Methodology for NY-606 - Rockland County CoC

Sheltered Population Total

1. What data source(s) was used to produce the total number of people included in the sheltered population (staying in an emergency shelter, Safe Haven, or transitional housing) on the night of the count? Please indicate the percentage of the PIT count derived from each of the sources. (If a source was not used, please enter zero).

HMIS Data	**75%**
Provider-level surveys	**25%**
Client-level surveys	**0%**
Observation	**0%**
Other	**0%**
Total	**100%**

2. Was the CoC able to collect information about the number of people being sheltered on the night of the count from all emergency shelters, Safe Havens, and transitional housing projects listed on the HIC or only some? listed on your HIC or only some?

- Complete census count

3. What information or method(s) was used to de-duplicate the count of the total number of people included in the sheltered population?

- Comparison of unique client identifiers (not PII)

- Blitz count of persons in shelters (i.e., count occurred at same time to avoid double counting)

Sheltered Subpopulation

4. Looking at the change in your sheltered count from last year's count, please choose the three reasons you believe best explains these changes from the drop-down list below

- Change in availability of affordable housing

- Change in capacity due to COVID-19

- Other:

Please provide a brief description of these specific factors (500 word limit):

Increase in undocumented

The reasons that best explain the change (a net increase of 44 persons) in the sheltered count from last year\\\\'s count are: (1) Change in Availability of Affordable Housing; (2) Change in capacity due to COVID 19; and Increase in Warming Center Capacity.

Change in Availability of Affordable Housing: CoC's area has seen an extremely low vacancy rate and a stark decline in available affordable housing. As a result, more households have been staying in shelter – even if voucher assistance is available – it has been challenging to find available units.

Change in Capacity due to COVID 19: shelters that had reduced capacity due to COVID restrictions are now operating at full capacity. The PIT for the DSS Family Shelter was 8 in 2022 and increased to 29 in 2023, as more families are seeking shelter due to lifting of moratorium

.The warming center has seen a sharp increase in undocumented persons utilizing the warming center as they have limited shelter options.

Unsheltered Population

5. What approach(es) was used to count the total number of people included in the unsheltered population during the PIT count? (select all that apply)

- "Night of the count" - census

 5a1. Did you cover the entire geography of your CoC during the night of the count?

  5a1a. What were the reasons you were unable to cover the entire geography (select all th

6. Were certain areas within the CoC geography specifically excluded because the CoC had reaso there were no unsheltered people in those areas based on prior knowledge/experience?

- No

7. Did the CoC adjust the information in some way (e.g., statistical adjustment or extrapolation) to areas within the CoC geography that were not canvassed but where unsheltered people might ha night of the PIT count?

- No

8. Were certain areas within the CoC geography specifically excluded because of concerns relate and safety?

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  - No

  - Comparison of unique client identifiers (not PII)

  - Blitz count of unsheltered people (i.e., canvassing of different areas occurred at same time to avoid double counting)

  - Interview/survey question(s) with screening questions (e.g., have you already completed a count survey)

Unsheltered Subpopulations

10. Looking at the change in your unsheltered count from last year's count, please choose up to three reasons that best explain these changes from the drop down list below. Please also provide a brief description of these specific factors (500 word limit).

  - Change in implementing the PIT count (Select all that apply)

  - Change in capacity (e.g., increase or decrease in beds/units available, more or less funding available type, more staff in prevention programs, fewer beds available due to COVID-19 social distancing proto

    Challenges in finding units to marry with vouchers continues to present an issue in addressing hom

9. What information or method(s) was used to de-duplicate the total count of people in the unsheltered population? (Check all that apply)

- Change in PIT count training (e.g., more/less training options or online training)

- Change in volunteers for PIT count (e.g., increase or decrease in volunteers overall, increase or decrease in volunteers with prior experience, included volunteers from law enforcement in implementation but did not in prior year)

- Counted in fewer or more areas of jurisdiction

Please provide a brief description of these specific factors and how these changes affected PIT count implementation

The CoC conducted outreach to all volunteers late in 2022. In addition to the PIT lead Training, volunteers were trained virtually which increased the number that participated. Additionally, PIT leads hosted weekly planning meetings focused on both canvassing and site based events.

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Please provide a brief description of these specific factors and how these changes affected PIT count implementation

elessness.

- Change in participation of partners and programs (e.g., increased PIT count participation from progra
youth or other populations, change in participation of programs due to COVID-19 restrictions)

There was increased interest in participating as a volunteer for the count with most COVID restrictio
CoC used COVID safety protocols including access to vaccines on the day of the count. Multiple ag
staff to assist in coordinating services at outreach events that included food, warm clothing items, a
and showers, haircuts, and vaccines. The CoC was able to host day long outreach events that requ
participation. The CoC engaged local elected officials and law enforcement to assist in canvassing
volunteering in outreach events.

Please provide a brief description of these specific factors (500 word limit):

The reasons that best explain the change (a net increase of 2 persons) in the unsheltered count from
last year\\\'s count are: (1) Change in Implementing the PIT Count, (2) Change in Capacity, (3) and
Change in Participation of Partners and Programs.

Change in Implementing the PIT Count: This year volunteers were trained more effectively to ensure
de-duplication and successful interview techniques. In addition, the Collaborative Applicant (CA) with
PIT Leads conducted weekly meetings to prepare for site based events and coordinate canvassing
efforts to ensure a more accurate and complete count. This year, additional canvassing teams were
organized to cover additional encampments and a greater area of municipalities and utilized an app
that geocode those surveyed.   The CoC conducted outreach to the businesses aware of the PIT
count and received donations for site based events. The CoC hosted outreach events providing food,
warm clothing items, access to showers, laundry, vaccines and other essential items that were well
advertised.

Change in Capacity: Change in capacity also impacted a reported increase in persons experiencing
unsheltered homelessness. This year over the CoC\\\'s geographic area, there has been a decrease
in available units, making it difficult to connect persons experiencing homelessness with housing
(even when clients have subsidies in hand). As a result, providers have seen an increase in
homelessness.

Change in Participation of Partners & Programs: There was increased interest in participating as a
volunteer for the count with most COVID restrictions lifted. The CoC used COVID safety protocols
including access to vaccines on the day of the count. Multiple agencies provided staff to assist in
coordinating services at outreach events that included food, warm clothing items, access to laundry
and showers, haircuts, and vaccines. The CoC was able to host day long outreach events that
required increased participation. The CoC engaged local elected officials and law enforcement to
assist in canvassing and to join in volunteering in outreach events.

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Please provide a brief description of these specific factors and how these changes affected PIT count implementation

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