

### **Q: What is the WeAllCount?**

A: Also known as San Diego's Point-in-Time Count, *WeAllCount* is a yearly research project and community campaign coordinated by the Regional Task Force on the Homeless (RTFH). Over 1,600 volunteers are needed to help count every individual and family experiencing homelessness in San Diego County, and survey the circumstances of their homelessness. This project helps us better understand and identify effective solutions to homelessness.

### **Q: When is the WeAllCount?**

A: The next Point-in-Time Count will be on January 25, 2019.

### **Q: Where can I register to volunteer?**

A: You can register online at [rtfh.volunteerhub.com](http://rtfh.volunteerhub.com)

### **Q: Who can volunteer?**

A: Anyone can volunteer for the count! Minors should be accompanied by a parent or guardian, and must sign a minor waiver. Interviewers must be over 18 years old.

### **Q: What are the volunteer roles?**

Engaged Counters deploy at 4:00 AM on the early morning of Friday, Jan 25 county-wide to count the homeless using surveys.

Interviewers conduct multiple 15-20 minute interviews with homeless individuals at shelters. These shifts occur throughout the county and on various dates and times between Friday, Jan 25 to Sunday, Jan 27.

### **Q: What's the difference between a Count Site and an Interview Site?**

**Count Sites** are the locations where volunteer counters will check-in on the morning of Friday, January 26 and pick up their maps and materials.

**Interview Sites** are at shelters where volunteers will conduct interviews with individuals who are experiencing homelessness. Interviews will be conducted Friday, January 26 to Sunday, Jan 27 at various times (depending on the availability of each facility).

### **Q: Do I need to attend training?**

Interviewers should register for either a Webinar or in-person training here:

<http://interviewtraining.rtfh.volunteerhub.com/events/index>

Counters will receive an email with their site confirmation with a link to a 30 minute training video. Engaged Counters are also encouraged to also register for either a Webinar or in-person training here:

<http://interviewtraining.rtfh.volunteerhub.com/events/index>

**Q: *Can volunteers get proof of their volunteer hours?***

A: Yes. Have them contact [PITC@rtfhdsd.org](mailto:PITC@rtfhdsd.org)

**Q: *What is the time commitment for volunteers?***

A: It depends. You can see your site's schedule at [rtfh.volunteerhub.com](http://rtfh.volunteerhub.com). You can also sign up for multiple volunteer sites or shifts. In addition to the hours you spend volunteering, plan for a 30 minute training for counters and an hour training for interviewers. On average, a count site commitment is around four hours.

**Q: *Can I be on the same team as my friend/coworker?***

A: Volunteers lead by an outreach worker will go out in groups of 2 or 3. We do not plan these teams out in advance of the count. If you volunteer at the same site as your friend or coworker you may be paired together. If you are interested in volunteering with a group of people, email [PITC@rtfhdsd.org](mailto:PITC@rtfhdsd.org) to reserve a block of spots at available locations.

**Q: *What should I bring?***

A: Counter volunteers should make sure that they are ready and dressed for all types of weather (cold, or rain included!) and wear shoes they are comfortable walking in. Volunteers should also have a fully charged cell phone in case of emergency. Feel free to bring a pen or clipboard as supplies can run short.

**Q: *What happens after the count?***

A: The RTFH will compile all the data collected in order to submit to HUD and Congress by early spring.

**Q: *How does counting homeless persons help to reduce and end homelessness?***

A: In order to make a difference in the lives of our homeless residents, we need to know the size and scope of homelessness throughout San Diego County. The data gathered from the Count allows us to assess how and where homeless persons can best be served, but it also allows us to report to the Department of Housing and Urban Development and Congress to receive funding for projects.

**Q: *What if I don't count anyone?***

A: In order to achieve accurate numbers we cover over 4,000 square miles in San Diego County. In some instances, volunteers may not encounter any homeless individuals during their volunteer shift. This is ok! That data is just as valuable – zero is a number! It is important that we note which areas had no homeless and do not mark based on what we have previously seen.

**Questions?**

Contact us:

[PITC@rtfhdsd.org](mailto:PITC@rtfhdsd.org)

858-292-7627 ext. 38



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on the Homeless**