



PIT Count Office Hours

January 19, 2021

3-4:30pm ET



Housekeeping

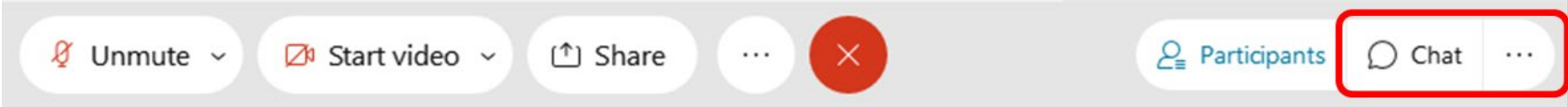
- A recording of today's session, along with the slide deck and a copy of the Chat and Q&A content will be posted to the HUD Exchange within 2-3 business days
- Event information for upcoming PIT Count Office Hours, along with copies of all materials can be found here:

[https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/hdx/guides/pit-hic/?utm_source=HUD+Exchange+Mailing+List&utm_campaign=41d93284a8-2021 HIC and PIT Count Updates for CoCs 11 16&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_f32b935a5f-41d93284a8-19554637#2021-pit-count-and-hic-guidance-and-training](https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/hdx/guides/pit-hic/?utm_source=HUD+Exchange+Mailing+List&utm_campaign=41d93284a8-2021+HIC+and+PIT+Count+Updates+for+CoCs+11+16&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_f32b935a5f-41d93284a8-19554637#2021-pit-count-and-hic-guidance-and-training)

- To join the webinar via the phone, please call in using:
+1-415-655-0002 Access code: 178 674 6854

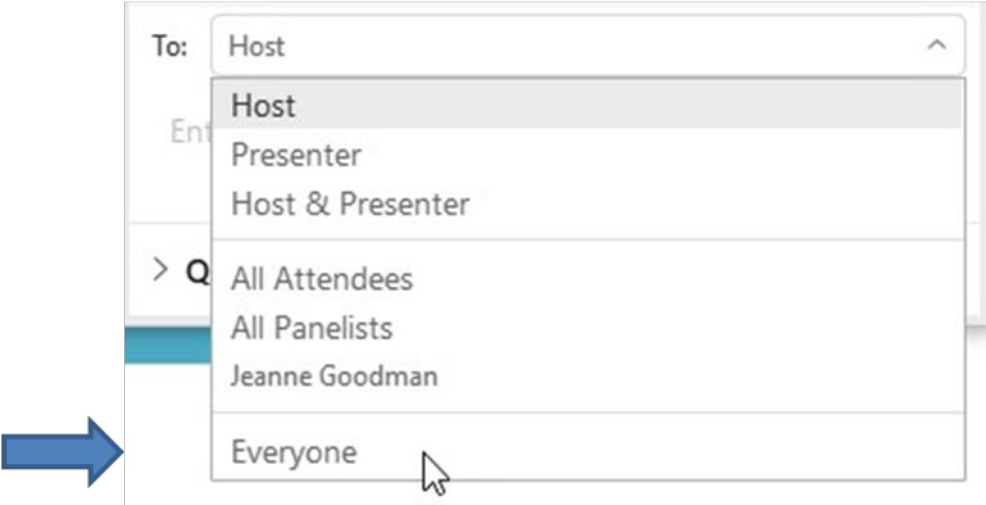
(If you need to call in toll-free, call 1-855-797-9485)

Chat Feature



Select the Chat icon to make a comment or ask a question.

Be certain the To field is set to **Everyone**



Raise Hand for Questions

Locate and select
the **Raise Hand**
icon on the right

The screenshot displays the Zoom meeting interface. At the top right, the 'Participants' panel is open, showing a search bar and a list of participants. Under 'Panelist: 1', there is a participant named 'Jeanne Goo...' with the role 'Host'. Under 'Attendee:', there is a participant named 'Mr. Bo Jangles' with the role 'Me'. At the bottom right, the 'Raise Hand' icon is highlighted with a yellow box. The bottom navigation bar shows 'Participants' and 'Chat' buttons.

Speakers & Resource Advisors

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

- William Snow, Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs

Abt Associates

- Aubrey Sitler
- Meghan Henry
- Tommy Joe Bednar

2021 PIT COUNT MEMO & WAIVERS



2021 HIC and PIT Count Requirements

HIC

- Conduct as normal

Sheltered PIT Count

- Conduct as normal

Unsheltered PIT Count

- Conduct based on flexibilities in guidance
- CoCs can seek a waiver or exception to some or all of the unsheltered PIT count requirements

2021 Unsheltered PIT Count Flexibilities

For the 2021 unsheltered PIT count, CoCs should:

- Prioritize the safety of people experiencing homelessness, staff, and volunteers

For the 2021 unsheltered PIT count, CoCs may:

- Conduct observation-only counts or very short surveys
 - CoCs covering large geographies may conduct observation-only counts in separate areas on consecutive nights for two to four nights
- Conduct PIT count activities for up to 14 days (normally up to 7 days)
- Rely more heavily on sampling, even if that's a change from usual PIT count approach
- Use HMIS or other comprehensive datasets*

*CoCs need to get approval to do this

Resource: [Conducting the 2021 Unsheltered PIT Count](#)



PIT Count Exceptions and Waivers

- 1. Notify HUD the CoC is waiving some or all of the unsheltered PIT count requirements – **change per the waiver memo****
 - e.g., notify HUD that the CoC is only doing a head count of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness, with no demographic or subpopulation data collection
 - e.g., request not to conduct an unsheltered PIT count at all in 2021
- 2. Request to use an existing comprehensive dataset instead of conducting an unsheltered PIT count**
- 3. Request an exception to counting in the last 10 days of January**
 - Note that the data submission timeline will likely not change (around end of April)

PIT Count Waiver

[CPD Memo: Availability of Waivers for the Biennial Point-in-Time Count of Unsheltered Homelessness](#)

The overall messaging is the same – if you can safely conduct an unsheltered PIT count HUD encourages you to do so, but if you can't then don't conduct an unsheltered PIT count

- The waiver outlines the notification process

PIT Count Waiver (cont.)

What should CoCs do based on the memo?

If your CoC conducted a 2020 unsheltered PIT count - you don't have to notify HUD that you are using a waiver and you don't need to request an exception (unless you plan on submitting data to HUD from an alternate dataset or plan on counting outside the last 10 days of January).

If your CoC did NOT conduct a 2020 unsheltered PIT count – if you are not going to do the unsheltered count or you are going to do a partial unsheltered count, then you must submit a waiver notification to HUD.

Notifying HUD of Use of a Waiver

To use the waiver flexibility provided in this memorandum, CoCs must provide notification in writing through email to

2021PIT@hud.gov and include:

- the CoC name and number
- the specific waiver flexibility it intends to use
 - Waive the entire unsheltered count
 - Waive the data collection requirement, which only requires the CoC to conduct a count of total people experiencing unsheltered homelessness (i.e., a head count)

All waiver notifications must be submitted to HUD no later than
5:00 pm ET, January 20, 2021



Requesting an Exception to the Count Date

CoCs requesting to count outside the last 10 days of January must submit a request to William Snow (William.Snow@hud.gov) stating:

- Good cause for moving the date
- The date you wish to change to

Requesting to Use an Alternate Dataset

CoCs requesting to use an alternate dataset for the basis of their 2021 unsheltered PIT count estimate must submit a request to William Snow (William.Snow@hud.gov) with the following:

- Description of why you think the dataset is comparable to the unsheltered PIT count
- Documentation showing the data is a sufficient substitute (this generally requires running the dataset based on the unsheltered PIT count from your previous PIT count and then comparing the results of that query to the unsheltered PIT count data you submitted to HUD)
- Any other efforts you will do to validate or supplement the unsheltered data from the alternate dataset (this is particularly relevant if you cannot compare the alternate dataset to the previous unsheltered PIT count or there are issues with the comparison)

SSVF EHA



SSVF EHA for the PIT count

Veterans using SSVF Emergency Housing Assistance (EHA) on the night designated for the count should:

- Be included in the sheltered PIT count
- Under emergency shelter (ES)

SSVF EHA for the HIC

To count these beds on the HIC, CoCs will need to add a project inventory to the HIC to account for SSVF EHA beds:

- Project Type: Emergency Shelter (ES)
- Emergency Shelter Bed and Unit Availability: Overflow Beds.
- Funding Source: There will be a specific EHA-SSVF Funding Source (look to forthcoming guidance)
- HMIS Participation: This depends on how SSVF EHA is (or isn't) reported in HMIS.
 - SSVF EHA should be considered non-HMIS participating on the HIC if those beds are logged in HMIS only as services under RRH, or if they are not logged in HMIS at all.
 - SSVF EHA should be considered HMIS-participating on the HIC if beds are being logged in HMIS as its own ES project. Note that creating a new ES project in HMIS for SSVF EHA is NOT required by HUD or VA.

Further guidance will be provided in the forthcoming 2021 HIC and PIT count Data Submission Guidance



HIC COMMON QUESTIONS



Common Questions

Should we include safe parking/camping sites in our HIC and sheltered PIT count?

Common Questions

How should we count ES beds on the HIC in a decompressed shelter setting?

COMMON QUESTIONS



Common Questions

Is there a deadline for requesting an unsheltered PIT count exception or waive? Can we submit an updated exception or waiver if circumstances change in the CoC?

Common Questions

If I already submitted an exception request to William Snow do I have to submit a waiver notification to 2021PIT@hud.gov?

Common Questions

Is purchasing PPE for the unsheltered PIT count an eligible expense?

2021 Unsheltered PIT Count Resources

- [CPD Memo: Availability of Waivers for the Biennial Point-in-Time Count of Unsheltered Homelessness](#)
- [Conducting the 2021 Unsheltered PIT Count](#)
 - Guidance document that outlines the unsheltered PIT count flexibilities
- [How to Use Sampling within a CoC to Conduct an Unsheltered Point-in-Time \(PIT\) Count](#)
- [Example PIT Count Observation Form](#)
- Updates to [HMIS Project Setup and Inventory Changes](#)
 - Updated to address non-congregate shelter (NCS) and hotel/motel inventory in the HIC and for the sheltered PIT count

General PIT Count Resources

- [PIT Count & HIC Landing Page](#) on HUD Exchange
- [PIT Count Methodology Guide](#)
- [PIT Count Office Hours Recordings](#)
- [PIT Count Survey Tools](#)

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Q & A

