

2022 PIT COUNT

Process and Approach



KCRHA
King County Regional Homelessness Authority

ABOUT About the PIT Count

- The PIT (Point in Time) count is an annual count of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness on a single night in January.
- HUD requires that Continuums of Care conduct a biennial count of unsheltered people experiencing homelessness.
- Each count is planned, coordinated, and carried out locally.

CHALLENGES

PIT Count Challenges

- It is widely known that the PIT Count is a devastating undercount of people experiencing homelessness, especially in sub-regions outside of Seattle.
- The PIT relies on what volunteers see during a few hours in the early morning, in a neighborhood that may be unfamiliar, recorded on a paper tally sheet, with a likelihood of heavy rain or cold, which means there are many ways for data to be missed.
- Without an alternative, the PIT Count has become the national census on homelessness by default.
- Without a true number of people experiencing homelessness, we cannot right size resources to make an impact in the community.

OPPORTUNITIES

Opportunities to Re-Envision the PIT Count

- The RHA is committed to a customer-centered approach to the PIT Count.
- We are developing the research plan in collaboration with the LEC, service providers, and stakeholders across King County.
- Our current best thinking is that we will carry out a multi-modal qualitative engagement, including surveys, interviews, and focus groups, and will include a head count that meets HUD requirements.

APPROACH

Approach to the PIT in 2022

- Conduct a head count of unsheltered individuals.
- Conduct a count of people currently in shelters.
- Develop a qualitative data collection strategy with customers, providers, and human services staff.

TIMELINE

December

January

February

March

April

May

Customer Engagement

Provider Engagement

Government Partners Engagement

Data Plan Released

Data Collection

Data Submission to HUD

Distribution of
Community Report

Next Steps

- KCRHA will be engaging key stakeholders through a series of workshops, surveys, and conversations over the next several months.
- KCRHA is working closely with HUD on obtaining a waiver and exploring how KCRHA's approach can inform future guidelines around the PIT count.
- KCRHA is working to develop a By Name List that will be a dynamic picture of how many people are experiencing homelessness and their specific needs.