



# HPAC 2017 HOMELESS COUNT SUBCOMMITTEE NOVEMBER 17, 2016 MEETING NOTES

## Meeting Attendees

- Isaac Blackstock, Yolo Community Care Continuum
- Angelina Bravo, 211 Yolo
- Albert Castillo, Yolo County Housing
- Phalicia Chow, Yolo Community Care Continuum
- Ryan Collins, Elica Health Centers
- Tracey Dickinson, Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency
- Ginger Hashimoto, Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency
- Irma Jiménez-Pérez, Yolo County Housing
- Elaine Lytle, Yolo County Health and Human Services Agency
- Dan Maguire, City of Winters
- Amara Pickens, Fourth and Hope
- Joan Planell, City of Davis
- Bill Pride, Davis Community Meals and Housing
- Katherine Rodriguez, CommuniCare Health Centers
- Sergei Shkurkin, Shores of Hope
- Dan Sokolow, City of Woodland

## Count Planning Group

The group agreed to use the same organizational structure as 2015 and appointed the following people to serve in leadership positions:

- **Count Coordinator:** Tracey Dickinson
- **Davis Lead:** Bill Pride
- **West Sacramento Lead:** Mark Sawyer
- **Woodland Lead:** Amara Pickens
- **Winters/Rural Lead:** TBD

**Action:** Tracey to reach out to Tico Zendejas from RISE, Inc. to see if he is interested in serving as the Winters/Rural Lead.

**Action:** Community Leads to develop initial plans for each region and present the plans at the next meeting.

In addition, the group established a Training and Communications Subcommittee to create training materials and talking points to ensure consistent protocols and messaging. The Subcommittee consists of the following members:

- Isaac Blackstock
- Phalicia Chow
- Ryan Collins

- Ginger Hashimoto
- Mark Sawyer

The group also discussed creating a Data Subcommittee after the count to review the collected and collated data before submittal to the federal government.

**Action: Training and Communications Subcommittee to:**

- **Develop training materials on:**
  - **Who constitutes as homeless according to HUD's definition**
  - **Who constitutes as having a disability that severely interferes with his or her life according to HUD's definition**
    - **Special guidance to surveyors on how to obtain accurate information as this will affect Yolo's chronically homeless estimates**
- **Develop resource and referral information for volunteers**
- **Develop talking points on:**
  - **Purpose of count**
  - **How community members can help**
  - **Client confidentiality**

**Review Previous Surveys**

The group reviewed the Unsheltered Count, Sheltered Count, and Visual Count surveys and decided to make the following edits/revisions:

- Remove the youth-specific instructions as that was included because of the youth grant Yolo had back in 2015
- Remove "Are you and everyone in your household under age 25?" as this question was specific to the youth grant
- Edit the homeless status table to reflect HUD's updated parameters for who constitutes as homeless
- Add option for "abandoned building, storage unit, or other building not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings" to make a clear option for counting homeless college students sleeping in the library
- Move pet question to the end of the survey, allowing HUD's required questions to be first
- Update chronically homeless questions according to HUD's new definition
- Add column for surveyor observation when attempting to document disability for chronic homeless status
- Add HIV/AIDS question as it is required by HUD
- Add a monthly income question to extrapolate information about the poverty level of homeless persons
  - Add options to record source and monthly estimate if the person has income
- Remove follow-up foster care question as the information was not useful back in 2015
- Edit question about incarceration to:
  - "Have you ever been to jail or prison?"
  - "If so, have you been convicted of a misdemeanor? Felony?"
- Separate out eviction and bankruptcies into two separate questions
- Add options to the "Do you desire permanent housing?" to include other available services

Overall, the group agreed that the questions on this year's count should not overlap with the questions on the Vulnerability Index and Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT). The group

acknowledged that in previous years, the count was the community's only source of comprehensive data; however, since the implementation and usage of the VI-SPDAT that is no longer the case.

***Action: Tracey and Ginger to review Yolo County residency questions and recommend ways to better capture the information as well as how to resolve the open-ended issue to ease reporting on the backend.***

***Action: Tracey to email Lynnette Irlmeier to confirm whether Empower Yolo wants/needs domestic violence information. If so, what language would Empower Yolo suggest.***

#### **Next Steps**

The group scheduled the next meeting for December 15 from 3:30 to 5 p.m.