

Resource Committee Minutes/PIT Count After Action Review February 11th, 2022

Attendance: Norm Maze-Shalom House; Janice- Catholic Charities; Michael Roy-Preble Street; Nancy DuBord; Bill Higgins-Advocates for the Homeless; Abigail Smallwood-City of Biddeford; Linda Plourde-MaineHousing; Scott Tibbitts-Maine Housing; April Reed-MaineHousing; Tricia Canning-MaineHousing;

Resource Committee meeting minutes for January 2020 were reviewed and accepted.

Remainder of meeting group reviewed the 2022 PIT Count planning process. The following feedback was shared with the committee for consideration regarding the 2023 PIT Count.

1. PIT Planning Process:

- Overall, the mainepit.org website was a good addition. Although it was started late in the planning process, which limited its usefulness for the 2022 count, all meeting participants agreed it was very helpful and there is potential for the website to be developed further into even more of a useful tool for the planning process going forward.
- In the future, much of the work of planning for the annual will be done by those who fill the Service Hub Coordinator positions across the state. However, there will be a period of transition as those roles get filled and people learn the job. Therefore, it is expected the PIT Crew will continue to be involved in the planning process to not only work on the planning of the count but also to help facilitate the transition.
- Are there “naturally occurring” meetings people attend where awareness about the count and the issue of homelessness can be discussed? Have a speaker at? (“Natural occurring meetings” means meeting which people attend. These meeting may or may not be focused on the issue of homelessness.

2. Methodology:

- Current methodology works to provide time necessary for connecting with homeless people who are difficult to find and/or meet on a specific day. No changes to methodology recommended at this time.

3. Outreach Leads:

- It is hoped that with the development of the Service Hub Coordinator position (through MaineHousing) that issues regarding leads will be resolved within the next 1-2 years.

4. Volunteers:

- Meeting participants would like to try to survey volunteers of the most recent count to get feedback from them. Because of the website, there is a list of volunteers who could be sent a survey.
- Meeting participants agreed, if possible, it would help with volunteer recruitment if there could be some type of map created/developed to show where volunteers are in

the state. This would help clarify the areas of the state in need, as well allow for better distribution of volunteers in areas which may have an abundance of volunteers.

5. Training

- Having access to the training via the website and easily used platform worked well.
- Having a “cheat sheet” about how to conduct an interview would be helpful for volunteers, especially those volunteers with limited/no prior experience interviewing people.

6. Public relations

Meeting participants agreed the mainepit.org is a positive tool with potential benefits for future planning, especially with regards to public relations.

- Meeting participants agreed it would be helpful if the MCoC/Board could provide information/framework of a cohesive, statewide public relations campaign regarding the count.

7. Recommendations to the Maine Continuum of Care:

- MaineHousing should continue to develop the mainepit.org website as the central information place for all things related to the Point In Time Count. This website should remain focused only on the point in time count and should not be utilized for the distribution of other information. (Avoid “mission creep”)
- Work needs to be done to create a cohesive statewide public relations campaign regarding the Point In Time Count. While much of the work of raising awareness of the count (and the issue of homelessness) will remain at the local level, a cohesive message/campaign coming from the MCoC will help many at the local level be able to accurately inform their communities about what the count is, why it’s being done and why community members should care about it.