

2024 Unsheltered Point in Time Count - Eastern and Western PA CoCs
January 22, 2025

Unsheltered Count Summary - County: Indiana County

Please return this Summary along with all interview and observation forms by February 12, 2025.

Instructions: To enter text, click on the gray box and begin to type. To select a checkbox, simply click the open space inside the box.

Unsheltered Count Coordinator: Maureen A. Pounds

Organization/Agency: Indiana County Dept of Human Services

Title: Assistant Director **Phone:** 724-463-8200, ext 3 **E-mail:**
mpounds@indianacountypa.gov

1. **How many people (volunteers & staff) participated in your county's unsheltered count?**
129

2. **Who participated in the process to prepare for and/or conduct your county's unsheltered point-in-time count: (check all that apply)**

- ☒ Local homeless providers
- ☒ Local service providers
- ☒ Local churches
- ☒ County/City employees
- ☒ VA Medical Center, SSVF Provider or other veteran serving organization
- ☐ Individuals who are currently or formerly homeless
- ☒ Youth (individuals under age 25) who are currently or formerly homeless
- ☐ Peer specialists
- ☒ PATH, or other outreach worker
- ☒ Police
- ☒ Other: Our PIT Committee consisted of 18 representatives. They were from the

Indiana County Dept of Human Services (ICDHS) (2), Indiana County Community Action Program (ICCAP) (2 staff), the Indiana County Sheriff, JusticeWorks YouthCare (1 staff), ARIN IU#28 Region 6 Coordinator for Education for Children & Youth Experiencing Homelessness plus 2 staff, Armstrong Indiana Behavioral and Developmental Health Program (1 staff), The Open Door (1 staff), The Community Guidance Center (1 staff), Community Representative/Coordinated Entry staff from Union Mission in Westmoreland County (she resides in Indiana County), Childrens Advisory Commission Coordinator, Aging Services, Inc. (1 staff), The Housing Authority of Indiana County (HAIC) (1 staff member), another community representative, and a 1 representative from the Indiana County Children and Youth Services (CYS). The Salvation Army, Pittsburgh Food Bank (staff member was previously on the committee), IndiGo (County Transit Authority), New Life Community Church (pastor's wife was previous member of committee), The Chevy Chase Community Center, Alice Paul House and Family Promise of Indiana County were all invited, but they did not respond. The committee representatives and staff from their organizations completed outreach to the community which helped us with the count. We also had 6 volunteers involved. 2 youth volunteers, who are in the JusticeWorks YouthCare IL Program and are in their IL apartments due to risk of homelessness. Both youth helped with outreach. A drone operator from the Indiana County Emergency Management Agency (ICEMA), and 3 spouses that helped their wives canvas areas of the county the night of the count. See #'s 5D and 6A for more information on

outreach/responses, and assistance provided to the committee. Responses from the outreach/surveys that were distributed helped the committee with finding possible locations to look for unsheltered homeless.

3. Did you conduct your count using paper survey forms or the PIT mobile app? (select all that apply)

- ☒ Paper survey forms
☐ PIT mobile app

4. Total # of persons counted as unsheltered during your county's PIT Count:

1 male adult was observed/counted. We are again aware that there are adults in the county who are unsheltered. They either have denied any housing assistance, or they have not yet been found by housing liaisons to discuss options. We are also aware of adults and children who are couch surfing with friends and families and do not meet the HUD definition of homeless. ARIN IU#28 Regional Coordinator for Education for Children & Youth Experiencing Homelessness reports that at the time of the PIT Count she was aware of 82 who were experiencing homelessness in the education system in Indiana County. Doubled Up: 63; Shelters/Transitional Housing: 11; Hotel/Motel: 2 Unsheltered: 6 youth (did not fit into any other category). # of persons counted as unsheltered homeless, including both adults & children.

*** Please ensure that an interview form is submitted for each person counted, or was submitted through the PIT mobile app.*** If your county used the PIT mobile app and you are unsure how many surveys were submitted, please reach out to pahomelesscount@dma-housing.com.

5. In the questions below, describe when and where the unsheltered count took place, and if interviews were conducted:

a) What type of count did your county conduct?

- ☒ Brief Survey Count
☒ Observation Only Count

b) When was the count conducted? (check all that apply)

- ☒ Evening/overnight hours on Wednesday, January 22nd
☒ Early morning hours on Thursday, January 23rd
☐ Daytime hours on Thursday, January 23rd

c) Which of the strategies below did you include in your count? (check all that apply)

- ☐ Street Count - Known locations only
☐ Street Count - Complete coverage of the entire county
☒ Street Count - Canvass specific areas of the county (e.g. canvass downtown areas, or canvass one city within the county)
☒ Service-based count
☒ Other. Describe: 10 committee members and 5 volunteers were assigned specific areas of the county to go out to canvas. One committee member and 1 volunteer cancelled due to the frigid weather. This left 9 committee members and 4 volunteers on the roads the night of January 22nd. The communities/areas canvassed included: Penn

Run, Yellow Creek State Park area, Strongstown, N. Ben Franklin Road, around Flemings Tree Farm, Maryann Hill/College Road areas, Fulton Run Road, Rt. 110 Hwy through Ernest, Creekside, Chambersville Road, through Blue Spruce Park, In Indiana-North 9th Street, Water Street to 6th Street, around First Commonwealth Bank on Philadelphia Street, South 6th Street to Memorial Park, Wayne Ave. to Philadelphia Street, West Philadelphia Street to 11th Street, Whites Woods, around parking areas at Big Lots Plaza on West Philadelphia Street, 4th Street, 5th Street behind Indiana High School, and around the S&T Training Center, through St. Bernards Cemetery, Greenwood Cemetery, Oakland Cemetery, Chevy Chase area, North View Estates, Water Tower Road, Rt 110 to Rose Inn, Ben Franklin Road/Warren Road area, Marion Center, Home, Plumville, Homer City and Homer City Sheetz, Blacklick, Josephine, Two Lick Dam area/Allen's Bridge, Clymer, wooded areas off Route 286 West/Oakland Ave behind Penelec, Aldi's, Walmart, and PA Police Barracks, Route 119 South towards Homer City, Hoodlebug Trail near Auction Barn off 119 South, Hoodlebug Trail near Wayne Ave./Old Rt 119 intersection- behind a church, Saltsburg, Blairsville-Sheetz in Borough, Dean's Diner and Rte 22 Sheetz, Buttermilk Falls County Park area, Robinson Cemetery, 403 South toward Dilltown, Purchase Line High School, Hillsdale, Cookport, Dixonville, and Shelocta. The Sheriff and Director of the ICDHS were prepared to be dispatched to any location if a call would have come in from one of the other volunteers for someone needing assistance to find shelter on the night of the 22nd. The Director of the HAIC rode with the Director of the ICDHS to help in any way needed. They started at 5:00 pm Jan 22nd from the Indiana 4th Street Sheetz and were out until 2:45 am on Jan 23rd. They traveled 175 miles this year. A 4th Street Sheetz employee reported that a woman and her child were in their eating area the night of Jan 21st, 2 am to 8 am. The woman was calling family members to get a ride. They were picked up by someone prior to the start of the PIT Count. A new idea was attempted this year. A staff member/drone operator for the ICEMA worked with the Sheriff, Human Services Director, and the HAIC Director to try to locate, with a drone, some of the tent locations that were reported to the committee prior to the count, as well as those reported in past years. 9 areas were checked that night with the drone. 6 of the 9 areas were on the surveys returned and 3 were areas that were attempted to be checked in previous years. Weather and location had limited the search in previous years. The drone was successful in locating 3 tents that evening. 1 tent was found by the drone and Sheriff Fyock walked back through the woods to the tent. It was obvious someone was staying there, as footprints were found in the snow and clothing was hanging in the tent. The Sheriff could not find anyone in/around the tent. Due to frigid weather it appears that the person found a warmer place to stay. At the two other tent sites, tents were seen by the drone, but no heat was sensed by the drone. Both locations were too difficult to reach by foot in the snow/cold. 5 other areas were checked with the drone-woods behind Aldi's/Walmart, woods behind the Indiana State Police Barracks, The Hoodlebug Trail near the Auction Barn near Homer City and near the church off the trail, The Buttermilk Falls Park area and the Twolick Lake/Allen Bridge area. No tents or heat sources were located by the drone in the the wooded areas. Through the successful outreach efforts, the PIT Committee was able to plan the canvassing of the county. People were asked to notify us of any unsheltered individuals they may come upon before, during and after the count. Education was provided to those people/entities asking them to notify ICCAP

at any time of anyone who is unsheltered homeless, or needing housing assistance. Please see results of the outreach/surveys below in #5D.

- d) Describe the locations included in the count.** (This would include the types of “known locations” targeted for the count, the cities canvassed, and/or the locations where a service-based count was conducted.) Surveys/letters/flyers were sent out to help us target locations for the count county-wide. Law enforcement (state, local, IUP and the Sheriff's Dept), local municipality departments, fire departments, township supervisors, churches, post offices, businesses, human service providers, schools, parks (local, county, and state), service organizations, local ambulance service, ICEMA, Indiana Regional Medical Center and community members were asked to answer a survey to help us target areas for the count, as well as to be observant the night of the count and to let us know if anyone was located that fit the description of unsheltered homeless. Everyone who received the above noted information from the committee were also asked to help locate areas in the county where youth may be found who are unsheltered. No reports of unsheltered youth were received. We received 6 surveys representing four different school districts. 4 surveys reported they have homeless youth (4+). Some of the school districts did not give us a number of youth. The 4 surveys reported that they have youth living with family or friends. One family was noted to be in a hotel and human service agencies are working to get them housed (CYS and ICCAP). The Regional Coordinator of Education for Children and Youth Experiencing Homelessness was given this information. She also checked with all seven school districts in the county for their numbers of children in these situations the night of the count - 82 who were experiencing homelessness in the education system in Indiana County. 63-Doubled Up; 11-Shelters/Transitional living; 2-Hotel/Motel; and 6 youth-unsheltered (3 in campers and 3 the schools do not have a location of them in their records). These of course are not in our numbers reported as unsheltered homeless, but we feel it is important to recognize these numbers in our county. 94 surveys were returned (91 surveys were returned to the committee prior to the count-including the school surveys, and 3 were returned after the count.). The ICDHS also received 3 emails, 2 calls, and 6 verbal reports prior to the count providing possible locations of homeless. From those 105 responses, 15 identified 18 possible location(s) of a person(s) that they felt were unsheltered or living in uninhabitable conditions now or at some point in the past few months. Locations identified: Location #'s 1,2,3&4: 2 surveys involving 4 families were returned by CYS Caseworkers, reporting 3 families living in campers with utilities and a 4th where the wife is violating a PFA to have a roof over her head. The Assistant Director of the ICDHS reached out to the caseworker's supervisor. She said all 4 of the families are being seen by CYS staff and have been offered services/resources and have declined. One family's child has been placed with CYS, while the 20+ old parents are living in a camper in their family's backyard. The 4th family includes the woman violating a PFA to have a roof over her head. She was living in a tent until it got cold. CYS will continue to work with these families. #5: One resident of the county reported seeing a tarp/tent on the Hoodlebug Trail near the Homer City Auction Barn. The Director of the ICDHS asked homeless liaisons to go out to look for the tent. It could not be located. The drone operator tried to find the tarp/tent the night of the PIT Count, but it was not found. #6: The manager at a local Kwik Fill Gas Station returned a survey that mentioned a young man staying in a tent behind their business and the Penelec office off of Route 286 W (Oakland Ave.). The Director of the ICDHS drove out to try and locate the tent prior to January 22nd from the road. Private

property signs were posted, and she could not go back into the woods very far and did not locate the tent. The drone operator located the tent on the night of January 22nd. The Sheriff walked back into the woods and found the tent with clothing and personal items inside. There were tracks in the snow. Obviously, someone had been there. It was thought that he must have found other housing the night of the count due to the frigid weather. Also, an employee at the Kwik Fill the night of the count reported he had not seen the young man for over a month. The employee was encouraged to share the ICCAP number with the young man if he comes in again. #7: A fifth survey reported a man was living in a storage unit with his cats. The Assistant Director of the Dept of Human Services asked the homeless liaison's supervisor to check on this situation. An employee that works at the storage unit said the renter was not following the rules and was not paying his rent. Therefore, the employee placed a lock on the unit in December. He stated the man is not in the unit. He was unaware where he went. #8: The sixth survey reported a couple residing in what she thought was an uninhabitable home on 286 West. The report stated windows were out of the house and that the floor is missing in part of the house. The reporter was not aware of utilities. However, she said they use a camper in the back yard (possibly in the winter for the heater). The frigid weather was coming into the area. The Assistant Director of the ICDHS requested a wellcheck by the Indiana State Police. The trooper went out, but she did not find anyone at the residence. #9: The Director of the ICDHS received a verbal report of a man whom people thought was possibly homeless and utilizing the YMCA's showers/facilities. The Assistant Director of the ICDHS contacted the YMCA. The Associate Exec. Director was not aware of this situation. She took the information for ICCAP to share with her staff. #'s 10&11: One survey reported 2 men staying in an abandoned trailer in Bolivar, PA. They are given food by people in the area. A second trailer was also mentioned in an alley behind the first one. The Assistant Director of the ICDHS called the woman and asked further questions on location, etc. She told the reporter that the trailers are actually in Westmoreland County and that the State Police in Westmoreland County and the PIT Unsheltered Coordinator for that county would be notified. The state police were appreciative of the call. They were aware of the owner of the first trailer. He is in prison at this time. The trooper said he would have the troopers patrolling that area watch the trailer. He felt there was not much else he could do at this time as he said squatters have rights. Plus, he added they may have been given permission by the owner to be staying in the trailer. The reporter could not provide the address of the 2nd trailer. The trooper said they would watch the area. The PIT Unsheltered Coordinator for Westmoreland County never returned the call. #12: A landlord called about a renter and his girlfriend living in a trailer in his trailer court. They are hoarders and don't have running water as they quit paying their water bill. Agencies have worked with these people before. The landlord has told them they have to be out by spring as he is tearing the trailer down. They are not attempting to help themselves in finding other housing. The Director of the ICDHS asked the homeless liaison and her supervisor to go out to talk with the landlord and the renter. They offered suggestions/gave resources for housing/housing assistance. They explained to the landlord and to the renter that the landlord has a right to evict the couple. ICCAP staff offered to help the renter with housing applications, etc. #13: A woman called and reported to the Director of the ICDHS that a man is living in a white pick-up truck. He moves around on different roads/highways. Many agencies are aware of this man and he has been offered services many times. He has refused. On the night of the count,

the Sheriff noticed the truck setting behind a church near the Hoodlebug Trail. He walked up to the truck. The man said he was fine. The ICDHS Director and Sheriff offered him services/resources and a bag of supplies-waterproof blanket, hat, snacks and water. He declined. He stated he has lived like this for 3 years and wants no assistance. He stated he was cold standing outside and wanted to get back into his truck. He refused to answer the survey. An observation form was completed. #14: A verbal report was received about a man/woman/child living in a white van in a church parking lot near the Hoodlebug Trail (same location as noted above). Agencies are aware of this family and they have been offered services and declined. There was no van located at the site the night of the count. #'s 15,16,17,18: 4 verbal responses were received by the committee that shared locations where tents have been seen in the county. One site off of Route 403 toward Dilltown (on a hill behind a trailer court). A woman reported she had given soup and blankets to a family with children at this location. Sheriff Fyock sent 4 deputies out to search for the individuals/families the week prior to the count as frigid weather was approaching. The deputies were unable to locate any tents/people. The Region 6 Coordinator for Education for Children & Youth Experiencing Homelessness also checked with the school district in that area to see if they knew of a family with children living in a tent. The school district was not aware of that possible situation. On the night of the count the group canvassing that area decided they would not use the drone as it may startle/scare people in the trailer court since no tents were found by the Sheriff's Dept the week prior. The second verbal report shared information that people were around Buttermilk Falls Park in the woods in tents and that they had been squatting in a nearby trailer until the owner returned to the area and told them to get out. The drone was unable to find tents or heat sources in the woods within a 1.3 mile radius of the park. The third and fourth reports were from a member of our PIT Committee who reported tents on a hillside near Strongstown and a tent about 1/2 mile past Yellowcreek State Park. Both sites are off Route 422 East in the woods. The committee member and her husband met the Sheriff, Director of the ICDHS, HAIC Director and the drone operator the night of the count to point out those locations. The drone was able to locate a camper and tent at the first site, but no thermal heat source was picked up by the drone. The group agreed that the site was on private land and did not try to walk into it due to this and the frigid weather/snow/ice. The drone also located a pick-up-truck at the second site off Route 422 East; however, no thermal heat source was located. Again the group canvassing the area decided not to walk into the woods due to no easy access, frigid weather and deep snow. The next day, the committee member took a picture from the road of the truck with a tent right beside it. The drone had not picked up the tent, just the truck. She could not see from the road any movement/sign of anyone being at the location. 3 other sites that have been reported in past years were also checked out the night of the count with the drone. They included: woods behind Aldi's/Walmart, behind the State Police Barracks in the woods, and around Twolick Lake and Allen Bridge. No tents or thermal heat sources were located in the woods. During the canvassing, the Sheriff, ICDHS Director and the HAIC Director also checked out the Robinson, Greenwood and Oakland Cemeteries as they have done in the past. No unsheltered homeless were found. The Ben Franklin Road Sheetz staff indicated that a man who is deaf comes in and stays in the eating area for hours at a time at night, but he hadn't been there for a week or more. They were unsure if he is homeless. The staff were encouraged to give the man the information for ICCAP, if ever needed. He has SNAP benefits, so he must have a permanent address. An employee

of a convenience store in Saltsburg said a tall red-haired man was there several days ago, looking for a ride. The employee thought that he may have been homeless. The man had found a ride. The employees were encouraged to share the flyer/contact information for ICCAP if he comes back into the store. The Sheriff, ICDHS Director and the HAIC Director checked with each gas station, convenience store, restaurant, etc. that they stopped at during their canvassing to see if they had our outreach flyer. They encouraged the employees to share the contact information for assistance with the Indiana County Community Action Program (ICCAP), the lead housing agency in Indiana County. The other committee members/volunteers who canvassed areas of the county that night did not find anyone who appeared to be homeless during their search.

- e) **Describe locations NOT included in the count, and the decision-making process used to exclude any portion of the county from the count, if any. For example, if certain municipalities, forests, gated communities or remote areas were not canvassed. (We are required to report this information to HUD.)** Due to the rural nature of the county, it is not possible to search every remote area of the county. We depend on our outreach efforts for law enforcement, fire departments, township and municipal contacts, ICEMA, Citizen's Ambulance Service, churches, agencies, Veteran organizations, PO staff, previously homeless individuals, residents of the county, etc. to assist us in identifying any unsheltered homeless individuals and their locations. As mentioned in #5C, new this year, an ICEMA drone operator assisted in the canvas in a few areas of the county that had been reported to the committee as possible locations to find unsheltered homeless. The weather was sub-zero the night of the count and snow and ice were lying in remote areas make the canvassing difficult. Safety of our committee members and volunteers were considered in all decisions made throughout the evening/night.

6. Please describe the planning process used to prepare for conducting the unsheltered count.

- a) **How did you identify locations to target during the PIT count? Did you ask community partners where persons who are unsheltered have been observed?** The planning committee met and planned the process-outreach, count/observations, etc. Our plan for the night of the count included support from ICCAP. They were going to have a couple apartments available for housing anyone who may be found. However, in the few days before the PIT Count, they had to use those apartments for people who were homeless and in need of shelter, especially due to the frigid weather. They provided three bags with waterproof blankets, water bottles, hats, and snacks in case these were needed. CYS said they would assist if a family with children would be found. They could house them in a hotel for the night and help to get them hooked up with services the next day. They provided a number for a supervisor for the night so she could be reached, if needed. The Alice Paul House and The Veterans Parsonage have always agreed to be a resource for the night if needed. 213 hard copy packets were mailed throughout the county by the ICDHS which included: letters explaining the count and how the recipient could help the committee, hard copy surveys to help committee identify possible locations to canvas, and a resource flyer to be posted on public or staff bulletin boards. The flyer included a contact number for ICCAP which could be utilized to try to help individuals find housing and

connect with a homeless liason. Recipients of the hard copy packets included: 111 churches; 1 Borough; 3 Mayors; 2 Police Departments; 15 Constables; 26 Volunteer Fire Companies; Penn DOT, District 10; 32 Post Masters; 2 UPS Customer Service Centers; 6 American Legions; 1 VFW; 2 Moose; 1 Elks; 1 Eagles, and 2 other Veteran organizations; White Township Recreation Dept; IUP Center for Health and Well Being; IUP Facilities Operations; IUP Counseling Services; Yellow Creek State Park; New Way of Life; and IRMC ER. 1700 copies of the letter and survey were passed out through the ICCAP Food Pantries. The HAIC mailed copies of the packet to 94 on their Landlord List. Aging Services, Inc. gave out (6) packets, a copy to each Social Center-Indiana, Clymer, Blairsville, Saltsburg, Homer City and Rossiter, and hung 1 copy on the administrative office bulletin Board. The Assistant Director of the ICDHS sent 251 emails with the same packets to: 120 Church Representatives; 15 Borough representatives (Zoning staff, Secretaries, Managers, etc.), 24 Township Supervisors/Secretaries; State Police and Sheriff's Department; 5 Borough Police Departments, 3 Fire Departments; 4 child care sites; 2 to Indiana County Head Start; 5 libraries; 2 IUP contacts (IUP Media Relations, IUP Director of Public Safety/Chief of Police); 7 School Superintendents; 26 Principals and 1 Assistant Principal; 2 American Legions; 1 VFW; 2 to ICEMA; 4 Post Offices; 2 to Citizen's Ambulance Service; Indiana County Parks and Trails; Penn DOT; 2 to YMCA of Indiana County; Indiana County CYS; Chevy Chase Community Center; Spirit Life; Indiana County Assistance Office and the Alice Paul House; Senator Pittman and 3 office representatives; State Representative Struzzi; Representative Smith; and the 3 Indiana County Commissioners. Emails were also sent out through specific networks in the county: The Veterans Providers Group (101 Recipients); The Housing Consortium of Indiana County (60 Recipients); The Children's Advisory Commission of Indiana County (77 Recipients); Health and Human Services Sub-Committee of the EMA Disaster Preparedness Committee (78 Recipients); and The Suicide Task Force of Indiana County (45 Recipients). Armstrong Indiana County Behavioral and Developmental Health Program shared information with 54 staff and providers (outpatient, case management, family based, peer support, crisis, vocational, residential, hospital, and the Drop In Center). Indiana County CYS shared the letter/survey with 50 staff. JusticeWorks YouthCare sent information on the count to 20 staff. The Coordinator of Education for Children Experiencing Homelessness emailed the information to all Indiana County School District's Homeless Liaisons to share with staff (7). The Local Interagency Coordinating Council emailed the information to 90 individuals, 2 times. The ICEMA shared the information with a list of 32 individuals, some repeated from above (volunteer fire companies, police departments). The Armstrong Indiana Builders Association sent the information out to their list of 500. The Indiana County Tourist Bureau sent the information out in their Weekly E-Blast to 548 individuals, 2 times. The Indiana County Center for Economic Operations included the PIT Count information in their newsletter that was sent to 900+ people. Representative Struzzi included the information in his Weekly Email. The ICDHS's E-Newsletter, "The Informer", ran the PIT Count information/packets 3 times, potentially reaching an average of 827 people each time (The Informer goes to agency/organization staff, local and state government officials, interested community members, etc.). 1 Informer Brief was sent out as well- 827 to the Informer List. The ICDHS posted information on their Facebook Page 2 times. That resulted in at least 28 shares from county departments, community members, organizations and agencies. These included- 3 community members (one shared three

times), ICCAP, the Veterans Providers Group of Indiana County, The Children's Advisory Commission of Indiana County-2 times, The Health and Human Services Sub-Committee of the EMA's Disaster Preparedness Committee, The Indiana County Courthouse, Borough of Indiana, Events in Indiana PA, and 14 others that were private shares. The Regional Foster Care Coordinator/Homeless Specialist Region 6 shared on her individual FB page with 510 followers. The ICDHS sent information out to the Indiana Gazette and the Blairsville Dispatch's Human Services Calendars 4 times. The Indiana Gazette ran an article about the PIT Count and then it was shared over the State's CHNI News. This article was highlighted in the weekly PACHSA. ICDHS also announced information on the PIT Count at several meetings prior to the count: Children's Advisory Commission of Indiana County (CAC), and the CAC Executive Committee meeting- 2 times. AI BDHP Advisory Board meeting, Project SHARE, Veterans Providers Group Meeting-2 times, at the Indiana County Commissioners Public Meeting and at a county department head meeting, at the Housing Consortium Meeting, and at the County's Disaster Planning Committee meeting in October and again at their January 28th meeting as follow-up. The ICDHS Director announced the count and how individuals could help the committee on Renda Broadcasting (local radio station) 2 times prior to the count, and 1 time after the count as a follow-up. ICCAP staff reached out to the Veterans Gardens and to the local Drop in Center. We, again, used a QR Code on our outreach materials for easy access to the on-line survey. We used an on-line survey to help us find locations that unsheltered homeless individuals may be staying. We received 19 on-line surveys/information back. 189 individuals started the survey, but did not complete and submit. We received 75 Hard Copy Surveys back, 3 emails, 2 calls, and 6 verbal responses, with a total of 105 responses. Communities throughout the county received information: (poster/flyers placed in strategic outlying areas of the county). The committee reached out to 209+ businesses and organizations throughout the county and provided the flyer with information on the count and the contact information if they have homeless individuals walk into their businesses/organizations (gas stations, Walmart & Sheetz Stores, grocery stores, other convenience stores and department stores, Dollar General Stores, Dollar Tree Stores, pharmacies, motels/hotels, laundromats, banks, restaurants, camp grounds, churches, agencies, apartment complexes, movie theater, barber/beauty shops, hospitals, urgi care sites, doctor offices, post offices, libraries, borough offices, veteran organizations, gyms, DMV, etc.) Again,105 responses to the surveys were received this year. See #5D above for more information. The number of responses was higher than we have ever received. We feel the reason is because we have more assistance with outreach, and the community is responding to the increase in annual education and outreach that we are providing on homelessness and the count. The committee members reported that many of the businesses/outreach sites recognized the flyers and still had them posted on bulletin boards from last year. The Sheriff and the Director of the ICDHS spoke to several employees of convenience stores/gas stations when they canvassed the county. Many of the staff recognized them from previous PIT Counts and expressed that they were looking for them to arrive sometime in January (They couldn't remember exactly when the count was to be held). Many were aware of where to call at any time of year or where to refer any individual that entered their business, whom they felt was homeless or needed assistance. New staff were educated that night as well. The outreach is working in Indiana County.

b) Did you have any transportation issues, and if so, how were these addressed? no

c) Did you provide training to PIT count volunteers? ☒ yes ☐ no

- If yes, did you use the PowerPoint Presentation provided for PIT Volunteers?

☒ yes ☐ no

- If yes, please provide any feedback, including any additional issues that should have been addressed. None

7. Was emergency shelter and/or a hotel-motel voucher offered to persons who were identified as unsheltered? ☐ yes ☒ no

- If yes, how many people were sheltered? _____

Note: Please make sure there is a note on the interview form for anyone provided shelter. If you believe they may have also been interviewed by shelter staff (or other person providing hotel/motel voucher), please also note this information.

8. Does your community have plans to follow-up with persons identified through the count? (For example: additional outreach, resources, housing.) ☐ yes ☒ no

- If yes, please describe the plan for following up: _____
- If no, please describe the barriers to providing follow-up: The individual in the pick-up truck that was found during the PIT Count refused all services/intervention that night and previously with other agency contacts.

9. Were any encampments identified in preparation for or during the PIT count?

☒ yes ☐ no

- If yes, please describe the encampment(s) and location(s): As stated/described in #5D-6 possible tent sites were reported and all 6 were checked out either before the PIT Count, on the night of the count, or both. Only one tent site was found that looked like someone had been staying there recently. No one was found there that night.

10. Training and technical assistance needs.

a) Did you attend or view the recording of the PIT count webinar? ☒ yes ☐ no

- If yes, please provide any feedback, including any additional information that should be included in the future. none

b) Do you have any additional training or technical assistance needs in preparation of the 2026 PIT Count? ☐ yes ☒ no

- If yes, please describe: _____

Please return this summary form along with all interview and observation forms from your unsheltered count by

February 12, 2025

Scan & Send to: pahomelesscount@dma-housing.com (PREFERRED)

OR

Mail to: *Diana T. Myers & Associates, Inc. (DMA)*
7900 Old York Road, Suite 116-A Elkins Park, PA 19027

Thank you!