

Data and Evaluation Committee
November 2, 2016
2:00pm – 3:30pm

Members of Data & Evaluation participated in the webinar: Counting Youth in the 2017 Unsheltered PIT Count with speakers from Applied Survey Research (ASR) and Chapin Hall Voices of Youth Count. The webinar discussed planning and implementing strategies for counting unsheltered youth in the 2017 Point-in-Time Count, which HUD announced will be the baseline year for using PIT data in tracking progress towards ending youth homelessness. Suggestions included have diverse stakeholders in addition to a lead agency, remaining youth-driven with outreach efforts, reframing language to combat stigma of the word homeless (housing experience was used) and reviewing the time/location. A link to the webinar for those not in attendance will be made available. In an effort to review additional agenda items, the webinar was concluded during Q&A at 3 p.m. D&E will partner with the Youth Homelessness Task Force to ensure that this population is adequately counted.

A brief overview of the upcoming 2017 PIT Count was reviewed. A one-pager (front/back) summary of changes to the 2017 PIT/HIC was provided by Tony, although the entire HIC/PIT Data Collection Notice was sent out prior to the meeting. A more in depth meeting will be held in mid-November to discuss the planning/training. There will be a sign-off requirement on PIT information moving forward. Also, new this year – households will be verified to ensure that people surveyed that are known to be currently housed and not experiencing homelessness are not surveyed. Tentative training date for PIT volunteers will be January 22nd. Tentative training date for PIT staff will be January 24th. COG may forgo its annual PIT training, but we will not be sure until December.

Ahmad reported that he is fully aware of the ETO/HMIS issues with speed. It is believed that an update was tested on the non-HMIS portion of ETO and then released to HMIS which has caused everything in a person's dashboard to be loaded all at once instead of in bits/pieces as it did previously. Social Solutions Group plans to upgrade from a mid-tier server to Amazon for increased speed, however it is anticipated that this will not take place until the end of FY17, beginning of FY18.