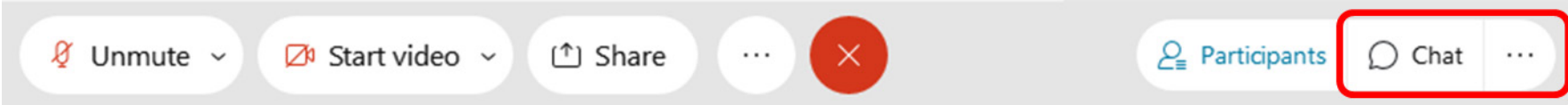# PIT Count Office Hours

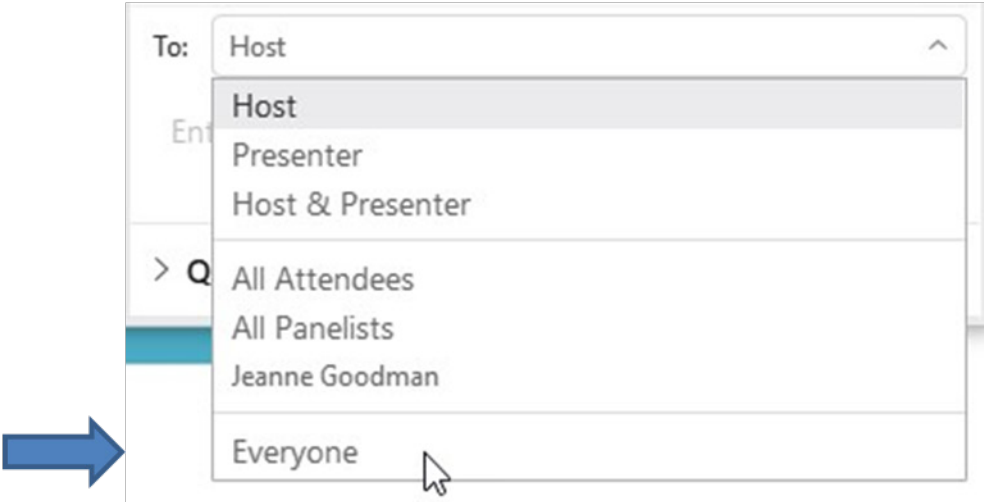November 23, 2021

2:00-3:30pm 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 a few business days

- Materials from this session, along with the recording and materials from prior PIT Count Office Hours Sessions, can be found here.

- To join the webinar via the phone, please call in using:

     +1-415-655-0002   Access code: 2425 010 7556

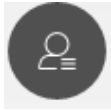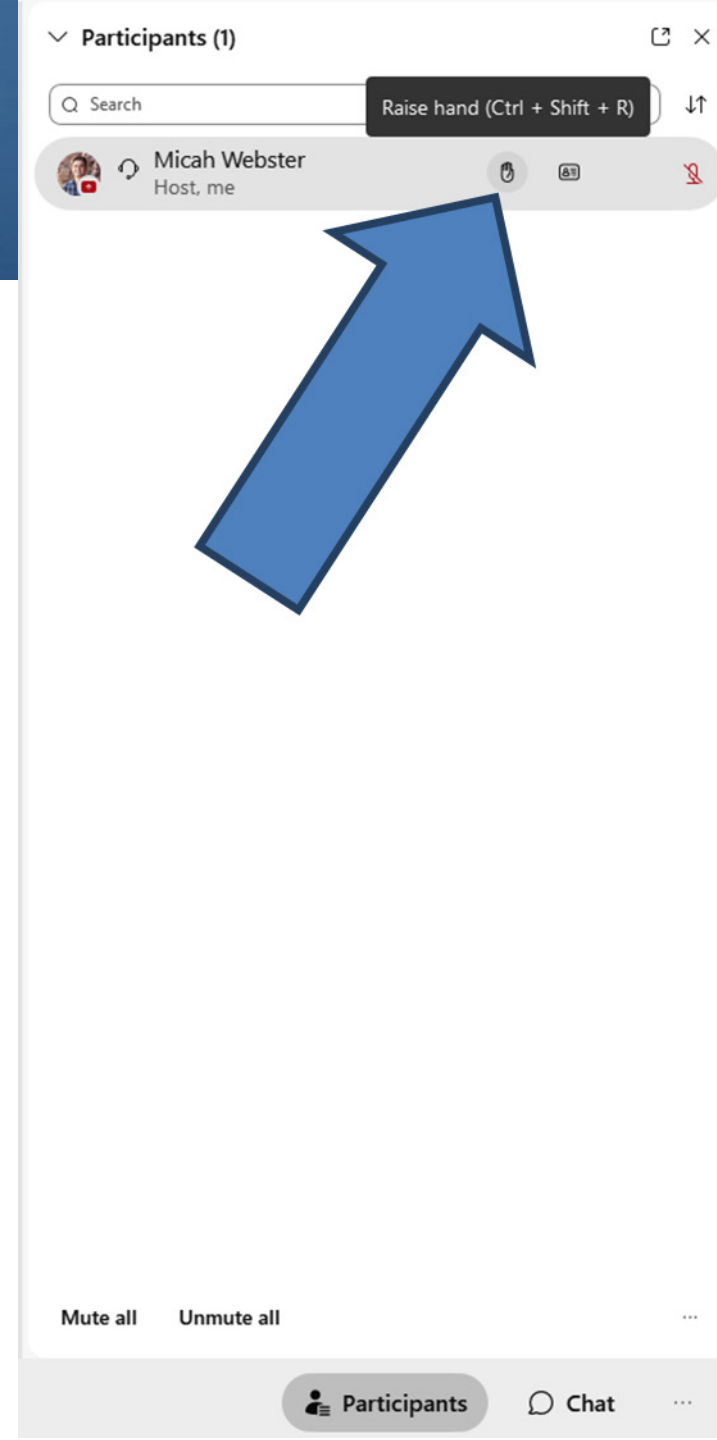   (If you need to call in toll-free, call 1-855-797-9485)

Chat Feature

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

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

Want to ask a question verbally?

1. Select the Participant list icon at the bottom of this screen.
   It looks like this:
2. Hover your mouse next to your name and select the Raise Hand icon.
3. We will call on you, then unmute you to ask the question, and put you back on mute.
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5. Call-in users can unmute/mute by hitting *6.

Speakers & Resource Advisors

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

- William Snow, Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs (he/him/his)

Abt Associates

- Meghan Henry (she/her/hers)
- Tori Morris (she/her/hers)
- Caroline Roddey (she/her/hers)

Agenda

- HIC and PIT Count Update

- 2022 HIC and PIT Count Data Collection Notice

  - HIC Clarifications and Changes

  - PIT Count Clarifications and Changes

- PIT Count Safety Considerations

- Q&A

2022 HIC and PIT Count Update

- With over 40 percent of Continuums of Care (CoCs) opting not to conduct a count in 2021 and nearly 20 percent doing only a partial count, it is critical that CoCs conduct a full count this year.

- The updated Notice is located [here.](#)

- CoCs should be preparing to count. **HUD does not plan on granting any extensions because of COVID-19.**

- CoCs that received an exception last year should note that the exception only applied to 2021 and **should expect to meet the regulatory requirement of conducting a full count at least every other year** if they did not conduct a PIT count in 2021.

2022 HIC and PIT Count
Data Collection Notice

PIT Count/HIC Change: Tribes and Tribally-Designated Housing Entities (TDHEs)

- The standards in the 2022 HIC and PIT Count Data Collection Notice apply to all CoCs, **including those operated by Tribes and TDHEs.**

- CoCs that conduct PIT count and HIC activities in Tribal communities, including on trust lands and reservations, must gain the consent from the appropriate Tribe before doing so and should coordinate the PIT count with the Tribe or its TDHE.

PIT Count/HIC Change:
Counting Beds and Units Located Outside a CoC

For the HIC:

- If a client is housed in a different CoC, the housing inventory and households **should be reported by the CoC that is paying for the project.**

- CoC program recipients cannot pay for site-based facilities outside their CoC geography, but ESG recipients can. **Site-based facilities should only be reported in the CoC where the facility is located.**
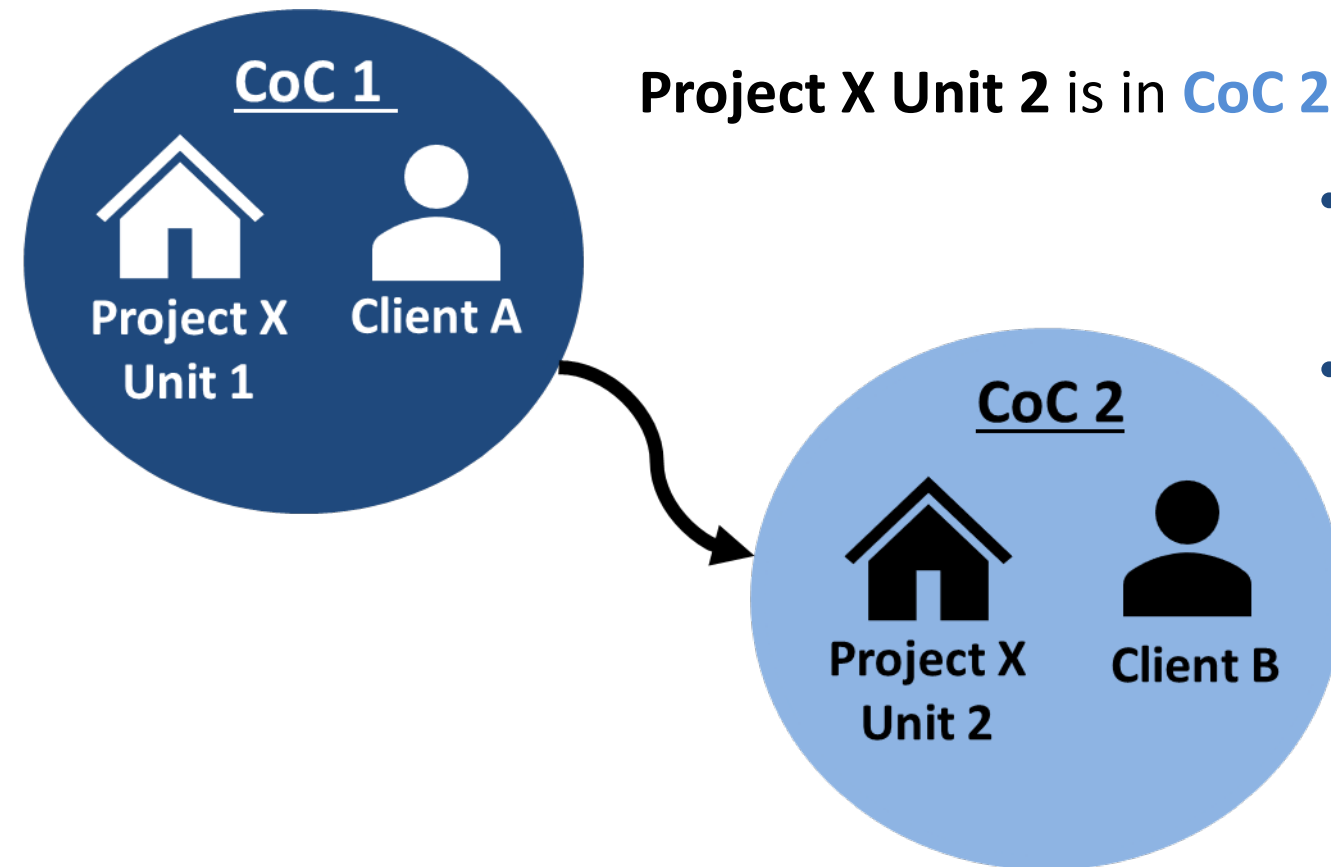
For the PIT:

- **Households in scattered-site housing** located outside of the CoC that is funding the assistance should still be **counted with the CoC that is paying for their assistance.**

PIT Count and HIC Change:
An Example of Counting Beds and Units Located Outside a CoC

Let's assume that **Client A and B** are staying in **Project X** (a scattered-site housing project) <u>funded</u> by **CoC 1** on the night of the count**.**

Project X Unit 2 is in **CoC 2**, which is **CoC 1's** neighboring CoC.

- **CoC 1** would count the beds in **Project X Unit 1 and 2** on their HIC.

- **CoC 1** would also count **Client A and B** on their project-level PIT count and in their PIT count.

CoC 1

Project X Unit 1   Client A

CoC 2

Project X Unit 2   Client B

PIT Count and HIC Clarification: Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) Emergency Housing Assistance (EHA)

HIC Clarification:

- **CoCs should count SSVF EHA beds on the HIC.** Although they are funded through SSVF Rapid Re-Housing (RRH), CoCs cannot combine emergency shelter (ES) and RRH bed inventories in a single HIC project record, so they will need to **add a new ES project** to their HIC to account for SSVF EHA. The inventory will be counted as overflow beds. Page 22 of the <u>Notice</u> provides more information on how to report these beds on the HIC.

PIT Count Clarification:

- In CoCs where veteran households are receiving temporary housing assistance through **VA's SSVF EHA** program on the night of the count, the CoC should count those **veteran households as residing in emergency shelter and include them in the sheltered PIT count.**

HIC Clarification: Using HOMES Data on the HIC

- CoCs are not required to use the data from the HOMES database export.

- If CoCs have an existing process for including HUD-VASH data in their HMIS and HIC, they can continue to use this process.

- If a CoC is using the data exported from VA, they can use one of the approaches on page 23 of the Notice to count households.

HIC Clarification: Reporting Inventory Funded through HUD's Office of Public and Indian Housing (PIH)

When there a certain number of vouchers with beds dedicated to people currently or formerly experiencing homelessness in a PIH funded program **then these programs should be counted on the HIC.** For example:

- **Set aside or preference** (including limited preference) where a certain number of vouchers or specific percent of turnover vouchers have been provided to people experiencing homelessness.

- **Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV)** because participants are required to qualify as homeless.

- **Family Unification Program (FUP)** and **Fostering Youth Independence (FYI)** vouchers where there is a portion of the inventory that is dedicated to serve people experiencing homelessness.

- **HUD-VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH)** vouchers.

> **Note:** these programs should all be recorded in the HIC as "Other Permanent Housing" (OPH), except for HUD-VASH which should be reported as PSH.

HIC Change:
Joint Transitional Housing and Rapid Rehousing

2019 Guidance:

CoCs must select both the **HUD: CoC – Transitional Housing and HUD: CoC – Rapid Re-Housing funding source options** in response to the HUD McKinney-Vento Funded question for each project.

2022 Guidance:

CoCs must select the HUD: **CoC – Joint Component TH/RRH funding source** for both projects.

HIC Changes: New Funding Sources

HUD McKinney-Vento Funding:

- HUD: ESG-CV

- HUD: CoC – Youth Homeless Demonstration Program (YHDP) renewals
  - YHDP-funded projects that are no longer in the two-year demonstration period and have been renewed under the CoC Program.

- HUD: YHDP – Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP)
  - YHDP-funded projects that are still in the two-year demonstration period and have <u>not</u> yet been renewed under the CoC Program.

Additional Federal Funding:

- HUD: HOPWA – CV

- HUD: HOME

- HUD: HOME (ARP)

- HUD: PIH (Emergency Housing Voucher)

HIC Changes: Comparable Databases

New Data Field on the HIC

- **Comparable database participation:** this data field allows CoCs to indicate whether victim service providers (VSPs), which are prohibited by the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) from entering data into HMIS, are participating in a [comparable database](#).

PIT Count Clarification: Ambiguous Sleeping Situations

The Notice now provides guidance on how to characterize someone's sleeping situation for the purposes of the PIT count and HIC.

The Notice provides considerations for how to determine if people are unsheltered, sheltered, or housed (i.e., the person does not meet the definition of homeless) in:

- Tents
- Vehicles
    - Cars, trucks, vans
    - Recreational vehicles (RVs)
- Tiny Homes and Sheds

The Notice also outlines **special considerations** such as:

- Guidelines for units on campuses
- Guidelines for very cold and very hot climates (e.g., Iowa and Arizona)

Note that these standards are limited to whether to consider a household unsheltered and do not represent eligibility for a specific program. Also, these are general rules and not intended to be exclusive or cover all situations.

Counting People in Structures that are Hard to Access:

- When counting people sleeping in RVs, tents, or other locations that have low visibility, the CoC must derive an estimate based on how many people are sleeping in those situations.

- **Do not simply count structures** without having additional information about how many people are in those kinds of sleeping situations.

- CoCs should not apply multipliers from other CoCs to their own CoC about these, or other homeless estimates.

- Each CoC is unique. Any extrapolation applied to a CoC's count must be based on data derived from that CoC.

PIT Count Change: Demographics

2021 PIT Count Demographics

Gender

- Female
- Male
- Transgender
- Gender Non-Conforming (i.e., not exclusively male or female)

Ethnicity

- Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino
- Hispanic/Latino

Race

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Multiple Races
- Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander
- White

2022 PIT Count Demographics

Gender

- Female
- Male
- Transgender
- A gender other than singularly female or male (e.g., non-binary, genderfluid, agender, culturally specific gender)
- Questioning

Ethnicity

- Non-Hispanic/Non-Latin(a)(o)(x)
- Hispanic/Latino(a)(o)(x)

Race

- American Indian, Alaskan Native, or Indigenous
- Asian or Asian American
- Black, African American, or African
- Multiple Races
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- White

Safety Considerations for Counting During COVID-19

COVID-19 Safety Guidance for the PIT Count

HUD's recently released [Safety Guidance document](#) considers the need to maintain safety while collecting sufficient data to make life-saving decisions about serving people experiencing homelessness. It includes guidance on:
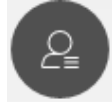
- Vaccination status for people conducting the count
- Personal protective equipment (PPE)
- Social distancing
- Volunteers
- Homeless service provider staff
- Remote PIT count training
- Partnerships
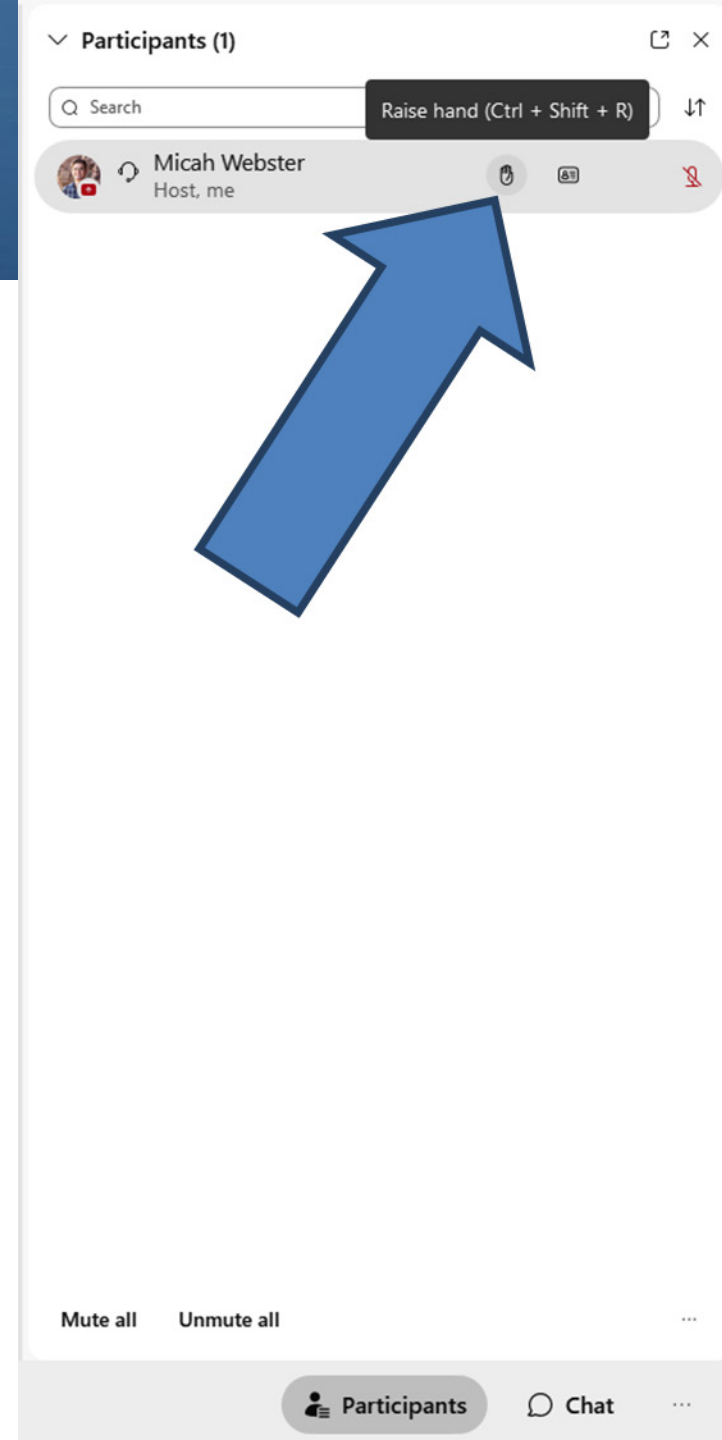- Sampling
- Mobile count applications

> Future office hours will cover these topics in more depth.

General PIT Count Resources

- [PIT Count & HIC Landing Page](#) on HUD Exchange

- [PIT Count Methodology Guide](#)

- [PIT Count Sampling Guidance & Tools](#)

- [PIT Count Office Hours Recordings](#)

- [PIT Count Survey Tools](#) *(these tools will be updated to align with the 2022 HMIS Data Standards)*

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Q & A