

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires the Orange County Partnership to End Homelessness (OCPEH), serving as the Continuum of Care for Orange County, to conduct an annual census of people experiencing homelessness on one night – this is called the Point-in-Time (PIT) Count. This year’s PIT Count will be January 25, 2023. OCPEH works with service providers and community volunteers to count every person. The PIT Count is broken into two categories – the Unsheltered Count and the Sheltered Count.

The UNSHELTERED COUNT surveys people sleeping on streets, in camps, cars, and other places not meant for human habitation. It is conducted in two parts – (1) the Street Count and (2) the Service Count – with the goal of counting everyone experiencing homelessness on one night, Wednesday, January 25.

(1) The STREET COUNT – takes place for 24 hours, Wednesday, January 25, 6:00pm – Thursday, January 26, 5:59pm

- The Orange County Street Outreach, Harm Reduction and Deflection (SOHRAD) team will conduct the street count on the night of Wednesday, January 25, seeking to make contact with each person on their caseload and anyone else living unsheltered on the PIT Count night.
- Frequent collaborators, such as the Chapel Hill Crisis Unit, Orange County Criminal Justice Resource Department, and HUD Field Office, will pair with SOHRAD team members to expand outreach efforts and increase knowledge about unsheltered campsites.
- SOHRAD team will continue to count during the Service Count time period, 7 days following the PIT Count night with dates noted below.

(2) The SERVICE COUNT – takes place for the seven days following the PIT night, continuing to survey people who slept unsheltered on Wednesday, January 25

- The Service Count will take place Thursday, January 26 – Wednesday, February 1
- Agencies serving people experiencing homelessness will also be asked to participate
 - Service providers: Community Empowerment Fund, Compass Center, Freedom House, UNC HomeLink, IFC Commons, IFC Home Start and Community House, Love Chapel Hill, Orange Congregations in Mission, Orange County Department of Social Service, Orange County Health Department clinics and community-based programs, Orange County Criminal Justice Resource Department, Orange County Local Reentry Council
 - Emergency services: Orange County Emergency Services, Chapel Hill Police Department and Crisis Unit, Carrboro Police Department, Hillsborough Police Department, Orange County Sheriff’s Department, UNC Police, UNC Emergency Department
 - Schools: Chapel Hill Carrboro City Schools, Orange County Schools
- The Partnership to End Homelessness will reach out to identified agencies, offer to conduct training, share online training links, and send forms

The SHELTERED COUNT surveys people staying in emergency shelter, emergency response programs, or transitional housing and is conducted by running reports from the HUD-required database, HMIS, and by OCPEH staff checking with agencies that periodically offer hotel/motel stays to see if any of these stays happened on the PIT night. OCPEH staff will make any needed changes to report expanded sheltered beds, such as Orange County funded non-congregate shelter in response to inclement weather.

- HMIS Reports: OCPEH will work with HMIS Lead, the NC Coalition to End Homelessness, and service providers to run reports of the people staying in homeless programs on the PIT night
 - IFC HomeStart (single women, 14 beds + 3 seasonal; families, 10 units/30 beds, no overflow)
 - IFC Community House (men, 52 beds + 14 seasonal)
- Hotel/Motel Stays: OCPEH staff will outreach program staff on Thursday, January 26 to check if anyone in these programs on Wednesday, January 25
 - Orange County (including DSS, the Local Reentry Council, Housing Dept), Orange Congregations in Mission (OCIM), Red Cross, Compass Center, Orange County Schools, Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools, local congregations