



PARTNERS IN CARE

Oahu's Continuum of Care

Our mission is to eliminate homelessness through open and inclusive participation and the coordination of integrated responses.

2019 POINT IN TIME (PIT) COUNT – VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Volunteer Voice

2017 was my first time as a volunteer participating in the Point in Time Count. It was an incredible opportunity to learn more about how our neighbors experience homelessness here on Oahu. The PIT is a vital tool in our collective response to end homelessness. I enjoyed the camaraderie and opportunity to partner with other volunteers working on the count.

**John M., Volunteer and Health Plan
Community Relations Manager**

HOW IS THE PIT SURVEY DONE? Volunteers across the island will be trained to administer a homelessness experience survey by regional trainers. Through conversations with individuals and families, important data will be collected and later tabulated to give a concrete picture of the experience of homelessness on Oahu.

WILL THERE BE TRAINING PROVIDED?

Training sessions will be taking place across the island within the different regions in advance of count night. Training sessions will also be hosted on count night itself. A calendar of scheduled sessions can be found on the PIT count page

<https://www.partnersincareoahu.org/point-time-count-oahu>

HOW LONG IS THE TIME COMMITMENT? Each regional leader will organize the shifts and coverages according to the volunteer staff they have and geography needed to be covered. Typically, team count activities last from 2-4 hours on the primary count night. Additional follow-up work may be needed.

WHAT SHOULD I WEAR? Comfortable clothes, closed-toe shoes and be prepared for the weather. Have a sweatshirt or light jacket or maybe an umbrella depending on what the weather forecast is for count night. There will be a lot of walking, so comfortable shoes are a must. If you talk to families who are encamped off the sides of roads, you will be walking in brush or over grass, so closed-toe shoes are important for safety.

WHAT SHOULD I BRING WITH ME? Make sure to have clothes that are comfortable to walk in and that will be suitable for evening temperatures or dynamic weather. Have a water bottle with you to make sure you stay hydrated. You will be provided with survey supplies (clipboard, pens, surveys and incentives for individuals who participate – such as hygiene kits or gift cards). A small backpack, bag or satchel will help you carry items.

WHERE CAN I GO TO SIGN UP? Follow the link on the PIT count homepage and indicate which region you want to volunteer in for count-night activities: <https://www.partnersincareoahu.org/point-time-count-oahu>

Provider Voice

The Point-in-Time (PIT) count is a very important process to producing an unduplicated count on a single night of the people in our community who are experiencing sheltered and unsheltered homelessness. The PIT count is important because it informs our prevention and intervention strategies, this method allows our state policymakers and program administrators to track progresses and regresses toward meeting the goal of ending homelessness in our state. Through this process, our community has been able to develop strategic plans to address our local needs and to identify strengths and gaps in our community's current homelessness assistance system. **Kim Cook, Psy.D., Executive Director, U.S.VETS - Barbers Point**