2023 PIT Count Office Hours

January 11, 2023

2:00-3:00pm 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 on the HUD Exchange here.

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

  +1-415-655-0002

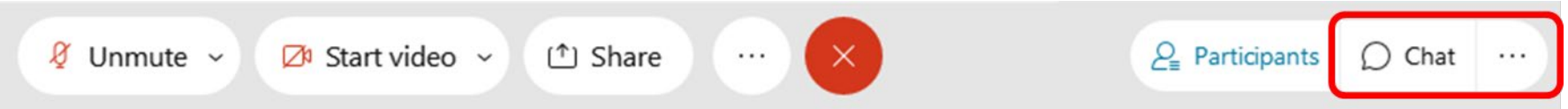
  Access code: **2430 298 6825**

  Password: **PIT (748)**

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

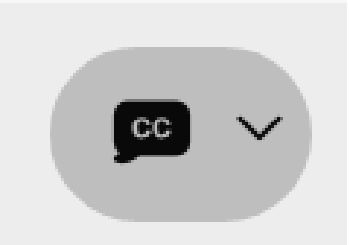
Chat Feature

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



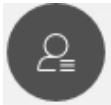
Closed Captioning

Closed captioning is enabled for this event. To hide captions, click the ‘Closed captions’ button on the lower left-hand side of your screen



Want to Ask a Question Verbally?

1. Select the Participant list icon at the bottom of this screen.

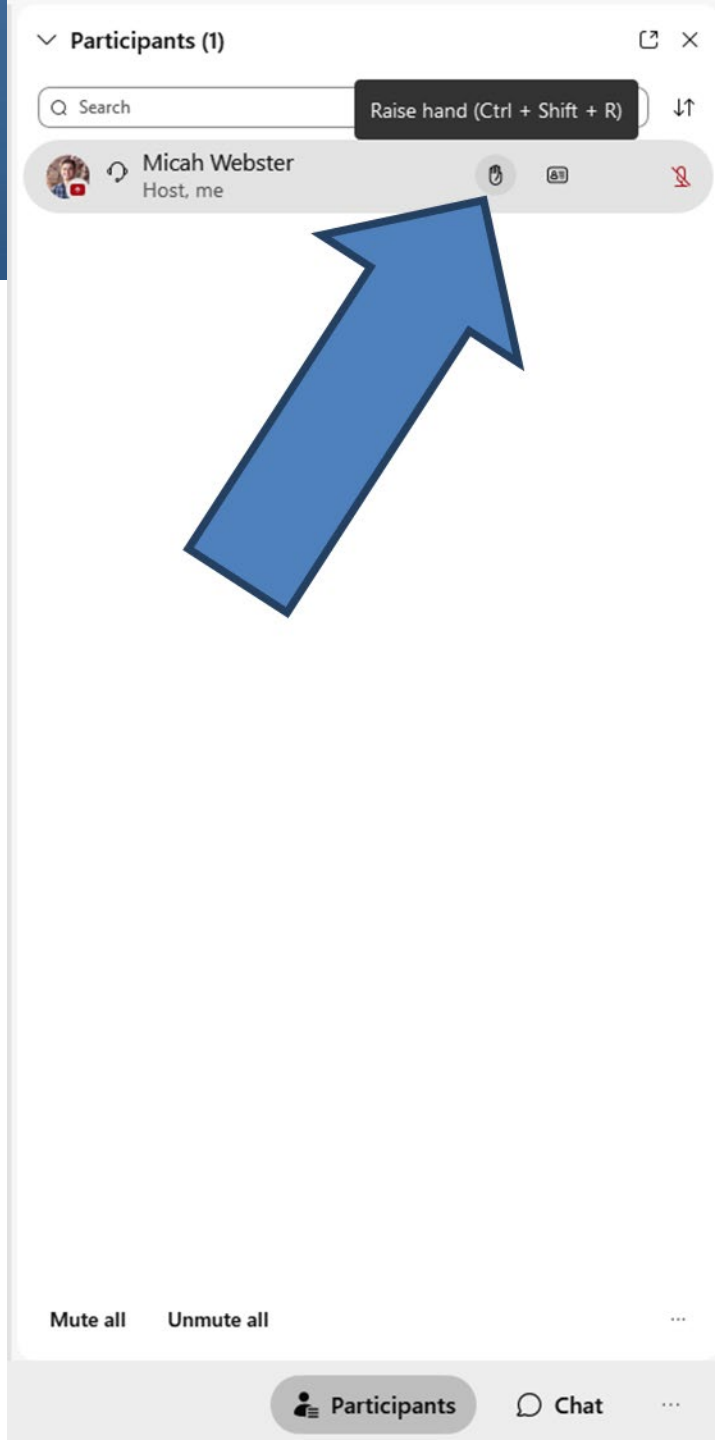
   It looks like this: 

2. Hover your mouse next to your name and select the Raise Hand icon. Alternatively, you can click the ‘Raise hand’ icon at the bottom of your screen:

3. We will call on you, then unmute you to ask the question, and put you back on mute.

   Click the hand icon again to lower your hand after you have asked a question

4. Call-in users can raise their hand by dialing *3 and unmute/mute by dialing *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

- Shantae Smith (she/her/hers)
- Caroline Roddey (she/her/hers)
- Alyssa Andrichik (she/her/hers)
- Tanya de Sousa (she/her/hers)
- Meghan Henry (she/her/hers)

Agenda

- Considerations for CoCs experiencing an influx of migrants
- Review of age category expansion in 2023 PIT count
- Updates to PIT count methodology questions
- Q&A

Reminders for 2023

- The Age category was expanded to align with other data collection and to give us greater insight on people experiencing homelessness.
  - The PIT Extrapolation Tool will be updated to include the updated age categories and posted to HUD Exchange
- If your CoC conducted a full count in 2022 it is not required to conduct a full count in 2023 (though we would strongly encourage you to consider doing so.

Considerations for CoCs experiencing an influx of migrants

Considerations for CoCs experiencing an influx of migrants

- People are included in the count based on their housing status on the night of the count.
- If they have no place to sleep and are either in a place not meant for human habitation or receiving emergency shelter they should be counted.
- This may require added coordination with those who are administering care if it is not being handled in your normal homeless assistance system.
- With regard to the HIC, consider how permanent these programs may be. If you believe they are temporary (as in the program is dealing with a short term crisis and will then expire in the coming months) then you should likely mark these programs as ad hoc rather than year-round.

Updates to PIT Count Methodology Questions

Why?

The Why - Background and context for updates

We ask about methodology

- We want to understand how people are conducting the count and provide support when needed
- Working on a communication kit to help talk about the PIT count, including the methodology

We are updating the methodology questions

- We want to make sure we are only asking what is relevant
- The updates remove some things that we don't think were necessary while adding clarity in a few areas that needed more explanation

Summary of Key Updates

- Removed subpopulation questions
- Simplified data source questions for sheltered population
- Updated wording of some questions for clarity; added examples to answer options
- Added more detail to questions about approaches used for counting unsheltered population
- Updated response options for change from prior count questions; select top three reasons instead of all
- Added open-ended responses to some questions to allow more specificity

Removed subpopulation questions

CoCs will no longer have to answer questions asking about sheltered and unsheltered populations.

Example of unsheltered subpopulation questions that will **no longer be asked:**

~~**10. Were all people who were encountered during canvassing on the night of the count or during post night of the count PIT activities asked to complete a survey/interview?**~~

- ~~All people encountered were surveyed~~
- ~~A subset of people was surveyed~~

~~**10a. How did the CoC select those people?**~~

- ~~People were selected randomly~~
- ~~People were not selected randomly, but an effort was made to select a sample of people that "represented" all unsheltered people~~
- ~~People were not selected randomly, and the selection was driven by practicality or expediency (e.g., people willing and able to complete a survey on the night of the PIT count)~~
- ~~Other (please specify):~~

Simplified data source questions for sheltered population

CoCs will now answer this question *only* at the full population level (Sheltered Population rather than Subpopulation):

Sheltered Population

1. **What data source(s) was used to produce the total number of people included in the sheltered population (staying in an emergency shelter, Safe Haven, or transitional housing) on the night of the count? Please indicate the percentage of the PIT count derived from each of the sources. (If a source was not used, please enter zero).**
   - HMIS Data _____
   - Provider-level surveys _____
   - Client-level surveys _____
   - Observation _____
   - Other _____
   - Total _____

Updated wording of some questions for clarity; added examples to answer options

Old Question

What information or method(s) was used to produce an unduplicated total count of homeless people across your sheltered and unsheltered populations?

- ❑ Comparison of personally identifying information (PII), such as name, date of birth, and Social Security Number
- ❑ Comparison of unique client identifiers (not PII)
- ❑ Blitz count of unsheltered people (i.e., sheltered and unsheltered counts occurred at same time to avoid double counting)
- ❑ Interview/survey question(s) with screening questions (e.g., have you already completed a count survey)
- ❑ No specific approach was used
- ❑ Other (Please Specify):

Updated Wording

What information or method(s) was used to de-duplicate the total count of people in the unsheltered population? (Check all that apply)

- ❑ Comparison of personally identifying information (PII), such as name, date of birth, and Social Security Number
- ❑ Comparison of unique client identifiers (not PII)
- ❑ Blitz count of unsheltered people (i.e., canvassing of different areas occurred at same time to avoid double counting)
- ❑ Interview/survey question(s) with screening questions (e.g., have you already completed a count survey)
- ❑ No specific approach was used
- ❑ Other (Please Specify):

Added more detail to questions about approaches used for counting unsheltered population

Q5. What approach(es) was used to count the total number of people included in the unsheltered population during the PIT count (select all that apply)?

- ❑ Night of Count
  - Census
  - Known locations only
  - Random or Stratified random sample
- ❑ Service Based
- ❑ Administrative Data

Select up to three reasons for change in count

Questions about the change in your sheltered or unsheltered count from last year to this year now ask you to select up to three reasons you believe best explain the changes in the count.

These response options fall into the following categories:

- ❑ Change in basic PIT count approach
- ❑ Change in implementing the PIT count
- ❑ Change in capacity
- ❑ Change in participation of partners and programs
- ❑ Change due to policy implementation
- ❑ Change due to natural factors
- ❑ Other

Added open-ended responses to some questions to allow more specificity

For example:

- [open response]
- Other (please specify)
- *Please provide a brief description of …*

General PIT Count Resources

- PIT Count and HIC Landing Page on HUD Exchange
- PIT Count Methodology Guide
- PIT Count Sampling Guidance and Tools
- PIT Count Office Hours Recordings
- PIT Count Survey Tools
- The HUD Exchange HDX Ask a Question (AAQ) Desk
  - Note that the HUD Exchange HDX AAQ inbox **will no longer answer policy questions, including those about planning for or implementing the HIC or PIT count**. Instead, policy questions should be sent to HICPITCount@hud.gov.
  - The HUD Exchange HDX AAQ inbox will continue to **answer questions about technical assistance tools to assist communities with their HIC or PIT counts or how to submit data in HDX 1.0.**

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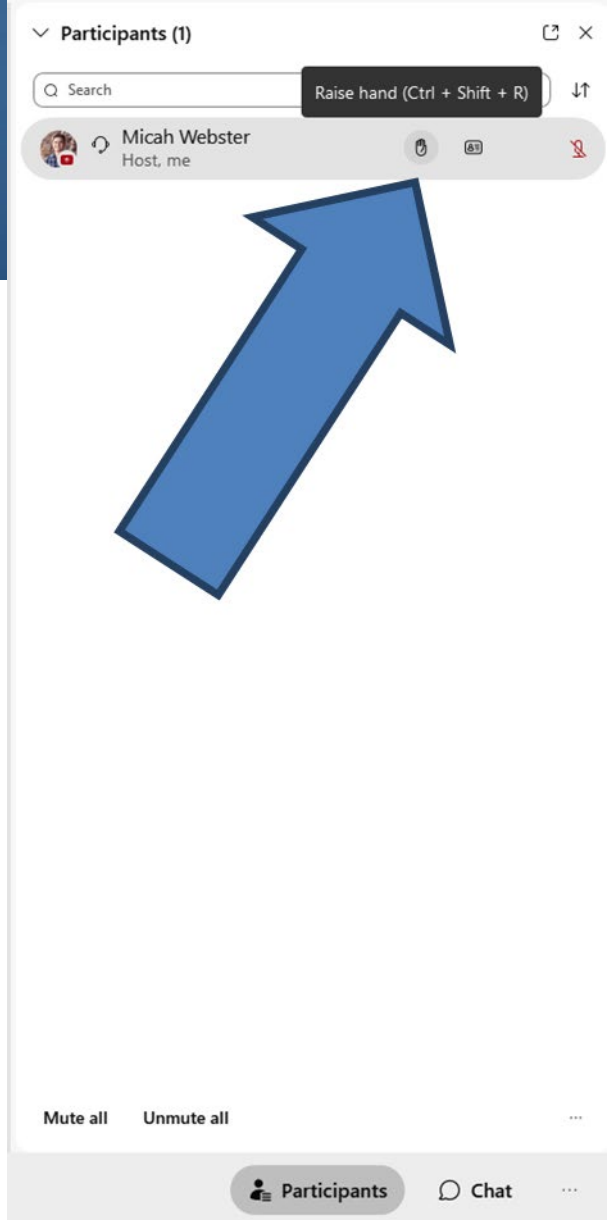

Q & A