorena Reed, BCDBH	Vern Hartman
Dawn Blackhorse, Butte College	Luann Manss, Caring Choices	Wendy Lo, DESS HH
Don Taylor, DESS HH	Lyndall Ellingson, Chico State	
Elisa Rawlinson, DESS HH	Maisue Thao, Butte College	
Emily Bateman, Youth for Change	Marie Demers, City of Chico	
Erin Murray, DESS HH	Marin Hambley, Stonewall	
	MaryJo Alonzo, City of Chico	

Chairperson:	Jay Coughlin	Recording:	Jay Coughlin
Second Chairperson:	Briana Harvey-Butterfield		

AGENDA

- | | |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1. Call to Order | J. Coughlin |
| 2. Introductions | All |
| a. Update Committee Members | |
| 3. Calendar | J. Coughlin |
| 4. PIT Volunteer Follow Up Survey Results | J. Coughlin |
| 5. Review Unsheltered Survey Questions | B. Harvey-Butterfield |
| 6. HUB locations - Suggestions/Changes/Updates | J. Coughlin |
| 7. Announcements | All |
| 8. Adjourn -- Next meeting Wednesday September 21, 2022 3:00 – 4:00 p.m. | |

Activity	Date	Completed and/Or Notes
July 2022		
PIT prep		
Volunteer Committee		
Review Survey Questions		Youth Specific Questions - Follow Up
August 2022		
PIT meeting	8/24/2022	
Survey Questions Update/Discussion		
Select A PIT Count date and time		
Choose PIT Count Methodology		
Identify HUB Locations		
September 2022		
PIT meeting	9/28/2022	
Secure incentives for homeless participants		County has contracted with X
Finalize Survey Questions		
Identify HUB locations- sheltered/ unsheltered/ excluded areas		
Develop draft of marketing materials		Follow up w/ Jesus Center
October 2022		
PIT meeting	10/26/2022	
Review Annual HIC/PIT Count Notice		Refer to PITCPW
Volunteer Committee: List of volunteers for review		
Approve marketing material		
Develop media and outreach plan		Look at 2019 Plan
Prepare and send "Sheltered" Count Docs to Agencies		HMIS Lead
November 2022		
PIT meeting	11/16/2022	
Obtain CoC Board approval of PIT Count Approach/ Methodology/ Survey Qs		CoC Council Meeting Agenda
Volunteer Committee: Coordinate volunteer placement		
Volunteer Committee: Develop volunteer deployment plan		
Make a plan to case Butte County outskirts (Concow Banger etc)		
Submit survey questions for PIT to Simtech Solutions		
Finalize HUB locations- sheltered/ unsheltered/ excluded areas		Move from October to November
Designate and list spokespersons for media and outreach		
December 2022		
PIT meeting	12/7/2022	
Distribute marketing materials		
Issue press release for Professional Volunteers		
Develop trainings for volunteers		
Notify law enforcement of plan		
Notify health care agencies of plan		
Set volunteer training dates		Schedule virtual/ in-person trainings the week of 1/9/23
January 2023		
PIT meeting	1/11/2023	

Develop communication strategies		
Issue press release explaining PIT Count (what and why)		
Conduct PIT volunteer training sessions		
Start formal street outreach		
Distribute gift cards to Volunteers		
Engage law enforcement		
Engage health care agencies		
Prepare for command center set up		
Obtain TV coverage for the day of the PIT count		
THE DAY(S)	1/25/2023	1/25 - 1/26?
February/March/April 2023		
PIT meeting	2/1/2023	2/2/22 moved
Hub leader interviews		
Data entry, de-duplication, and analysis	Feb/Mar/Apr	
Preliminary results available	Feb/Mar/Apr	Hub leaders meet with their teams Jan 23 and 24th
Complete the draft of the PIT Count Report	Feb/Mar/Apr	
Submit data into HDX	Feb/Mar/Apr	
Present finalized PIT Count Report to CoC Council	Feb/Mar/Apr	
Release Final PIT Count Report		
July 2023 - Begin Prep for next Count		

PIT Survey Results – 61 Responses

How did you hear about the event?

Employer (28)	Co-worker (3)	Friend (3)
Chico State (3)	Nation’s Finest (1)	Chico Enterprise Record (1)
Internet (2)	Butte Co Behavioral Health (2)	CHAT (3)
Butte County CoC (7)	PIT Committee Member (1)	Gridley Lions Club (1)
Facebook (2)	True North (1)	Oroville Hope Center (1)
Caminar(1)		

Did you feel the training provided prepared you for the event?

YES – 86.89%

NO – 13.11%

If not, how could the training be improved?

More specific information about homeless locations

Better understanding of the assigned area

In person training

Let surveying people know the true purpose of the PIT

Make slides available

Prior experience with homeless population

Clear instructions re who can be surveyed

Prior familiarity of the staff with homeless population

Create a movie clip and distribute to each agency that can be shown to their members and members can complete training completion form/submit. Then meet with HUB leaders for Q&A one week prior to PIT.

More info for how to approach people, where to look, whether to call out to tents/cars, etc.

More time slots offered after work and evening hours; training further in advance and more advanced notice for when the training will be held.

Experienced trainers

More hypothetical “live” examples to work through on phone or device

More training on finding and approaching remote camps

Increase text size on the app

Better HUB supervisor prep

Add a special training session for less technologically inclined

Suggest bringing something to charge phone

Training specific to assigned areas

Did you feel you were provided the resources needed to participate in the event?

YES – 77.05%

NO – 22.95%

If not, what would have been helpful that was not provided?

Larger balance on gift cards

Maps on paper were unclear

Signage for HUBs

Directions to where the unhoused specifically reside and send teams there

Preliminary scouting for homeless population / shared knowledge of where to find people to survey

Use on HUB for better communication

Outreach packets – water, socks, etc

GPS map instead of paper map

Breaks

More time – 3 days

Were you satisfied with the Counting Us app used for the event?

YES – 83.61%

NO – 16.39%

What went well on the day of the Point in Time?

Meeting and listening to the unhoused population

Communication was really effective considering the amount of activity going on

Everything went well

Organized, gift cards helped get interaction

Respondents were positive and engaging, no negative reactions noticed.

Enjoyed the person I was partnered with

Organization of routes

People were willing to be surveyed to get a gift card

Questions were easy to answer

Weather was lovely and met some good people – both PIT volunteers and people who were homeless.

Able to connect with people we serve

Supplies all accounted for, plenty of volunteers

Well organized and timely

The Counting Us app made asking questions and inputting answers straightforward and easy

Support from organizers / app

Communication between teams

App worked well

Effective communication between participants and volunteers

Set up was easy and materials extremely well organized

What did not go well on the day of the Point in Time?

App did not have service, had to write everything client said down on paper and then transfer it all afterwards

Questions were too personal

Volunteers were given different / wrong times to show up

Devise did not read location correctly

Unsure where to go, even with a map

A lot of driving

Concerned about undercounting

Is there anything you would like to add?

Glad to have participated but would like the zones to be drawn based on previously known information on the location of the encampments, adequate surveyors for larger areas, time of day is important

Cultural knowledge about the groups you are seeking. Someone in each group that knows the community in question in order to be able to find where people live

Really enjoyed being part of the PIT count!

Enjoyed the process and hope it helped some members of our community that need help

I feel like the organization, Butte County, is out of touch. The questions, the timeframe, the organization of the PIT really lacked the input of folks who work in the field with the unhoused. If the purpose of the pit is to collect numbers of unhoused then focus on that. If asking people rude personal questions is the point then make that clear. If you are asking an unhoused person a question be sure that is a question you would ask a housed person you just met. Many of the questions are dehumanizing. Show some care, concern, empathy and respect for the folks who are already navigating a very challenging living experience.

Many people were asking where they could receive services. Perhaps make a list/brochure available with the different services available with addresses and descriptions.

Gift cards to fast food ended up being problematic for folks because the actual restaurants are closed and they can't walk up through the drive through. That night, I was at McDonald's and happened to run into one of the women we had surveyed. She was trying to figure out how to get food. I was able to order it for her, but it made me realize that as nice as the gift cards were, they weren't actually user friendly for folks.

Some were told not to speak to us because their lawyer told them not to.

Much greater familiarity of the staff with the homeless and their encampments before the event next time.

I think it had a lot of great ideas, just survey may need to be shortened some as it took a long time to go through surveys.

In the future there should be one meeting place where all workers meet to connect, collaborate and organize.

More clarity on why people were assigned to different locations. It appeared some requests for a specific location were honored while others were not.

Process should have gone in a different order to more accurately count the population of people that we were trying to count.

Between the too-long app, the inability to find encampments in our huge area, and the inability to count people who didn't want to respond, we were not able to accurately count the homeless people in our designated area. Our count was low by at least 100%.

The survey is way too long! Imagine your census takers crouched under an overpass, straining to hear a homeless person with a speech issue, reading a list of...whatever. It's TOO LONG. I understand some grants are funded regarding particular issues but it has to be shorter.

People who participate need to sign an agreement that they will not falsify data. WE had homeless "haters" doing the survey with complete control of what was entered.

I had really wonderful support throughout the day!

It was great.

Thanks for supporting the homeless and trying to make the situation better.

The teams who went out in the afternoon were probably more successful; it only took about two hours to walk all the areas in our assigned section and could have had time to complete another section, but when we returned we were told all sections had been completed.

Perhaps have the count for a few days and at different times. I do look forward to next year. I think we missed so many people in Magalia and Chico.

Understanding the population areas and communicating it to the volunteers would be helpful. Please don't ask us to start at 6:00am (0 dark 30) - my time is valuable - we wasted over 4 hours in the dark before any of the homeless people woke up for the day.

Better mapping out of the areas to include where encampments are located.

I think it would be wise to remind volunteers that certain areas are only accessible on foot, and then try to ensure that people are willing to walk/hike, possibly in more remote areas, if necessary to complete the count. If volunteers are uncomfortable with this they could instead be given an area that doesn't include this type of participation.

I have high concerns over possible undercounting by individuals that volunteered and held ulterior motives in ensuring that numbers were not captured accurately. I feel that each team should have someone knowledgeable and invested in accuracy onsite at all times, and possibly considered some screening questions before accepting just 'any' volunteer. Accuracy is important and not all community members support accurate representation or support services meant to help the unhoused population.

Give more information about how long the day was going to be or what is the expectation.

Maybe consider shortening the length of the survey on the app. It became quite lengthy for the participant as far as numbers of questions asked.

Most of the people that stopped by our HUB had already been counted. Library in Oroville. If we have a better idea of where people are likely to be it may be easier to speak to them. Just heading out with no general areas to look made it a little more difficult. Maybe just scout a day or two ahead of time of likely areas or asking the community somehow of places they are aware of homeless camping.

Halfway through the day we were informed that everyone living in a trailer in Paradise (which is a lot) was considered unsheltered. When we would talk to these people they seemed offended by the unsheltered statement as they believe living in a trailer is a home. They were very adamant that they were not homeless. We were able to talk it through and they would participate, but it is hard to consider people affected by the fire living in trailers while their house is being built as truly considered homeless/unsheltered.

I don't think people should have been allowed to pick the location they were sent to and in large areas, people from different groups should have been sent out to make sure the most accurate information was being captured.

Tell HUD, or whoever will listen, if you want any credibility you need to reduce the number of questions and expand the number of days to collect the data. Otherwise, City Counselors laugh at the PIT. The PIT is a lie.

Although many people were willing to give their name and DOB at the beginning, when we started asking questions later regarding substance use they stopped answering questions since we had their identity. Also we did not find out about capturing people who refused to talk to us until the end of the day which was unfortunate because we had already encountered people who would have qualified to be entered but we didn't know that was an option.

Homelessness looks different to each individual. If a person does not have a place to call their home they should be considered homeless. Couch surfing for one night should not count as not being homeless when the majority of a person's nights are spent outdoors.

I think the gift cards should be more than \$5 because you can barely purchase anything with \$5 anymore. Inflation was not considered.

I think people should be assigned to areas that they are familiar with in order to do the best job possible.

Legend

HUD Required Question

HUD/Software Question

Local Questions

1. Survey Location

- a. Chico
- b. Oroville
- c. Paradise, Magalia, and other Ridge Communities
- d. Gridley, Biggs
- e. Call in 211
- f. Other: [free fill text box]

2. Have you already been interviewed for the 2021 PIT Count? (If yes, STOP)

- a. Yes
- b. No

3. What area did you stay in last night?

- a. Biggs
- b. Chico
- c. Gridley
- d. Oroville
- e. Paradise
- f. Magalia
- g. Other location in Butte County: [free fill text box]
- h. Outside Butte County: [free fill text box]

4. Where did you sleep the night before the Count? (If option in bold is selected, continue with the survey)

- a. **Abandoned building**
- b. **Under bridge/ overpass**
- c. **Bus/ train station**
- d. **Vehicle/ boat/ RV**
- e. **Outdoor encampment**
- f. **Park**
- g. **Street or sidewalk**
- h. Emergency shelter (Torres, Sabbath House, Safe Space, ORM, Etc.)
- i. Transitional housing
- j. Hospital
- k. Treatment program
- l. Jail
- m. Hotel/Motel paid for with own money
- n. Hotel/Motel paid for by an agency
- o. Temporarily with friends or family (couch surfing)
- p. House or apartment-rent/own
- q. In a place being evicted from
- r. Other location: [free fill text box]

5. What is your name?

- a. First Name (or Initial): [free fill text box]
- b. Last Name (or Initial): [free fill text box]
- c. If hesitant, ask "What are your initials?" [free fill text box]
- d. Person refused

6. What is your gender? [Select One]

- a. Male
- b. Female
- c. A gender that is not singularly 'Female' or 'Male'
- d. Transgender
- e. Questioning
- f. Person doesn't know
- g. Person refused

7. How do you identify your sexual orientation? (choose all that apply)

- a. Straight or heterosexual
- b. Lesbian, gay, homosexual, or same gender loving
- c. Bisexual or pansexual
- d. I identify as: [free fill text box]
- e. Person doesn't know
- f. Person refused

8. What is your date of birth?

- a. [mm/dd/yyyy]
- b. Person doesn't know
- c. Person refused

7a. If refused to answer date of birth, ask "How old are you?"[free fill date box]

7b. If refused to answer age, ask "What age range do you fall into?"

- a. 5-12
- b. 13-17
- c. 18-24
- d. 25-34
- e. 35-44
- f. 45-54
- g. 55-61
- h. 62+

9. What is your race?

- a. American Indian or Alaska native
- b. Asian
- c. Black or African American
- d. Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
- e. White
- f. Multiple races
- g. Person doesn't know
- h. Person refused

10. Are you Hispanic/Latino?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Person doesn't know
- d. Person refused

11. Is this the first time you have been homeless?

- a. Yes
- b. No

- c. Person doesn't know
- d. Person refused

12. How long have you been homeless this time? (Only include time in shelters and/or streets)

- a. 0 to 3 months
- b. 4 to 6 months
- c. 7 to 11 months
- d. 1 to 2 years
- e. 2 to 3 years
- f. 3 years or more

13. How many months did you stay in shelters or on the streets over the past 3 years?

- a. 0 to 3 months
- b. 4 to 6 months
- c. 7 to 11 months
- d. 1 to 2 years
- e. 2 to 3 years
- f. 3 years or more

14. How many separate times have you stayed in shelters or on the streets in the past 3 years?

- a. Fewer than 4 times
- b. 4 or more times
- c. Person doesn't know
- d. Person refused

15. Do you have any Substance Abuse Issues?

- a. No
- b. Alcohol abuse
- c. Drug abuse
- d. Both alcohol and drug
- e. Person doesn't know
- f. Person refused

15a. If yes, is this a long-term disability that impairs your ability to hold a job or live independently?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Person doesn't know
- d. Person refused

16. Do you have a Chronic Health Condition?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Person doesn't know
- d. Person refused

16a. If yes, is this a long-term disability that impairs your ability to hold a job or live independently?

- a. Yes
- b. No

- c. Person doesn't know
- d. Person refused

17. Do you have a Mental Health Problem?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Person doesn't know
- d. Person refused

17a. If yes, is this a long-term disability that impairs your ability to hold a job or live independently?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Person doesn't know
- d. Person refused

18. Do you have a Physical Disability?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Person doesn't know
- d. Person refused

18a. If yes, is this a long-term disability that impairs your ability to hold a job or live independently?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Person doesn't know
- d. Person refused

19. Do you have a Developmental Disability?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Person doesn't know
- d. Person refused

20. Do you have HIV/AIDS?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Person doesn't know
- d. Person refused

21. Are you experiencing homelessness because you are fleeing Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, or Stalking?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Person doesn't know
- d. Person refused

22. Are you a victim of Domestic Violence?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Person doesn't know
- d. Person refused

23. Are you a veteran? (served in the US Armed Forces OR been called into a duty as a member of the National Guard or as a Reservist)

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Person doesn't know
- d. Person refused

24. What was the last grade level you completed in school?

- a. Less than 8th grade
- b. Less than 12th grade
- c. High School Graduate or GED
- d. AA Degree
- e. Some College
- f. College Degree or More
- g. Person doesn't know
- h. Person refused

25. Were you ever in foster care or stayed in a group home?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Person doesn't know
- d. Person refused

26. Have you ever been to jail and/or prison?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Person doesn't know
- d. Person refused

27. Are you currently on probation and/or parole?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Person doesn't know
- d. Person refused

28. How long have you been in Butte County? If in and out, what is the TOTAL amount of time?

- a. More than a month but less than 1 year
- b. 1-2 years
- c. 3-5 years
- d. 6-9 years
- e. 10-19 years
- f. 20+ years
- g. Person doesn't know
- h. Person refused

29. Do you consider Butte County your home?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Person doesn't know
- d. Person refused

30. Were you living in Butte County when you became homeless?

- a. Yes
- b. No
- c. Person doesn't know
- d. Person refused

31. What housing and/or sheltering options would you be interested in?

(Check all that apply)

- a. A parking lot with security where you can safely sleep in your car or RV
- b. Large shelter with individual rooms for each person
- c. Outside space that is legal to camp
- d. Sharing a room in a house or apartment
- e. Shelter with large shared sleeping space with pets allowed
- f. Shelter with large shared sleeping space without pets
- g. Tiny house
- h. Your own room in a shared house or apartment
- i. Your own house or apartment
- j. Person doesn't know
- k. Person refused

32. What do you think led to your homelessness? (choose all that apply)

- a. Age out of foster or group home
- b. Alcohol or substance use or abuse
- c. Domestic violence or partner abuse
- d. Employment or financial reasons
- e. Family crisis such as a death or serious illness in the family, divorce, family conflict, or another family problem
- f. Forced to relocate from home or evicted
- g. Incarceration
- h. Leaving your house due to intolerance of your sexual orientation or gender identity
- i. Medical or disability problems
- j. Mental illness
- k. Natural or other disasters
 - i. If yes, are you survivor of the 2017 Wall Fire?
 - ii. Are you a survivor of the 2018 Camp Fire?
 - iii. Are you a survivor of the 2020 Bear/North Complex Fire?
 - iv. Are you a survivor of another disaster? Please state. [Text box]
- l. Parent or foster parent abuse
- m. Personal choice to be homeless
- n. PRCS (Post Release Controlled Supervision)
- o. Recent immigration
- p. Substandard housing
- q. Other: [free fill text box]
- r. Person Doesn't Know
- s. Person Refused

33. What barriers prevent you from accessing permanent housing (choose all that apply)?

- a. Criminal History

- i. If yes, where you convicted of 290 offense?
- b. Finding affordable housing
- c. Finding a job
- d. Finding services to help me
- e. I don't like the housing options available to me
- f. Lack of an ID card
- g. Lack of local services
- h. Managing my mental health
- i. No money for rent or deposit
- j. Pets
- k. Poor/no credit
- l. Rental History
- m. Substance Use
- n. Transportation to services
- o. Nothing, I prefer to be homeless
- p. Other: [free fill text box]
- q. Person Doesn't Know
- r. Person Refused

34. How do you get money? (choose all that apply)

- a. Child support or alimony
- b. Food Stamps (CalFresh)
- c. Friends or family
- d. General Assistance (GA)
- e. Job or paid internship
- f. Odd jobs
- g. Panhandling or busking (street performance)
- h. Pension or retirement
- i. Recycling
- j. Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- k. Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI)
- l. Student aid or grants
- m. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF or CalWORKs)
- n. Temporary or seasonal (harvest) employment
- o. Unemployment benefits
- p. Veteran's benefits
- q. Other: [free fill text box]
- r. Person Doesn't Know
- s. Person Refused

35. What is your household's approximate monthly income? (choose one)

- a. No income
- b. \$1-\$150
- c. \$151-\$250
- d. \$251-\$500
- e. \$501-\$1,000
- f. \$1,001-\$1,500
- g. \$1,501-\$2,000

- h. Over \$2,000
- i. Person Doesn't Know
- j. Person Refused

36. Which of these services would you use? (Check all that apply)

- a. Access to electricity
- b. Court transportation and support
- c. Detox center
- d. Drop in center for clothes, computer use, food, mail, and support
- e. Free laundry service
- f. Life coach/case manager/mentor
- g. Mobile shower
- h. Needle exchange program
- i. Phone charging stations
- j. Safe kennel provided for pets
- k. Safe medicine storage
- l. Safe personal property storage
- m. Temporary housing when sick
- n. Transportation to appointments
- o. Warming/cooling centers
- p. Other: [free fill text box]
- q. Person doesn't know
- r. Person refused

37. If you don't use Emergency Shelters, why not? (Check all that apply)

- a. I don't like the staff
- b. I don't like where it is located.
- c. I don't need to
- d. I feel overwhelmed being around so many people
- e. I feel unsafe
- f. I have been kicked out of the shelters
- g. I have too much stuff to store there
- h. I'm afraid of getting sick with all the people in one place
- i. I prefer to camp outside
- j. I think my children would be unsafe
- k. It's too noisy
- l. There are too many rules
- m. They don't allow medicinal Marijuana
- n. They don't allow my family to stay together
- o. They don't allow people to use drugs or alcohol before signing in
- p. They don't allow pets
- q. They don't know how to shelter transgender people
- r. They require religious participation to stay
- s. Other: [free fill text box]

38. Are you experiencing homelessness as a direct result of COVID-19?

- a. Yes

- i. If yes, did you experience job loss and/or eviction due to economic conditions surrounding the pandemic? **(choose all that apply)**
 - 1. Job loss
 - 2. Eviction
 - 3. Person doesn't know
 - 4. Person refused
- b. No
- c. Person doesn't know
- d. Person refused