

News Release

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Point In Time Count Needs Volunteers

Lewiston, December 21, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

On one night every January across the United States community members team with local agencies to complete a Point in Time (PIT) count of homeless individuals. A PIT count is completed by counting families, youth, veterans, senior citizens and others who are homeless. The information provides a better understanding of the factors contributing to homelessness in our communities and clarifies the number of people affected. The information collected helps the State as well as local agencies in their work to end homelessness. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has determined that the 2017 Point in Time count will be used as a benchmark to determine how many homeless and unstably housed youth there are in the United States. Since homeless and unstably housed youth have historically been undercounted, this is a critical year to improve the accuracy of the count in Maine. To do this, we need volunteers from every town in the state to help us complete surveys of this vulnerable population. We already have an infrastructure in place to count homeless families, adults and veterans in Maine; new volunteers will be connected with people who are experienced in this process to help with the count. This year's PIT count will be on the night of Tuesday, January 24, 2017. For more information or to volunteer to help out please contact Jerry DeWitt: jdewitt@tcmhs.org or (207)783-4663 ext. 228

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