



# 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 COUNT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**HONOLULU, HAWAII:** The Oahu County-wide community homeless coalition Partners In Care (PIC) announces the kick-off for the annual Point in Time (PIT) Count, which will begin the week of January 22, 2019. PIC invites volunteers across the island to join in this vital effort to help survey Oahu's homeless population.

"This annual count is one of our most important tools to understand the nature and condition of those who are houseless in our community," notes Heather Lusk, Vice Chair of the Board of Directors for PIC. "This is far more than a mere head count. The survey gives us insights into the challenges our neighbors face in communities across the island. It is also a way for those who care about homelessness to get involved and make a difference in their local community."

The Point in Time count is the most comprehensive count for homeless populations who are currently sheltered and unsheltered across Oahu. The Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) annual grant application for Continuum of Care homeless assistance funding requires the State of Hawaii to produce an unduplicated count of sheltered and unsheltered homeless on a one-day point in time during the last 10 days of January.

Volunteers assisting with survey administration will join groups around Oahu starting the night of January 22, 2019. In 2018, volunteers assisted in community canvassing activities, which brought staff and volunteers from service organizations, public and private agencies and community members into our count regions for direct contact with homeless individuals and families.

The PIC website has a specific link for coordination of the 2019 PIT count. The count resource page includes opportunities to see more about the organization of the count in the regions across the islands as well as a link for volunteers to sign up to help on count night (<https://www.partnersincareoahu.org/point-time-count-oahu>).

Partners in Care is composed of nonprofit homeless providers, government stakeholders, private businesses, community advocates, public housing agencies, hospitals, universities, affordable housing developers, law enforcement, and homeless and formerly homeless persons. PIC's mission is to eliminate homelessness through open and inclusive participation, and the coordination of integrated responses.

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