



2024 Point in Time & Housing Inventory Count Town Hall

December 18th

Continuum of Care Updates

- Performance and Ranking Committee (5 members)
 - Quarterly Meetings to review project data
 - CoC Local Competition – Review, Approve and Rate CoC and YHDP Applications
- Legislative Day – January 16

Policy & Advisory Committee (Governing Board)

Youth Advisory Boards

Veterans
Committee

HMIS
Committee

CES
Committee

Native
American
Committee

Summit
Planning
Committee

Other
Workgroups

General Membership

ESG Updates

Working on close out of ESG CV grant

- Total award was \$7,754,851 back in April 2020
- We have expended about 95% of the total grant to-date
- St Outreach, Shelter, Rapid Rehousing & Homeless Prevention expired on 9/30/23
- HMIS & Admin categories expire on 12/31/23
- Continuing to work with agencies that need to submit final draw requests so I can recapture and reallocate funds to the agencies that ran out of funds but still had outstanding expenses
- Agencies that have finalized their grant need to review their data for the life of their grant, run data quality reports, fix errors and then submit final data quality reports to me.

ESG 2022 & ESG 2023

- ESG '22 grant, \$642,900, was awarded 10/27/22 and expires on 4/27/24. At that time will recapture and reallocate funds.
- ESG '23, \$639,874, was awarded 9/28/23 and expires on 3/28/25
- ESG '24 applications should be released in April 2024 and will be due the last day of May 2024.

HMIS Updates

SDHMIS

- Currently 89 end users from 29 different organizations across the state entering data for 85 different programs
- 41,980 client files

SD Domestic Violence Database

- Currently 17 end users from 10 different domestic violence agencies across the state entering data for 30 different programs
- 8,693 client files

What's to Come...

- Dashboards! We are very excited to be working on a dashboard project with our vendor. There will be different dashboards available in HMIS when end users log in. We will also have some public facing dashboards available on our website.
- Continuing to expand the training video library
- Finalize a training plan & platform that will be used across the board for all new end users
- Would like to schedule quarterly training virtual sessions

CES Updates

- Automatic exits begin in January
- Augustana Final Evaluation report released
- Advertised physical access points & marketing material updates (January)
- Increased referrals from CE queues
YHDP RRH/HP & HOME ARP
(Rapid City & Watertown)

What are we trying to do today?

- Trying to answer:
 - What is the PIT-HIC?
 - Why should I care?
 - What does it look like?
 - Who does what?
 - What is my role?
 - When does all this happen?

What is the PIT Count?

- One day census and estimate of all people experiencing homelessness in the CoC
- Statewide effort (minus tribal lands that have chosen to not participate)
- Requires multiple agencies and volunteers to be successful
- Mandated activity for the CoC and many projects using federal funds
- Opportunity to raise awareness and expand the reach of our homeless response system. More than just “*counting*”

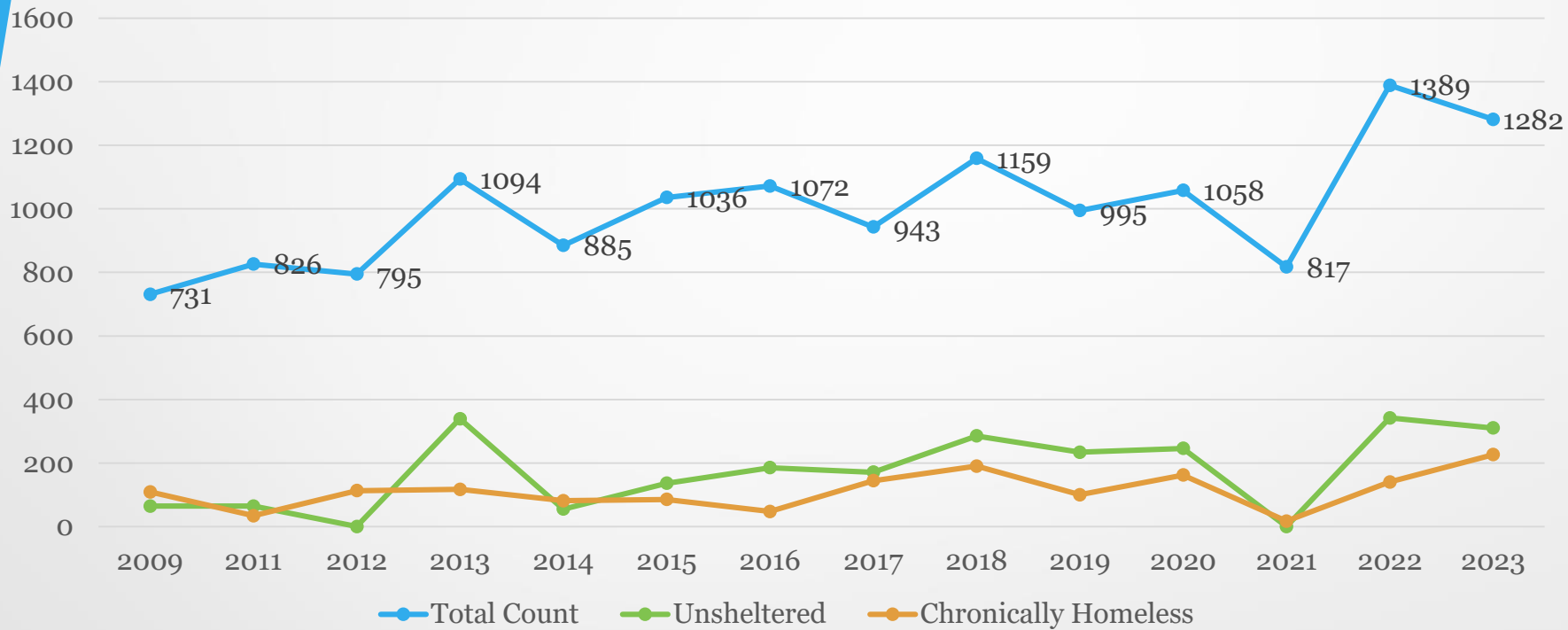
When is the PIT?

- **January 23rd, 2024**
 - Eligible living situations as any point between sundown on January 23rd and sunrise January 24th.
- **Service Based Count – January 24th to January 30th**
 - During routine delivery of services (outreach, food pantries, libraries) households that report homelessness on the night of the 23rd are surveyed.
 - This method should be communicated early to Regional Coordinators and should be monitored closely. Surveys for Services are not allowed. It's all about the intent here. Surveys should be secondary to the planned and routine services.
 - **February 13th – Due date for surveys to be submitted to App**

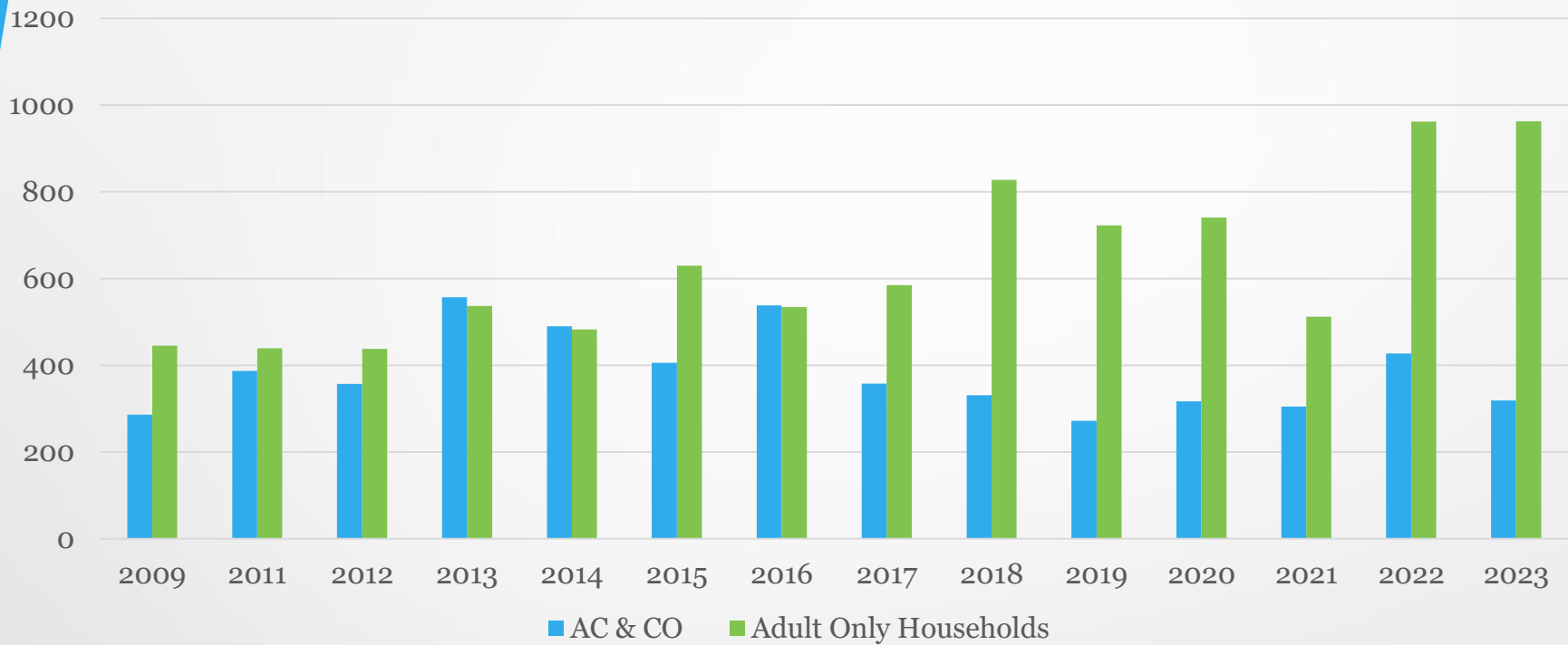
But why?

- Why do we do this?
 - Federal requirement
 - Assess local and national trends
 - Consistency with other communities
 - Outreach opportunities
- Why can't we use HMIS?
 - Not all projects in HMIS
 - Not all populations fairly represented in HMIS
 - HMIS data quality issues

2009 -2023 Count Results



South Dakota PIT Trends 2009-2023



What does it look like?

Sheltered

- Projects survey households in their own projects and enter those surveys into the Counting Us App
- Victim Service Providers collect household information and report it to CoC Lead

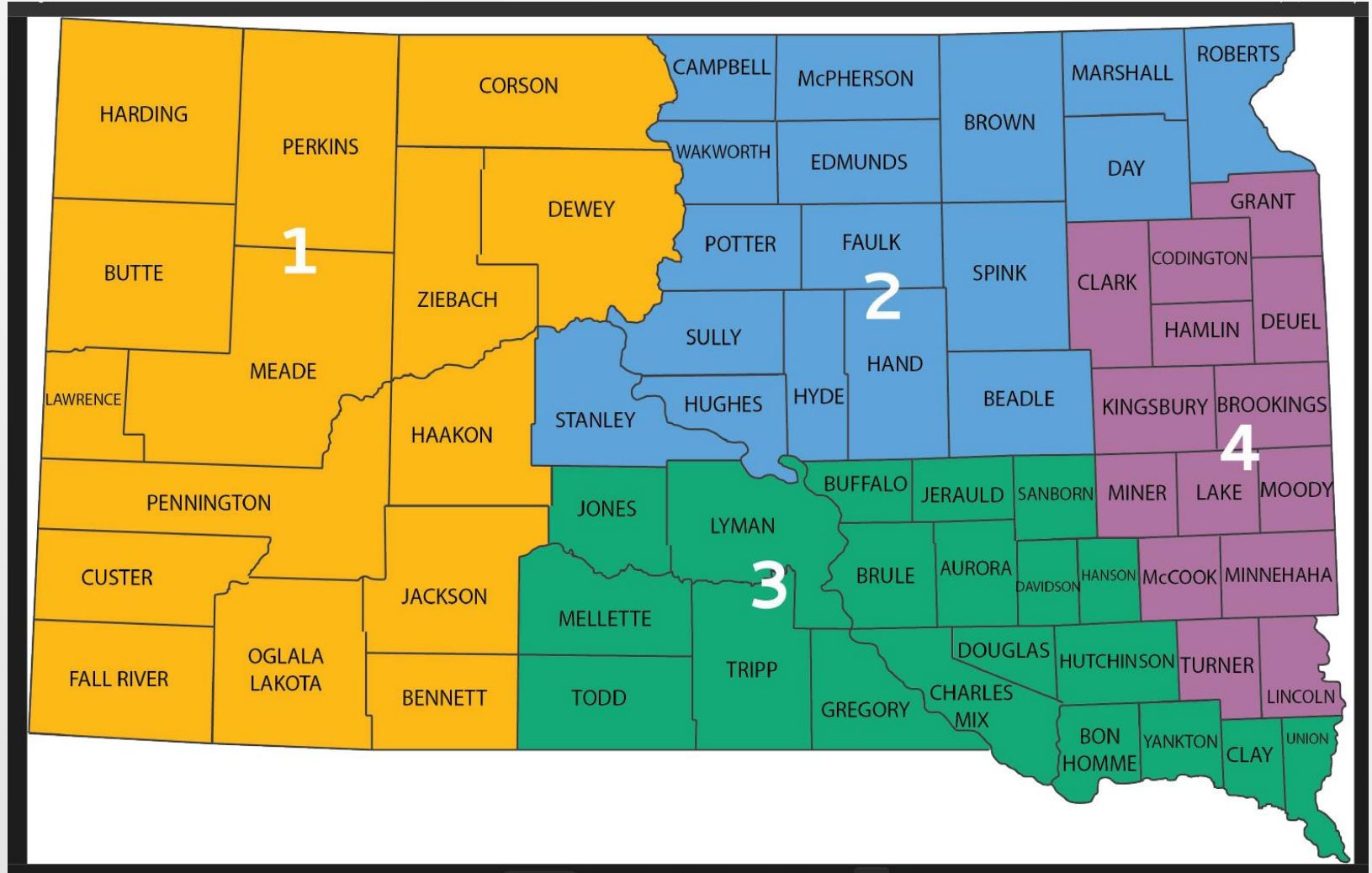
Unsheltered

- Projects and community volunteers canvas neighborhoods for unsheltered households
- Community has “service based count” – surveys are done from January 24-January 31st.

Third option : Unsheltered Observations

- Last resort option for when:
 - It would be unsafe to conduct a survey
 - It would be disruptive to the household (sleeping)
- These are included at CoC Lead's discretion
 - Descriptors are important for deduplication
 - When in doubt it will be thrown out

What does it look like?



What does it look like?

- Region 1 w/ Rapid City -
 - Amy Richie | VOA-NR | amy.richie@voanr.org
- Region 2
 - Yvette Heesch | Grow SD | yvette@growsd.org
- Region 3
 - Melissa Johnson | ROCS | mjohnson@rocsinc.org
- Region 4 –
 - Jamie Kessler | ICAP | jkessler@interlakescap.com
- Sioux Falls
 - Suzanne Smith | Augustana Research Insitute | Suzanne.smith@augie.edu

What does it look like?

- Veterans Affairs (VA) staff will collect information for VA programs.
 - West River contacts Andrew Havens andrew.havens@va.gov
605-490-2794.
 - East River contact Kristy Anderson Kristy.Anderson438@va.gov
or 605-336-3230 ext. 6938.

What does it look like?

Projects and communities survey households and submit inventory information

Regional Coordinators organize communities, train and monitor projects and volunteers

Housing for the Homeless Consortium, AKA : SD-500 receive, reviews and compiles for HUD

HUD reviews and verifies CoC information. Presents Annual Homeless Assessment to Congress

Congress forms policy priorities based on information received.

Tribal Lands

Tribal Considerations

- Permissions
 - Requests for permission began in April of 2023
- Entity granting permission will own all data collected
 - Once HUD report is sent the CoC will deliver all tribal-level data and relinquish ownership
- Tribes can and should designate their volunteers.

2024 Tribe Permissions

- Cheyenne River
- Lower Brule
- Sisseton Wahpeton-Oyate
- Yankton Sioux
- Rosebud Sioux – (Resolution Passed but not shared yet)

Who should be involved?

- Participation Mandated by Funding:
 - Emergency Solutions Grant
 - Continuum of Care
 - Youth Homeless Demonstration Project
 - Runaway and Homeless Youth
 - Veterans
 - VASH
 - GPD
 - SSVF
 - Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDs.

Who else should be involved?

- All other emergency shelter & transitional housing projects
- County Welfare
- County Veteran Service Officers
- Libraries
- Faith-based organizations
- County Welfare Offices
- Law enforcement
- DSS
- McKinney-Vento Liasons (Schools)
- All other organizations likely to have contact with people experiencing homelessness

What are these agencies responsible for?

- Street Outreach – **PIT**
- Emergency Shelter and Transitional Housing – **PIT-HIC**
- Rapid Rehousing and other PSH– **HIC if client is housed (PIT if in housing search)**
- All other organizations – locate and survey households for PIT

What about Victim Service Providers (VSP)?

- Any client of a VSP project should not be entered into the Counting Us App
- Projects should collect survey consent and compile information
- VSP projects will arrange a date and time for phone call with CoC Lead Joseph Tielke to report project information. (1/24 – 1/30)
- VSPs will submit inventory like other projects

What about Victim Service Providers (VSP)?

- Household
- Client Number
- DoB / Age
- Gender
- Race
- Chronically Homeless
 - Has been homeless and living or residing in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter continuously for at least 1 year or on at least four separate occasions in the last 3 years where the combined length of time homeless in those occasions is at least 12 months; and
- Alcohol Abuse Barriers *
- Drug Abuse Barriers *
- Mental Health Barriers *
- Physical Health Barriers *
 - *Must note when these are conditions expected to be indefinite in nature

Who is surveyed?

Sheltered

- Sleeping at public or privately operated shelters or transitional housing for the homeless
- Staying a hotel/motel paid for by charitable organization
- RV's & Campers out of financial necessity (in campgrounds, connected to critical utilities, or has access to them through a campus/communal program)

Unsheltered

- Sleeping in a public or private place not meant for human habitation (car, park, abandoned buildings)
- Homes, RVS and Campers that lack critical utilities or health and safety features (heat, electricity, water, sewer, toilet, cooking or bathing area)

Who is not surveyed?

- Jails (re-entry programs not targeting homeless peoples)
- Detox and Hospitals
- Wards of the state or tribe (children in care)
- Foster children
- Doubled-up or couch surfing
- People paying for their own housing
- Tiny Homes (in most cases)

Why not?

- Counting the recent intakes to institutional settings would be prohibitively difficult and there are many concerns regarding privacy and wellbeing
- Data for Wards of the State/Tribes and foster children should come as a result of a data-sharing plan that outlines steps for coordination
- Criteria for what constitutes “doubled-up” would be too difficult to enforce in practice.

What information is asked?

Required

- Age – Surveys without *at least* age-range cannot be accepted
 - DoBs VERY helpful in eliminating duplicates
- Race and Gender
 - Updated with 2024 HMIS Data Standard
 - If not available, must be extrapolated
- Project enrollment (if sheltered)
- Living Situation (if unsheltered)
- Household Type

Important but Optional

- Name/initial – VERY HELPFUL. Not having this information increases the chances of having to refuse surveys if we cannot determine it is a unique
- 1st time homeless, Time spent homeless (Needed for Chronically Homeless)
- Veteran

Changes for 2024

- Gender Response – Can Select Multiple
 - **Woman (girl if child)**
 - **Man (boy if child)**
 - **Culturally Specific Identify (e.g., Two-Spirit)** - *somebody who identifies along both male and female identities, to some degree, in adherence with a cultural tradition.*
 - **Transgender** - *somebody who identifies as a gender different from that assigned to them at birth*
 - **Questioning** - *somebody who is unsure/still figuring out their gender identity and expression*
 - **Different Identity** - *somebody whose gender is not listed here*

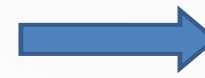
Changes for 2024

- Race/Ethnicity Responses – Can Select Multiple
 - American Indian, Alaska Native, or Indigenous
 - Asian or Asian American
 - Black, African American, or African
 - Hispanic/Latina/e/o
 - Middle Eastern or North African
 - Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
 - White

Getting Started with the Point in Time App

Step 1: Download the Counting Us mobile app from [Google Play](#) or the [App Store](#).

Search for the term “Counting Us” or use the QR code to the right to find the app.



Step 2: Tap Register

This will bring you to the registration form

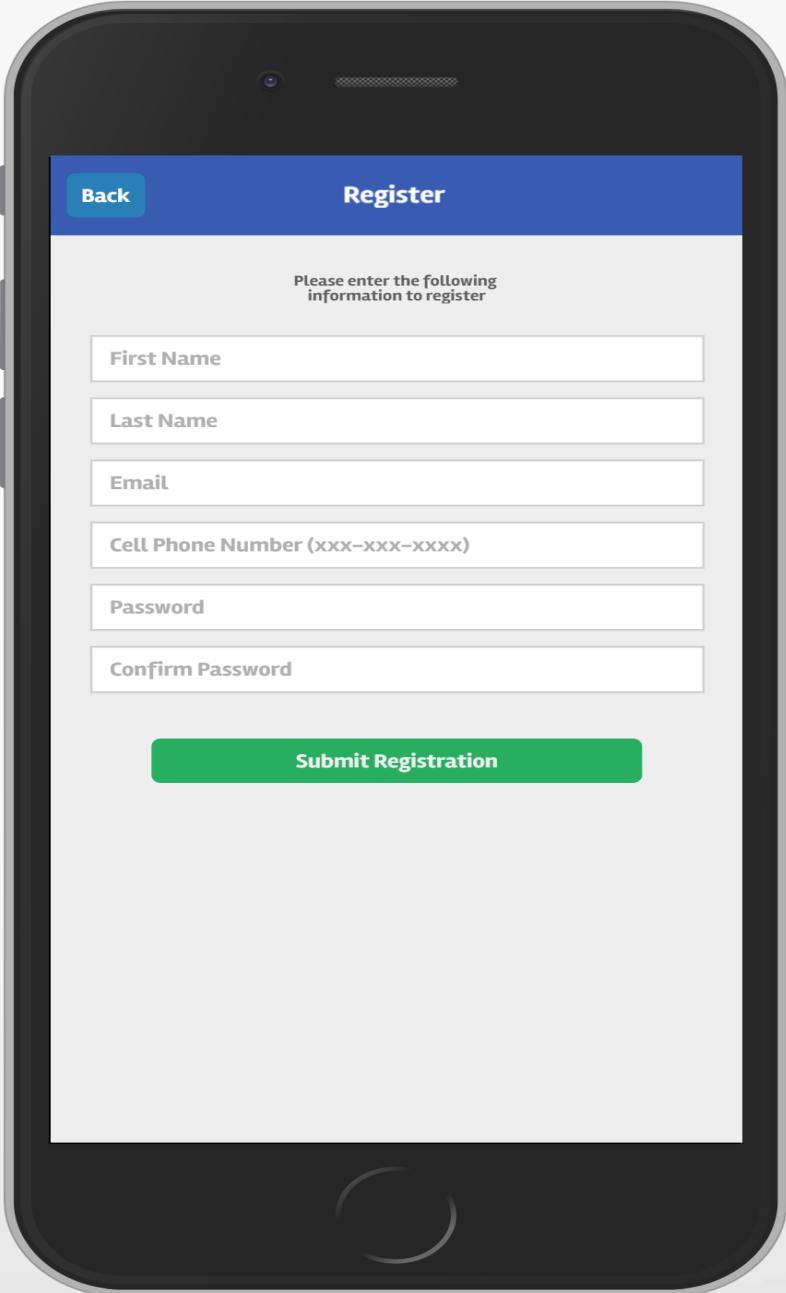


Step 3: Register

Enter your info and tap

“Submit Registration

Numbers provided
should be cell phones.
Users should be prepared
to answer calls on these
numbers during the PIT.



The image shows a smartphone screen with a registration form. The form has a blue header with a 'Back' button and the title 'Register'. Below the header, there is a prompt: 'Please enter the following information to register'. The form contains six input fields: 'First Name', 'Last Name', 'Email', 'Cell Phone Number (xxx-xxx-xxxx)', 'Password', and 'Confirm Password'. At the bottom of the form is a green button labeled 'Submit Registration'.

Step 4: Enter your info

Tap “Log In”, “Choose Count”, and then “Join New Count”

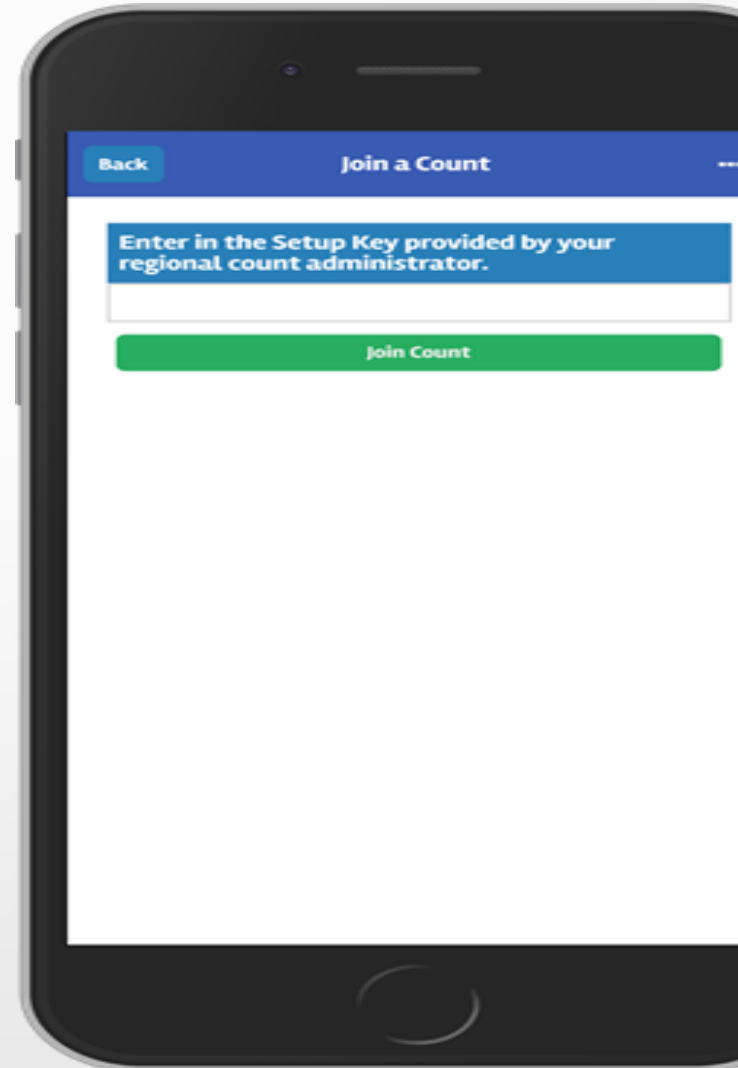


Step 5: Join a Count

Enter the Setup Key of

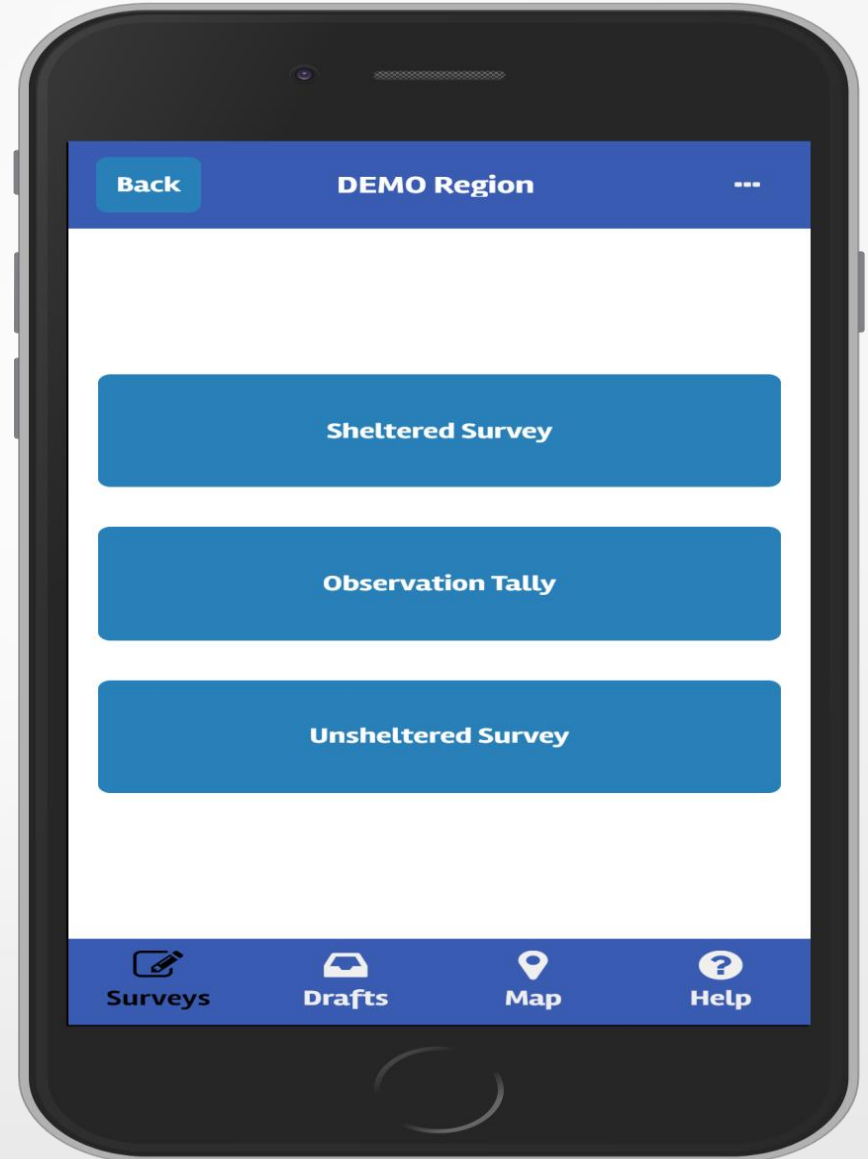
SD2024

and tap “Join Count”



Step 6: Get Started

Tap “Get Started” and you are ready to start the count!



Counting Us Demo

- Unsheltered Survey
 - Clementine B, 21 year old Hispanic woman.
 - Homeless for two weeks. 2nd time homeless, in town she grew up in.
 - Has diabetes

Counting Us Demo

- Family in shelter facility
 - Martha Washington – 44 year old, native, woman,
 - John Washington – 13 years old, native and white, boy

Counting Us Demo

- Unsheltered Observation
 - Worker observes a man sleeping near a street intersection that sees consistent use by those experiencing homelessness
 - Worker doesn't wish to wake this man so she makes details

Things to remember!

- Participation in the survey is optional for all households
 - Projects are mandated to participate but their clients are not!
 - Clients can skip questions. Surveyors cannot. It is not up to the surveyor to decide which questions are relevant.
- If participants are unsure about answers, let them know what their options are. Make no assumptions.
- No questions should be asked regarding the nature or severity of disabilities (e.g., health and medical information)
- What the household reports to you is what is entered into the app

- Tell participants why they are being asked these questions and the importance of this effort
- Inform participants about how their information is used/protected
 - Surveyors record the personal identifying information (PII) (name and DOB)
 - If the surveyor doesn't record it to the app then the Regional Coordinator will
 - CoC Lead uses PII to find and remove duplicates. PII never goes farther than that.
 - All published reports are completely anonymous.
 - Surveys in the App can not be recalled to users once they are submitted
 - Paper surveys **must be shredded** after they have been submitted.

Things to remember!

- Double check drafts in your Counting Us App
- Be sure to correct geographic tagging
- Be prepared to refer to available resources.
- Youth and Veterans Surveys must have a PIT survey attached
 - These surveys are not reported to HUD but are used by CoC partners to plan projects and deliver services

2024 Housing Inventory

- The Housing Inventory Count is a data collection process that tells us the number and type of beds/units available to homeless households on a typical day.
- Shelter, Transitional Housing, and PSH beds need to be more closely monitored in CoC.
- All HIC forms will be online submissions available January 24th

HIC Form Notes

- Many Emergency Shelter programs will have multiple inventory records
 - Availability, Bed Type, Household Type
- Voucher-Based Shelter and RRH Projects reflect Usage
 - Report the number of **households** leased up and moved in (**units**) and number of **participants** in that household (**beds**)
- Facility-based ES, TH, RRH **and voucher-based PSH** is reflective of capacity, not current usage
- VSPs will use online HIC form this year.

HIC Form Demo

- Organization A
 - **RRH Project A** –Voucher Based. Year Round. This project targets any veteran households.
 - 9 households leased up and moved in. 22 participants in these households.
 - 4 single member households / 5 Households with children

HIC Form Demo

- Organization B – ESG and VOCA
 - ES Project A
 - In facility there are 5 rooms. Each room can have up to 5 family members in it
 - Project serves only households that have children
 - On the night of the PIT serving 15 participants in 4 households.
 - ES Project B
 - Motel Voucher program that serves adult households, operates only during the winter
 - On the night of the PIT serving 14 participants in 4 households.

HIC Form – Funding Source

- Projects need to notify if additional federal funding comes from any of the below
 - Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)
 - Continuum of Care (COC)
 - Youth Homeless Demonstration Project (YHDP)
 - Section 8 Moderate Rehab SRO
 - Supportive Housing Program (SHP)
 - HUD-VA Support Housing (HUD VASH)
 - Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF)
 - VA: Grant Per Diem (GPD)
 - VA: Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV)
 - HHS: RHY Basic Center Programs (BCP)
 - HHS: RHY Transitional Living Programs (TLP)
 - HHS: RHY Maternity Group Homes (MGH)
 - HHS RHY Demonstration Project
 - HUD: Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA)
 - HUD Public and Indian Housing Program projects or vouchers dedicated homeless persons
 - HUD: HOME
 - HUD: HOME ARP
 - HUD: Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHV)

What should I do now?

- If your project has not identified a PIT lead, do so, and make sure they have communicated this to your Regional Coordinator
- If there are partners in your community you feel should be involved send their contact information to your Regional Coordinator
- If you have a project, submit a test survey for each project in Counting Us. Ensure that the location feature is working.
- If you are going to use paper surveys, test those too! Get used to the questions. Know how to define the things you are asking.
- Don't leave inventory for the last minute. Do not hesitate to contact Joseph Tielke with inventory questions.



Feedback and Updates

- South Dakota Balance of State CoC Lead
 - Joseph Tielke | Housing for the Homeless Consortium | joseph@sdhda.org
- Region 1 w/ Rapid City -
 - Amy Richie | VOA-NR | amy.richie@voanr.org
- Region 2
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 - Suzanne Smith | Augustana Research Institute | Suzanne.smith@augie.edu
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 - West River contacts Andrew Havens andrew.havens@va.gov
 - East River contact Kristy Anderson Kristy.Anderson438@va.gov