Methodology for IL-514 - DuPage County CoC

Sheltered Population Total

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

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

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

- Complete census count

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

- Comparison of personally identifying information (PII), such as name, date of birth, and Social Security Number

Sheltered Subpopulation

4. What data source(s) was used to produce the demographic and subpopulation data included in the sheltered population (staying in an emergency shelter, Safe Haven, or transitional housing) on the night of the count? (select all that were used)

- HMIS Data

5. Was the CoC able to collect information about the demographic and subpopulation characteristics of all sheltered people or only some?

- All sheltered people

6. Looking at the change in your sheltered count from last year's count, please choose up to three reasons that best explains these changes from the drop down list below.

- Change in emergency shelter capacity

- Other:

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

There was an increase of +19 persons in the sheltered count which includes both emergency shelter and transitional housing.

Emergency shelter showed a net increase of 10 persons with +6 of these due to an increase in the use of medical respite voucher beds. The remaining increase was due to higher occupancy at PADS Interim Housing +12 which was offset by decreased persons at Cornerstone Shelter (6) and decreased occupancy at Hope House (1) and Family Shelter Service (1). PADS Interim Housing was not fully occupied on the night of the count but had 12 extra persons in occupancy due to 2 individuals who were sheltered during the street count and the expanded marketing/outreach efforts related to both the street count and coordinated entry.

There was a reduction of six beds in emergency shelter capacity at Cornerstone Shelter because these beds are dedicated to wards of the state or in government care. This decreased the persons counted there that night.

Transitional Housing showed a net increase of +12 persons that night. This increase was due to increased occupancy on the night of the count in 4 projects. The most common reason was an increase in family size, not the number of units. The number of Transitional Housing projects remained the same as last year but there was a decrease of 1 bed in capacity.

Safe Haven showed a net decrease of (3) persons due to a reduction in use on the night of the count by Midwest Shelter GPD Low Demand housing from the previous year.

Net increases in the sheltered count were +10 Emergency Shelter persons and +12 Transitional Housing persons which were offset by a reduction of (3) persons in Safe Haven resulted in an increase of +19 persons in the sheltered count.

Unsheltered Population

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

- "Night of the count" - complete census

- "Night of the count" - known locations

Occupancy on the night of the count was higher than last year

7a. Were certain areas within the CoC geography specifically excluded because the CoC had reason to believe there were no unsheltered people in those areas?

No

7c. In areas that were canvassed, did the CoC count all unsheltered people in those areas or a sample of people?

- A sample of people encountered during the count

7c1. How did the CoC select those people?

- Other: Only counted those who confirmed that they were homeless, therefore if a person was observed but did not confirm that they were homeless they were excluded.

7c2. Did the CoC adjust the information in some way (e.g., statistical adjustment or extrapolation) to account for all persons?

No

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

- Comparison of personally identifying information (PII), such as name, date of birth, and Social Security Number

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

Unsheltered Subpopulations

9. What approach(es) was used to collect demographic and subpopulation data about unsheltered people included in the unsheltered population during the PIT count?

  - Surveys/interviews of people identified as unsheltered on the night of the PIT count

10. Were all people who were encountered during canvassing on the night of the count or during post night of the count PIT activities asked to complete a survey/interview?

  - A subset of people was surveyed

11. What information or method(s) was used to produce an unduplicated total count of homeless people across your sheltered and unsheltered populations?

  - Comparison of personally identifying information (PII), such as name, date of birth, and Social Security Number
  - Interview/survey question(s) with screening questions (e.g., have you already completed a count survey)

12. Looking at the change in your unsheltered count from last year's count, please choose up to three reasons that best explains these changes from the drop down list below

  - Change in participation of programs serving general homeless populations (e.g., singles, families)

  - Impact of coordinated entry

  - Impact of Housing First practices

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

- HMIS data from street outreach and/or other providers

10a. How did the CoC select those people?

- People were not selected randomly, and the selection was driven by practicality or expediency (e.g., people willing and able to complete a survey on the night of the PIT count)

10b. Did the CoC adjust the information in some way (e.g., statistical adjustment or extrapolation) to account for all persons in all projects?

No

Our CoC experienced a decrease in unsheltered populations from our last count. We attribute this to the impact of coordinated entry, impact of Housing First practices, and a change in participation of programs serving general homeless populations. People experiencing a housing crisis are supported by a comprehensive coordinated entry system in which uniform assessment tools determine strengths, needs and vulnerabilities. This approach ensures that limited resources for those experiencing homelessness with the most severe needs are prioritized, and strategic points throughout DuPage County are available for access and referral. All housing providers within the DuPage County CoC have adopted a Housing First approach. Each recognizes that persons experiencing homelessness need the safety of a place to call home in order to address challenges which may present barriers to long-term goals of stability and self-sufficiency. Each provider connects individuals and families experiencing homelessness to permanent housing without preconditions and barriers to entry, such as sobriety, treatment or service participation requirements. Our Street Outreach provider, emergency shelters, and homeless prevention providers all work to connect people to permanent housing as quickly as possible. Our jurisdiction experienced a slight increase in our sheltered populations in ES and TH compared to last year, contributing to a reduction in our count of unsheltered individuals.