

COVID-19 Office Hours: Transcript January 20th, 2023

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1

00:00:05.400 --> 00:00:10.379

Hello everyone and welcome to the SNAPS Covid-19 office hours.

2

00:00:10.379 --> 00:00:20.430

My name is Micah Webster with Abt Associates, and I'm going to spend a couple of moments going over some tech notes and then we'll get into the content that we have for today.

3

00:00:20.430 --> 00:00:33.720

A couple of housekeeping reminders, we are recording the office hours today as we do for each office hours, and we'll post a copy of the recording along with the slides and any content that we receive through the chat box.

4

00:00:33.720 --> 00:00:43.860

Under the HUD Exchange in just a few business days. If you have any issues with audio during the webinar, we encourage you to switch over from computer to phone audio.

5

00:00:43.860 --> 00:00:50.280

That the numbers that are up on the screen, and that, I have just pasted into the chat.

6

00:00:51.295 --> 00:01:04.375

Everyone will remain muted for the duration of the office hours, but we absolutely anticipate and hope to hear from you through the chat feature in Webex to find the chat just take a look at the bottom right. Hand corner of your screen.

7

00:01:04.585 --> 00:01:07.405

You should see the word chat and what looks like a message bubble.

8

00:01:07.710 --> 00:01:14.130

Like, on that open the chat, please send our questions comments and feedback through the chat.

9

00:01:14.130 --> 00:01:21.060

And with that, I'm going to turn things over to Norm Suchar from the HUD Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs. Norm.

10

00:01:22.075 --> 00:01:35.635

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Thank you very much, Micah and welcome everyone to office hours. Today. We have a great set of content. We want to share with you. I'm going to introduce our speakers real quick and then we will dive into the content that you're here for.

11

00:01:36.295 --> 00:01:51.055

So, 1st of all, just want to show you the list of people who are going to be presenting today, or will be resources today you will hear from Carolyn Wadell from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and.

12

00:01:51.060 --> 00:01:56.550

And she'll give a Covid and other things update for us.

13

00:01:56.965 --> 00:02:10.975

Uh, we will hear from Brian Roccapiore, one of our technical assistants provider. Uh, do we presenting on some technical assistance materials related to infection control and winter planning and super important topic right now?

14

00:02:11.665 --> 00:02:25.855

We will hear from William Snow who will talk about the upcoming point in time count William Snow from the SNAPS office and we will also hear from Marlisa Grogan from the SNAPS office. Uh, who will talk about sorry?

15

00:02:26.550 --> 00:02:40.105

Be, uh, spending and how we're doing on that so we also have several other partners from other agencies and on the call with us today,

16

00:02:40.225 --> 00:02:50.395

we encourage you to ask us questions or share with us anything that you think would be helpful for us to know, or helpful for our audience to know you can just do that through the chat window.

17

00:02:51.085 --> 00:02:56.065

We are happy to do our best to answer any questions about the content today or any other.

18

00:02:56.550 --> 00:02:58.710

It's related questions that you might have.

19

00:02:58.710 --> 00:03:07.380

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And again, just take those in the chat window. So, with that, I'm going to turn things over to Caroline to talk to give us our CDC update Carolyn.

20

00:03:07.380 --> 00:03:20.580

Norm and Hi, everybody. Um, just like you said, I am with the CDC on the special populations team. Um, and today I'm giving an update about 2019 and some prevention measures.

21

00:03:20.580 --> 00:03:28.860

Next slide here, we have the weekly trends in number of Kobe, 19 cases over time.

22

00:03:28.860 --> 00:03:41.485

Pieces did plateau after the early December search, and currently only 16 of the population ages 5 years and older has received the updated by villain booster.

23

00:03:41.575 --> 00:03:48.415

So if you're not up to date on your vaccinations, please consider doing so and consider encouraging your residents or clients.

24

00:03:48.600 --> 00:03:54.570

To think about getting vaccinated themselves since David is still mildly more elevated than it was.

25

00:03:54.570 --> 00:03:57.750

Uh, before December, next slide, please.

26

00:03:59.160 --> 00:04:04.080

The map here shows covid, 19 community levels across jurisdictions.

27

00:04:04.080 --> 00:04:09.780

And around 63% of jurisdictions are green, or in that low level category.

28

00:04:09.780 --> 00:04:16.500

And that's a 14% increase since last week's community levels. Um, so that's really good to see increased green on the map.

29

00:04:16.500 --> 00:04:26.159

And 31% are yellow or in the medium category, and 6% of jurisdictions are red or have the high community levels as of last week.

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00:04:26.159 --> 00:04:33.209

Next slide please, these are the proportions of stars could be 2 variants by week.

31

00:04:33.209 --> 00:04:40.409

And the SBB 1.5 Omicron lineage represented in that dark blue on the very right column.

32

00:04:40.409 --> 00:04:44.849

Accounts for about 50% of infections as of last week.

33

00:04:44.849 --> 00:04:52.529

And CDC still recommends the same prevention measures to mitigate COVID-19, regardless of the variant that is circulating.

34

00:04:52.529 --> 00:05:02.699

Next slide I want to highlight some of the guidance on management of COVID-19, in homeless service sites on CDC's website.

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00:05:02.699 --> 00:05:08.159

Which I can post right now I think they had it. Oh, I did. I'll send it after my talk.

36

00:05:09.144 --> 00:05:17.454

Next slide please, the guidance outlined some prevention strategies for everyday operations and your facilities um,

37

00:05:17.454 --> 00:05:32.094

that should be in place at all times as well as some enhanced prevention strategies that can supplement your everyday prevention measures against COVID-19. and they can also be helpful against other respiratory diseases and viruses as well.

38

00:05:32.399 --> 00:05:42.539

Next slide please. Oh, whoops. There we go. So, these are some of those everyday operations that I was talking about.

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00:05:42.539 --> 00:05:46.949

Um, including supporting staff and residents to stay up to date.

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00:05:46.949 --> 00:05:54.509

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On October, 19 vaccines to improve the deletion in your facility to provide testing for Kobe 19 when it's needed.

41

00:05:54.509 --> 00:06:00.119

And also to wear masks, or as is appropriate.

42

00:06:00.119 --> 00:06:03.779

To promote infection control and facility cleaning.

43

00:06:03.779 --> 00:06:09.389

And to implement post exposure, guidance, next slide.

44

00:06:09.389 --> 00:06:18.539

Additionally, it's important to implement isolation guidance in your facility, support, access to treatment as needed.

45

00:06:18.539 --> 00:06:22.139

Monitor and communicate potential outbreaks or needs.

46

00:06:22.139 --> 00:06:28.949

And then an enhanced strategy with that is to increase distancing that social distancing that we're all pretty familiar with.

47

00:06:28.949 --> 00:06:38.489

Next slide and you can contact us at, um, the email they're special populations at CDC dot. Gov.

48

00:06:38.489 --> 00:06:46.919

And any of the numbers listed there with any questions that you may have about specific context for your facility and how to better prevent cobra 19.

49

00:06:46.919 --> 00:07:01.349

So, thank you so much back to you, norm Thank you so much. And I should say that the guidance the recently released guidance has been just so helpful to our communities. So thank you so much for that.

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00:07:01.349 --> 00:07:15.624

Uh, you talked a little bit about the changing sort of nature of the, the variance and how, you know, that's shifting over time. So, like, what should people be doing? Or how should people be thinking of that?

51

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00:07:15.654 --> 00:07:22.374

Are there sort of changes? People should be making, or, uh, you know, what, what what advice do you have for people?

52

00:07:23.934 --> 00:07:36.744

Thanks for that question, norm. Um, so I know in the news, it can be really scary when you hear about another variant that's out there. Um, but CDC is still recommending those same every day mitigation measures, and then the enhance measures.

53

00:07:36.834 --> 00:07:42.684

And so you'll still be using the covid 19 community level that you can find on CDC website.

54

00:07:42.989 --> 00:07:56.514

To tell you about the green, yellow or red for your community, and based off of that, you can either choose to do, um, green or yellow those every day prevention measures that I mentioned in the past couple slides.

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00:07:56.664 --> 00:08:00.594

And then if you're in the red, that's where the enhanced measures are recommended.

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00:08:00.989 --> 00:08:14.334

And there isn't a caveat there, that if your facility has certain characteristics, like high staff turnover or client and resident turnover or people, that may be more likely to have severe outcomes from 2019,

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00:08:14.334 --> 00:08:23.394

like older age or other amino compromising conditions, then you can consider having those enhanced measures, um, even if your community level is lower.

58

00:08:23.394 --> 00:08:30.894

Um, so we still recommend those same things regardless of what is circulating, which variant is circulating.

59

00:08:31.704 --> 00:08:45.774

So, thanks, Ron. Great. Thank you. So much helpful information as always if anybody has any questions that Carolyn can answer please go ahead and type them in the chat window. We'll move on to our next presenter today.

60

00:08:45.774 --> 00:08:59.094

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So I'm very happy to introduce Brian rock. Priori. 1 of our fantastic technical assistance providers who is going to be talking about some of the infection control in winter planning, uh, technical assistance products. So, Brian, over to, you.

61

00:08:59.904 --> 00:09:14.424

Thank you norm. Hi, everyone, Brian rock. Priori. Uh, we can go to the next slide. My colleague Laura was here last month, and she introduced the series, and I'm back this month because the 2nd video in the series is now available on the hood exchange at the link that just went into the chat.

62

00:09:15.024 --> 00:09:26.694

And because of how timely this is given the real world situations that we're all facing. And by that, I mean, it's winter time and a lot of folks are inside and we have several infectious diseases that are increasing in number.

63

00:09:27.294 --> 00:09:41.784

So the infection control, and what they're planting planting series, it was created to really assist communities in their winter planning and how to implement their infection control measures the 2nd video in the series that was published this week,

64

00:09:41.814 --> 00:09:48.294

is designed to help shelters develop and implement communication strategies.

65

00:09:48.509 --> 00:10:01.734

To keep both staff in residence today during the winter, and this isn't just our hot takes on messaging. It's a lot of information that comes directly from us. Co, creating the messaging with folks who lived experience of homelessness.

66

00:10:02.454 --> 00:10:14.994

The video itself includes onboarding information for new staff. Messaging for residents in emergency shelters as well as how to access materials and really how to work together with your public health organizations.

67

00:10:15.534 --> 00:10:18.444

So who are we trying to reach with all of these? That's a great question.

68

00:10:18.509 --> 00:10:29.669

Our target target audience here is, um, shelter providers leads and really any organization that sort of folks who are experiencing homelessness.

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69

00:10:29.669 --> 00:10:37.289

The videos themselves are just a couple of minutes long. They're pretty easily digestible and just super easy to share with partners.

70

00:10:37.854 --> 00:10:50.484

And the great thing about them is they all have links to resources that go way more in depth, but they really stand alone and do a great job of communicating the core messages. So, the 1st, 2 videos are available now and the other 3 are in production.

71

00:10:50.484 --> 00:11:05.184

Should be available shortly stay tuned tier, had exchange emails through those and, um, please share and share widely with all of your networks. That would be greatly appreciated. Now, on the next slide, we're facing multiple infectious diseases.

72

00:11:05.184 --> 00:11:06.894

The flu rsv cobra.

73

00:11:07.289 --> 00:11:21.204

And in some areas with the SBB 1.5 variant, and Caroline was saying before the booster, while doing an amazing job of keeping people healthy has had a less than ideal uptake by, um,

74

00:11:21.234 --> 00:11:29.724

everyone not just people experiencing homelessness. I believe the number that was said, it was 16 of the general population and. population and

75

00:11:30.324 --> 00:11:33.744

I know that everyone's over this, and when I started talking,

76

00:11:33.744 --> 00:11:48.234

a bunch of people probably checked out and started multitasking and I'm going to keep saying this because it's 1 of the more important things that we can do to keep folks safe and a little work on the prevention side, it's going to go such a long way in helping.

77

00:11:48.959 --> 00:11:55.799

Reduce work, reduce effort, reduce money, spent and ultimately help save lives of people. If you do experience an outbreak.

78

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00:11:56.514 --> 00:12:07.254

So, I will come down off my soapbox for a moment and, um, again, what Caroline was saying earlier, that the CDC is still recommending the same prevention measures, regardless of what the variant is.

79

00:12:07.734 --> 00:12:19.104

So, I wanted to take the opportunity to reintroduce some of the existing work. That can help support you in these times, all the links are going in the chat now and I'm just going to briefly run down what they are.

80

00:12:20.124 --> 00:12:34.554

The 1st is the flyer for homeless providers to help address any concerns about the updated booster. It goes over things like eligibility, potential side effects that people might experience. Excuse me? The next is vaccination in on sheltered settings.

81

00:12:34.584 --> 00:12:40.674

It goes over all the things. You can consider to self set yourself up for success in this situation and.

82

00:12:41.214 --> 00:12:53.484

The important 1 here is I really want to highlight the part about you. Don't have to make it covance specific and that goes for all vaccination efforts. Really wrapping it all up in a larger healthcare outreach event.

83

00:12:53.484 --> 00:12:58.674

Is it a great way to more holistically engage folks and increase that vaccine uptake?

84

00:12:59.514 --> 00:13:14.274

3rd is our vaccine messaging toolkit, which the video that I was talking about earlier heavily draws from there's a lot in there about engaging with different partners, meaningful messaging. And again was all Co created with folks who are experiencing homelessness.

85

00:13:15.324 --> 00:13:21.444

And last is the general page of disease risks and homelessness, which is searchable by keyword.

86

00:13:21.444 --> 00:13:35.634

It's super easy to find stuff based on what you might need in your specific community and that likely has everything you can need to help, uh, implement prevention infection, control measures. Uh, there's a ton of great community examples.

87

00:13:35.634 --> 00:13:44.394

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Workflows good, better, best scenarios for things like isolation in quarantine and I will say that I understand that life sometimes comes out too.

88

00:13:44.519 --> 00:13:55.619

Fast and a written product, or a video might not be the perfect thing in the moment for your community that's experiencing an outbreak. So if anyone out there is.

89

00:13:55.619 --> 00:14:08.454

Experiencing outbreak of any kind, or needs some extra assistance, some extra support um, there is help available on the technical assistance side and the best way to do that is to submit an a queue the hubs ask a question desk.

90

00:14:09.054 --> 00:14:23.364

Um, that link is going in the chat right now. Thank you Heidi. Um, when you get in there, um, there is an option to select what your question is related to you would select homelessness and infectious disease questions and there are ta, providers on the other side.

91

00:14:23.844 --> 00:14:25.614

Who are here ready and waiting.

92

00:14:25.619 --> 00:14:27.029

To help so.

93

00:14:27.029 --> 00:14:35.639

Um, I'll just leave you with, like, you don't have to do this alone please make use of us. And that is what I had today. So, norm, I can give it back to, you.

94

00:14:36.809 --> 00:14:50.249

Uh, thank you so much Brian. Uh, wondering about the upcoming videos. Can you just sort of give us a hint about what some of the content might be that are gonna get covered in the upcoming videos?

95

00:14:52.134 --> 00:14:56.814

Uh, give me just 3rd, cause I had that open right over here.

96

00:14:56.814 --> 00:15:08.634

So the next 1 is going to go over personal, protective equipment, cleaning and disinfection how that, um, presents itself in homeless, uh, in, excuse me an emergency shelter and homeless service sites.

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00:15:08.634 --> 00:15:20.784

The next is gonna be isolation and operational considerations for congregate facilities and then a non congregate shelter. There's gonna be a video dedicated to best practices. There. there

98

00:15:21.089 --> 00:15:27.599

And really goes into the good better best scenarios of that. So it's not just.

99

00:15:27.804 --> 00:15:34.134

Everybody should have the same, their individual room individual bathroom. We know that's not a reality in a lot of situations.

100

00:15:34.404 --> 00:15:45.744

So, it gives real practical examples of how folks can implement to the best they can with the situations that they're they are currently facing in their in their own systems.

101

00:15:48.534 --> 00:15:56.364

Great, thank you so much. Brian I also just to piggyback on, uh, your comments earlier about the importance of vaccination.

102

00:15:56.394 --> 00:16:10.824

I also, uh, if it's just for the, you know, 1 out of 5 or so, people who have gotten the Bible and booster, I did get the buy booster. It was great. Uh, and definitely, you know, gave me a little more confidence about about things.

103

00:16:10.824 --> 00:16:17.844

But I do want to just thank everyone who is taken, whether big or small measures to help. Uh, uh.

104

00:16:18.119 --> 00:16:20.069

And the spread of covid, whether it's.

105

00:16:20.069 --> 00:16:34.374

You know, putting on a mask, or getting your, uh, booster shot uh, the thing about it, you know, pandemics and and large infectious disease outbreaks is that little actions can, uh, make a big difference.

106

00:16:34.614 --> 00:16:46.854

And, uh, so I just want to, you know, take a moment to thank everyone for the sort of little actions. You may have taken. They really make a big difference. I know in this world. We always think about what isn't being done.

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107

00:16:46.854 --> 00:16:49.764

What's next on our list or or whatever but.

108

00:16:50.069 --> 00:17:01.794

Uh, do you want to take a moment to just think everyone who has taken some steps to, uh, to help move us forward and help prevent the spread of Kobe? So thank you all.

109

00:17:02.544 --> 00:17:16.134

And thank you, Brian and we're gonna take 1 of those rate. Hard turns into a completely different topic. I'm going to. I'm happy to introduce William snow from the snaps office.

110

00:17:16.134 --> 00:17:20.004

William is our point in time count subject matter expert among.

111

00:17:20.399 --> 00:17:27.179

Many other things. Uh, so, William, I'm going to turn things over to you to talk about the upcoming Pip count.

112

00:17:28.769 --> 00:17:34.589

All right thanks, norm excited to talk about the point in time count. So next slide please.

113

00:17:35.394 --> 00:17:39.144

So, just as a reminder last month, we released the 2022 data.

114

00:17:39.144 --> 00:17:52.644

So, if you haven't seen that, I'd encourage you to look at the annual homeless assessment report part 1 or the AR, part 1 where we talk about what you all did last year, what we saw, it was a historic year.

115

00:17:52.644 --> 00:18:04.524

The 1st count after covid had really kind of hit us. So, 1st, national estimates that actually makes this upcoming count, which is kicking in really. is kicking in really

116

00:18:04.614 --> 00:18:07.524

Next week historic as well, right?

117

00:18:07.554 --> 00:18:21.234

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We're starting to see or we'll get the opportunity to see what happened with a lot of those resources that you all have spent so much time making sure have been useful to your community and protect those that you're serving.

118

00:18:21.984 --> 00:18:27.804

So, we're very grateful for that. I do just a quick primer on the point in time. Count again step back.

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00:18:28.409 --> 00:18:36.989

Let's know what it is. Let's know why we do it. So, the point in time counts is a 1 night count of people experiencing homelessness.

120

00:18:37.794 --> 00:18:48.204

We have lots of data collection. What makes the point in time count you need, is that it provides not just a 1 night sense of who's in shelter.

121

00:18:48.204 --> 00:19:01.644

But those who are in unsheltered situations as well, it's in fact, the only data source for the nation, at least that provides a snapshot of that unsheltered population. It's so critical to get that.

122

00:19:02.909 --> 00:19:12.329

Getting the full picture of people engaging in the sheltered system, and people who are not in the shelter system, gives us a great idea of.

123

00:19:12.329 --> 00:19:27.204

Who's out there? What are the needs? Most pit counts are conducted in such a way that they're heavily engaged in interviews. So we're talking to who's out there trying to understand again what is their demographics?

124

00:19:27.294 --> 00:19:27.804

Um.

125

00:19:28.644 --> 00:19:39.774

Again, who's who's out there and how can we serve them just a reminder of the scope of the point in time count it is focused on people in sheltered situations as well as unsheltered.

126

00:19:40.404 --> 00:19:55.164

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We don't collect data on people in doubled up situations, or in other precarious house situations. So I just want to flag that. There's sometimes some confusion and frustration around what you get, or don't get out of the point in time counts. There are some good reasons for that. Right?

127

00:19:55.344 --> 00:19:58.014

It's actually a ton of work just to do the counts as a.

128

00:19:58.139 --> 00:20:10.914

Currently structured, it takes census about 10 years and billions of dollars to do a full census of the country. And that's the type of effort that you would need. If you want to find out what's going on with the double that population.

129

00:20:11.454 --> 00:20:13.614

So, we use the point in time count.

130

00:20:14.099 --> 00:20:20.574

In context, with other data sources, they help us get a more rich picture of what's going on.

131

00:20:20.844 --> 00:20:34.554

So, I want to flag that it's really important to understand what you get and what you don't get out of the point in time count and really recognize the value of going and engaging with with your community. And doing your point in time. Count.

132

00:20:35.244 --> 00:20:43.104

The count is done at the end of January. That's a cold time of year. We actually get lots of questions. Why did we do it in January?

133

00:20:44.249 --> 00:20:50.009

Based on research, we found that this is the time where we find the highest national.

134

00:20:50.009 --> 00:21:02.609

Average or highest national data on people experiencing homelessness and the single night we know that the sheltered and unsheltered dynamics change in different areas. Right? I imagine places like Minnesota or Chicago we're probably going to have a.

135

00:21:02.609 --> 00:21:11.874

Higher unsheltered number, if you count them in the summer, but overall we get a higher total counts and people experiencing homelessness by doing the council in the winter.

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136

00:21:11.874 --> 00:21:18.863

So, we do that another reason we do the winter, which kind of gets us the larger reason why we do counts at all. It's.

137

00:21:19.554 --> 00:21:34.074

It's kind of crazy to think that in the middle of January you're going to find over 200,000 people sleeping on the street or the end of January. That's insane. Right even in places that are a foot or 2 and snow, you're still finding people outside.

138

00:21:34.074 --> 00:21:37.014

So, it tells a reality. a reality

139

00:21:37.709 --> 00:21:46.139

Something that that we don't love. Right? The reality of people are sleeping on the streets outside and.

140

00:21:46.139 --> 00:21:59.574

We need to know who they are, we need to be able to find ways to serve them. And this is 1 way. We do that. Another reason. We do the point in time. 10 is to engage the public. They're going to see these numbers. This is 1 of those popular things that gets picked up by the press.

141

00:21:59.934 --> 00:22:06.534

And it's a good starting point for what is happening in your community with regards to this important population.

142

00:22:06.924 --> 00:22:15.654

And hopefully it sparked some interest, and you're able to get more volunteers or more political support in terms of the need and the resources.

143

00:22:16.139 --> 00:22:28.739

To address homelessness, so the point in time counselors, lots of purposes, we're hoping that you don't just do the count for all of these hours into it, and then put all that data on the shelf.

144

00:22:28.739 --> 00:22:35.579

We hope to take that data, get a sense for what your understanding, especially on your unsheltered side and using it.

145

00:22:36.114 --> 00:22:48.084

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We saw a lot of communities show that they are using that data in our last note, the special mofo where they provided their own shelter data and talked about it. We appreciate that.

146

00:22:48.084 --> 00:23:01.614

And we will try to do things that actually continue to help you to look at that data. We want you to make it a part of your planning a part of your efforts and we appreciate it. We know this is something that takes hours of staff time often.

147

00:23:01.614 --> 00:23:05.094

You're engaging volunteers truly a community effort.

148

00:23:05.579 --> 00:23:17.844

It should be, because this is something that should be solved at the community level, and we're just grateful that we can participate in that. So I want to give you all a big thank you for all of the work you're doing. We know again.

149

00:23:17.844 --> 00:23:23.814

All that's going into it so far and next week's going to be a big week for many of you and we appreciate that.

150

00:23:24.119 --> 00:23:33.329

And with that, I'm going to turn it back over to you on, uh, thanks so much William I think, uh, you know.

151

00:23:33.329 --> 00:23:38.819

Uh, 1 express appreciation to everyone working on point in time counts. 1 of the questions we often get is about.

152

00:23:38.819 --> 00:23:46.854

Uh, it's always a challenge to do to count on 1 night and people are looking to sort of try to do the count over, you know, a week or so.

153

00:23:46.854 --> 00:23:54.324

Can you talk about, like, what are the options are if people are looking to do account, that's, you know, spread out a little more.

154

00:23:55.344 --> 00:24:10.194

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Yeah, we love that question. So this gets at the methodology that a community is using if you're doing accounts where you're really basing your count on observation this is how counts have been done for several years then you actually do need to more or less.

155

00:24:10.194 --> 00:24:19.884

Do it? On a single night, because you need to find a way to be able to duplicates who you're finding. Right? So we're not double counting anyway but most communities now.

156

00:24:20.214 --> 00:24:33.984

Are no longer doing strictly observation count the most prevalent type of count is an interview based count, right? When you go out, you sample you try to count as many people as you can engage them. Hopefully in a relatively short interview.

157

00:24:34.524 --> 00:24:47.904

I know we have requirements in terms of what you need to ask what data is needed. Hopefully, there's not much more beyond that that communities are asking for, as you do, that it actually opens the door for you to have a longer account.

158

00:24:48.504 --> 00:24:50.064

You can pair this effort in.

159

00:24:50.189 --> 00:24:56.909

1 night with service based counts, or you can do it over multiple days. The key there is.

160

00:24:56.909 --> 00:25:10.644

If you're collecting on, someone's identifier, maybe a name or a location, but particularly name or some other way to distinguish. You can do duplicate and so as you do a multi date count.

161

00:25:10.644 --> 00:25:15.714

You're able to ensure that. You're not double counting anyone. So, we encourage you. Actually, if you.

162

00:25:16.019 --> 00:25:27.174

Uh, are doing an interview based count and you have a resources take a couple of nights and preferably in the night sometimes you need to use the daytime to engage certain populations in particular.

163

00:25:27.174 --> 00:25:40.254

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But we, we found more success happens as you continue to engage people where they're sleeping, but also using those service based opportunities, libraries, food banks they're just fantastic partners and really enhance.

164

00:25:40.499 --> 00:25:53.879

The information you're getting your counts. Great. And we have a, uh, another question in the chat about, uh, how the point in time count reflects people with disabilities. Uh, can you talk about that?

165

00:25:54.714 --> 00:25:58.974

Yeah, that's a great question. It's 1 that is difficult, right?

166

00:25:58.974 --> 00:26:11.694

So, if we're counting people in the middle of the night, asking about a variety of things, everything from your housing status to your demographics to your veteran status, we do actually have.

167

00:26:12.029 --> 00:26:25.709

Uh, some questions around disability we ask around severe mental illness we ask about substance abuse, HIV AIDS. So those are asked, but I will put a caveat there that again.

168

00:26:25.734 --> 00:26:39.594

Knowing the context you're doing this in the middle of the night, I'd say that data should be looked at with some caveats and if someone's going to look at it, they actually try to also look at what information you're getting in your data. Right?

169

00:26:39.594 --> 00:26:45.324

What are the trends you're seeing throughout the year? It's a great example of a good starting point.

170

00:26:45.629 --> 00:26:55.889

And let people know what's going on on a basic level, but to really understand, you're going to need to dig into and other data that's collected on. People experiencing homelessness in your community.

171

00:26:57.419 --> 00:27:04.139

Great, thank you. Uh, and again want to thank everyone who's working on point in time counts. I will say.

172

00:27:04.139 --> 00:27:14.064

The state is really useful this data was really the basis for the unsheltered is will you mentioned, uh, that we published last summer?

173

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00:27:14.334 --> 00:27:20.634

And, uh, you know, it really is sort of central to the policy making process here at HUD.

174

00:27:20.634 --> 00:27:34.044

And I know it's a really crucial for a lot of communities and, uh, in thinking about how they develop almost assistance and how they make a case for resources to their local and state governments. So.

175

00:27:34.524 --> 00:27:45.534

Thank you all for, uh, for your roles and your work on doing those point in time counts. Uh, so thank you. And thank you, William. Uh, so we're going to move to our next topic.

176

00:27:45.564 --> 00:27:54.534

Uh, we're jumping around a little bit here, but where our next topic is, uh, uh, and how we're doing on our overall spending.

177

00:27:54.594 --> 00:28:03.954

Uh, so this is your chance to see how your community stacks up, or at least get a sense of how everyone else is doing and then go back and look at your own data. But, um.

178

00:28:04.139 --> 00:28:08.519

Martha, I wonder, I'm going to turn things over to you to give us our update here.

179

00:28:08.544 --> 00:28:12.114

Okay, thanks. Ma'am. Hey, everyone happy. New year.

180

00:28:12.384 --> 00:28:19.494

We wanted to turn everyone's attention back to with this,

181

00:28:19.494 --> 00:28:29.724

being the home stretch from now until until September of this year for spending funds next slide. Please.

182

00:28:29.969 --> 00:28:39.179

So, this gives you a snapshot as of January 13rd of where everyone is. And so we have.

183

00:28:39.179 --> 00:28:54.054

169 grantees comprising 47% of the whole recipient pool that have that have drawn down over 80% but you can see that that figure or the span of progress in draws

184

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00:28:54.114 --> 00:28:57.954

really. the span of progress in draws really

185

00:28:58.404 --> 00:29:06.894

Really reaches the whole gamut of status and then the pie chart, right next to it gives you a similar representation.

186

00:29:06.894 --> 00:29:20.394

The vast majority of you recipients are between, like, at least 80% drawn or between 60 to 80% drawn. But we do have a cohort that's under that percentage.

187

00:29:20.394 --> 00:29:28.224

And this next slide is for you. So, with 70. with seventy

188

00:29:28.229 --> 00:29:35.729

4% of of the allocation drawn, there's still a lot of room to.

189

00:29:35.729 --> 00:29:49.194

Increase and intensify your efforts in drawing down funds regularly. So we have 101Million dollars. That's still not committed in. And we have 8.8Million dollars in grants not loaded in.

190

00:29:49.194 --> 00:30:01.374

And that is directly related to the, or I'm sorry, the reallocated funds that went to recipients. the reallocated funds that went to recipients

191

00:30:01.679 --> 00:30:14.039

That have not yet processed their green agreements. Maybe they haven't signed their green agreements and gotten the back to your field office, or you may be in a variety of situations. But, um.

192

00:30:14.039 --> 00:30:28.019

I just we're highlighting this to make sure that you're taking the necessary steps to identify how you're going to be using your funds, making sure that you're setting up those activities and and you're budgeting them. You're committing them and.

193

00:30:28.019 --> 00:30:37.859

Um, so that you are in the best possible position to meet the deadline and draw down funds without leaving anything on the table next side, please.

194

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00:30:38.999 --> 00:30:46.499

So some of the things that are important to know is that draw rates have been down.

195

00:30:46.499 --> 00:30:51.509

Over the last few months on a weekly basis, we have our, um.

196

00:30:51.509 --> 00:30:58.644

We have our awesome provider who does a run down for us and we just we see how, um,

197

00:30:58.674 --> 00:31:08.904

collectively all recipients pan out and we're looking to see that about 27Million dollars is drawn down to keep us on target.

198

00:31:08.904 --> 00:31:21.414

If we're just going to do, like, a simple projection for meeting the target and right now we're down about we're around 17Million a week. million a week

199

00:31:21.509 --> 00:31:32.519

Or, um, or even less, which is understandable, due to the holidays, but this is giving us the flag that we need to really um.

200

00:31:32.519 --> 00:31:36.209

Intensify our efforts to get the money out.

201

00:31:36.894 --> 00:31:44.994

So, what you can do is assess your own progress to make sure that you are on target to fully expend your funds by September 30th 2023.

202

00:31:45.024 --> 00:31:58.254

if you are using the same rate of draws that you're doing right now, whether you're doing it on a quarterly basis or a monthly basis, if you were to keep drawing down funds at that rate,

203

00:31:58.254 --> 00:32:04.944

are you going to have money left over by the September 30th deadline. by the september thirty th deadline

204

00:32:05.759 --> 00:32:18.564

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And if you're not, it would be a really good time to start shifting, shifting your approach to draws increasing the draws. And we're at least assessing what what the holdup is.

205

00:32:18.564 --> 00:32:23.544

What is the obstacle to you drawing down more funds more regularly?

206

00:32:24.354 --> 00:32:35.754

So the other thing to consider is that you should be identifying that you should project the amount of and admin funds that.

207

00:32:35.759 --> 00:32:39.444

You're gonna need for close out so for final reporting,

208

00:32:40.524 --> 00:32:51.564

reconciling your own internal financial records with what's an those types of things how much each of my admin funding are you going to need to do to do that?

209

00:32:51.834 --> 00:33:05.694

Because those funds you can have until December 31st 2023 to expense. So now would be a good time to figure that out how much you're going to need and then start. to need and then start

210

00:33:05.759 --> 00:33:06.749

Budgeting.

211

00:33:06.749 --> 00:33:21.384

Budgeting those funds aside. So, that you're you're concretely planning for what you need to spend by the 30, September 30th and then what you're gonna be setting, aside through December 31st and if you have any concerns about not meeting the deadline.

212

00:33:21.384 --> 00:33:34.374

Please reach out for technical assistance. If you have a technical assistance provider, you're already working with then reach out to them and make sure you're having that conversation. If you. if you

213

00:33:35.154 --> 00:33:45.144

Don't have a team provided you're currently working with submit an, or a request for technical assistance, or even reach out to your field office,

214

00:33:45.144 --> 00:33:54.834

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or your snacks desk officer and just say we're not we're not really on target right now. I don't know what to do. And I don't know what to spend my money on. Um.

215

00:33:55.139 --> 00:33:59.639

But we know that we're not going to make the deadline, but that is.

216

00:33:59.639 --> 00:34:13.794

Perfectly okay, and that's the 1st step to getting back on track so we really welcome that kind of outreach and I'm sure you will have a response that includes a lot of great ideas for how to use the funds.

217

00:34:15.594 --> 00:34:23.484

Vaccine incentives or additional protective measures, or increasing spending on rapidly housing,

218

00:34:23.574 --> 00:34:32.214

or looking at sub recipients that are slower spenders and seeing if it makes sense to shift funds around if possible.

219

00:34:33.119 --> 00:34:45.234

To some recipients that are spending more quickly and running low on funds. So we are definitely here to be a thought partner. So please don't be a stranger.

220

00:34:45.264 --> 00:34:52.164

If, if you are doing this kind of assessment and feeling like you're not quite where you need to be.

221

00:34:53.184 --> 00:34:59.574

Um, so that is all that I have and before I turn it over to norm,

222

00:34:59.574 --> 00:35:13.344

I just want to flag that we're going to continue these types of status reports and are working on providing additional technical assistance on our end to help you all meet that meet those deadlines.

223

00:35:13.589 --> 00:35:24.569

Thank you, thank you so much more Lisa. We did have a question in the chat about, does the expanded by date?

224

00:35:24.569 --> 00:35:31.284

Uh, is that equivalent to the date with, from which funds are drawn? I guess.

225

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00:35:31.614 --> 00:35:45.024

Um, so that's a really good question that confuses a lot of people the extended by date the September 30th and the December 31st deadlines are just for costs incurred. costs incurred
226

00:35:45.329 --> 00:35:59.399

So that is different from actually drawing the funds down from. So you need to have the cost incurred by those expended by dates. And then you have an additional 120 days to draw them down.
227

00:35:59.399 --> 00:36:11.399

So, we're just talking about expenditures, which would include costs incurred as well as as drawn funds. But as long as you are incurring the cost, we would consider that an expenditure.
228

00:36:13.019 --> 00:36:24.389

Great uh, thank you so much. Uh, 1 thing I just want to sort of, uh, build on comments here, is that, uh, we are all.
229

00:36:24.389 --> 00:36:35.034

We all kind of have the same goal. Uh, we at HUD are TV providers, and you all want to use this funding for good purposes and to make it as easy as possible to do.
230

00:36:35.034 --> 00:36:41.064

So, so if you reach out to us know that, we are on your side on, we have the same goal.
231

00:36:41.394 --> 00:36:54.324

Uh, we are very invested in in you all succeeding and what you all to succeed in this and really would love to jointly problem solve or, uh, or work with you. However, we can to help make that happen.
232

00:36:54.864 --> 00:37:05.364

I know that we've, you know, we're at 74% expenditure right now that just took an incredible amount of effort on a lot of people's parts. I know.
233

00:37:05.364 --> 00:37:18.354

Many of you on this call have been on call since the beginning, and have been, like, overwhelmed with the work. It took to launch this program to keep it moving to keep the draws going all those fun things.
234

00:37:18.774 --> 00:37:24.234

So thank you so much for that. It really has made an. made an
235

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00:37:24.389 --> 00:37:27.059

Difference in the lives of a lot of people.

236

00:37:27.059 --> 00:37:34.889

Uh, and thank you Lisa, for giving us an update, and we look forward to seeing this progress in the in the coming office hours sessions.

237

00:37:35.334 --> 00:37:43.194

Uh, with that, I think we are at the end of our time. Uh, we do have some lists of resources that we'd like to post.

238

00:37:43.224 --> 00:37:53.904

Uh, here we will post this, um, the, the, the slides and all the materials, uh, in a few days. Uh, we'll try to get it up as quickly as possible.

239

00:37:54.324 --> 00:38:04.884

Um, and, uh, in the meantime, if you have any questions again, Brian, um, or or need for technical assistance, Brian, hopefully included a link.

240

00:38:04.889 --> 00:38:08.429

To the where you can get some more technical assistants.

241

00:38:09.054 --> 00:38:12.774

And lastly, I just want to thank everyone for the, uh, unbelievable work.

242

00:38:12.774 --> 00:38:19.644

You've been doing through the winter um, and for the past several years to prevent the spread of covid,

243

00:38:19.854 --> 00:38:33.774

to help people who have really been struggling and who are sheltered and really struggling with homelessness. And you guys have done amazing work and we, at the snapshot is just can't appreciate you enough.

244

00:38:34.110 --> 00:38:41.520

Uh, so with that, where I want to wish everyone a great rest of your day great weekend. Uh, and that concludes the webinar.