TX BoS CoC General Meeting

August 12, 2020, 2:00-3:30 P.M., by Webinar

NOTES

Attendees: *see attached list*

Link to meeting recording: https://thn.adobeconnect.com/prgl8ve7z2i0/

I.   Staff welcomed attendees, showed a photo collage of THN staff, and asked attendees to indicate their locations on a map.

II.   **Data Snapshot – 2020 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count data -- s***ee presentation slides (attached).* The numbers for 2020 are higher than the numbers in 2019, but more counties, more communities within counties, and more volunteers conducted a count. The numbers have steadily increased over the past few years, That doesn't detract from the work you're doing; we're likely just getting more accurate counts every year. Poll questions were asked about date options for the January 2021 count and would communities conduct a count if HUD cancels it.

III.   **How we are Ending Homelessness – with the Point-in-Time (PIT) Count –** *see presentation slides (attached).*
       THN is looking for PIT leaders in 18 counties that receive CoC Program, ESG Program, and/or SSVF funding. (see the counties in green on the slide). Contact data@thn.org if you can lead a count. THN uses an extrapolation formula to account for the counties that do not conduct a count. Staff reviewed tips and next steps. New for 2020: training videos for PIT Count leaders and volunteers. COVID will be a consideration.

IV.   **Community Conversation – COVID-19**
       a. $10,000 remains in the pool of funds from the National Low Income Housing Coalition for certain Texas counties to address COVID. Learn more at https://thncompetition.smapply.io/prog/lst/.
       b. The Coronavirus Relief Fund can assist communities to respond to the coronavirus. Learn more at https://www.naco.org/covid19/crf and https://tdem.texas.gov/crf/.
       c. A discussion was held among attendees and THN staff about COVID-19 in local communities.

TX BoS CoC General Meeting

V.   Committee Updates –

a.   Coordinated Entry Steering Committee (CESC) – The CoC Board has approved the CE Written Standards, version 2, so those are now in effect. This month te CESC is proposing to the board some temporary revisions to the CE prioritization standards because of COVID-19.

b.   Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) – A draft of the plan was completed by staff and sent to SPC members for feedback. The plan will be out for public comment in September.

c.   Data Committee – recruiting members; If interested in joining, email data@thn.org. The committee will provide data-driven insight and education to multiple groups/stakeholders about homelessness in the CoC and an opportunity to obtain feedback from HMIS end-users on specific data matters.

d.   Victim Services Provider Committee (VSPC) – recruiting member; If interested complete the form: https://forms.gle/EQqWuZA877v12qgU7--The committee will represent the voice and needs of victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, in the CoC's work.

e.   Performance Evaluation Committee (PEC) – recruiting members; if interested, complete the form: https://forms.gle/sfKrZdQdQDmnLRydA--The committee will set performance targets for project types and will monitor the performance of projects operating in the CoC.

f.   Attendees answered 3 poll questions about serving on CoC committees.

VI.   Announcements

a.   Everyone is encouraged to vote in the CoC Board elections through August 14th, at https://www.thn.org/bos-board/.

b.   THN has moved to a new office space: 3000 IH-35, Ste. 100, Austin, TX 78704. Staff will continue to distance work and will not travel to local communities through the end of 2020.

c.   Sophia Checa, Director of CoC Programs, will be on leave for 3 months, starting September 21st.

d.   CoC Program competition – HUD released the Grant Inventory Worksheet (GIW), which is the next step in the competition process, but HUD has not said what the process for applying for CoC Program funds for FY 2020 will be. Staff made CoC Program competition policies available for public comment and will forward the proposed policies to the board.

e.   THN has added several positions to the BoS-focused staff:

   i.   Coordinated Entry VISTA member – Cindy Ramirez

   ii.   Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Data Specialist – Paula Dewey

   iii.   ESG Grant Specialist – Jaynna Sims

   iv.   Ending Veteran Homelessness Specialist – Marliza Marin

    f.   THN will host a New Local Homeless Coalition (LHC) Training webinar on September 9th at 2:00 P.M. for people interested in learning what local homeless coalitions are all about. Email jen@thn.org to ensure you get an invitation.

VII.   **Next Meeting –**
    a.   No September meeting
    b.   Next meeting on Wednesday, October 14, 2020, at 2:00. Main topic: CoC Governance Documents, including annual review of Governance Charter Register at https://thn.adobeconnect.com/oct2020/event/event_info.html

Open Discussion:
Staff was available on the webinar for 15 minutes after the meeting ended, for an open discussion on any topics that attendees wanted to discuss. No attendees

Give your feedback!
Members were invited to complete the anonymous survey they received after the meeting ended, to let THN know what was helpful and what would could be better for the next meeting. 13 attendees completed the survey.

Become a CoC Member!
Anyone who works or lives in the CoC's geographic area, and all housing and homeless services projects in the CoC's geographic area, are considered to be members of the CoC. The CoC has an open invitation process, so people may join at any time.

THN invites members to participate in the CoC's activities. Learn more on the [email list](#), the [website](#), and [social media](#).

CoC General Meetings include presentations by and conversations between CoC members and staff on topics that are important to preventing and ending homelessness. See the [schedule](#) for dates, topics, and registration links. Meeting notes and recordings are posted on THN's website at https://www.thn.org/texas-balance-state-continuum-care/get-involved/.

TX BoS CoC General Meeting

Agenda
August 12, 2020, 2:00-3:30 P.M.

Registration link: https://thn.adobeconnect.com/aug20gm/event/event_info.html

NEW Meeting materials available at: https://www.thn.org/texas-balance-state-continuum-care/join-us/#bos-gen-meetings

I. **Welcome, Introductions, Staff Photos & Map of Attendees**

II. **Data Snapshot –** 2020 PIT Count Data for the TX BoS CoC

III. **How we are Ending Homelessness –** with 2021 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count and Housing Inventory (HIC)

IV. **Community Conversation –** COVID-19 in our CoC

V. **Committee Updates –**
   a. Coordinated Entry Steering Committee (CESC)
   b. Strategic Planning Committee (SPC)
   c. Data Committee – recruiting members; if interested, email data@thn.org
   d. Victim Services Provider Committee (VSPC) – recruiting members; if interested, complete this form: https://forms.gle/QcTEZxsUxhfHMBBYA
   e. Performance Evaluation Committee (PEC) – recruiting members; if interested, complete this form: https://forms.gle/ntoPDtYNjAZcVFCM8
   f. Poll questions about joining a CoC Committee

VI. **Announcements**
   a. Vote in CoC Board elections at https://www.thn.org/bos-board/
   b. THN updates -- new office location; staff distance working through end of 2020 so not traveling nor attending meetings in person
   c. Sophia Checa will be out of the office for 3 months
   d. CoC Program competition updates
   e. Introducing new THN staff and VISTA members
      Learn more about THN's newest staff members at https://www.thn.org/staff/ and VISTA members at https://www.thn.org/americorps-vista/.

TX BoS CoC General Meeting

VII.   Next Meeting –
Next meeting on October 14, 2020
Main topic: CoC Governance Charter and other governance documents
Watch the website and *BoS News* for more information

Staff will be available on the webinar for 15 minutes after the meeting ends, for an open discussion on topics that attendees want to discuss.

Give your feedback!
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Announcements

THN will be hosting a New Local Homeless Coalition (LHC) Training webinar on September 9th at 2:00 P.M. for people interested in learning what local homeless coalitions are all about. If you're looking to start a homeless coalition, joining your local coalition, or interested in brushing up on the fundamentals, please email jen@thn.org to ensure you get an invitation to the webinar. Thank you!

Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care

August 12, 2020, CoC General Meeting Attendees

Alaina Marcum
Alanna Richardson
Alice Jewell
Ana Chapa
Andrea Omojola
Anne Spanyers
Beth Rolingson
Bridgette Clemons
Brittany Hinton
Carol Racz
Cheteva Marshall
Christy Plemons
Connie Sherman
Damian Clark
Danny Coca
Daphne Adams
David Peters
Deanna Lowrey-Green
DeAnne Derrick
Debra Huffman
Debra Washington
Deinisha Tryals
Delayne Sigerman
Ebby Green
Elena Lusk
Emily Bredenberg
Emily Kendall
Emily Williams
Erika Thomas
Ginny Stafford
Gloria Bell
Gloria Luna
Greg Sims
Heidi Mauldin
Irma Garza
Janeal White
Janelle Villafane
Jay Morgan

Jenifer Phillips
Jennifer Schmidt
Jenny Wilson
John Meier
Jordan McCarty
Josefa Zatarain Flournoy
Judea White
Kacie Flores
Katie Ledbetter
Keith Rucker
Kyla Gilmore
Kyle Knutson
Marcheta McKinley
Marliza Marin
Mary Cooksey
Mechelle Lindsay
Melinda Baker
Mercedes Cardenas
Michaelle Wormly
Michelle Yates
Misty Esparza
Nathaniel Dears
Nicole Roberts
Norma Longoria
Paula Dewey
Rachel Pollay
Rebecca Bromley
Robert Butler
Rosina Salsman
Rosten Callarman
Ruby Jones
Sharon Kruk
Shelly Skinner
Sherry Murphy
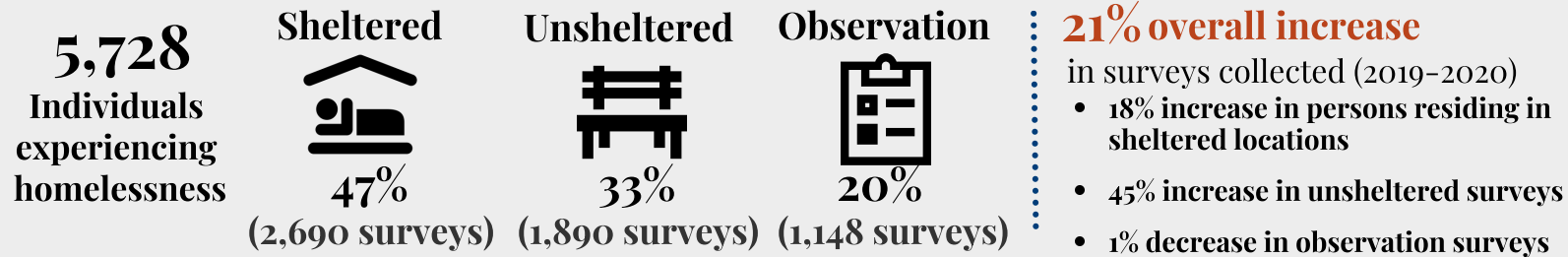Steven Lara
Susan Clark
Suzanne Kanon
Tanya Paniagua

Tegan Debrock
Tiffany Ross
Vashil Fernandez
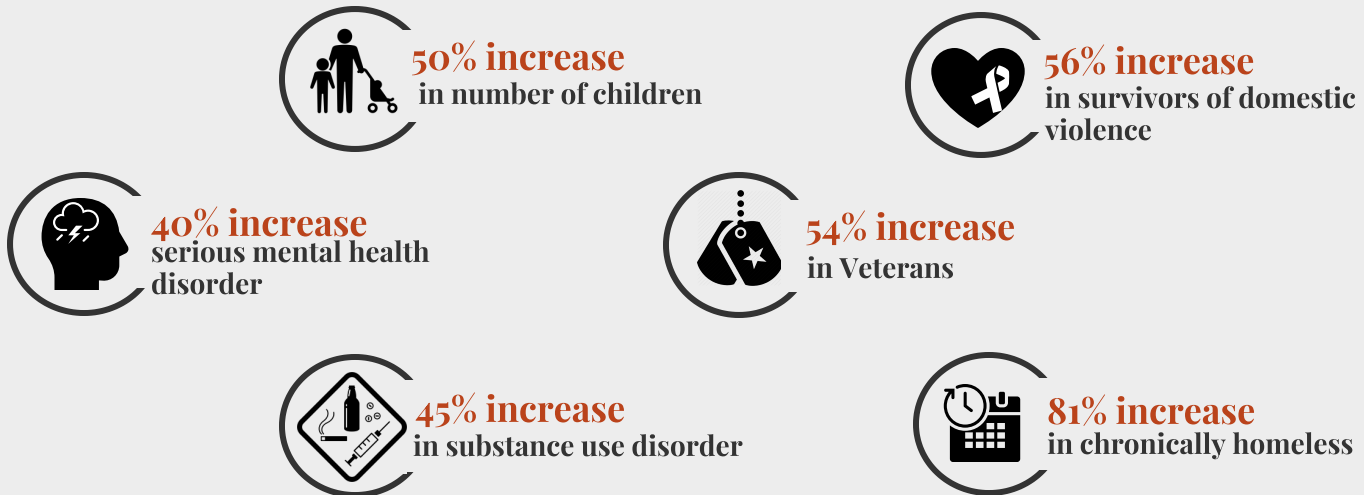Vicki Smith
Vineta Byrd
Zulema Medelion

2020 Point-in-Time

Texas Balance of State
Continuum of Care

The Annual Point-in-Time Count (PIT) was conducted on January 23rd, 2020 to identify the needs of households residing in Unsheltered locations (such as cars, streets, parks, etc) as well as Sheltered locations (Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing). The PIT Count aims to provide a snapshot of the individuals and families experiencing homelessness in a geographical area, over the course of one night.
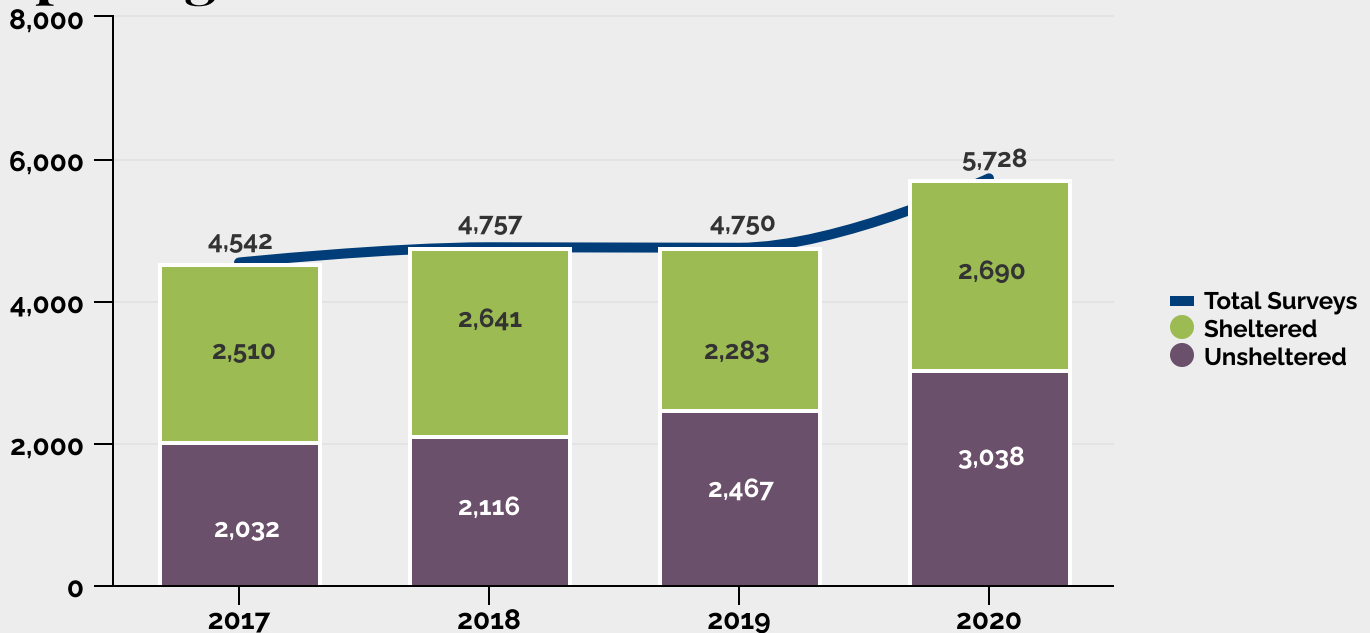
Responses are self-reported and/or observations and may not be representative of the entire homeless population
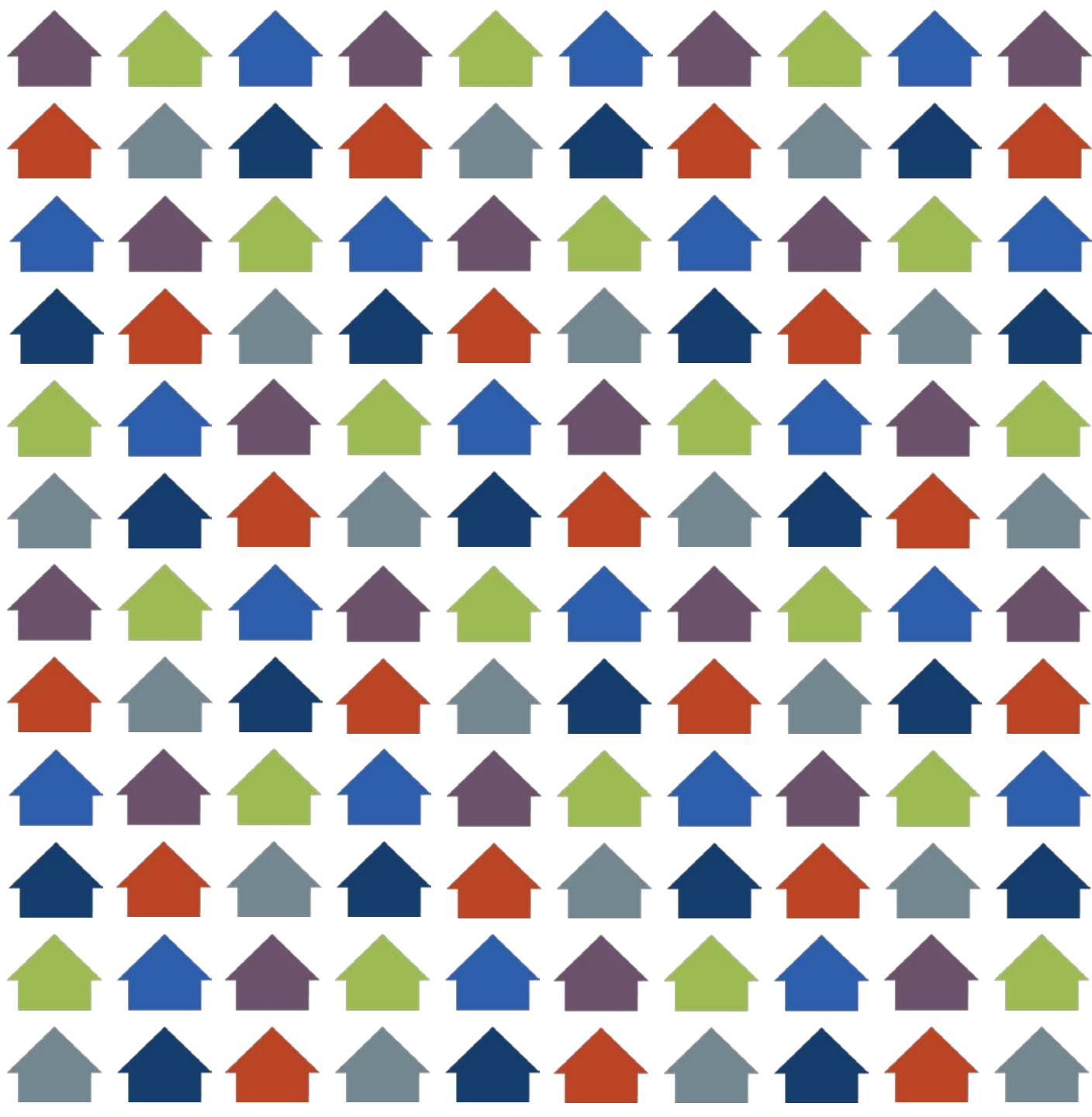
5,728
Individuals experiencing homelessness

Sheltered
47%
(2,690 surveys)

Unsheltered
33%
(1,890 surveys)

Observation
20%
(1,148 surveys)

21% overall increase
in surveys collected (2019-2020)
- 18% increase in persons residing in sheltered locations
- 45% increase in unsheltered surveys
- 1% decrease in observation surveys

2019-2020 Comparison

50% increase in number of children

56% increase in survivors of domestic violence

40% increase serious mental health disorder

54% increase in Veterans

45% increase in substance use disorder

81% increase in chronically homeless

Comparing Counts

Year	Total Surveys	Sheltered	Unsheltered
2017	4,542	2,510	2,032
2018	4,757	2,641	2,116
2019	4,750	2,283	2,467
2020	5,728	2,690	3,038

Legend:
- Total Surveys
- Sheltered
- Unsheltered

For the full data set please email data@thn.org

⌂THN

THN
TEXAS HOMELESS NETWORK

CoC General Meeting PIT Training

Strategies For Change

thn.org

Winter PIT Date: Poll Question

Friday: 1/22/2021
Saturday: 1/23/2021
Thursday: 1/28/2021

Agenda

- Point-in-Time Basics
- COVID-19 Disclosure
- THN Information
- PIT Count Methodology
- Wrap-up

Point-in-Time (PIT) Basics

- How many people are currently experiencing homelessness in your community?

- How many of them are families, youth, or veterans?

- What do they report as their causes for homelessness?

The answers to these questions and more can be answered by point-in-time counts.

A point-in-time count is an unduplicated count on a single night of the people in a community who are experiencing homelessness

COVID-19 Disclosure

Reminder: This is the year where every CoC is required to complete both an Unsheltered Count and a Sheltered Count.

- We have not received a finalized decision from HUD regarding the 2021 PIT Count. There is no timeline for when we will receive word either.

- For now, THN will be moving forward under the impression that the count will still be occurring. Any guidance we receive will be sent directly to PIT Leads.

Considerations

- ✓ THN will work with each community to help ensure volunteer access to:
  - ✓ Masks
  - ✓ Gloves
  - ✓ Hand Sanitizer

- ✓ <u>Please read over the CDC guidance on Homelessness Outreach if you have not already.</u>

- ✓ Discuss strategies for engagement with your community Outreach teams.

- ✓ Be patient with yourselves and with us as we navigate this coming count. The safety and well-being of our PIT leads, volunteers, and those experiencing homelessness are our number one priority

THN Information

- Texas Homeless Network (THN) is a non-profit membership-based organization helping communities strategically plan to prevent and end homelessness.

- THN works to end homelessness in Texas by collaborating with all communities, large and small, across the state to build systems to achieve this goal.

- We coordinate local and national advocacy efforts, data collection and research, host an annual statewide conference, and serve as the host agency for the Texas Balance of State Continuum of Care (CoC) where we assist in the coordination of programs and funding.

- The Texas Balance of State CoC (TX BoS CoC) is made up of all service providers, advocates, local government officials, and citizens who work to eliminate homelessness in 215 of Texas' 254 counties.
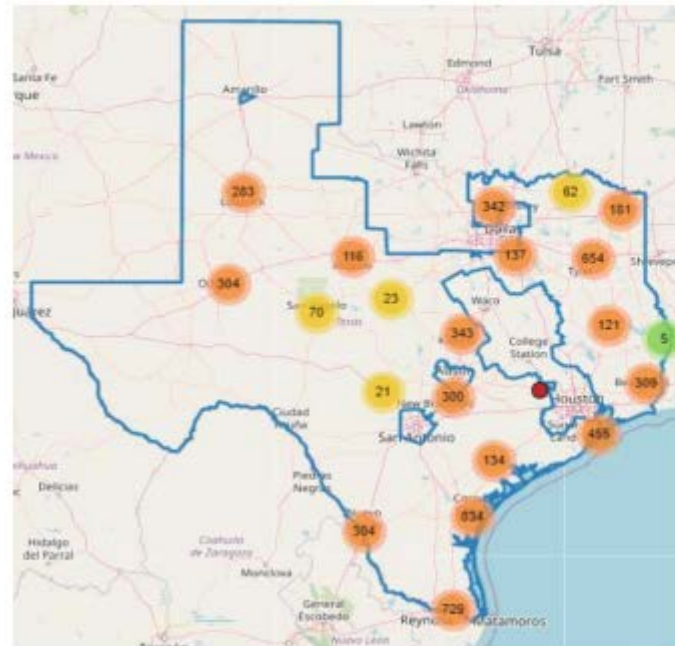
Coverage Area

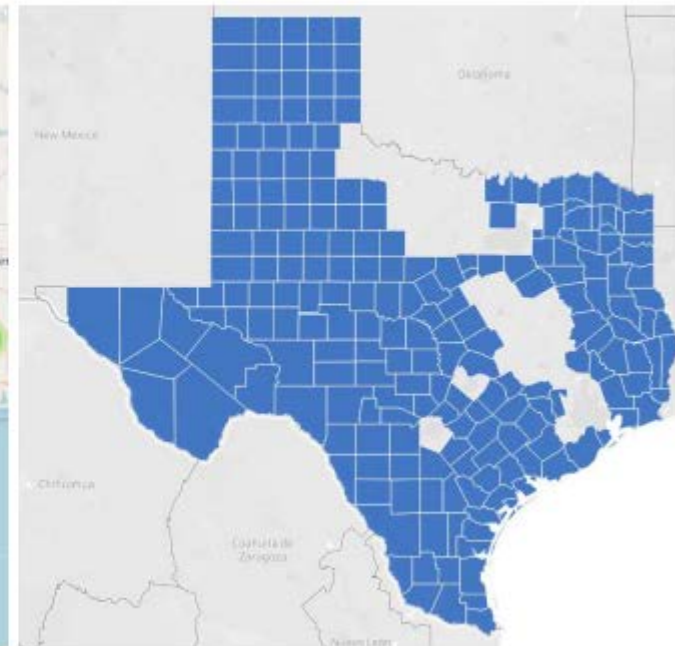**2020 PIT Regions**

Texas Balance of State Region

Targeted Outreach

1. Cooke
2. Delta
3. Upshur
4. Cass
5. Marion
6. Panola
7. Rusk
8. Chambers
9. Austin
10. Colorado
11. Jackson
12. San Patricio
13. DeWitt
14. Lavaca
15. Fayette
16. Hamilton
17. Lampasas
18. Frio
19. Aransas
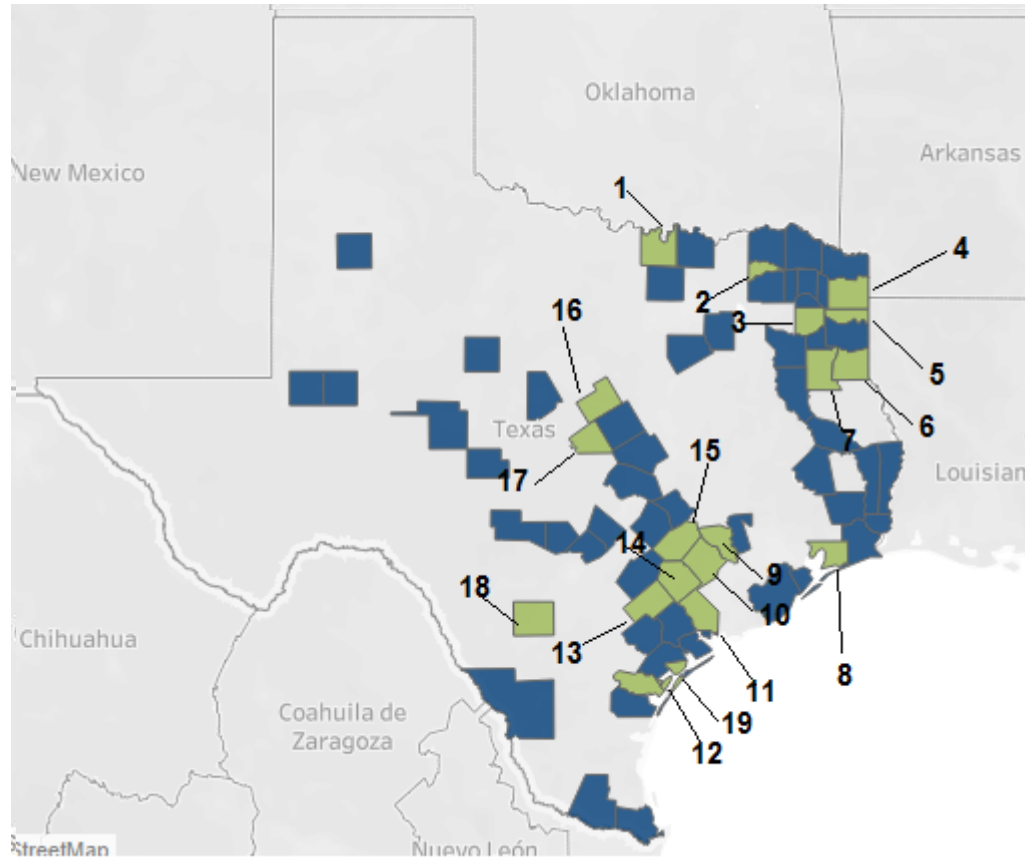
Does your agency cover any of these following areas?

Could you help us connect with a potential PIT lead in one of these areas and/or expand your count to include them?

Extrapolation Basics

For reporting purposes, HUD requires that CoC's report on their full geography. Due to the size of our CoC, we are not able to achieve full coverage during the PIT count. That being said, the CoC has to employ an extrapolation method that estimates the PIT number for the entire geography.

Formula

$$\left(\frac{\text{Population size of non-participant community}}{\text{Population size of participant community}}\right) \times \text{\# of surveys collected in participant community} = \text{Estimated Total}$$

Extrapolation Steps

1) Match non-participant community population sizes to participant community population sizes.

2) Calculate estimated total number of surveys in each non-participant community.

3) Use the Housing Inventory Count data to determine household breakdown and the household multipliers

4) Use the data gathered in steps two and three to extrapolate the household demographic information for the non-participant regions.

5) Upload extrapolated data into HDX for HUD to review

Successful PIT Steps

Module 4

Wrap-up

Select PIT Lead
- Establish PIT Lead and Backup
- Create PIT committee
- Create timeline for count planning

Community Awareness
- Inform Community/ publicize count
- Engage potential members with lived experience
- Engage community in identifying unsheltered locations
- Solicit Donations

Training
- Recruit Volunteers
- Set volunteers up with training
- Schedule in person meetings
- Register and practice with the app

Who to Count

Individuals residing in:

Unsheltered Locations

Sheltered Locations

- **Street**
- **Outdoor Encampment**
- **Other places not meant for habitation**

- **Emergency Shelter**
- **Domestic Violence Shelter**
- **Transitional Housing**

Hotel/Motel paid for by an Agency Voucher

Who NOT to Count

Individuals residing in:

Permanent Housing

Temporary Living Situations

- **PSH or RRH Programs**
- **HUD VASH projects**
- **FEMA projects**

- **Doubled Up with family or friends**
- **Substandard Housing**
- **Hotel/motel paid by own funds**

- **Shelters for foster care**
- **Sober living/ halfway houses**
- **Criminal Justice/ Health facilities**

Takeaways from 2020 Count

- Clearer guidance needed for DV providers
- Clarification needed on Paper Surveys
- Issues with Hotel Observation Surveys
- Household survey issues
- Clarification on Ethnicity vs. Race

Wrap-up

Updates on the 2021 Count

- Trainings will now be in the form of Litmos Courses:
  - PIT Lead Litmos Course
  - Volunteer (Sheltered/Unsheltered) Litmos Course
  - DV Provider Litmos Course

- Everyone will need to complete their associated course before registering for the count

- All Litmos Courses will include:
  - General PIT information
  - Guidance on how to approach individuals experiencing homelessness
  - In depth explanation of the most important PIT count questions
  - Training on the mobile app and the command center

- There will be a series of optional webinars for targeted technical assistance. These will be mandatory for new PIT communities.

Tentative Timeline

Wrap-up

October

- Watch PIT Lead Litmos Course

- Deadline to join count

November

- Optional PIT Lead Webinar

- Verify all sheltered locations

- Deadline to sign up for service based count and/or paper surveys

- Round one of PIT Check in calls

December

- PIT Q&A/ App Walk through webinar

- Deadline to notify THN if you need additional resources or support for the day of the count

Next Steps

- PIT leads should <u>register</u> for the upcoming count
    - o Link: https://thn.wufoo.com/forms/ro8vicroist73o2/
    - o REMINDER: All communities need a PIT Lead and a Secondary Lead

- Look over the list of missing PIT communities to see if you can help Kyra coordinate a count there
    - o Please email her as soon as possible at <u>kyra@thn.org</u>

- Begin scheduling meetings to discuss outreach strategies and to develop a list of the anticipated PPE your community will need

Q&A

Wrap-up