

2017 HOMELESS POINT IN TIME CENSUS & SURVEY REPORT

BUTTE COUNTYWIDE HOMELESS CONTINUUM OF CARE



Prepared by Housing Tools

BUTTE COUNTYWIDE HOMELESS CONTINUUM OF CARE

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Butte Countywide Homeless Continuum of Care

We cannot solve our problems with the same thinking
we used when we created them.

Albert Einstein

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Executive Summary

The Butte County Homeless Point In Time (PIT) collected informational surveys from 1,983 individuals experiencing homelessness on January 25, 2017. This marks an 76% increase from the 2015 PIT, and reflects the largest count captured in the county to date. Despite the significant increase, it does not suggest a complete count of those experiencing homelessness in the county, but a base number of people located during a 24-hour period, and represents only one measure of the human and housing crisis facing the county.

The Butte Countywide Homeless Continuum of Care (CoC) uses PIT data to generate two reports – the HUD Report and the Census and Survey Report. The HUD Report is required by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) every other year, and includes a portion of the overall data captured for the Census and Survey Report. The HUD Report monitors progress toward ending homelessness, and determines eligibility and funding levels for certain state and federal grants. A more comprehensive picture of the data captured during the PIT is provided in the Census and Survey Report. The Census and Survey Report's overarching goal is to help the community to better understand homelessness in their area. It is used by public officials and housing departments to meet reporting requirements and to better understand the priorities for limited public funds. Service providers use the Census and Survey Report to inform their practices, as well as to assist them in developing timely and effective housing and services. Communities access the findings to better understand local homelessness and to in develop common knowledge with their community leaders.

The community PIT offers these highlighted findings:

HOUSEHOLDS: The 1,983 individuals experiencing homelessness were part of 1,583 households, 85% of which were made up of adults only, another 8% were family households, and 6% were households of minor unaccompanied youth.

COUNT BY COMMUNITY: Chico had the highest count at 1,096 individuals, a 92% increase since 2015. Oroville had the second highest count with 713 people, a 83% increase. Paradise's count increased to 120 people, a 145% increase, and almost evenly split between Paradise and Magalia. Gridley saw a decrease of 8 people to 26, or 22% decrease.

RESIDENCY: The survey data shows that more than three-fourths of the adults and unaccompanied youth had lived in Butte County for more than three years, and more than half of those surveyed had lived in the county for over 10 years. Almost 80% were living in Butte County when they became homeless and nearly 90% confirmed that Butte County is their home. Those not originally from Butte County, moved to the county for reasons analogous to those **not** in a homeless situation, such as family, college, quality of life, job opportunities, etc.

CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS: Nearly half (47%) of the individuals (929) met the definition of chronically homeless (which is a combination of time spent homeless and the existence of a disabling condition) implying that individuals and families are remaining homeless for long periods of time, and doing so while trying to manage persistent physical, mental, and/or developmental conditions.

HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION: The capacity of local prevention and diversion services were insufficient to prevent 555 people who completed the survey from becoming homeless for the first time.

NIGHTTIME HABITATION: Of those surveyed, the largest number of respondents (747 people) reported spending the night of the PIT in a place not meant for human habitation, a 164% increase from 2015. Another 729 respondents stayed in programs specifically designed to house those who are homeless: 351 stayed in emergency shelters, 341 in transitional housing projects, and 37 in hotels with a subsidized voucher. There were 438 individuals doubled up with friends and family, without onsite support services and relying on community member resources for shelter. Finally, 69 people were in facilities (treatment centers, hospitals or jail) for the night, but were homeless prior to admission and with no home available to them when released.

CAUSES: The top two causes for homelessness in the county, according to the survey respondents, were family crisis and employment/financial problems.

BARRIERS: The number one barrier to permanently ending homelessness was the absence of affordable housing. The county's extremely low (1-2%) housing vacancy rate fuels the demand for housing as well as higher rents. The second highest reported barrier was lack of money to pay rent and/or a deposit.

PUBLIC SAFETY: According to the survey data, ordinances about sitting, lying and storing property in public places have led 181 people who completed the survey reportedly being ticketed, 80 arrested, and nearly 50 incarcerated in the past year. The county jail had 147 homeless inmates (25% of the jail occupancy) on the night of the PIT but who would otherwise be homeless. The survey data confirmed that most unhoused people have little or no encounters with law enforcement, while about 90 people had over 20 contacts.

HEALTHCARE: There is a growing body of evidence that housing is a healthcare need. While about 40% of residents experiencing homelessness accessed clinics and health centers, about 34% accessed hospitals that offer medical care often without payment. This financial burden to hospitals was not distributed across the homeless population but concentrated on a limited number of high frequency users; 36 people who completed the surveys reported using the hospital 12 or more times a year, and 90 people reported staying 12 or more days.

EDUCATION: There is a critical need for housing and food support for the growing number of homeless college students, particularly because education is often correlated with future financial stability and self-sufficiency, and may be seen as homelessness prevention. In general, unhoused residents have less education than those who are housed. Local studies by Butte College and Chico State support the local need to bolster educational housing and food support for low income students.

INCOME & HOUSING: For 90% of those surveyed, their income would not cover the (county median) rent, let alone typical household and family expenses.

VETERANS: There were 137 veterans who completed the survey, a significant increase from the 2015 count. More than half of the veterans were unsheltered and a third have a physical disability and/or Post Traumatic Stress Disorder.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE: Three hundred people surveyed reported being a victim of domestic violence, with one third revealing they were homeless for the first time. The data showed that 40% of those identifying as a victim of domestic violence were men. Nearly half reported having Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and/or a mental health condition.

YOUTH: Surveys were collected from 105 minor, unaccompanied youth (UY) and from 145 Transitional Age Youth (TAY), who were 18 to 24 years old. Most of the UY (73%) were interviewed in Oroville and most of the TAY (66%) were interviewed in Chico. Twenty-five of the TAY were parents. Youth were long-term county residents, with 56% living in the county over ten years. Despite their age, 23% of the youth (10% of UY and 32% of TAY) already met the definition of chronically homeless.

2017 HOMELESS POINT IN TIME CENSUS & SURVEY REPORT

Overview and Methodology

The Butte Countywide Homeless Continuum of Care (CoC) biennially leads a homeless Point In Time (PIT) to collect information over a 24-hour period of time about those experiencing homelessness. The data collected through the PIT is used to generate two reports – the HUD Report and the Census and Survey Report. These two reports differ by their definition of homeless, the type of information that is gathered and reported, and how the findings are used. This document represents the Census and Survey Report.

The HUD Report must meet HUD standards for a PIT, including an adaptation of their definition of “homeless” which includes only those that are unsheltered, in emergency shelters, or in transitional housing projects. On the other hand, the Census and Survey Report uses a broader definition of homelessness in collecting and reporting PIT data, more closely matching the full HUD Interim Rule definition, includes those who are temporarily staying with friends or family, who would otherwise be homeless. While *the PIT cannot account for every individual experiencing homelessness*, using the broader definition allows for a more accurate count for the community. (See the Appendix for the HUD Interim Rule definition of homeless.)

The HUD Report involves entering data collected from the PIT into a federal database that is used to monitor the county’s progress in ending homelessness. It also establishes a comparative benchmark with other CoCs that is used by the federal and state government in determining eligibility and funding levels. The HUD-required data includes a count and demographic makeup of individuals and households (households without children, households with children, and households with only children), and for veteran and youth subpopulations. In addition, the number of chronically homeless individuals and households are reported. The final requirements include a count of the number of people without homes who are victims of domestic violence, those who are HIV positive or have AIDS, those who have a serious mental illness, and those with substance use disorders. (See Appendix for the HUD Report.)

The Census and Survey Report offers a more comprehensive insight into the local homeless crisis by using a more inclusive definition of “homeless” and by adding over 20 additional questions the community believes is important to address local assumptions, policies, needs, and concerns. The data is used to track trends, successes, and barriers. This information guides decisions by service providers regarding the type of housing and services that are needed, and may be used to prioritize limited funding opportunities. The information is also used as a platform for shared knowledge across the community, so that decisions and efforts in addressing homelessness can be founded in timely, relevant data.

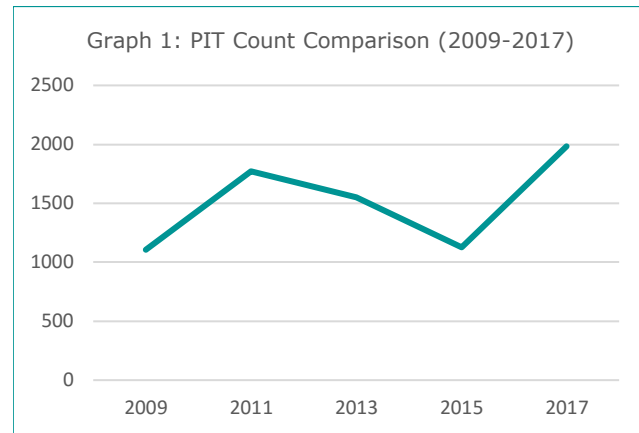
The PIT is community driven, led by a Steering Committee, and facilitated by service professionals and community members. A survey is developed to gather HUD-required, as well as community-prioritized, data.

Those surveys are administered by the community to residents without homes who are sleeping in places not meant for human habitation (parks, creek beds, etc.); emergency shelters; transitional housing projects; temporarily doubled up with friends or family; and in treatment facilities, hospitals, and jails, but would otherwise be without shelter. Funding for the project was provided by Butte County Department of Behavioral Health and the City of Chico (See the Appendix for the 2017 PIT methodology report and survey.)

Homeless Count

The 2017 Point In Time identified 1,983 individuals in 1,583 Butte County households, living without safe, adequate housing. This is the highest PIT count from all previous biennial studies. The individual person count increased by 856 people (an 76% increase), from the 2015 PIT.

For the purposes of this report, individuals were grouped by community, based on the location in which they slept on the night of the PIT. This allows municipalities to understand and plan for their community, as well as the county at large. As shown in Table 1, the Gridley/Biggs area gathered surveys from 28 people, most of which were from Gridley. Chico gathered the highest number of surveys at 1,096. Oroville –



COMMUNITIES	Households	People
Gridley/Biggs Area	26	28
Biggs	2	2
Gridley	24	26
Chico Area	849	1096
Oroville Area	611	713
Oroville	607	706
Palermo	3	6
Thermalito	1	1
Paradise/Ridge Area	79	120
Magalia	40	59
Paradise	39	61
Other Areas	18	26
Bangor, Butte County	3	5
Berry Creek, Butte County	1	1
Concow, Butte County	1	1
Corning, Tehama County	1	3
Durham, Butte County	3	3
Feather River, Butte County	1	1
Greenville, Plumas County	1	1
Red Bluff, Tehama County	1	2
Willows, Glenn County	2	2
Yankee Hill, Butte County	1	1
Yuba City, Sutter County	1	4
Unanswered	2	2
TOTAL	1583	1983

comprised of Oroville proper, Palermo, and Thermalito – completed 713 surveys. The Paradise/Ridge area collected 120 surveys, almost evenly divided between Paradise and Magalia. An additional 26 surveys were gathered from individuals who had stayed in smaller Butte County townships, (such as Bangor and Yankee Hill), or neighboring counties, the night of the PIT but were able to relocate into one of the four larger Butte County communities to complete a survey. The overall percent of residents without homes is 0.88% of the Butte County population. ¹

The change across biennial PIT studies by community is illustrated in Graph 2 and numerically detailed by year in Table 2. The findings indicate that when comparing communities from 2015 to 2017, there was a 145% increase in the Paradise/Ridge area, a 92% increase in Chico, and an 83% increase in Oroville. There was a decrease of eight people (22%) in Gridley. The “other” category showed a 68% decrease between 2015 and 2017, which may reflect an improvement in methodology between the two years as the 2015 PIT had many surveys

¹ 4/1/16 United States Census used for population.

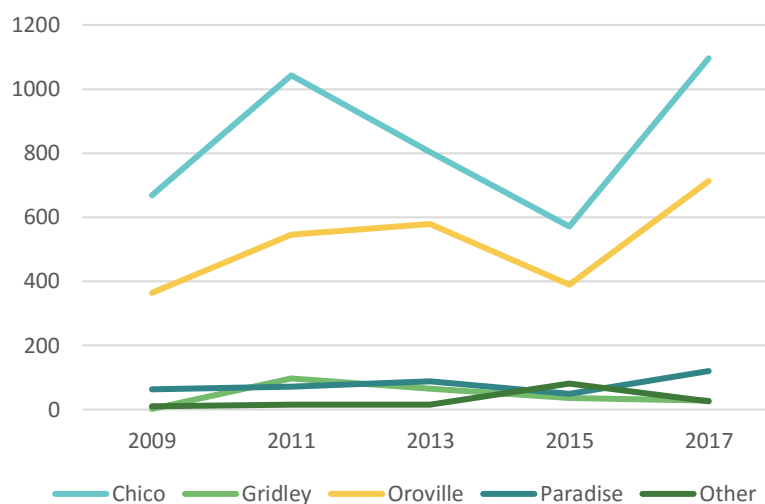
without a specified location. In 2017, more surveys identified a specific community as a place of habitation to more accurately reflect where individuals were residing countywide.

Table 2: PIT Count by Community (2009 to 2017)

COMMUNITIES	2009	2011	2013	2015	2017	# Difference 2015 to 2017	% Difference 2015 to 2017
Chico	668	1043	804	571	1096	525	92%
Gridley	2	97	65	36	28	-8	-22%
Oroville	364	545	579	390	713	323	83%
Paradise	62	71	89	49	120	71	145%
Other	10	16	16	81	26	-55	-68%
Total	1106	1772	1553	1127	1983	856	76%

The PIT methodology is complex, with myriad of strategies and factors that can significantly impact the number of surveys gathered. The count variance across years may be the result of improved methodology as well as an increase in the homeless population. Graph 2 shows a population spike in 2011; anecdotally, the inclusion of sober living environments in transitional housing projects in the 2011 PIT, which were not included in the other studies at the same level, may have impacted the increased count. Likewise, the significant decrease in 2015 may have been influenced by the lack of a PIT coordinator to facilitate the planning and execution of the PIT methodology.

Graph 2: Count by Community (2009-2017)



Household Make Up

Household make up consists of three types: households with only adults (single or multiple adults with no children present), households with adults and children, and households with only children (minor-age unaccompanied youth). Households without children account for 86% of the households. Families with children account for 8% and Unaccompanied Youth account for 6% of the total households.

Table 3: Number of Households by Household Type and Community

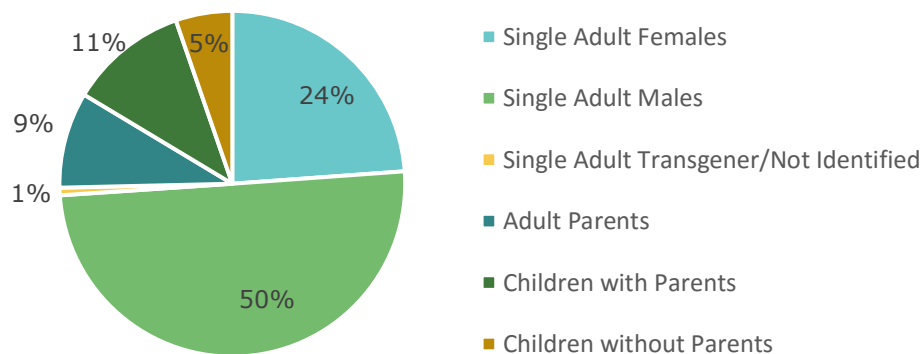
HOUSEHOLDS	Chico	Gridley	Oroville	Paradise	Other	Total	%
Single Adults	748	25	508	57	13	1351	85.3%
Adults with Children	87	1	26	16	2	132	8.3%
Children without Adults	14	0	77	6	3	100	6.3%
Total	849	26	611	79	18	1583	100%

Household make up data provides information about what type of housing might adequately meet the needs of the local homeless residents. Table 4 shows that single males are the most common individual type within the Adults Only household type, at over half of the surveys completed within Chico, Gridley and Oroville. Paradise and the Other communities are proportionally slightly higher with family households. The majority of households with unaccompanied youth are in Oroville, 60% of which are made up of females.

Table 4: Number of Individuals by Household Type and Community

INDIVIDUALS	Chico	Gridley	Oroville	Paradise	Other	Total
Adults Only	815	26	551	72	16	1480
Females	253	11	173	29	7	473
Males	553	15	375	41	9	993
Transgender	4	0	3	0	0	7
Not Identify	5	0	0	2	0	7
Adult/Children	267	2	85	37	7	398
Adults (all genders)	122	1	32	19	4	178
Children	145	1	53	18	3	220
Children without Adults	14	0	77	11	3	105
Female	8	0	47	2	1	58
Male	6	0	30	9	2	47
Total	1096	28	713	120	26	1983

Graph 3: Household Make Up



Demographics

Demographics offers a snapshot description of who is living in our communities: age, gender identification, sexual orientation, race, and ethnicity.

AGE: Of those surveyed, adults are more frequently homeless than youth or children, with the highest percent (29%) between 36 and 50 years old. The total number of adults is 1,658. There are 69 young children – infants, toddlers, and preschoolers – who must be cared for by parents, or in child care, during the day. Another 121 children are elementary and middle school aged. About the same percent of children are teens. The number of children – infant to age 18 have increased by 172 since the 2015, which is a 119% increase. The number of transition age youth (18-24 year olds) remain consistent with the 2015 PIT findings, while their percentage of the population has decreased 46% due to the overall higher count. (See the Youth section of this report.) For the older residents, there are 53 elderly people (as old as 82 years old) without stable housing who completed a survey.

TABLE 5: Number of Individuals by Age Ranges

AGE RANGES	Chico	Gridley	Oroville	Paradise	Other	Total	%
5 years old or younger	48	0	20	1	0	69	3%
6-14 year olds	74	1	35	11	0	121	6%
15-17 year olds	37	0	75	17	6	135	7%
18-24 year olds	95	0	37	7	4	143	7%
25-35 year olds	267	7	141	18	6	439	22%
36-50 year olds	322	9	203	37	3	574	29%
51-65 year olds	217	11	187	27	7	449	23%
66 years old or older	36	0	15	2	0	53	3%
Total	1096	28	713	120	26	1983	100%

GENDER IDENTITY: Male residents continue to be the majority of the homeless population, at 62%, although there was a slight decrease in percentage since the 2015 PIT. Females comprise 37% of those surveyed, transgender residents and those who do not identify as female, male or transgender are each less than 1% of the population.

Table 6: Number of people by Gender Identification

GENDER	Chico	Gridley	Oroville	Paradise	Other	Total	%
Female	401	11	259	47	11	729	37%
Male	685	17	452	70	14	1238	62%
Transgender	4	0	2	0	1	7	0.5%
Doesn't identify as female, male or transgender	5	0	0	3	0	8	0.5%
Total	1095	28	713	120	26	1982	100.0%

SEXUAL ORIENTATION: The sexual orientation of the adults who completed surveys was primarily straight (88%). Another 34 adults (2%) were lesbian or gay. Four individuals identified themselves as bi-sexual and another four as questioning. An additional 13 people identified as a sexual orientation not from the list, such as human or queer. (The sexual orientation question was unanswered on 8% of the surveys).

RACE and ETHNICITY: Butte County is racially homogeneous. The homeless population closely reflects the county at large, with one exception. The percent of those with Asian heritage are 9% of the county population, while only 1% of the homeless population. The ethnicity was 14% Hispanic or Latino; while it is 16% of the full Butte County population.

Table 7: Number of people by Race

RACE	Chico	Gridley	Oroville	Paradise	Other	Total	%
American Indian/ Native Alaskan	67	1	56	1	1	126	6%
Asian	4	0	13	0	2	19	1%
Black/African American	33	0	37	0	1	71	4%
Native Hawaiian/ Other Pacific Islander	14	2	10	1	1	28	1%
Multiple Races	193	4	81	13	7	298	15%
White	785	21	516	105	14	1441	73%
Total	1096	28	713	120	26	1983	100%

Nighttime Habitation

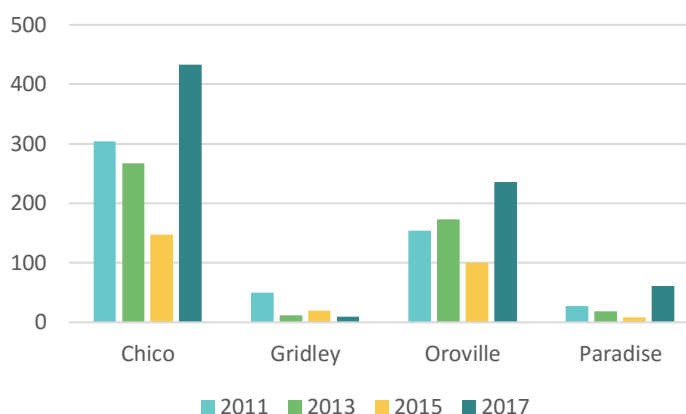
There are limited nighttime options to adequately shelter the 1,983 people without permanent, stable homes.² Table 8 lists the number and percent of people accessing each of the options.

TABLE 8: NIGHTTIME HABITATION

HABITATION	Chico		Gridley		Oroville		Paradise		Other		Total	
Unsheltered	433	40%	10	36%	236	33%	61	51%	5	19%	747	38%
Emergency Shelter	280	26%	0	0%	65	9%	1	1%	5	19%	351	18%
Hotel Voucher	14	1%	0	0%	23	3%	0	0%	0	0%	37	2%
Transitional Housing	162	15%	0	0%	177	25%	0	0%	2	8%	341	17%
Friends and Family	160	15%	17	61%	194	27%	57	48%	10	38%	438	22%
Treatment Facility	20	2%	0	0%	1	0%	0	0%	1	4%	22	1%
Hospital	21	2%	0	0%	3	0%	0	0%	2	8%	26	1%
Jail	4	0%	1	3%	14	2%	1	1%	1	4%	21	1%
Total	1096	100%	28	4%	713	100%	120	100%	26	100%	1983	100%

UNSHELTERED: There were 747 people (or 38%) who completed a survey who were sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation the night of the PIT, such as parks, creeks beds, and bus stations. There was a 164% increase from the 2015 PIT. More than half of the Paradise homeless community, 36% of the Gridley, and 33% of Oroville were unsheltered. Despite the cold winds of the night, 40% of the Chico homeless population were unsheltered, many reported huddling six to seven to a car when the outside elements became too harsh to endure. Graph 4 illustrates that the number of unsheltered people in Chico, Oroville, and Paradise has not been higher than in the 2017 PIT.

Graph 4: Sleeping In Place Not Meant for Human Habitation



EMERGENCY SHELTERS: Butte County has five emergency shelter options: Catalyst's

Haven for victims of domestic violence; the Torres Shelter for men, women and families in Chico; the Oroville Rescue Mission in Oroville; the Jesus Center's Sabbath house for women and children in Chico; and Safe Space, a nomad wet shelter in Chico. All shelter options are in Chico and Oroville. Only the Domestic Violence shelter permits their guests to stay at the shelter during the day, and the county does not have a day program. Consequently, on the day of the PIT, 337 people had no place to go but in public places. Chico saw an increase of 84 individuals in their shelters from 2015, an increase of 43%. On occasion, vouchers for hotels

² HUD requires CoCs to report the supply of beds and units available in emergency shelters and transitional housing projects, along with the number of people who occupied those beds on the night of the PIT in the Housing Inventory Count Report (Appendix).

are provided by charitable organizations as a means of emergency sheltering, as seen in Chico and Oroville on the night of the PIT.

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING: Transitional Housing allows occupants to sign a housing agreement from one to 24 months to stabilize their housing and prepare for permanent housing. In 2017, new partners who offer a sober living environment were added to the count, increasing the number of reported people from 80 to 340, increasing the reported capacity by 326%. (Accounting for this increase, the full count still increased by approximately 600 people.)

FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Of those surveyed, 22% were staying with friends and family the night of the PIT. The number of people in this homeless more than circumstance doubled from 2015 to 2017, for a total increase of 233 individuals. This was the primary living situation for 88% of unaccompanied (minor) youth. Just less than 30% of families, 20% of single women and 15% of single men were able to stay with friends or family the night of the PIT. These are often the unseen people experiencing homeless, because they may not access services or occupy public places during the day, but they struggle with housing and life instability nonetheless. This scenario draws from other community members' resources to shelter those who might otherwise be sleeping on the street, and often places considerable demands on citizens to meet their guests' intensive level of personal and housing needs.

TREATMENT FACILITIES: Individuals who are receiving overnight treatment in a facility (such as inpatient psychiatric or drug and alcohol treatment), but would otherwise be without a home are included in the local Census and Survey Report. There were 22 people who completed a survey that were homeless prior to admission and would not have a place to live when released.

HOSPITALS: Twenty-six people reported staying in the hospital the night of the PIT, whether admitted overnight or seeking emergency room care throughout the night. Cold winter months often draw people experiencing homelessness to the hospital for warmth and medical care for conditions that have become unmanageable on the street. (See Healthcare section for information about hospital visits.)

JAIL: There were 21 individuals who spent the night of the PIT in jail who completed a survey; only these people have been included in the data findings of this report. The Butte County Sheriff's department reported that, in fact, 147 homeless people were in their jail the night of the PIT but were unable to be interviewed. The 147 homeless inmates represent 26% of the jail occupancy that night. Eighty-four (84%) of the charges were for felonies and 23% for misdemeanors.³ The arrests were made in these communities:

53%	Oroville
33%	Chico
7%	Paradise/Magalia
3%	Other Butte County areas
4%	Outside Butte County

Incarceration is listed as the cause of homelessness for 206 of the adults who completed the PIT survey. Similarly, criminal history was listed by 265 adults as a primary barrier to ending their homelessness and finding permanent housing (see Causes and Barriers sections).

³ In the case of inmates with a felony charge or conviction, the number of days spent in jail may exceed the 90-day stipulation in the HUD definition of homeless, yet all 147 inmates met the requirement of being homeless prior to, and potentially following, incarceration.

Chronic Homelessness

HUD requires CoCs to monitor the number of people who are chronically homeless, based on duration, frequency, and recidivism of homelessness, coupled with the existence of a disabling condition (see definition for chronically homeless in the side bar). HUD expects those who are chronically homeless to be prioritized for placement in permanent supported housing units when housing becomes available. According to the narrow definition of homelessness reported to HUD (see Overview section and Appendix), there are 464 households and 531 individuals that are chronically homeless. This will be the count that the CoC will reference when annually reporting on the county's progress to end chronic homelessness.

When using the more inclusive definition of homelessness used in this report and then applying the criteria for chronically homeless, there are *780 households and 929 individuals who are chronically homeless*. Nearly half (49%) of homeless households and nearly half of homeless individuals (47%) are chronically homeless. This suggests that people are staying homeless for long periods of time and/or having repeat episodes in Butte County. And, they are doing so with conditions that are difficult to manage, particularly without stable housing, basic amenities, and support.

The surveys showed that 555 individuals were homeless for the first time this year, indicating a lack of affordable housing and diversion services that might prevent homelessness for individuals and families.

Adults who completed the PIT survey were asked questions about the frequency, duration, and recidivism of their homelessness. Of respondents who answered these questions:

- 39% were homeless for the first time this year
- 65% had been homeless four or more times in the past three years
- 55% had been homeless longer than one year
- 17% had been homeless five or more years

Chronically Homeless

- A.** Is homeless and lives in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter; and
- B.** Has been homeless and living or residing in a place not meant for human habitation, a safe haven, or in an emergency shelter continuously for at least one year or on at least four separate occasions in the last three years where the combined length of time homeless in those occasions is at least twelve months; and
- C.** Has a disability.

NOTE: When a household with one or more members includes an adult or minor head of household who qualifies as chronically homeless, then all members of that household are counted as a chronically homeless person in the applicable household type.

Disabling Conditions

Adults identified the existence of disabling conditions from a list of eight broad categories. Table 9 lists the number of people who reported the presence of one or more conditions.⁴ The top disabling condition (which is traditionally under-reported) was the existence of a mental health condition. Next, was the presence of a disabling physical condition (such as diabetes, cancer, heart disease, blindness, seizures, and limited mobility). Both Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Drug Use Conditions were reported on a quarter of the surveys. Alcohol abuse was also a condition for 17% of the people. Just less than 10% of the people had a developmental disability of some kind, and/or a Traumatic Brain Injury. Thirteen people without stable housing and other primary needs being met are HIV positive or have AIDS.

Table 9: People with Disabling Conditions

CONDITIONS	#	%
Mental Health Condition	461	30%
Physical Condition	446	29%
Post Traumatic Stress Disorder	377	24%
Drug Use	366	24%
Alcohol Abuse	265	17%
Developmental Disability	134	9%
Traumatic Brain Injury	112	7%
HIV+/AIDS	13	1%

⁴ Those surveyed selected as many disabling conditions as applicable, without ranking them. The percent was determined by the number of adults and unaccompanied youth that completed a survey through this question; in other words, those surveys with only demographic information were not used to determine the percent of people with that disability.

Causes of Homelessness

Homelessness can be prevented when people and families are offered the support that they need during a housing, personal or financial crisis. Prevention and diversion service can be improved by a better understanding among specialized and mainstream service providers of the causes of homelessness in the community. In addition, public and private entities with financial resources can invest wisely when they understand the tipping points that lead to homelessness.

Fundamental to preventing homelessness is an affordable housing inventory. Table 10 reports the causes that those completing the survey felt led to their homelessness. Interestingly, consistent with the reasons that people came to Butte County (see Residency section), family is the number one contributing cause of homelessness, as well as the number one reason people report moving to Chico. High on the list, are employment, financial reasons, and mental illness.

Table 10: What Led To Homelessness

CAUSES	#
Family crisis	515
Employment/financial reasons	447
Mental illness	254
Eviction	219
Incarceration	206
Medical/disability problems	179
Other	175
Domestic violence/partner abuse	146
Substandard housing	68
Personal choice to be homeless	60
Alcohol/substance abuse	45
Parent/foster parent abuse	46
Natural or other disasters	46
Age out of foster/group home	37
Post release controlled supervision	27
Intolerance of sexual orientation or gender identity	16
Recent immigration	4

Barriers to Permanent Housing

Simultaneous to preventing homelessness, the community must understand and prioritize removing the barriers that interfere with securing **permanent** housing to end homelessness. Adults completing the PIT survey offered insight in what they believe to be their greatest barriers. These answers are provided in Table 11.

The primary reason, by more than 100 responses, was finding affordable housing. The second top reason was lack of money for rent or deposit, closely related to the first barrier of finding affordable housing. The next two reasons – finding a job and poor credit – are also finance related barriers.

Table 11: Challenges to End Homelessness

CHALLENGE	#
Finding affordable housing	822
No money for rent or deposit	711
Finding a job	587
Poor/no credit	536
Managing my mental health	295
Finding services to help me	291
Transportation to services	277
Criminal history	265
Substance use	252
Rental history	229
Lack of an ID card	197
Other	157
Pets	108
Nothing, I prefer to be homeless	28

Residency

Residency can be a concept that facilitates or deters solutions to homelessness. Does it matter if someone is a resident of a county to help them end their homelessness? How does one define residency? While the data does not answer those philosophical questions, it does provide important insight into who is homeless in our community, and where they consider home.

- 78% of adults and unaccompanied youth were living in Butte County when they became homeless
- 88% of adults and unaccompanied youth consider themselves a Butte County resident

Table 12 specifies the number and percent of adults who have lived in Butte County for specific time ranges. It shows that 87% of the adults have lived in Butte County for one or more years, 65% have lived here over five years, 56% ten or more years, and 36% over an adult life time.

Table 12: Length of Butte County Residency

LENGTH OF RESIDENCY	#	%	Cumulative
Less than 1 month	41	3%	100%
More than a month but less than 1 year	140	10%	97%
1-2 years	122	9%	87%
3-5 years	165	12%	77%
6-9 years	127	9%	65%
10-19 years	268	20%	56%
20+ years	480	36%	36%
Total	1,343	100%	
<i>Didn't Answer</i>	626		

Many people who completed a survey were originally from Butte County. For those who were not Butte County

natives and residing in Butte County in a homeless situation, the survey data suggests that they came to the county for reasons analogous to those who are **not** in a homeless situation: family, college, quality of life, job opportunities, etc. The top reason was family; specific scenarios included being the child of parent who moved to the county, a parent whose children or grandchildren lived in the county, marriage and partnership

Table 13: Reasons People Move to Butte County

REASONS	#	%	REASONS	#	%
Family	74	24.0%	Services	10	3.2%
Sober Living	24	7.8%	Quality of Life	10	3.2%
Friends	23	7.5%	Death in the Family	7	2.3%
Job Opportunity	20	6.5%	College	6	1.9%
Jail/Parole/Release Program	20	6.5%	Medical Care for Themselves/Family	5	1.6%
Travel Thru and Decided To Stay	20	6.5%	Victim of Crime	5	1.6%
Marriage/Partner Relationship	19	6.2%	Climate	4	1.3%
Better Life/Fresh Start	19	6.2%	Foster/Adoption	3	1.0%
Children or Grandchildren	13	4.2%	Drugs	3	1.0%
Housing Opportunity	12	3.9%	Make It on the Street	1	0.3%
Shelter	10	3.2%			

commitments, caring for a sick family member, or the death of a family member. The full list of reasons, and the number and percent of those who selected them, are found in Table 13.

Ordinances

Some local municipalities have established ordinances designed to mitigate the effects of a growing homeless population. These ordinances focus on life-sustaining actions (sitting, lying down) of residents without homes, and often initiate a cycle of frequent encounters with law enforcement and use of local public resources. Those completing the PIT survey reported their level of involvement in the criminal justice system and legal outcomes of encounters with law enforcement due to local ordinances.

- Law enforcement offered warnings in the past year to 478 survey respondents. Warnings were offered to these individuals on average of two and a half times for every ticket that was written.
- 181 individuals who completed the surveys had been ticketed.
- 80 individuals were reportedly arrested due to violating an ordinance.
- Over 60% of those arrested were also incarcerated.
- Over a quarter of the individuals ticketed were also incarcerated, in some part related to the ordinances (such as an outstanding bench warrant or failure to appear in court).

About half of the people who answered PIT questions about the ordinances indicated they had been approached by law enforcement about an ordinance. The outcome of those encounters is shown in Table 14. There is a 70% difference between the number of people residing in Chico on the night of the PIT who reported being warned, compared to all other communities combined. Likewise, there was a 114% difference in ticketing, 70% in arrests, and 94% in incarceration, compared to the other communities.

Table 14: Result of Ordinance Related Interaction with Law Enforcement by Community

RESULT	Chico	Gridley	Oroville	Paradise	Other	Total
Warned	323	12	116	22	5	478
Ticketed	142	1	32	5	1	181
Arrested	54	0	23	2	1	80
Incarcerated	36	0	11	1	1	49

Indeed, a 2017 Chico State study determined there was a statistically significant increase in the arrests of those who are homeless since the introduction of the Chico ordinances. The study also showed that as ordinances designated specific locations, in the center of Chico, in which homeless residents could not publicly reside, the mean geographic location for arrests had moved North over time, presumably following the migration of those who need an alternative location to dwell.⁵

Those who completed a survey estimated the number of total contacts they have had with law enforcement in the past year, for whatever reason: violation of an ordinance, arrest for a law against a person, seeking safety, reporting a crime, etc. The average number of contacts was just less than 11 times per person.

The findings show although the average number of encounters with law enforcement was 11, most people have a low number of encounters with law enforcement each year. The mode was zero, meaning that the most frequently reported number of contacts was zero. In fact, 363 people (30%) said they had no contact at

⁵ Impacts of Chico's Public Safety Approach to Homelessness: Initial Analysis, 2017

all. Another 539 people (44%) had between one and five contacts, so nearly three quarters of the people had five or less encounters with law enforcement. For people with a higher number of contacts, the surveys showed 89 people (14%) had over 20 contacts; 43 people (4%) had over 50 contacts; and 21 people (2%) had over 100 contacts.

The PIT survey findings offer insight as to whether the local ordinances are meeting local public safety and prosperity goals. In other words, “How are the ordinances influencing the choices that homeless individuals make?” Countywide, less than half (46%) of the people who answered the question, reported that they no longer sit, lie down, sleep or keep property in certain places because of these laws. This percent ranged from 42% in Oroville to 56% in Gridley. Eighty-three percent (83%) reported that the ordinances did not lead them to leave a community.

Nationwide, homeless people are ticketed, arrested, and jailed under laws that treat life-sustaining practices such as sleeping or sitting as a criminal offense. These city ordinances are based on the theory that they are necessary to protect the public interest, and to improve the economic health of the city. Butte County cities/towns are not alone – although still the minority - in having these ordinances. Of different concern to this theory is research showing that these laws violate civil rights, are ineffective, and are expensive.



Lack of affordable housing is the leading cause of homelessness. Ordinances do not address this, or any other, underlying cause of homeless, and ultimately worsen the problem. Those who have been arrested return to their communities, still with nowhere to live and now laden with financial obligations and legal burdens. Any efforts these residents were making toward stabilization, such as employment, medical and mental health care, accessing public benefits to pay for housing, and participating in supportive relationships have been disrupted and taxed. Further, the ordinances contribute to a cycle of homelessness (illustrated in the diagram to the right provided by the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty).^{6 7 8}

Laws that penalize people for unavoidable human actions such as sitting or sleeping, are among the most expensive ways of addressing homelessness. Law enforcement, and associated city/town funds, are burdened with sustaining the cycle, and with little positive outcome. Furthermore, only housing removes people from the street to stabilize their lives so that they can begin contributing positively to the community.

⁶ Housing Not Handcuffs: Ending the Criminalization of Homelessness in U.S. Cities, National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty

⁷ No Safe Place: The Criminalization of Homelessness in U.S. Cities, National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty

⁸ Searching Out Solutions: Constructive Alternatives to the Criminalization of Homelessness, U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, 2012

Redirecting funds into affordable housing saves the community money. In fact, HUD states that it costs the community approximately \$40,000 per person who is homeless each year, between emergency sheltering, medical care, and jail time. A recent study conducted by Chico State, in cooperation with the Chico Police Department, found that there has been an average annual increased cost of \$138,744 for law enforcement to implement the local ordinances.⁹

The United States Housing and Urban Development (HUD) states that “criminalization policies further marginalize men and women who are experiencing homelessness, fuel inflammatory attitudes, and may even unduly restrict constitutionally protected liberties...” and that these approaches only “temporarily reduce the visibility of homelessness in the communities.”¹⁰ As a federal governing entity, HUD has incentivized communities taking action, by established that CoCs that prevent criminalization in their community are awarded points in their annual funding application. In 2016, the Butte County CoC applied for \$545,894, for funds primarily used to house chronically homeless individuals, transition age youth, and victims of domestic violence. Loss of these funds would result in loss of housing for these individuals and families.

⁹ Impacts of Chico’s Public Safety Approach to Homelessness: Initial Analysis, 2017

¹⁰ Decriminalizing Homelessness, hudexchange, 2016

Health Care

Countywide, over 8% of people under the age 65 do not have health insurance.¹¹ Of the 1,315 who answered the questions about health care coverage, 1,073 (82%) reported having health insurance, 210 (16%) did not have health insurance, and 33 (3%) weren't sure. Of the 210 who did not have insurance, 84 believed that they had applied for it.

In Butte County, 708 adults, or more than half of the adults experiencing homelessness have seen a doctor in the last year. By comparison, 298 adults (23%) have seen a dentist in that time. For children, 126 have seen a doctor and 91 have seen a dentist.

Most people struggling with homelessness do not have a primary physician for personalized, long-term treatment. The majority of people completing the survey use clinics and health centers for their health care. Table 16 lists the types of health care providers and the number of people who frequent them.

Since hospital emergency departments are a community resource that serves everybody regardless of the ability to pay, they are also often used for immediate and on-going medical needs. The cost of care often falls to hospitals, at an average of \$3,700 a visit.¹²

The survey results offer better understanding of the frequent use of hospitals. The results indicate that 519 people (39%) reported not using the hospital at all. Another 36% only had one or two visits. Yet, 36 individuals were high frequency patients, visiting the Emergency Room over 12 times in a year. Likewise, the number of days in the hospital were low for most people, but particularly high for 90 people (7%), who stayed more than 12 days. Tables 17 and 18 on the following pages shows the frequency of emergency room use by community.

Table 15: The Last Time Adults Saw A Doctor and Dentist

VISITS	Doctor		Dentist	
	#	%	#	%
Less than a year ago	708	56%	298	23%
1+ years	162	13%	187	15%
2+ years	98	8%	179	14%
3+ years	288	23%	624	48%
TOTAL	1256		1288	

Table 16: Frequented Health Care Providers

Health Care Providers	#
Clinic/Health Centers (e.g. Ampla, Tribal Health)	644
Hospital	545
Doctors Office	195
Alcohol/Drug Dependency Programs	33
Veterans Affairs	31
County Offices (e.g. Behavioral Health)	10
Mobile Medical/Dental Vans	8
Schools/University Health Center	6
Self	5
Health Fair	2
Computer	2
Jesus Center	1
WalMart	1

¹¹ U.S. Census, 2016

¹² The Connection Between Housing and Healthcare Needs: Growing Evidence Base for Housing as a Social Determinant of Health, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

There is a growing body of evidence that shows housing and health are inextricably linked together. The sick and vulnerable are more likely to become homeless, and the homeless are more likely to become sicker and more vulnerable. Sickness and injury often lead to homelessness because it makes it difficult to hold a job. The combination of unemployment and poor health can lead to financial ruin. In fact, 57% of bankruptcies are due to medical bills.¹³

Table 17: Number of Times the Emergency Room Was Used in One Year

# Times	Chico	Gridley	Oroville	Paradise	Other	Total	%
0	306	11	177	23	2	519	39%
1-2	272	9	158	24	6	469	36%
3-6	145	2	78	18	3	246	19%
7-12	26	2	17	2	0	47	4%
12+	15	0	16	4	1	36	3%
TOTAL	764	24	446	71	12	1317	100%

Table 18: Number of Days in the Hospital in One Year

# Days	Chico	Gridley	Oroville	Paradise	Other	Total	%
0	488	14	266	46	6	820	63%
1-2	100	5	59	5	1	170	13%
3-6	75	3	54	9	0	141	11%
7-12	37	2	29	0	3	71	5%
12+	53	0	28	7	2	90	7%
TOTAL	753	24	436	67	12	1292	100%

Treatment regimens for chronic illnesses are nearly impossible to manage without regular mealtimes, access to medication, and on-going management. What's more, most adults experiencing homelessness experience more than one health-related issue (see Disabling Conditions section). Mental illness and substance use disorders make focus, rational judgments, and planning difficult to care for oneself or secure housing. Those without homes are also faced with vulnerability of exposure that can lead to violence against them, leading to injury. Homeless individuals use emergency rooms up to four times more often than other low-income residents. Ultimately, those without homes die decades younger than those with homes.¹⁴

Access to health care for those without stable shelter is vital to survival. This involves health insurance, a personal physician, dentists, and other specialists, and emergency care. These health needs are the same for every human, but more frequent for those without homes because of the lack of safety, resources, transportation, and stabilization of their living circumstances.

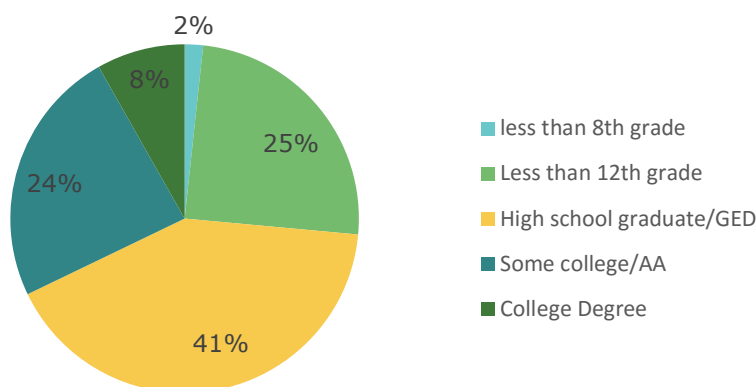
¹³ How Health and Homelessness are Connected- Medically, The Atlantic, 2016

¹⁴ How Health and Homelessness are Connected- Medically, The Atlantic, 2016

Education

Academic achievement is correlated with employment, self-sufficiency and financial stability. In Butte County, 88% of the residents have at least a high school education, this is 15% higher than the homeless residents who completed the survey. Further, 26% of the county residents have a Bachelor's degree, which is 17% higher than the unhoused population.¹⁵

Graphic 5: Adult Educational Success Levels



The number of college students experiencing homelessness is on the rise. A recent study of 70 community colleges across 24 states found that two-thirds of the students are food insecure, around half are housing insecure, and about 14% are homeless. These students are more likely to have jobs that do not earn a living wage.¹⁶ In fact, nationally, about 56,000 students self-reported as homeless on the annual student aid form.¹⁷

While a college education can be a dividing factor in future financial stability between lower and middle income households, the challenges associated with obtaining that degree have become nearly prohibitive for the lower income student. The Butte College Chancellor's office initiated a student survey in September 2016 and found local students are in jeopardy of not having their basic needs met. The results showed that 90% of the responding students were experiencing some level of food insecurity and 93% some level of housing displacement.¹⁸ A CalFresh study at California State University, Chico (CSUC) reported 46% their 707 survey respondents suffered from low to very low food insecurity.¹⁹ A 2016 Status University study revealed that 8% to 12% of Chico State students are in unstable housing situations.²⁰ Chico State's President released a statement in May 2017 reporting that nearly half the students are struggling to afford food and one in 12 are unstably housed. Fortunately, for Chico State students, the Chico Care Endowment has been established to create perpetual and immediate support for students' unmet basic needs.

¹⁵ U.S. Census, 2016

¹⁶ Hungry and Homeless in College: Results From a National Study of Basic Needs Insecurity in Higher Education, Wisconsin HOPE Lab, 2017

¹⁷ National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth

¹⁸ California Community Colleges presentation

¹⁹ Identifying Food Insecure Students and Constraints for SNAP/CalFresh Participation at California State University, Chico, 2016

²⁰ Serving Displaced and Food Insecure Students in the CSU, California State University, Long Beach, 2016

Income and Housing

Homelessness is a housing crisis. In the most simple terms, ending homelessness for most people requires financial resources and available affordable housing. In Butte County, both of these are scarcities for some residents.

The median annual household income in Butte County is \$43,444 (ranging from \$35,455 to \$49,861 depending on the community) and the median gross rent is \$905. But over 20% of the population who live in poverty cannot come close to affording median gross rent.²¹ According to the PIT surveys, 45% of the people living without a home have no income whatsoever, and another 19%, have less than \$500 a month to cover all living expenses. Just less than 28% (340 people) have income between \$500-\$1000, consistent with a SSI payment, which was the type of income most often reported by those completing the survey (see Tables 19 and 20). HUD designates that families who pay more than 30% of their income for housing are considered cost burdened and may have difficulty affording necessities such as food, clothing, transportation and medical care. Yet, the income of approximately 90% of the residents who completed the survey is less than the county's median rent alone.

Butte County has an extremely low housing inventory, with vacancy rates ranging from 1.5% to 2.5% throughout 2016.²² The impact of this is that landlords may increase rental rates to adjust to the supply and demand in the area, pricing out very low income tenants. This can contribute to low-income tenants losing their housing with even a slight change in expenses, such as lost work due to illness. It can also prevent those who are trying to end their homelessness from securing housing that is priced outside of their income, particularly if a security deposit, first and last months' rent must be paid at one time.

Table 19: Income Levels of Butte County Homeless

INCOME LEVEL	#	%
No Income	548	45%
\$1-\$250	150	12%
\$251-\$500	87	7%
\$501-\$1000	340	28%
\$1001-\$1500	74	6%
\$1501-\$2000	23	2%
More than \$2000	9	1%

Table 20: Sources of Income

Income Source	#	Income Source	#
SSI	275	Unemployment	15
Recycling	251	Student Aid/Grants	15
General Assistance	139	Illegal: selling drugs, shoplifting, hustling	9
Job/Paid Internship	137	Sell property	8
Pan Handling	125	Barter	7
Friends or Family	124	Charity/Community/God	7
Other	102	AB109/ACS	3
Social Security	102	Child Support	3
Temporary Employment, Odd Jobs	91	Find Money	3
SSDI	89	Foster/Adoption Services	2
TANF	73	Family	2
Cal Fresh/Food Stamps	44	Survivor Benefits	2
Veteran's Benefits	20	Workers comp	2
Retirement/Pension	16	Tribal	1

²¹ U.S. Census, 2016

²² North Valley Property Owners Association

Another impact of a low housing inventory is that even when financial support can be offered, through a Section 8 voucher or rapid rehousing projects, there are still few housing options available for which to use these supports. In too many cases, this has resulted in continued homeless and loss of program support because adequate housing cannot be acquired in time to access the housing support.

Veterans

Remarkable progress was made nationally and locally to reach HUD's goal of ending veteran homelessness by 2015.²³ But much is yet to be accomplished to stabilize the lives of returning heroes, who may have unique post-service challenges. Although there was a decrease in the number of unhoused veterans between 2013 (150 veterans) and 2015 (73 veterans), the number has increased again in 2017, to 144 veterans. This increase may be due to the 's change in methodology of the count, as well as a possible increase in number of homeless veterans. Regardless, there continues to be a countywide need to house veterans without homes, and rapidly rehouse those who are imminently homeless.

There are 137 homeless veteran households in Butte County, consisting of 138 single adults, 19 parents, and nine children (adult count in households includes non-veteran spouses). The majority of both types of households are residing in Chico.

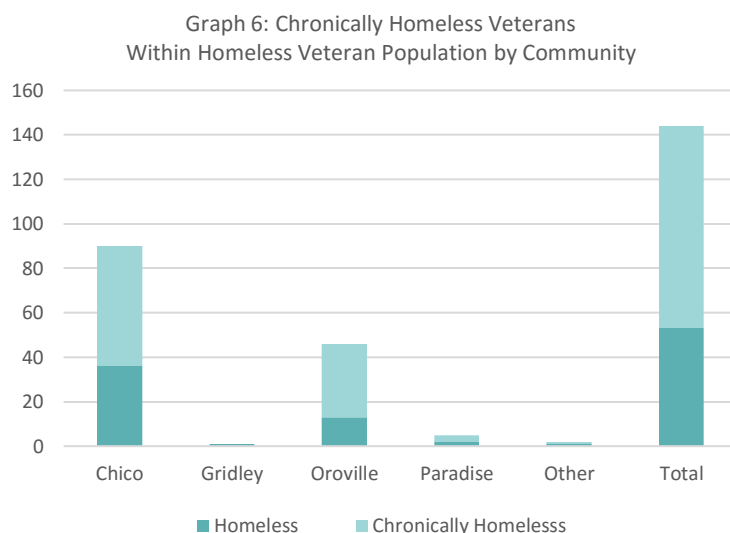
Table 21: Household Type by Community

HOUSEHOLDS	Chico	Gridley	Oroville	Paradise	Other	Total
Single Adults	81	1	44	5	0	131
Adults with Children	3	0	1	0	2	6
Total	84	1	45	5	2	137

The total number of veteran individuals without a home is 144. As shown in Table 22, most veterans live in Chico (90) and in Oroville (46). There are 17 (12%) female, 125 (87%) male, and 2 veterans who do not identify as male, female or transgender.

Table 22: Number of people by Gender Identification

GENDER	Chico	Gridley	Oroville	Paradise	Other	Total	%
Female	12	0	3	1	1	17	12%
Male	77	1	43	3	1	125	87%
Transgender	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Doesn't identify as female, male or transgender	1	0	0	1	0	2	1%
Total	90	1	46	5	2	144	100%



Chronically homeless veterans make up 63% of the veteran homeless population. Oroville's chronically homeless veteran population is 72% of the full veteran population, and it is 60% for both Chico and Paradise.

²³ Opening Doors Across America: A USICH Call to Action, US. Interagency Council on Homelessness

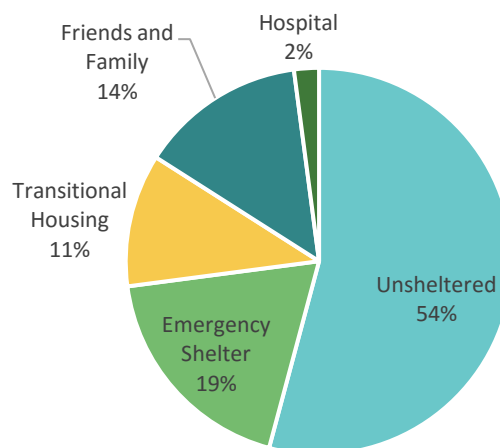
To meet the definition of chronically homeless, the individual must have at least one disabling condition. In the case of veterans, 38% of them reported on their survey to have a physical condition, 33% Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, and 26% a mental health condition, all of which may have been caused or influenced by their time in service.

More than half of veterans experiencing homelessness are unsheltered. As shown Graph 7, 19% are staying in an emergency shelter, 14% are temporarily staying with friends or family, 11% are in transitional housing, and 2% were in the hospital the night of the PIT count.

Table 23: Disabling Conditions

DISABLING CONDITION	#	%
Physical Condition	54	38%
Post Traumatic Stress Disorder	47	33%
Mental Health Condition	37	26%
Drug Use	26	18%
Alcohol Abuse	24	17%
Traumatic Brain Injury	11	8%
Developmental Disability	10	7%
HIV/AIDS	2	1%

Graph 7: Nighttime Habitation



The number one challenge in ending homelessness, for veterans who completed the survey, is finding affordable housing. The other top reasons include money for rent or a deposit, finding a job, or managing their poor credit. The veterans identified several barriers that could be supported with the array of veteran service provided in Butte County. Only five veterans reported that they prefer to be homeless.

Table 24: Challenges to Ending Homelessness

CHALLENGE	#	%
Finding affordable housing	81	56%
No money for rent or deposit	61	42%
Finding a job	60	42%
Poor/no credit	38	26%
Managing my mental health	28	19%
Finding services to help me	38	26%
Transportation to services	32	22%
Criminal history	27	19%
Substance use	19	13%
Rental history	18	13%
Lack of an ID card	18	12%
Pets	14	10%
Nothing, I prefer to be homeless	5	3%

Domestic Violence

There is a distinct connection between domestic violence and homelessness. The United States Department of Justice reports that one in four homeless women is homeless because of violence committed against her. Victims of domestic violence with limited economic resources are particularly vulnerable to homelessness. The victim may need to leave an unsafe environment without the ability to secure a new safe place to live. If housing is dependent on finding affordable housing or having enough money for rent and a deposit, the only option for those fleeing abuse may be to become homeless.²⁴

There were 300 people who identified as being a victim of domestic violence on the PIT survey, which is almost 20% of the all adults completing the survey. Table 25 shows the number of victims of domestic violence reported by each community.

Table 25: Number of Victims of Domestic Violence by Community

INDIVIDUALS	Chico	Gridley	Oroville	Paradise	Other	Total
# VICTIMS	185	5	89	16	5	300

There were 297 households associated with the 300 victims: 253 households were occupied by only adults, 56 households with adults and children, and five households with unaccompanied youth. There were 77 children living with their parents and 5 households with only minor youth.

Table 26: Households by Type and by Community

HOUSEHOLDS	Chico	Gridley	Oroville	Paradise	Other	Total
Single Adults	153	5	75	13	3	249
Adults with Children	29	0	11	2	1	43
Children without Adults	2	0	1	1	1	5
Total	184	5	87	16	5	297

The individuals with the 297 households total 391 people: 253 single adults, 56 parents, 77 children with a parent, and 5 unaccompanied youth with a parent.

Table 27: Adults and Children by Household Type and by Community

INDIVIDUALS	Chico	Gridley	Oroville	Paradise	Other	Total
Single Adults	155	5	77	13	3	253
Adult/Children	86	0	39	5	3	133
Adults	37	0	15	3	1	56
Children	49	0	24	2	2	77
Children without Adults	2	0	1	1	1	5
Total	243	5	117	19	7	391

²⁴ Domestic Violence and Homelessness, National Coalition for the Homeless

Although, domestic violence is often considered a crime against women, a growing number of men disclose partner abuse. In the case of Butte County surveys, 58% of the victims were female, 40% were male, 1% was transgender and 1% didn't identify as female, male, or transgender.

The residents who identified themselves as a victim of domestic violence, reported that for almost two-thirds of them, this was not the first time they were experiencing homelessness.

Table 28: Gender Identify of Victims

GENDER	#	%
Female	174	58%
Male	121	40%
Transgender	3	1%
Doesn't identify as female, male or transgender	2	1%
Total	300	100%

The primary causes of homelessness reported on the surveys, included family crisis (47%), domestic violence/partner abuse (31%), and employment and financial reasons (28%). The survey did not distinguish whether the person was currently fleeing domestic violence or had previously been in an abusive

Table 29: Causes of Homelessness

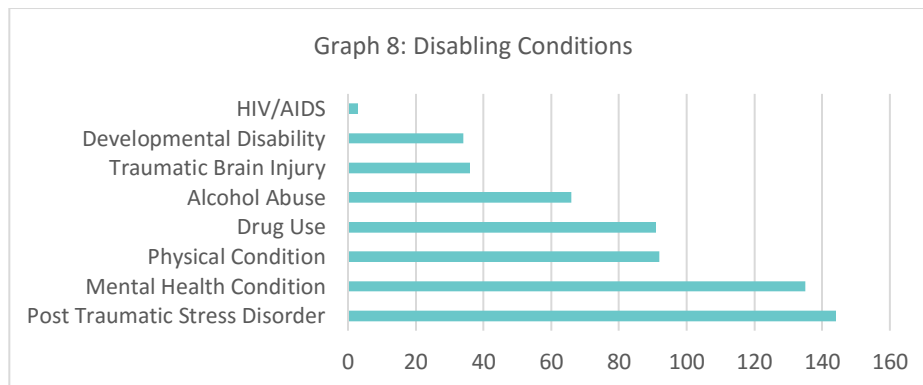
CAUSES	#	%
Family Crisis	142	47%
Domestic violence/partner abuse	94	31%
Employment/financial reasons	84	28%
Mental illness	74	25%
Evicted	39	13%
Medical/disability problems	36	12%
Incarceration	35	12%
Personal choice to be homeless	20	7%
Substandard housing	17	6%
Alcohol/substance abuse	17	6%
Parent/foster parent abuse	17	6%
Age out of foster/group home	13	4%
Natural or other disasters	7	2%
Post release controlled supervision	4	1%
Intolerance of sexual orientation or gender identity	2	1%
Recent immigration	1	0%

relationship. Nevertheless, a family crisis and lack of financial resources are consistent with homeless causation for victims of domestic violence.

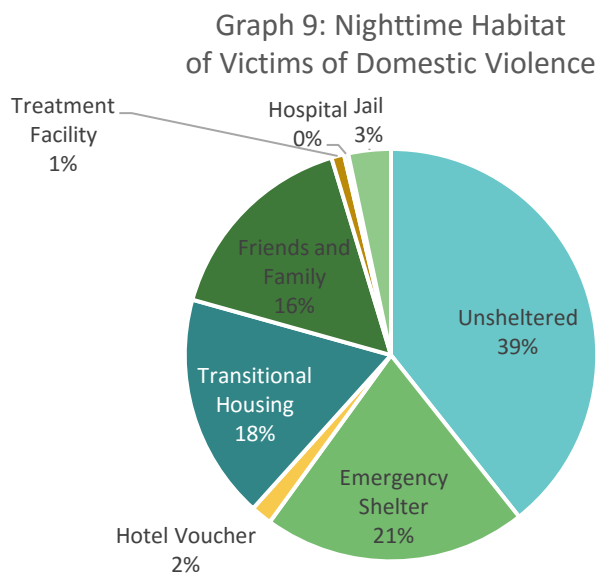
Likewise, the survey results specified disabling conditions that might be associated with victims of domestic violence, including a high occurrence of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (48%) and mental health issues (45%).

Table 30: Disabling Conditions

DISABLING CONDITION	#	%
Post Traumatic Stress Disorder	144	48%
Mental Health Condition	135	45%
Physical Condition	92	31%
Drug Use	91	30%
Alcohol Abuse	66	22%
Traumatic Brain Injury	36	12%
Developmental Disability	34	11%
HIV/AIDS	3	1%



Butte County has a sheltering and support service agency for victims of domestic violence and their children. Nonetheless, not everyone opts to stay in that shelter, and not everyone who identified themselves as victims of domestic violence are currently fleeing abusive relationships. Graph 9 illustrates the various locations for nighttime habitation on the night of the PIT. This illustrates the need for all shelter and service providers to have a knowledge of best practices associated with serving victims of domestic violence, as well as strong partnerships with the local specialized service provider.



Youth

Youth are not simply young adults; they have unique developmental needs, vulnerabilities, and strengths. This is also the case for youth without homes. Each year, thousands of minor youth across the nation run away from home or are asked to leave their homes, and become homeless. Once homeless, survival often results in harmful situations at a higher rate than adults, such as survival sex, human trafficking, violence, and substance abuse. Studies show that causes of homelessness, like family problems, economic circumstances, racial disparities, mental health and substance use disorders, history in foster care system, and sexual orientation must be considered when finding solutions to homelessness. Other studies reveal the following findings nationwide:

- More than 90,000 unaccompanied youth identified themselves as homeless when they enrolled in public school in 2013-2014.
- 19% of youth who were in foster care at 17 years old reported two years later that they had been homeless at some point during those two years.
- 20%-40% of youth experiencing homelessness identify as LBGQTQ.
- 25% of youth served through Family and Youth Services Bureau-funded programs were pregnant or parenting in 2014.²⁵

Butte County sees many of these same trends with their youth residents. For the purposes of this report, many of the findings are provided in two age categories:

<18 = Unaccompanied Youth (UY)

Youth younger than 18 years old and living without their parents

18-24 = Transition Age Youth (TAY)

Youth 18 to 24 years old, not living with their parents, and who may or may not have their own children

The PIT survey was completed by 105 UY and 144 TAY. Table 31 details the number of youth by age group.

- Three-quarters of the 105 UY surveys were in Oroville.
- Two thirds of the TAY surveys were completed in Chico.
- There were 120 TAY without children and 25 in a household with children.
- There were 32 children of TAY.
- No UY with children complete a survey.

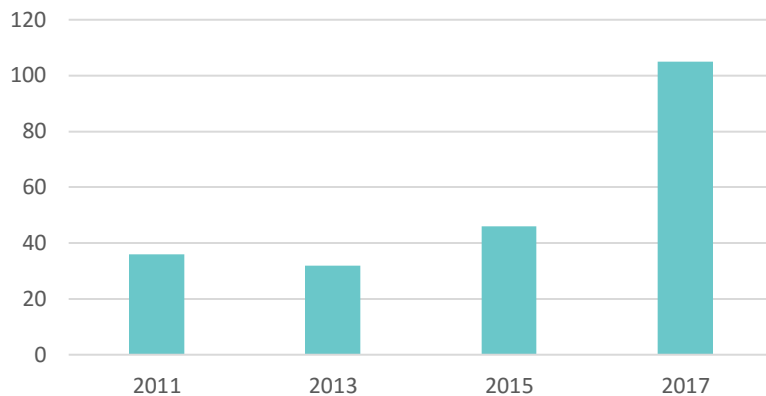
Table 31: Homeless Youth by Group and Community

YOUTH GROUPS	Chico	Gridley	Oroville	Paradise	Other	Total
Unaccompanied Youth (Younger than 18)	14	0	77	11	3	105
Transitional Age Youth (18-24)	73	0	37	7	3	120
Parenting Transitional Age Youth (18-24)	22	0	0	0	3	24
Children of Parenting Youth	31	0	0	0	1	32
TOTAL YOUTH	140	0	114	18	10	282

²⁵ Preventing and Ending Youth Homelessness: A Coordinated Community Response, US Interagency Council on Homelessness

The number of Unaccompanied Youth who completed PIT surveys has risen dramatically since 2011. Graph 10 shows the change from 36 youth in 2011 to 105 in 2017. That is a 128% increase since 2015, a 228% increase since 2013 and a 192% increase since 2011. (Historically, the number of TAY were not separated from other adults in PIT reports in order to monitor change in that age group across years.)

Graph 10: Unaccompanied Youth (<18)



The image of homelessness is often young people, temporarily moving through the Butte County communities. A series of survey questions about residency paint a different picture of our youth. As illustrated in Graph 11 and Table 32, only 18% of the youth have been in Butte County less than a year and

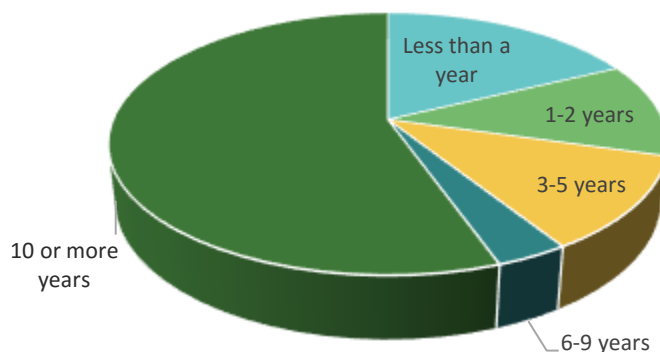
Table 32: Length of Residency in Butte County

LENGTH OF RESIDENCY	%	Cumulative %
Less than 1 month	5%	100%
More than a month but less than 1 year	13%	95%
1-2 years	12%	83%
3-5 years	12%	71%
6-9 years	4%	59%
10-19 years	24%	56%
20+ years	32%	32%

another 12% here one to two years. Further, 16% have lived in the county between three and nine years, and while not likely born in the county, have arguably decided to become residents. *More than half, 56% of youth, have been in the county for 10 or more years (32% for over 20 years).*

This is substantiated by 80% of the youth reporting that they were living in Butte County when they became homeless. And finally, 86% of the youth reported they consider Butte County their home.

Graph 11: Length of Time Youth Have Lived In Butte County



There are about 57 females in both age groups, with 10 fewer males in the UY group and 25 more males in the older TAY group. From another perspective, there are 35 fewer males in the younger group than the older group. It is undetermined whether this is actually a trend or based on the difficulty in locating youth this age. The sexual orientation reported in 2017 continues to be primarily straight across age groups.

Table 33: Gender Identity by Youth Age Group

AGE GROUPS	<18		18-24		<25	
GENDER	#	%	#	%	#	%
Female	58	55%	57	40%	115	46%
Male	47	45%	82	57%	129	52%
Transgender	0	0%	3	2%	3	1%
Not Female, Male, or Transgender	0	0%	1	1%	1	0%
TOTAL	105	100%	143	100%	248	100%

Table 34: Sexual Orientation by Youth Age Group

AGE GROUPS	<18		18-24		<25	
ORIENTATION	#	%	#	%	#	%
Straight	19	76%	87	89%	106	86%
Lesbian	1	4%	2	2%	3	2%
Bisexual	4	16%	6	6%	10	8%
Questioning	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Identifies as something not on the list	1	4%	3	3%	4	3%
TOTAL	25	100%	98	100%	123	100%

Analyzing chronic homelessness is not typical for youth. It might not be expected that their young age would lend itself to an extended time without a home or many of the disabling conditions that are not as prevalent in youth. Unfortunately, 10% of the UY – younger than 18 years old – already meet the qualifications for the definition of chronic homelessness. Another 46 TAY, or 32%, are also chronically homeless.

Table 35: Chronically Homeless Youth

CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS	<18	18-24	Total
# Chronically Homeless	11	46	57
Percent Chronically Homeless	10%	32%	23%

These and other homeless youth may also have challenges associated with a disabling condition or conditions. For those that do, 43 youth disclosed a mental health condition, and another 30 have Post Traumatic Stress Disorder. It is undetermined whether these conditions were present prior to their homelessness or developed as a results of their homelessness. Another 28 youth have a physical condition and 10 have a Traumatic Brain Injury. There were 31 youth with a drug use and 18 with alcohol use condition. There are six youth with a developmental disability that they may receive special education services for in school. One individual is HIV+ or has AIDS.

Further, five UT and 18 TAY reported already being a victim of domestic violence.

Table 37: Causes of Homelessness

CAUSES	#
Employment/financial reasons	38
Family Crisis	37
Mental illness	24
Evicted	19
Incarceration	13
Age out of foster/group home	10
Personal choice to be homeless	8
Parent/foster parent abuse	8
Medical/disability problems	8
Domestic violence/partner abuse	8
Alcohol/substance abuse	8
Substandard housing	6
Natural or other disasters	3

Table 38: Biggest Challenges Facing Youth In Ending Homelessness

BIGGEST CHALLENGE	#	%
Finding affordable housing	69	28%
No money for rent or deposit	57	23%
Finding a job	47	19%
Poor/no credit	52	21%
Managing my mental health	19	8%
Finding services to help me	21	8%
Transportation to services	17	7%
Criminal history	17	7%
Substance use	16	6%
Rental history	18	7%
Lack of an ID card	17	7%
Other	14	6%
Pets	10	4%
Nothing, I prefer to be homeless	1	0%

The top reasons Butte County youth identify as causes for their homeless is employment/financial reasons and family crisis, similar to the older population. Mental illness and eviction were also reported as major causes. Other causes of homelessness stated by one or two youth, and not listed on Table 37 included involvement with the legal system such as juvenile hall, post release controlled supervision or having children detained by Children's Services; being a victim of crime or having a family member who was a victim of domestic violence; financial and housing problems such a foreclosure, being evicted, losing Section 8 vouchers, or being kicked out of their house by their parents.

Similar to the older homeless population, the primary barriers to ending homelessness is finding affordable housing, having enough money for rent or a deposit, finding a job, or managing their poor credit. Other issues such as needing an ID card or a place that accepts pets continues to be a burden. Again, a preference for homeless is the least selected option.

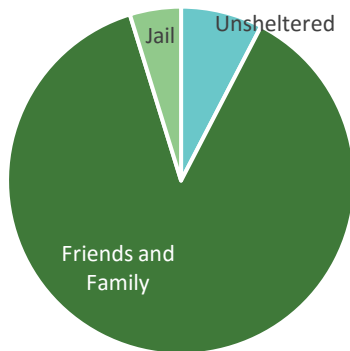
It is notable when youth, not under the supervision of parents, opt to attend school and prioritize their education, particularly when managing the complications of surviving without adequate housing and finances. Three youth had less than an 8th grade education and 28 less than a 12th grade education. Forty-four youth had graduated High School or earned their GED. Despite the obstacles that youth must encounter in a homeless situation, a quarter of the TAY youth had completed some college, and an additional 6% already have a college degree. (See Education Section for more information about homeless college students.)

Table 39: Educational Level of TAY

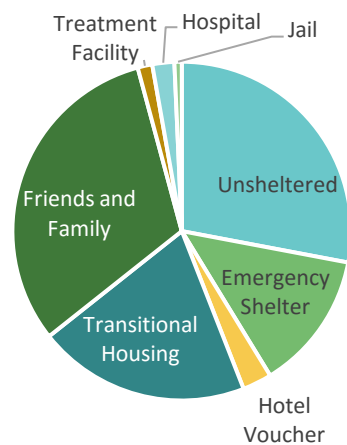
EDUCATION	#	%
less than 8th grade	3	3%
Less than 12th grade	28	26%
High school graduate/GED	44	41%
Some college/AA	27	25%
College Degree	6	6%

Where youth stay differs by the age group. The younger Unaccompanied Youth have less sheltering options due to their age. Consequently, 88% were temporarily staying with friends or family, 8% were unsheltered, and 5% were in juvenile hall. For the older TAY there are more options. The most frequently reported nighttime habitation was, again, staying with friends or family, but with only 31% using this option, almost as often as being unsheltered (28%). Another 36% had sought housing support by living in a transitional housing project (20%), staying at an emergency shelter (13%), or accessing a short-term hotel vouchers (3%).

Graph 12: Nighttime Habitation for Unaccompanied Youth



Graph 13: Nighttime Habitation for Transition Age Youth



Moving Forward As A Community

Thanks to the commitment and generosity of the Butte County community – both unhoused and housed – in contributing to the PIT, we have a rich opportunity to learn how to move forward within a complex crisis. The number of people experiencing homelessness has increased, both those who have been homeless long-term (considered chronically homelessness) and those who are homeless for the first time. Further, we see this trend for all subpopulations: veterans, college students, youth, victims of domestic violence, single adults, and families. We also see a considerable increase in three of the four communities: Chico, Oroville, and Paradise. There has been a sizable increase in those who are unsheltered, in emergency shelters, and doubled up with friends and family. And while there are valiant stories of individuals ending their homelessness in our community, we are neither ending nor preventing homelessness at a pace that is changing the face of who we see suffering in the streets.

The local findings are consistent with national research, that fundamental to ending homelessness is increasing the housing stock and offering individualized support in areas of key need. Health problems and other disabling conditions are pervasive in the county's homeless populations, and without at least a minimal level of housing stability and safety, it is likely that these conditions will worsen. Considerable private and public funds are being spent locally, which do not address the fundamental causes of homelessness. As seen nationally, the homeless crisis will continue to exhaust local funds and overtax current care systems. In short, the problem is not going away with the existing solutions in place.

The primary solution, as identified in national studies and repeatedly throughout the analysis of the local PIT data, is an increase in affordable housing inventory. People are losing their housing and are unable to secure housing because there simply is not enough available housing, particularly for people with low income.

The PIT shows again that the vast majority of those who are without homes in Butte County, lost their homes while living here. In fact, they are most often originally from the county. And while there are some individuals that are temporarily in the county, it should not distract from ensuring that the community has the safety and support necessary to end homelessness for their residents.

The PIT findings also show evidence that while the majority of those experiencing homelessness are single adults, the larger family system is a primary contributing influencer of homelessness. There is a need for multiple, specialized, immediate, long-term services - health, mental health, employment, tenant legal support, sheltering, public safety, and crisis support, in conjunction with housing - to be offered *as a system* across all households in the community. As funding sources seek to prioritize their investments and service providers hone their practices and partnerships based on the new PIT findings, we must move forward in a system of care and on a foundation of housing to ensure individuals, youth, and families receive the support they need to become healthy and self-sufficient.

Appendix

HUD Interim Rule Homeless Definition

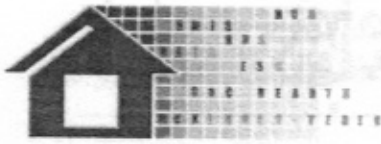
2017 HUD Housing Inventory Count

2017 HUD Point In Time Count

2017 HIC and PIT Methodology Report and PIT Survey

2017 PIT Debrief Report

Butte Countywide Homeless Continuum of Care Membership Roster



Homeless Definition

CRITERIA FOR DEFINING HOMELESS	Category 1	Literally Homeless	<p>(1) Individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Has a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not meant for human habitation; (ii) Is living in a publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state and local government programs); <u>or</u> (iii) Is exiting an institution where (s)he has resided for 90 days or less <u>and</u> who resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution
	Category 2	Imminent Risk of Homelessness	<p>(2) Individual or family who will imminently lose their primary nighttime residence, provided that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Residence will be lost within 14 days of the date of application for homeless assistance; (ii) No subsequent residence has been identified; <u>and</u> (iii) The individual or family lacks the resources or support networks needed to obtain other permanent housing
	Category 3	Homeless under other Federal statutes	<p>(3) Unaccompanied youth under 25 years of age, or families with children and youth, who do not otherwise qualify as homeless under this definition, but who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Are defined as homeless under the other listed federal statutes; (ii) Have not had a lease, ownership interest, or occupancy agreement in permanent housing during the 60 days prior to the homeless assistance application; (iii) Have experienced persistent instability as measured by two moves or more during in the preceding 60 days; <u>and</u> (iv) Can be expected to continue in such status for an extended period of time due to special needs or barriers
	Category 4	Fleeing/ Attempting to Flee DV	<p>(4) Any individual or family who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence; (ii) Has no other residence; <u>and</u> (iii) Lacks the resources or support networks to obtain other permanent housing



At Risk of Homelessness

CRITERIA FOR DEFINING AT RISK OF HOMELESSNESS	Category 1	Individuals and Families	<p>An individual or family who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Has an annual income below <u>30%</u> of median family income for the area; <u>AND</u> (ii) Does not have sufficient resources or support networks immediately available to prevent them from moving to an emergency shelter or another place defined in Category 1 of the "homeless" definition; <u>AND</u> (iii) Meets one of the following conditions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (A) Has moved because of economic reasons 2 or more times during the 60 days immediately preceding the application for assistance; <u>OR</u> (B) Is living in the home of another because of economic hardship; <u>OR</u> (C) Has been notified that their right to occupy their current housing or living situation will be terminated within 21 days after the date of application for assistance; <u>OR</u> (D) Lives in a hotel or motel and the cost is not paid for by charitable organizations or by Federal, State, or local government programs for low-income individuals; <u>OR</u> (E) Lives in an SRO or efficiency apartment unit in which there reside more than 2 persons or lives in a larger housing unit in which there reside more than one and a half persons per room; <u>OR</u> (F) Is exiting a publicly funded institution or system of care; <u>OR</u> (G) Otherwise lives in housing that has characteristics associated with instability and an increased risk of homelessness, as identified in the recipient's approved Con Plan
	Category 2	Unaccompanied Children and Youth	A child or youth who does not qualify as homeless under the homeless definition, but qualifies as homeless under another Federal statute
	Category 3	Families with Children and Youth	An unaccompanied youth who does not qualify as homeless under the homeless definition, but qualifies as homeless under section 725(2) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, and the parent(s) or guardian(s) or that child or youth if living with him or her.

Butte County HUD PIT Report*

Chart 1: Homeless Households & Demographics by Housing Type

Households & Individuals	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Unsheltered	Total
Total number of households	241	111	624	976
Total number of persons	285	165	745	1195
Number of children (under age 18)	31	48	39	118
Number of young adults (age 18 to 24)	15	20	40	75
Number of adults (over age 24)	239	97	666	1002
Gender				
Female	105	80	212	397
Male	178	82	530	790
Transgender	1	3	1	5
Don't identify as male, female, or transgender	1	0	2	3
Ethnicity				
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	244	132	685	1061
Hispanic/Latino	41	33	60	134
Race				
White	217	104	565	886
Black or African-American	15	4	14	33
Asian	2	1	6	9
American Indian or Alaska Native	16	11	48	75
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	2	0	15	17
Multiple Races	33	45	97	175
Chronically Homeless				
Total number of households	93		371	464
Total number of persons	111		420	531

**Data meets HUD's more narrow definition for homelessness used for the PIT count.*

Butte County HUD PIT Report*

Chart 2: Households with at Least One Adult and One Child

Households & Individuals	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Unsheltered	Total
Total number of households	22	26	18	66
Total number of persons	61	80	57	198
Number of children (under age 18)	31	48	31	110
Number of young adults (age 18 to 24)	3	6	1	10
Number of adults (over age 24)	27	26	25	78
Gender				
Female	26	49	20	95
Male	35	31	37	103
Transgender	0	0	0	0
Don't identify as male, female, or transgender	0	0	0	0
Ethnicity				
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	48	62	46	156
Hispanic/Latino	13	18	11	42
Race				
White	37	54	31	122
Black or African-American	5	1	0	6
Asian	1	0	4	5
American Indian or Alaska Native	6	2	4	12
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0	8	8
Multiple Races	12	23	10	45
Chronically Homeless				
Total number of households	7		5	12
Total number of persons	19		17	36

**Data meets HUD's more narrow definition for homelessness used for the PIT count.*

Butte County HUD PIT Report*

Chart 3: Households without Children

Households & Individuals	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Unsheltered	Total
Total number of households	219	85	601	905
Total number of persons	224	85	680	989
Number of young adults (age 18 to 24)	12	14	39	65
Number of adults (over age 24)	212	71	641	924
Gender				
Female	79	31	189	299
Male	143	51	488	682
Transgender	1	3	1	5
Don't identify as male, female, or transgender	1	0	2	3
Ethnicity				
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	196	70	632	898
Hispanic/Latino	28	15	48	91
Race				
White	180	50	527	757
Black or African-American	10	3	14	27
Asian	1	1	2	4
American Indian or Alaska Native	10	9	44	63
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	2	0	7	9
Multiple Races	21	22	86	129
Chronically Homeless				
Total number of households	86		365	451
Total number of persons	92		402	494

**Data meets HUD's more narrow definition for homelessness used for the PIT count.*

Butte County HUD PIT Report*

Chart 4: Households with Only Children (under age 18)

Households & Individuals	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Unsheltered	Total
Total number of households	0	0	5	5
Total number of persons	0	0	8	8
Number of children (under age 18)	0	0	8	8
Gender				
Female	0	0	3	3
Male	0	0	5	5
Transgender	0	0	0	0
Don't identify as male, female, or transgender	0	0	0	0
Ethnicity				
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	0	0	7	7
Hispanic/Latino	0	0	1	1
Race				
White	0	0	7	7
Black or African-American	0	0	0	0
Asian	0	0	0	0
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	0	0	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0
Multiple Races	0	0	1	1
Chronically Homeless				
Total number of households	0		1	1
Total number of persons	0		1	1

**Data meets HUD's more narrow definition for homelessness used for the PIT count.*

Butte County HUD PIT Report*

Chart 5: Veteran Households with at Least One Adult and One Child

Households & Individuals	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Unsheltered	Total
Total number of households	2	0	1	3
Total number of persons	5	0	3	8
Total number of veterans	2	0	1	3
Gender				
Female	1	0	0	1
Male	1	0	1	2
Transgender	0	0	0	0
Don't identify as male, female, or transgender	0	0	0	0
Ethnicity				
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	2	0	1	3
Hispanic/Latino	0	0	0	0
Race				
White	2	0	1	3
Black or African-American	0	0	0	0
Asian	0	0	0	0
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	0	0	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0
Multiple Races	0	0	0	0
Chronically Homeless				
Total number of households	1		0	1
Total number of persons	3		0	3

**Data meets HUD's more narrow definition for homelessness used for the PIT count.*

Butte County HUD PIT Report*

Chart 6: Veteran Households without Children

Households & Individuals	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Unsheltered	Total
Total number of households	20	8	79	107
Total number of persons	21	8	80	109
Total number of veterans	20	8	79	107
Gender				
Female	0	0	12	12
Male	19	8	67	94
Transgender	0	0	0	0
Don't identify as male, female, or transgender	1	0	0	1
Ethnicity				
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	17	8	69	94
Hispanic/Latino	3	0	10	13
Race				
White	18	4	56	78
Black or African-American	0	0	2	2
Asian	0	0	0	0
American Indian or Alaska Native	1	2	6	9
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0
Multiple Races	1	2	15	18
Chronically Homeless				
Total number of households	11		57	68
Total number of persons	13		61	74

**Data meets HUD's more narrow definition for homelessness used for the PIT count.*

Butte County HUD PIT Report*

Chart 7: Unaccompanied Youth Households

Households & Individuals	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Unsheltered	Total
Total number of unaccompanied households	12	14	39	65
Total number of unaccompanied persons	12	14	42	68
Number of children (under age 18)	0	0	9	9
Number of young adults (age 18 to 24)	12	14	34	60
Gender				
Female	5	3	14	22
Male	6	9	28	43
Transgender	0	2	0	2
Don't identify as male, female, or transgender	1	0	0	1
Ethnicity				
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	9	9	37	55
Hispanic/Latino	3	5	5	13
Race				
White	4	9	34	47
Black or African-American	1	1	0	2
Asian	0	0	0	0
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	0	1	1
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0
Multiple Races	7	4	7	18
Chronically Homeless				
Total number of households	5		11	16
Total number of persons	6		11	17

**Data meets HUD's more narrow definition for homelessness used for the PIT count.*

Butte County HUD PIT Report*

Chart 8: Parenting Youth Households

Households & Individuals	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Unsheltered	Total
Total number of households	1	5	1	7
Total number of persons in households	3	15	2	20
Number of parenting youth	2	5	1	8
Number of parenting youth (under age 18)	0	0	0	0
Number of parenting youth (age 18 to 24)	2	5	1	8
Number of children with parenting youth	1	10	1	12
Gender				
Female	1	5	1	7
Male	1	0	0	1
Transgender	0	0	0	0
Don't identify as male, female, or transgender	0	0	0	0
Ethnicity				
Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	2	4	1	7
Hispanic/Latino	0	1	0	1
Race				
White	2	4	1	7
Black or African-American	0	0	0	0
Asian	0	0	0	0
American Indian or Alaska Native	0	0	0	0
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0	0	0	0
Multiple Races	0	1	0	1
Chronically Homeless				
Total number of households	0		0	0
Total number of persons	0		0	0

**Data meets HUD's more narrow definition for homelessness used for the PIT count.*

Butte County HUD PIT Report*

Chart 9: Butte County Homeless Subpopulations (HUD PIT Count*)

Households & Individuals	Emergency Shelter	Transitional Housing	Unsheltered	Total
Adults with serious mental illness	106	66	268	440
Adults with substance abuse disorder	74	60	165	299
Adults with HIV/AIDS	4	3	4	11
Victims of Domestic Violence	47	30	117	194

**Data meets HUD's more narrow definition for homelessness used for the PIT count.*

Year	Proj. Type	Organization Name	Project Name	Geo Code	Inventory Type	Bed Type	Target Pop. A	Target Pop. B	McKinney-Vento
2017	ES	Catalyst Domestic Violence Services	Women's DV Shelter	60684	C	Facility-based beds	SMF+HC	DV	No
2017	ES	Chico Community Shelter Partnership	Torres Shelter	60684	C	Facility-based beds	SMF+HC	NA	Yes
2017	ES	Chico Housing Action Team	Safe Space	60684	C	Other beds	SMF	NA	No
2017	ES	Jesus Center	Sabbath House	60684	C	Facility-based beds	SFHC	NA	No
2017	ES	Oroville Rescue Mission	Men's Emergency Shelter	69007	N	Facility-based beds	SM		No
2017	ES	Oroville Rescue Mission	Women and Children's Shelter	69007	C	Facility-based beds	SFHC	NA	No
2017	ES	Youth For Change	RHY Housing	60684	C	Other beds	YMF	NA	No
2017	TH	Catalyst Domestic Violence Services	Catalyst Transitional Housing Cottage Program	60684	C		SMF+HC	DV	No
2017	TH	Chico Community Shelter Partnership	Friends House	60684	C		SMHC	NA	No
2017	TH	Community Action Agency of Butte County Inc.	Esplanade House TH	60684	C		HC	NA	No
2017	TH	Jesus Center	Birch House	60684	N		SMHC		No
2017	TH	Jesus Center	House of Hope	60684	C		SFHC	NA	No
2017	TH	Jesus Center	Myrtle House	60684	N		SFHC	NA	No
2017	TH	Jesus Center	Sage House	60684	N		SF	NA	No
2017	TH	Jordan Crossing Church	Jordan Crossing for Men	69007	C		SM	NA	No
2017	TH	Jordan Crossing Church	Second Step Cabins	69007	N		SMHC	NA	No
2017	TH	Jordan Crossing Church	Second Step Houses	69007	N		SMF+HC	NA	No
2017	TH	Northern California Treatment	Transitional Housing	69007	N		SMF	NA	No
2017	TH	Oroville Rescue Mission	Jonah House	69007	N		SM	NA	No
2017	TH	Oroville Rescue Mission	Women's Transitional Program	69007	C		SFHC	NA	No
2017	TH	Oroville Rescue Mission	Wonder House	69007	N		SFHC	NA	No
2017	TH	Stairways Programming	Stairways Transitional Housing	60684	C		SMF	NA	No
2017	TH	TriCounties Treatment	TriCounties Treatment Residential	69007	C		SM	NA	No
2017	TH	TriCounties Treatment	TriCounties Treatment Transitional SLE Housing	69007	N		SM		No

Year	Proj. Type	Organization Name	Project Name	Geo Code	Inventory Type	Bed Type	Target Pop. A	Target Pop. B	McKinney-Vento
2017	TH	Veterans Executive Corporation to Organize Rehabilitative Services (VECTORS)	Jerry L Knight Residential	60684 C			SM	NA	No
2017	TH	Youth For Change	Colleen's House - TAY Transitional Housing	60684 C			SME+HC	NA	No
2017	TH	Youth For Change	MHSA Master Lease	60684 C			SME+HC	NA	No
2017	TH	Youth For Change	Olive House - TAY Transitional Housing	60684 C			SME	NA	No
2017	RRH	Catalyst Domestic Violence Services	Rapid Rehousing Program	69007 N			SME+HC	DV	Yes
2017	RRH	Veterans Resource Centers of America	Supportive Services Veterans Families	69007 C			SME+HC	NA	No
2017	PSH	Butte County Department of Behavioral Health	LINK Permanent Housing Bonus	69007 C			SME	NA	Yes
2017	PSH	Butte County Department of Behavioral Health	SEARCH II - SHP	69007 C			SME	NA	Yes
2017	PSH	Butte County Department of Behavioral Health	SEARCH II Permanent Housing Bonus	69007 C			SME	NA	Yes
2017	PSH	Butte County Department of Behavioral Health	SEARCH III	69007 C			SME	NA	Yes
2017	PSH	Butte County Department of Behavioral Health	SEARCH Samaritan Bonus	69007 C			SME	NA	Yes
2017	PSH	Caminar	Avenida House	60684 C			SME	NA	Yes
2017	PSH	Community Action Agency of Butte County Inc.	Esplanade House PH - Phase 2	60684 C			HC	NA	No
2017	PSH	Housing Authority of Butte County	HUD-VASH	69007 C			SME+HC	NA	No
2017	PSH	Housing Authority of Butte County	Search South - SPC	69007 C			SME	NA	Yes
2017	OPH	Chico Housing Action Team	Our Place	60684 C			SME	NA	No

Project Name	Veteran Beds HH w/ Children	Youth Beds HH w/ Children	CH Beds HH w/ Children	Veteran Beds HH w/o Children	Youth Beds HH w/o Children	CH Beds HH w/o Children	CH Beds HH w/ only Children
Women's DV Shelter	0	0		0	0		
Torres Shelter	0	0		0	0		
Safe Space							
Sabbath House	0	0		0	0		
Men's Emergency Shelter	0	0		0	0		
Women and Children's Shelter	0	0		0	0		
RHY Housing	0	4		0	0		
Catalyst Transitional Housing Cottage Program	0	0		0	0		
Friends House	0	0					
Esplanade House TH	0	0		0	0		
Birch House	0	0					
House of Hope	0	0		0	0		
Myrtle House	0	0					
Sage House				0	0		
Jordan Crossing for Men				0	0		
Second Step Cabins	0	0					
Second Step Houses	0	0					
Transitional Housing				0	0		
Jonah House				0	0		
Women's Transitional Program	0	0					
Wonder House	0	0					
Stairways Transitional Housing				0	0		
TriCounties Treatment Residential				0	0		
TriCounties Treatment Transitional SLE Housing				0	0		

Project Name	Veteran Beds HH w/ Children	Youth Beds HH w/ Children	CH Beds HH w/ Children	Veteran Beds HH w/o Children	Youth Beds HH w/o Children	CH Beds HH w/o Children	CH Beds HH w/ only Children
Jerry L Knight Residential	0	0		15	0		
Colleen's House - TAY Transitional Housing	0	3					
MHSA Master Lease	0	7					
Olive House - TAY Transitional Housing				0	2		
Rapid Rehousing Program	0	0					
Supportive Services Veterans Families	0	0		5	0		
LINK Permanent Housing Bonus	0	0		0	0	3	0
SEARCH II - SHP	0	0		0	0	0	
SEARCH II Permanent Housing Bonus	0	0		0	0	3	0
SEARCH III	0	0		0	0	0	
SEARCH Samaritan Bonus	0	0		0	0	4	
Avenida House	0	0		0	0	14	
Esplanade House PH - Phase 2	0	0	0				
HUD-VASH	48	0	0	83	0	0	0
Search South - SPC	0	0		0	0	5	
Our Place				0	0		
	Sum : 48	Sum : 14	Sum : 0	Sum : 103	Sum : 2	Sum : 29	Sum : 0

Project Name	Year-Round Beds	Total Seasonal Beds	Overflow Beds	HMIS Overflow Beds	PIT Count	Total Beds	Utilization Rate
Women's DV Shelter	26	0	0	0	13	26	50%
Torres Shelter	132	0	23	23	155	155	100%
Safe Space		39			39	39	100%
Sabbath House	23	0		0	20	23	87%
Men's Emergency Shelter	32	0	15	15	46	47	98%
Women and Children's Shelter	14	0	3	3	12	17	71%
RHY Housing	4	0	0	0	0	4	0%
Catalyst Transitional Housing Cottage Program	9				9	9	100%
Friends House	8				3	8	38%
Esplanade House TH	96				56	96	58%
Birch House	10				10	10	100%
House of Hope	8				8	8	100%
Myrtle House	12				7	12	58%
Sage House	3				3	3	100%
Jordan Crossing for Men	35				18	35	51%
Second Step Cabins	13				6	13	46%
Second Step Houses	41				39	41	95%
Transitional Housing	60				46	60	77%
Jonah House	6				6	6	100%
Women's Transitional Program	6				6	6	100%
Wonder House	5				5	5	100%
Stairways Transitional Housing	42				35	42	83%
TriCounties Treatment Residential	39				30	39	77%
TriCounties Treatment Transitional SLE Housing	19				16	19	84%

Project Name	Year- Round Beds	Total Seasonal Beds	Overflow Beds	HMIS Overflow Beds	PIT Count	Total Beds	Utilization Rate
Jerry L Knight Residential	15				7	15	47%
Colleen's House - TAY Transitional Housing	3				3	3	100%
MHSA Master Lease	7				6	7	86%
Olive House - TAY Transitional Housing	2				1	2	50%
Rapid Rehousing Program	12				12	12	100%
Supportive Services Veterans Families	5				5	5	100%
LINK Permanent Housing Bonus	3				1	3	33%
SEARCH II - SHP	5				5	5	100%
SEARCH II Permanent Housing Bonus	3				3	3	100%
SEARCH III	3				3	3	100%
SEARCH Samaritan Bonus	4				3	4	75%
Avenida House	14				14	14	100%
Esplanade House PH - Phase 2	120				89	120	74%
HUD-VASH	171				117	171	68%
Search South - SPC	5				5	5	100%
Our Place	18				18	18	100%
	Sum : 1033	Sum : 39	Sum : 41	Sum : 41	Sum : 880		

BUTTE COUNTY HOMELESS CONTINUUM OF CARE STAFF REPORT

Date: December 19, 2016
To: Butte Countywide Homeless Continuum of Care Council
From: Sherisse Allen, Housing Tools
Re: 2017 HIC and PIT Methodology

Background

HUD requires that all Continua of Care (CoC) conduct an annual Housing Inventory Count (HIC) and sheltered Point In Time (PIT) study, and report those findings into a national database. Every two years, CoCs are required to expand the PIT to also include those who are living unsheltered. There are myriad of purposes for the HIC and PIT, and consequently great value placed on the study. A quality methodology and survey are key to ensuring credibility and accuracy.

- The purpose of the HIC is to track the supply and demand of beds available in the county for Emergency Shelters, Transitional Housing, and Permanent Housing (including Permanent Supportive Housing and Rapid Rehousing Programs).
- HUD's purpose of the PIT is to count the number of people who are experiencing homelessness in order to inform national priorities and funding decisions. It also influences the CoC Program funding awards.
- Locally, the PIT is an important source for local program and system planning: to be responsive and adjust services according to human need; to prioritize funding to efficiently use limited resources; to justify program design and funding applications for projects throughout the county; and to raise public awareness and garner support through the findings.
- Additionally, the CoC provides PIT data to Consolidated Plan jurisdictions that receive Emergency Solutions Grants, Community Development Block Grants, HOME Investment Partnership and/or Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS. The data is used to inform the strategic planning of these jurisdictions to meet their reporting obligations.

While the HIC and PIT data findings are considered valuable for many reasons, HUD recognizes the complexity and impossibility of an accurate PIT count. The study nets a count that is a minimum number of people in the county in a homeless situation. To ensure that CoCs avail themselves of all opportunities of an accurate count, HUD has designed 14 PIT count standards to guide methodology choices. In addition, HUD requires that specific data is captured, while allowing CoCs to determine what additional data might be collected based on the priorities of the county.

HUD's annual Consolidated Application recommends that CoCs state in their Governance Charter that the HIC and PIT methodology will be presented to and approved by the CoC prior to its execution. Additional points are awarded if that Charter requirement is met. The inclusion of Council action in the minutes will meet the requirement for approval of the methodology prior to execution. The inclusion of a statement in the Charter will be a separate but related action of the Council that is also included as part of this proposal. There is significant detail included in the description of the methodology proposed to be used to conduct the PIT count. However this detail is intended to be illustrative of a process that can be used. The detail contained in this methodology is not intended to restrict the Council in the future from considering other activities to accomplish its responsibilities to conduct PIT and HIC counts.

2017 HIC & PIT STUDY METHODOLOGY

January 25, 2017 marks the day in which the Butte Countywide Homeless Continuum of Care (CoC) will conduct their HIC, as well as the sheltered and unsheltered PIT count.

The Methodology described herein is in compliance with HUD's 14 Standards in the *2014 Point-in-Time Count Methodology Guide* and notice CPD-16-060, *Notice for Housing Inventory Count (HIC) and Point-In-Time (PIT) Data Collection for Continuum of Care (CoC) Program and the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) Program*, and 24 CFR 578.3 *Interim Rule*, HUD Exchange HIC and PIT resource pages, and HUD webinars. If anything in this description and methodology is inconsistent with HUD standards and requirements currently or in successive issuances then those standards and requirements will take precedence. The CoC Council reserves the right to modify its methodology when it is determined appropriate to do so.

HIC Methodology

The Housing Inventory Count (HIC) reports project information for all Emergency Shelters, Transitional Housing Projects and Permanent Housing Projects (including Permanent Supportive Housing and Rapid Rehousing). A list of all such projects will be assembled by the CoC Designee and a form corresponding with project type will be completed by the sheltering project. The CoC Designee will offer administrative support to complete the form along with the instructions embedded in the form itself. This information will be entered into the HUD database by the CoC Designee. A spreadsheet report that is generated by project type from that database which will be provided to the CoC Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) staff to cross reference with local HMIS data.

Key to the accurate completion of the HIC is that the reported number of people who stayed at the project on the night of the PIT corresponds with the number of surveys completed by the guests. Discrepancies will be resolved with each sheltering project. If a PIT survey was not completed for each guest the night of the PIT, the number of occupied beds will be decreased in the HIC report to match the number of PIT surveys.

There are a few changes in the HIC requirements from previous years. Most notably, beds dedicated for youth, and specifically youth head of household (or parenting youth) will be reported separately. This is consistent with PIT reporting of this subpopulation. A locally-orchestrated 2017 enhancement for Sober Living Environments that qualify as Transitional Housing Projects will be included.

PIT Methodology

The Point in Time (PIT) survey involves an annual sheltered and biennial unsheltered count. The specific methodology strategies described below have been selected based on HUD requirements, input from the Butte County PIT Committee, Butte County resources and limitations, and lessons learned from the county's previous PIT studies.

The **shelter count** methodology will be to conduct a complete coverage of shelters the night of January 24th to achieve the highest level of accuracy. Shelter staff in all projects will complete the surveys with their guests. New sheltering projects, in particular Sober Living Environments, will be added to the sheltered count. Community volunteers will support the administration of surveys for sheltering projects that are unwilling or unable to invest staff time to attend a training and administer the survey. A shortened shelter-only training on administering the survey is scheduled to honor the limited time shelter staff have, particularly during the winter months. The CoC Designee will directly oversee the sheltered count.

The **unsheltered count** methodology will be coordinated through a PIT Committee. The methodology was selected based on the HUD requirements, what has been previously successful, and areas identified in the 2015 PIT Debrief meeting as needing improvement. A census count approach will also be selected for the unsheltered count. Although it is ambitious to attempt to account for and report on all unsheltered homeless people residing in the county, it allows for more accuracy than sampling and extrapolation, particularly when identifying subpopulation trends.

Representatives from the four main localities oversee the count in the communities: Chico, Oroville, Paradise/Magalia, and Gridley/Biggs. Each locality representative designs the unsheltered methodology for their community, which also adheres to the broad strategies agreed upon by the PIT Committee. Local strategy implementation includes: the selection of **Hub** locations and incentives at those locations; selection and coordination of service-based sites; coordination of street sites; volunteer training, screening and assignments; and local outreach. At least one Hub in each locality will serve as the command center for volunteers to check in and out, pick up materials, and receive information and support. Volunteers will also be present at the Hub to assist with survey completion, and service of warm food. An additional six or more Hubs will be in place this year to better cover the county and accommodate individuals living further from the city/town centers. Key to the success of the Hubs is the ability for the outreach marketing plan to bring people to the locations.

In addition to Hubs, the **service-based count** approach will be used at non-sheltered locations. Many of these locations will be at service organizations designed specifically for people experiencing homelessness (e.g. Iverson Center, Hope Center, Jesus Center). There are also numerous other locations frequented by homeless individuals during the day for warmth and shelter that were not originally designed to serve those in need (e.g. library, recycling centers, hospital, jails) that will also be attended to by volunteers. The HUD-defined homeless count will be submitted into the HDX system. Additional counts not meeting the HUD-definition will be restricted from the HDX report and included only in a community report. (See *Homeless and Housing Assistance Definitions & Qualification for PIT* attached.)

Hub leaders will develop a list of service centers to be included in the count with the CoC Designee and together arrange for their participation. Either the service organization assigns their own staff to attend the training and assist with the surveys, or volunteers are assigned to the location.

The **street count** approach involves counting people who are staying in public or private places not designated for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings (cars, parks, abandoned buildings, bus stations, camp grounds, etc.). It is conducted the night before, and early morning of, the count. The method avails itself to highly trained professionals in the county (such as Butte County Department of Behavioral Health, Stairways Programming, and Torres Shelter staff) to lead small teams into more isolated areas in the community. Each team has a leader who guides the positive approach and safety of the interaction. Teams are assembled based on expertise, volatility of the location, and geographic spans. All professional volunteers check in and out at the locality Hub.

The goal will be comprehensive coverage to obtain the most complete and accurate count, starting with known locations. A list is developed based on informed and reasonable reconnaissance with community partners, and will be updated a few days prior to the PIT. Law enforcement will be involved on the day of the PIT as appropriate. Locations will be eliminated if volunteer safety may be compromised or the terrain would suggest that there would be no human occupation. An alternative Observation Form will be completed in these situations when possible (see attached).

Butte 2-1-1 will be used to conduct over the **phone surveys**. This strategy may be appealing for individuals who do not have transportation to a Hub, do not want to go to the Hub, or are hesitant to complete the survey in a public setting. Individuals that complete a survey can still receive a food card if they leave their first name with the 2-1-1 case manager. The names will be emailed to walk-in centers in three localities where food cards can be picked up before the end of the week.

The PIT Committee also consists of individuals overseeing **subpopulations** (youth, schools, veterans), service areas (street outreach, sober living environments, health, behavioral health), Hub locations, and data/research partners (HMIS team, CSUC). These individuals lend expertise in specific areas and assist in streamlining countywide elements such as outreach, recruitment, county department partnerships, data collection, survey design, call in survey

completion, etc. Whenever possible a representative from the PIT Committee coordinates a subpopulation component in coordination with the CoC Designee. This reserves fiscal resources, while encouraging new relationships to be built between service providers or strengthens existing relationships.

At the time of this report, the **youth** strategies continue to be developed. Confirmed strategies in Chico include special outreach for youth, a taco truck for a magnet event, and youth participation in planning; all associated with 6th Street Drop In Center. The PIT Committee is continuing to target strategies to reach youth throughout the county based on learning from the 2015 Youth *You Count* grant. There will be special consideration to locate Butte College and Chico State students who are without stable housing.

Adult and youth consultants called “**Navigators**” will receive a stipend for offering their expertise in the planning and implementation of the study. The stipend will be based on participation in planning meetings, identifying encampments and other unsheltered locations, distribution of outreach material, piloting the survey, and assisting in the completion of the surveys on the day of the PIT.

Marketing plans have been developed and will be executed for volunteer recruitment and participant outreach. The volunteer recruitment plan involves large and small flyers which have been designed and distributed throughout the county through the CoC membership and service providers’ listservs. Social media has been used on CoC and Project Homeless Connect Facebook pages. A press release was sent to the local media.

The participant outreach plan is targeted to individuals who are unstably housed. Flyers with all county Hub locations, as well as a flyer for each locality, have been designed. A business-size card with the Hub locations has also been designed for ease of participants to keep the information in their belongings. A separate, more youth-appealing flyer and card has been designed to reach youth. The outreach will be distributed through listservs and community meetings. The Hub leaders will also assemble teams to distribute the materials at non-service sites throughout the county.

Volunteers who have been recruited through the marketing plan will commit to two hours of training and at least one two-hours shift. Volunteers may be local professionals with experience working with those who are homeless, as well as lay community volunteers. The training agenda will include survey logistic, how to complete the survey, safety, and shift assignments. All volunteers will be trained to complete the survey by the CoC designee to bring consistency of administration across the study. Shift sign-ups will designate the level of expertise for each assignment.

Incentives are a crucial part of the unsheltered PIT because they motivate individuals to participate and thank them for volunteering their time and offering their personal information. Every Hub will offer food. In addition a \$5 food card will be given out for every completed survey. Packaged food will be offered at most sites. Hub sites may also organize distribution of other essential items such as socks.

Seven unique improvements to the HIC and PIT methodology this year include the following:

1. *Stronger support and representation of Behavior Health Specialists and Outreach Workers*

Butte County Department of Behavioral Health has dedicated staff time in each locality at significant numbers; Stairways Programming and other outreach workers are also participating.

2. *Consistent Administration of the Survey*

Instructions for how to administer the survey will be put in writing; training will be offered the week prior to the PIT to help volunteers remember how to administer it; one individual will provide the survey instruction at all trainings throughout the county; shorter trainings will be provided on-site for professionals when appropriate.

3. Develop strong partnerships with health and medical community

Representatives from all local hospitals have been working with the CoC designee to understand the value of the PIT in understanding the impact of homelessness in their hospital or health center; Public Health staff has been established as the liaison with hospitals in setting up health protocols and administering surveys.

4. Reach individuals who do not reside in public places

As in previous year, expert-led teams will search for individuals and families in encampments and other in-field locations. The number of Hubs and service-based locations to cover the spans of localities and county have increased. This year, a full 50 locations in Chico alone have been identified. The police departments have been asked to refrain from encampment sweeps the week prior to the PIT in order for people to settle in and be observed at encampment locations.

5. Increased access to the survey for participants

Butte 2-1-1 has extended participation from referral to direct service and full outreach. 2-1-1 will conduct interviews over the phone to complete the surveys. At the 2016 Project Homeless Connect, participants were assisted in acquiring identification cards that allowed them to have a free cell phone. They immediately registered their cell phone with Butte 2-1-1 to receive announcements pertinent to their needs. (This also built familiarity with the 2-1-1 services.) Those who are registered will receive notification of the PIT locations. Also over the next month, the CoC Designee will work with service providers to register more participants.

6. Intending reach with technology and volunteer base

Social Media has been used to connect to the community invested in finding support and solutions for homelessness, in order to recruit volunteers and receive resources.

7. Respecting and utilizing community resources

Countywide Navigators who have experienced homelessness will be hired to participate in the planning, outreach, survey development, and survey administration.

The PIT Survey

HUD data requirements expect a relatively sophisticated survey to capture the information that will allow an accurate analysis. Page one of the survey completes the HUD requirements. Page two are questions proposed by the PIT Committee. The CoC Designee worked directly with specialists in the community to hone the type and phrasing of questions. (Attached for approval.)

HUD's required survey changes include gender identify fields, reporting chronic homelessness by household type, and considering all individuals in a household which meet the definition of chronically homeless if one individual meets the definition. These changes are accommodated through the survey fields, data analysis, and reporting.

An **Observation Form** was developed to be used only when the person or household is unwilling or unable to complete a survey, or if it is unsafe to approach an individual or group. Unlike previously used observation or tally forms, this particular tool specifies the demographic information required by HUD, allowing the individual to be counted in the study. The only fields missing are those associated with chronic homelessness, so the individual will default to not chronically homeless. (Attached for approval.)

Data Analysis and Reporting

The HIC forms will be entered into the HUD database by the CoC Designee, and a copy of the output spreadsheet provided to the HMIS team. The spreadsheets will also be included in the appendix of a final PIT report. The vast majority of shelters store quality data in the CoC's HMIS system, and the HMIS team will run data quality checks during the week of the PIT. Data that corresponds with HUD's required fields for the PIT will be exported into an Excel spreadsheet.

Survey **data entry** will be completed by Housing Authority of the County of Butte (HACB) staff and the CoC Designee. The CoC Designee will then migrate guests' records for the household and demographic fields into a spreadsheet, including the guests' initials and birthdate. The CoC Designee will use these fields to identify the individual within the PIT survey so that the rest of the data can be added to the spreadsheet for analysis. Once the survey is approved by the CoC Council, the HMIS team and the CoC Designee will review the current plan to determine if exporting the HMIS data will offer any efficiencies or accuracy over data entry of all fields.

Data analysis and reporting will be performed by the CoC Designee. The data will be de-duplicated using initials, birthdate, and household make up – and name when available. It will be enumerated and analyzed to complete the HUD required fields and reporting elements. The data will then be entered into the HUD database, and analyzed for production of a survey report that will be made available to the general public.

Analysis of the community oriented survey questions will be discussed with the PIT Committee to ensure the community reporting and planning needs are met. The data findings will be documented into a community-based report. The report will be released to the CoC, the county and locality public administration, elected officials, and the Consolidated Plan Jurisdictions in May 2017.

Governance Charter Amendment

The Governance Charter of the CoC Council must be amended to include the statement that its role is to review and approve the methodology of the Point-In-Time and Housing Inventory Count efforts prior to their execution. This will require planning to develop and introduce the material for adequate Council review and action. It is proposed that Section II, subsection 6 of the Governance Charter, entitled "Responsibilities" be amended to add one line and read as follows:

"Additional responsibilities set forth by the Continuum of Care include:

- Receive community and public policy updates relevant to homelessness issues.
- Receive updates on the 10-Year Strategy to End Homelessness
- Review and approve the methodology to conduct the Point in Time and Housing Inventory Count prior to execution."

Future Consideration

- Take advantage of the biennial unsheltered count to update the Coordinated Entry database.
- Assemble an on-call multi-discipline team in each locality for the day of the PIT to respond to immediate needs.
- Set up a DMV/Birth Certificate booth at the Hubs.
- Design a simple survey in 2019 as a trial in completing it in the field electronically. This will decrease the resources used for printing surveys and entering data.

Recommendations

1. Approve the 2017 PIT Survey Form and Observational Form as presented.
2. Approve the 2017 methodology as presented.
3. Approve the Governance Charter amendment as described above.

2017 HOMELESS BARRIERS & SOLUTIONS SURVEYHave you already completed a survey today? ☐ Yes ☐ No (If yes, do not complete another survey)

Interviewer _____ Name _____ Location _____

All information is confidential*The information you share helps us better understand the circumstances of your homelessness, so that housing and services can be offered that best meet your needs. All answers are received without judgment and are kept confidential.*

1. What best describes you in your current household situation? (choose one)

- ☐ I'm an adult (18 or over) without children ☐ I'm an adult (18 or over) with at least one child
- ☐ I'm a young person (younger than 18) without a parent ☐ I'm a young person (younger than 18) with a child

1.a. How many adults and children are in your household? Adults _____ Children _____

List all members (adults and children) of your household in the boxes below. If there are more than four people in your household, add another sheet and attach them together. Adults that are not "self" should complete their own survey too.

Person 1	Person 2	Person 3	Person 4
Relation: <u>self</u>	Relation: _____	Relation: _____	Relation: _____
Initials: _____ 2. Age: _____	Initials: _____ 2. Age: _____	Initials: _____ 2. Age: _____	Initials: _____ 2. Age: _____
Date of Birth: ____/____/____	Date of Birth: ____/____/____	Date of Birth: ____/____/____	Date of Birth: ____/____/____
3. Race: <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaskan Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple Race	3. Race: <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaskan Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple Race	3. Race: <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaskan Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple Race	3. Race: <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaskan Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple Race
3a. Ethnicity: <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	3a. Ethnicity: <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	3a. Ethnicity: <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	3a. Ethnicity: <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino
4. Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender <input type="checkbox"/> Don't identify as male, female or transgender	4. Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender <input type="checkbox"/> Don't identify as male, female or transgender	4. Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender <input type="checkbox"/> Don't identify as male, female or transgender	4. Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender <input type="checkbox"/> Don't identify as male, female or transgender

5. What area did you stay in last night?

- ☐ Chico ☐ Oroville ☐ Paradise ☐ Magalia ☐ Gridley ☐ Biggs ☐ Other location in Butte County _____
- ☐ Outside Butte County _____ ☐ DNA

6. Where did you stay last night?

- ☐ Unsheltered (camp, car, abandoned building, etc.) ☐ Emergency Shelter ☐ Hotel w/voucher ☐ Transitional Housing
- ☐ Temporarily with friends or family ☐ Hospital ☐ Treatment Facility ☐ Jail ☐ Other _____

6.a. If in a hospital, treatment facility or jail... please answer the following questions:

- 1) Have you been there less than 90 days? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ DNA
- 2) Were you homeless when you entered? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ DNA
- 3) Will you have stable, permanent housing to go to when you leave? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ DNA

The rest of the questions should be answered only for the person filling out the survey (not any other members in the household)7. Have you served in the United States military, or have you been in active duty for the National Guard or as a Reservist? ☐ Yes ☐ No

8. Which best represents how you think of yourself? (Check all that you identify as)

- ☐ Straight ☐ Lesbian or Gay ☐ Bisexual ☐ Questioning ☐ I identify as: _____ ☐ DNA

9. Is this the first time you've been homeless? ☐ Yes ☐ No (If yes, skip question 11)10. How long have you been homeless this time? ☐ less than 1 year ☐ 1-2 years ☐ 3-4 years ☐ 5+ years11. Have you been homeless more than four times in the past three years? ☐ Yes ☐ No11.a. If yes, what is the combined total time you have been homeless? ☐ less than 1 year ☐ 1-2 years ☐ 3-4 years ☐ 5+ years

12. Do you have any of the following conditions or challenging circumstances which might prevent you from maintaining housing, relationships or employment? (reference card)

- ☐ Physical Condition ☐ Traumatic Brain Injury ☐ HIV/AIDS ☐ Alcohol Abuse
- ☐ Developmental Disability ☐ PTSD ☐ Mental Health Condition ☐ Drug Use

13. Are you a victim of domestic violence? ☐ Yes ☐ No

14. How long have you lived in Butte County? (check one) ☐ DNA
☐ less than 1 month ☐ more than a month but less than 1 year ☐ 1-2 years ☐ 3-5 years ☐ 6-9 years ☐ 10-19 years ☐ 20+ years
15. Were you living in Butte County when you became homeless? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ DNA
16. If you came to Butte County after becoming homeless, what brought you here? _____ ☐ DNA
17. Do you consider Butte County your home? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ DNA
18. What is your biggest challenge in ending your homeless situation and finding **permanent** housing? (check all that are true)
☐ Finding affordable housing ☐ Finding a job ☐ No money for rent or deposit ☐ Rental history
☐ Poor/no credit ☐ Lack of an ID card ☐ Criminal history ☐ Substance Use
☐ Managing my mental health ☐ Finding services to help me ☐ Transportation to services ☐ Pets
☐ Nothing, I prefer to be homeless ☐ Other: _____ ☐ DNA
19. What do you think led to your homelessness? (check all that are true)
☐ Family crisis such as a death or serious illness in the family, divorce, family conflict, or another family problem
☐ Leaving your house due to intolerance of your sexual orientation or gender identity
☐ Natural/other disasters ☐ Parent/foster parent abuse ☐ Domestic violence/partner abuse
☐ Employment/Financial Reasons ☐ Evicted ☐ Recent immigration
☐ Alcohol or substance use/abuse ☐ Mental Illness ☐ Medical/disability problems
☐ Incarceration ☐ Substandard Housing ☐ PRCS (Post Release Controlled Supervision)
☐ Personal choice to be homeless ☐ Age out of foster/group home ☐ Other _____ ☐ DNA
20. Have you been approached by law enforcement because of laws about sitting, lying, camping, storing property, and other public actions which impact people who are homeless? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ DNA
a. If yes, what was the result of that interaction? (check all that apply) ☐ Warned ☐ Ticketed ☐ Arrested ☐ Incarcerated ☐ DNA
21. Do you currently **not** sit, lie down, sleep, or keep property in certain places because of these laws? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ DNA
22. Have you left a community, or plan to leave, because these laws make living there too difficult? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ DNA
a. If yes, which community or communities? (check all that apply) ☐ Chico ☐ Oroville ☐ Paradise/Magalia ☐ Gridley/Biggs
☐ Other location in Butte County _____ ☐ Outside Butte County _____ ☐ DNA
23. Approximately how many times have you been in contact with law enforcement this past year? _____ ☐ DNA
24. Do you have health insurance? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not sure ☐ DNA 24a. If no, have you tried to apply? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ DNA
25. Where do you go most often to access health care services for yourself and your family?
☐ Hospital ☐ Clinic/Health Centers ☐ Doctors Office ☐ Veterans Affairs ☐ Schools/University Health Center ☐ Health Fair
☐ Mobile Medical/Dental Vans ☐ Alcohol/Drug Dependency Programs ☐ Other: _____ ☐ DNA
26. In the last year, how many times have you gone to the Emergency Room? ☐ 0 ☐ 1-2 ☐ 3-6 ☐ 7-12 ☐ 12+ _____ ☐ DNA
27. In the last year, how many total days have you spent in the hospital? ☐ 0 ☐ 1-2 ☐ 3-6 ☐ 7-11 ☐ 12+ _____ ☐ DNA
28. When did you last see a doctor other than in the hospital? ☐ Less than a year ago ☐ 1+ year ☐ 2+ years ☐ 3+ years ☐ DNA
29. When did you last see a dentist? ☐ Less than a year ago ☐ 1+ year ☐ 2+ years ☐ 3+ years ☐ DNA
30. If you have minor children, please mark all that apply: ☐ Medical visit within last year ☐ Dental visit within last year ☐ DNA
31. What was the last grade level you completed in school? (check one)
☐ Less than 8th grade ☐ Less than 12th grade ☐ High school grad/GED ☐ Some college/AA ☐ College Degree ☐ DNA
32. What is your approximate monthly income? (check one)
☐ No income ☐ \$1-\$250 ☐ \$251-500 ☐ \$501-\$1000 ☐ \$1001-1500 ☐ \$1501-2000 ☐ Over \$2000 ☐ DNA
33. How do you get money? (check all that are true)
☐ Job/paid internship ☐ Temporary Employment ☐ Unemployment ☐ SSI ☐ SSDI
☐ General Assistance ☐ TANF ☐ Retirement/Pension ☐ Social Security ☐ Friends or family
☐ Student Aid/Grants ☐ Veteran's Benefits ☐ Pan Handling ☐ Recycling ☐ Other _____ ☐ DNA

Food Card # _____

2017 HOMELESS BARRIERS & SOLUTIONS OBSERVATIONS

When To Use: This observation form is used only when the person or household is unwilling or unable to complete a survey, or if it is unsafe to approach an individual or group.

The Form: A new tally form is started for each new location. The Interviewer completes the top section with his/her name, and writes the name of the specific location, for example: Depot Park.

Q1. Location Type: Check the box which describes the location type, or describe the location in "other."

Q2. City/Town: Check the box for the city or town or indicate another Butte County location.

Q3. Household: Every person belongs to a household. Indicate the household type you think best matches what you observe. *A household might consist of one person, or many people. The household's composition will vary between adults only, children only, and adults with children. Start a new Question 3 for each household.*

Q4. #People: Indicate the number of people in the household.
There may be multiple people and households at one location. Do not count the same person more than once.

Individual Data: Complete a demographic box for each person counted in Question 4 (including children).
There are eight boxes available per household on the observation form. Leave the boxes blank if the number of boxes exceeds the number of people in the household. If the household exceeds eight members, continue completing boxes on the back of the form WITHOUT answering Questions 3 and 4 again on the back.

Demographics: Indicate the approximate age, and your best guess of the gender, race, and ethnicity for each person.

Interviewer _____ Location _____

1. ☐ Hospital ☐ Hotel/Motel ☐ Jail ☐ Treatment Facility ☐ Unsheltered ☐ Other _____

2. ☐ Chico ☐ Oroville ☐ Paradise ☐ Magalia ☐ Biggs ☐ Gridley ☐ Other town in Butte County _____

3. What best describes the household? (choose one)

☐ Adult/s (over 18) without children

☐ Adult/s (over 18) with at least one child

☐ Young person/s (younger than 18) without a parent

☐ Young person/s (younger than 18) with a child

4. Number of people: _____

Head of Household Age: _____ Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender Race: <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaskan Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple Race Ethnicity: <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	Person 2 Age: _____ Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender Race: <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaskan Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple Race Ethnicity: <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	Person 3 Age: _____ Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender Race: <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaskan Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple Race Ethnicity: <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	Person 4 Age: _____ Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender Race: <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaskan Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple Race Ethnicity: <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino
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Person 5 Age: _____ Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender Race: <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaskan Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple Race Ethnicity: <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	Person 6 Age: _____ Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender Race: <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaskan Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple Race Ethnicity: <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	Person 7 Age: _____ Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender Race: <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaskan Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple Race Ethnicity: <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino	Person 8 Age: _____ Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Female <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Transgender Race: <input type="checkbox"/> American Indian/Alaskan Native <input type="checkbox"/> Asian <input type="checkbox"/> Black/African American <input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander <input type="checkbox"/> White <input type="checkbox"/> Multiple Race Ethnicity: <input type="checkbox"/> Hispanic/Latino <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino
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Homeless and Housing Assistance Definitions & Qualifications for the PIT

The following are definitions and qualifications set by HUD. When applicable, local, reasonable modifications have been made to accommodate housing needs for those experiencing homelessness in rural Butte County.*

Homeless

HUD: An individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence; as well as an individual who has a primary nighttime residence that is a supervised publicly or privately operated shelter designed to provide temporary living accommodations; an institution that provides a temporary residence for individuals intended to be institutionalized; or a public or private place not designated for, or ordinarily used as, a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings.

Household

HUD: All people who occupy a housing unit. The household includes the related family members and all the unrelated people, if any, such as lodgers, foster children, wards, employees who share the housing unit. A person living alone in a housing unit, or a group of unrelated people sharing a housing unit such as partners or roomers, is also counted as a household.

LOCAL: For the purpose of the PIT, the definition will be expanded to all family members and unrelated people who would be sharing a housing unit if they had one.

HIC Qualified Housing Projects

HUD: Beds and units in the HIC must be dedicated to serving homeless persons, or for permanent housing projects, dedicated for persons who were homeless at entry.

1. The primary intent of the project is to serve homeless persons
2. The project verifies homeless status as part of its eligibility determination
3. The actual project clients are predominantly homeless or were at entry

Beds in institutional settings not specifically dedicated for persons who are homeless such as detox facilities, emergency rooms, jails, and acute crisis or treatment centers should not be included in the HIC. HUD considers extreme weather shelters as dedicated homeless inventory and should be included in the HIC.

LOCAL: *Sober Living Environments (SLEs)* that meet the definition of Transitional Housing (TH) will be included in the HIC as a TH unit (see definition of TH within this document). A limited number of SLEs that qualify as Transitional Housing and that primarily, but not exclusively, serve those who are homeless at project entry, will be included in the HIC; only those beds occupied by those who were previously homeless will be counted.** Treatment Centers (TC) will be analyzed on a case-by-case basis prior to the PIT to determine if they qualify as an SLE/TH project or qualify as a TC. Jails, hospitals and treatment centers will not be included on the HIC but may be included on the PIT community report.

Unsheltered

HUD: Individuals and families with a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular sleeping accommodation for human beings, including a car, park, abandoned building, bus or train station, airport or camping ground.

Emergency Shelter

HUD: Any facility whose primary purpose is to provide temporary or transitional shelter for the homeless in general or for specific populations of the homeless.

Haven (Catalyst Domestic Violence Services)

Men's Emergency Shelter and Women and Children's Shelter (Oroville Rescue Mission)

Runaway and Homeless Youth Project (Youth For Change)

Sabbath House (Jesus Center)

Safe Space (CHAT)

Torres Shelter (Chico Shelter Partnership)

Hotels paid for by a social service agency and/or faith-based organization

Transitional Housing

HUD: Housing in which all program participants have participant rights in housing, and a signed lease or occupancy agreement for the purpose of which is to facilitate the movement of homeless individuals and families into permanent housing within 24 months or such longer period as HUD determines necessary. The program participant must have a lease or occupancy agreement for a term of at least one month that ends in 24 months and cannot be extended. Transitional housing includes housing primarily designed to serve deinstitutionalize homeless individuals and other homeless individuals with mental or physical disabilities and homeless families with children.

6th Street Transitional Housing (Youth For Change)

Cottages (Catalyst Domestic Violence Services)

Esplanade House Transitional Housing (Community Action Agency of Butte County)

Friends House (Chico Community Shelter Partnership)

House of Hope, Myrtle House, Birch House, Sage House (Jesus Center)

Jerry L Knight Residence (VECTORS)

TAY Transitional Housing (BCDBH)

Stairways Programming – 30

Sober Living Environments

HUD: Must meet the definition of Transitional Housing AND the qualifications of being used in the HIC.

1. The primary intent of the project is to serve homeless persons
2. The project verifies homeless status as part of its eligibility determination
3. The actual project clients are predominantly homeless or were at entry

LOCAL: SLEs that meet the HUD qualifications above will be included in the HIC/PIT database as sheltered in TH. A limited number of SLEs that qualify as Transitional Housing and that primarily, but not exclusively, serve those who are homeless at project entry, will be included in the HIC; only those beds occupied by those who were previously homeless will be counted. Those not qualifying as a TH/SLE will be categorized as a Treatment Centers (TC) and included only in the community report.**

Permanent Housing

HUD: Community-based housing without a designated length of stay, and includes permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing. Tenant must be on a lease for a term of at least one year, which is renewable for terms for a minimum of one month long, and is terminable only for cause. This definition includes Permanent Supportive Housing, Other Permanent Housing, or Rapid Rehousing.

Permanent Supportive Housing

HUD: Housing in which supportive services are provided to assist homeless persons with a disability to live independently, admitted to the project from homelessness.

Avenidas Apartments (Caminar)

Esplanade House (Community Action Agency of Butte County)

HUD-VASH (HACB)

LINK Permanent Housing Bonus (BCDBH)

MHSA Master Lease Program (YFC)

CHAT House 1, 2, and 3

SEARCH Samaritan Bonus (BCDBH)

SEARCH II – PHB (BCDBH)

SEARCH II – SHP (BCDBH)

SEARCH III-SHP (BCDBH)

SEARCH South Shelter Plus Care (HACB)

(Stairways Programming) - 8

Other Permanent Housing

HUD: Long-term housing and support services for individuals or families without a disability OR long-term housing only for individuals admitted to the project from homelessness.

Rapid Rehousing

HUD: Rapid Rehousing projects are considered permanent housing and are included in the HIC. Although, if an individual is enrolled in a RRH project but currently is not living in permanent housing (for example, she is still living in a shelter or on the street awaiting a permanent house) that person should complete a PIT survey and counted in the housing type she currently resides.

Rapid Rehousing Program (Catalyst Domestic Violence Services)

Rapid Rehousing Program (Chico Community Shelter Partnership)

Rapid Rehousing Program (Community Action Agency of Butte County)

Supportive Services Veterans Families (Veterans Resource Center)

Rental Assistance

HUD: Provision of rental assistance to provide *transitional* or *permanent* housing to eligible persons. It can be used for PSH, RRH, or Homelessness Prevention. Rental assistance can be tenant-based, sponsor-based, or project based. Project participants execute a lease directly with the landowner. The length of assistance may be short term (up to 3 months), medium term (3 to 24 months) or long term (longer than 24 months). Rent is awarded at Fair Market Rent but capped at Rent Reasonableness. May pay rent for a maximum of 30 days from the end of the month in which the unit was vacated.

BCDBH CoC-funded projects

Leasing

HUD: Leasing of property, or portions of property, not owned by the recipient or project sponsor involved, for use in providing *transitional* or *permanent* housing, or providing supportive services. The funding recipient contracts for the space from a landowner, and is responsible for the housing space, if it's being contracted to provide supportive services. The lease may cover structure, portions of a building, or individual units. Funds may not exceed Rent Reasonableness amount of Fair Market Rent, whichever is lower.

CHAT houses

Stairways Programming

Master Lease*

A master lease involves an agency leasing scattered, individual units or a house from property owner(s) to sublease to eligible program participants. The agency meets the owner's qualifications for the units, and in turn lowers housing barriers to program participants.

CHAT houses

Stairways Programming

Shared Housing*

A housing unit that is occupied by people who are unrelated and would not otherwise be sharing a house. Each occupant holds a rental agreement with a landlord, and has their own bedroom with a lock on the door. Shared housing can be Transitional Housing, Permanent Housing or Permanent Supportive Housing.

CHAT houses

Stairways Programming

Hotels/Motels

HUD: Hotel/Motel stays that are paid for by a stipend or other financial assistance is considered Emergency Sheltering. Hotels/Motels paid for by the client are not. Occupants may be considered imminently homeless, but are not included in the PIT.

Treatment Centers

HUD: Not be counted in the HIC unless the beds are specifically dedicated for persons who are homeless.

LOCAL: Individuals who were homeless at admission to the program and do not know their housing situation at discharge, or will be homeless at discharge will be counted as unsheltered for the community report only.

Hospitals

HUD: Individuals receiving care at a hospital without residing in the institution are considered homeless if they meet the definition of homeless. For the purpose of the PIT, individuals residing in the hospital are not homeless.

LOCAL: Individuals seeking care in the emergency room on the night of the PIT and would otherwise be unsheltered, will be counted as unsheltered in the PIT. Individuals admitted to the hospital who were homeless on admission and/or will be homeless at discharge will be counted as homeless community report.

Jails

HUD: Not be counted unless the beds are specifically dedicated for persons who are homeless.

Local: Individuals who were homeless prior to admission and will be homeless at discharge will be counted as unsheltered in the PIT community report.

Not To Include in the HUD/HDX PIT Report

HUD:

- Persons in Permanent Supportive Housing (including VASH) and Other Permanent Housing (including TIP)
- Any sheltering project not included in the HIC
- Doubled Up/Couch surfers
- Housing the person rents or owns, including RRH projects
- Persons residing in institutions (jails, juvenile correction facilities, foster care, hospital beds, detox centers)

LOCAL: For the purpose of the local report, those who are doubled up, and those who are residing in institutions (if they were homeless upon admission to the institution and/or will discharge to homelessness) will be included in the community report.

**Master Lease and Shared Housing not HUD Components*

****HUD qualification:** For non-HUD funded homeless programs, the CoC is ultimately responsible for assigning the project type.

BUTTE COUNTY HOMELESS CONTINUUM OF CARE STAFF REPORT

Date: February 14, 2016
To: Butte Countywide Homeless Continuum of Care Council
From: Sherisse Allen, Housing Tools
Re: 2017 Homeless Point In Time Debrief

Background

In accordance with HUD requirements, Butte Countywide Homeless Continuum of Care members, and the community at large, implemented the 2017 Housing Inventory Count (HIC) and Point In Time (PIT) data collection methodology on January 25, 2017. This effort including gathering PIT survey data from all located individuals and families experiencing homelessness – whether sheltered or unsheltered – within a 24-hour period. In addition, local housing agencies provided corresponding program information for the HIC report. Following its execution, the PIT Steering Committee met to outline the successes and failures of the study in anticipation of the 2019 study.

Greatest Successes and Improvements Made

- Community volunteers and service providers collected approximately **1800 PIT surveys**.
- **Members of the community** - whether they were completing the survey or were assisting in the completion of the survey – commented again and again how the experience taught them something about each other and that everyone felt accepted and respected.
- A **PIT Coordinator** was hired to oversee the planning process and coordinate across all communities and homeless subpopulations.
- The **PIT Steering Committee** was comprised of individuals from multiple organizations throughout the county, who oversaw specific aspects of the project (such as locality hub leaders or sub-population coordinator), rather than a “come all” planning format.
- The **survey** was dramatically improved, removing errors and bringing clarity. The survey was built first on HUD requirements, then on longitudinal data and lessons learned, and finally on new community priorities. Vital questions were moved to the top of the survey to improve the odds of being completed. Consultation with local experts helped design the questions.
- There was an increase in the **number of locations** in which surveys were completed: Hubs, Static Sites, In-Field Locations, and Butte 2-1-1, to improve the census coverage of the county.
- There was a dramatic increase in the number of community **volunteers**. In fact, the Chico leaders were surprised to see 85 people lined up down the street in the rain for volunteer training. This might reflect the growing concern and commitment of the community in ending homelessness. It might also be a result of media coverage and quality outreach materials.
- There was a cadre of **professional volunteers**, in particular Butte County Department of Behavioral Health (BCDBH), entered more tenuous encampment areas. These professionals, and shelter staff, were offered a half-hour training rather than a two-hour community training, honoring their expertise and valuing their time to prioritize services during the winter.
- The **healthcare industry** collaborated across hospitals, clinics, and Butte County Public Health to gathering surveys from those seeking medical care. The collaborative developed health related questions for the survey. Three out of four hospitals and Ampla Health invested staff time in training and survey collection at hospitals and clinics throughout the county. Public Health staff were assigned to a variety of professional environments to coordinate and collect surveys.

- There was coordination and cooperation with **law enforcement** throughout the county. The survey was brought into the jail to extrapolate data. Juvenile hall was also included.
- The **youth count** reflected the We Count methodology (except a separate survey was not added in 2017) by accessing local resources.
- **Sober Living Environments** in Transitional Housing settings were researched for eligibility and interest. Several participated this year, adding their beds and participants to the HIC and PIT counts, and starting a dialogue about a communitywide approach to ending homelessness.
- **Navigators** (consultants who have been homeless) were funded by BCDBH in two communities, in addition to Caminar's youth staff for the youth project.
- **Outreach** and **Incentives** attracted people to the Hubs. The outreach included small cards that could be easily distributed to and stored by those who might attend. Flyers were mailed throughout the county. In addition, there was significant media coverage (Facebook pages/posts, emails, three newspaper articles, one radio interview, and one TV interview). The food cards continue to persuade people to commit to completing the full survey. All Hubs offered warm meals, many offered food to take, dog food, socks, or other giveaways.
- Remarkable **uniform administration** of the survey and clean data collection was achieved by using the same trainer for all volunteer trainings and investing a significant amount of the training time to accurate completion. It's expected that **quality data entry** will be maintained by enlisting Housing Authority of the County of Butte clerical professionals (data entry in progress at the time of this report).
- Tally forms were redesigned as an **Observational Tool** to allow HUD required data to be collected and reported without a complete survey, improving the HDX count. The tools was sparingly used in field to not impact duplication.
- **Consolidated Application**, Section 4 will be complete at the conclusion of the project, and progress in Section 1 has been made.

Suggested Improvements for 2019

- **Set the PIT date for January 30, 2019** to include college students in the study.
- **Simplify the survey and further master the data collection.** Build on what we know works; consider whether the longitudinal questions we ask are being used for this purpose; only ask questions we don't know the answers to; acquire data that will end homelessness; do not ask intrusive or potentially traumatizing questions; only ask the number of questions we need to.
- Capturing full survey data for all adults and unaccompanied youth in a household was improved by reformatting the survey, conducting thorough volunteer training, and providing written instructions. As a safeguard, the HUD-required questions were moved to the top of the survey, with fields for multiple family members; this successfully secured vital information for HUD. The following are strategies to remedy the challenge of capturing full survey data for each person:
 - Continue to **place HUD-required questions at the beginning of the survey** to ensure the data necessary for HUD's PIT report is captured.
 - Continue to **collect unique data** (initials and birthdate) for all family members on each survey to both de-duplicate surveys and to keep household data together.
 - **Run two columns of the questions on each survey** to capture the full data for at least two adults in the household, as shown in the attached sample. (Children will complete a portion of the survey and attach it to their parents' survey.)
 - **Pilot the survey** more extensively. Have several *volunteers* administer the survey to unhoused individuals to master collecting household-oriented information.

- **Collect surveys for an entire week** with Transitional Housing projects and jails (and other residences where people do not frequently leave) so that large programs have more time to complete them and volunteers can support survey collection for more than a 24-hour period. Also, deliver food cards to these more stably housed individuals and to the schools after the PIT to deplete the card overage.
- **Version the survey** for specific audiences – jails and youth – by deleting only, so that the information is clear and relevant to their unique situation.
- **Improve HUB coordination** to adapt to the increased number of surveys, volunteers, hubs, etc. Utilize technological tools in coordinating volunteers. Streamline the sign in/out process to reduce waiting, and better coordinate food cards.
- **Purchase more cards to cover multiple sites.** To adequately cover volunteers dispatched throughout the county, purchase approximately 500 extra cards than the anticipated number of completed surveys. In other words, if in 2019, it's estimated that 2000 surveys will be completed, there should be an inventory of least 2500 cards (this is based on not adding children to the card distribution). The remaining supply from 2017 is 278 cards. In 2019, purchase 2,222 cards at a cost of \$11,110.
- **Share the financial burden of the study** with service providers and cities/towns who use the PIT data, particularly those who are required to do so by a grant or jurisdictional entitlement for CDBG and HOME funds. The following is an enhanced budget for 2019 based on PIT Steering Committee input:

\$11,110	Food Cards (2,222) for adults and unaccompanied youth
\$1,500	Food Cards (300) for children with parents
\$1,200	Navigators (especially for smaller towns)
\$400	Youth Food Truck
\$400	Print Costs (surveys, training packets, forms, etc.)
\$450	Outreach Printing (flyers and cards)
\$500	Contingency (incentives for inmates, magnet events, etc.)
<u>\$1,700</u>	Indirect (approximate amount)
\$17,260	TOTAL without PIT Coordinator Contract/Salary

Recommendations

It is recommended that planning for the 2019 PIT study begin in August 2018, and that the methodology outlined in the 2017 HIC and PIT Methodology and the 2017 Homeless Point In Time Debrief reports serve as the framework for 2019 HIC/PIT planning.

All information is confidential

The information you share helps us better understand the circumstances of your homelessness, so that housing and services can be offered that best meet your needs. All answers are received without judgment and are kept confidential.

- What town did you stay in last night?
☐ Chico ☐ Oroville ☐ Paradise ☐ Magalia ☐ Gridley ☐ Biggs ☐ Other location in Butte County _____
☐ Outside Butte County _____
- Where did you stay last night?
☐ Unsheltered (camp, car, abandoned building, etc.) ☐ Emergency Shelter ☐ Hotel w/voucher ☐ Transitional Housing
☐ Temporarily with friends or family ☐ Hospital ☐ Treatment Facility ☐ Jail ☐ Other _____

*We need to keep the surveys together for all your family members **who were staying with you last night**. These questions (in the shaded area) help us do that but will not be in the report. Complete information for **each person** and attach surveys together.*

How many adults and children are in your household? # Adults _____ # Children _____ # Surveys _____

<u>You</u>	<u>Person 2</u>	<u>Person 3</u>	<u>Person 4</u>	<u>Person 5</u>	<u>Person 6</u>
Initials _____	Initials _____	Initials _____	Initials _____	Initials _____	Initials _____
Birthdate ____/____/____	Birthdate ____/____/____	Birthdate ____/____/____	Birthdate ____/____/____	Birthdate ____/____/____	Birthdate ____/____/____

- What best describes you in your current household situation? (choose one)

- ☐ I'm an adult (18 or over) without children
☐ I'm an adult (18 or over) with at least one child
☐ I'm a young person (younger than 18) without a parent
☐ I'm a young person (younger than 18) with a child
☐ I'm a young person (younger than 18) with a parent

- Age: _____
- Date of Birth: ____/____/____

- Race:

- ☐ American Indian/Alaskan Native
☐ Asian
☐ Black/African American
☐ Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
☐ White
☐ Multiple Race

- Ethnicity:

- ☐ Hispanic/Latino
☐ Non-Hispanic/Non-Latino

- Gender:

- ☐ Female ☐ Male ☐ Transgender
☐ Don't identify as male, female or transgender

Children do not answer the following questions:

- Have you served in the US military, or have you been in active duty for the National Guard or as a Reservist? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Are you a victim of domestic violence? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- Is this the first time you've been homeless? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- How long have you been homeless this time?
☐ less than 1 year ☐ 1-2 years ☐ 3-4 years ☐ 5+ years
- Have you been homeless more than four times in the past three years? ☐ Yes ☐ No
 11.a. If yes, what is the combined total time you have been homeless?
☐ less than 1 year ☐ 1-2 years ☐ 3-4 years ☐ 5+ years

- What best describes you in your current household situation? (choose one)

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☐ I'm an adult (18 or over) with at least one child
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☐ I'm a young person (younger than 18) with a child
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Butte Countywide Homeless Continuum of Care

Membership Roster

Butte County Department of Behavioral Health
Butte County Department of Employment and Social Services
Butte County Housing Authority
Butte County Office of Education
Butte County Sheriff's Department
Butte Environmental Council
Caminar
Caring Choices
Catalyst Domestic Violence Services
CHAT
City of Chico
City of Oroville
Community Action Agency of Butte County, Inc.
Department of Veteran Affairs
Enloe
Greater Chico Homeless Task Force
Help Central Inc./Butte 211
Hope Center
Housing Tools
Jesus Center
Oroville Rescue Mission
SHOR
Stairways Programming
Symmetric Solutions
Torres Shelter
Veterans Resource Center
Youth For Change