


SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY



— POINT-IN-TIME CENSUS & SURVEY —

2015

REPORT PRODUCED BY ASR

AGENDA

- ▶ Welcome
- ▶ ASR and PIT counts
- ▶ Purpose of the research
- ▶ Project components
- ▶ Study methodology
 - ▶ Census
 - ▶ Survey
 - ▶ Reporting
- ▶ Critical next steps

ASR AND PIT COUNTS

- ▶ ASR is a 34 year old non-profit social research firm with offices in the Central Coast, Silicon Valley and Southern California.
- ▶ ASR has conducted over 50 PIT counts in communities across California, and in areas of Nevada and Georgia, whose work is featured in the *HUD PIT Count Handbook*.

1999

- Began using Peer-to-Peer approach in Point-in-Time counts and surveys of homeless adults

2005

- Began conducting separate Point-in-Time counts of homeless children and youth in Los Angeles County

2014

- Peer-to-Peer approach highlighted in HUDs Guide to Counting Unsheltered Persons

GOALS FOR THE 2015 PIT COUNT

- ▶ Generate valid, accurate data regarding homeless individuals, youth and families
- ▶ Link homeless data collection efforts to strategic, program, and policy planning
- ▶ Retain and improve funding for homeless services and meet federal data reporting requirements
- ▶ Increase community and jurisdictional understanding of homelessness

PIT COUNT COLLABORATION

- ▶ **Participatory approach**
 - ▶ Community PIT count advisory group
 - ▶ Peer-to-peer data collection – census & survey
 - ▶ Outcomes dependent on quality & quantity of participation
- ▶ **3 step data collection process**
 - ▶ Census (unsheltered and sheltered) – 1.26.15
 - ▶ Survey – 1.27.15 to 2.20.15
 - ▶ Additional data where relevant (COE, waitlists, VI, etc)
- ▶ **Community education and engagement**
 - ▶ Community reporting

BENEFITS OF PEER ENUMERATION

- ▶ Participatory research results in improved outreach, more reliable data, and community acceptance of outcomes
- ▶ Census and survey efforts require different logistics and are better managed separately
- ▶ Homeless peer survey interviewers increase participation, expedite data collection, and improve data quality
- ▶ Community participation is essential; targeted outreach efforts to the precariously housed, rural, veteran, youth, family, migrant, vehicles and other groups will ensure the most accurate profile of homelessness

DATA COMPONENTS

Census

- ▶ Unsheltered Street Count
- ▶ Shelter Count
- ▶ Institution Count (incl COE)
- ▶ Waitlist Count

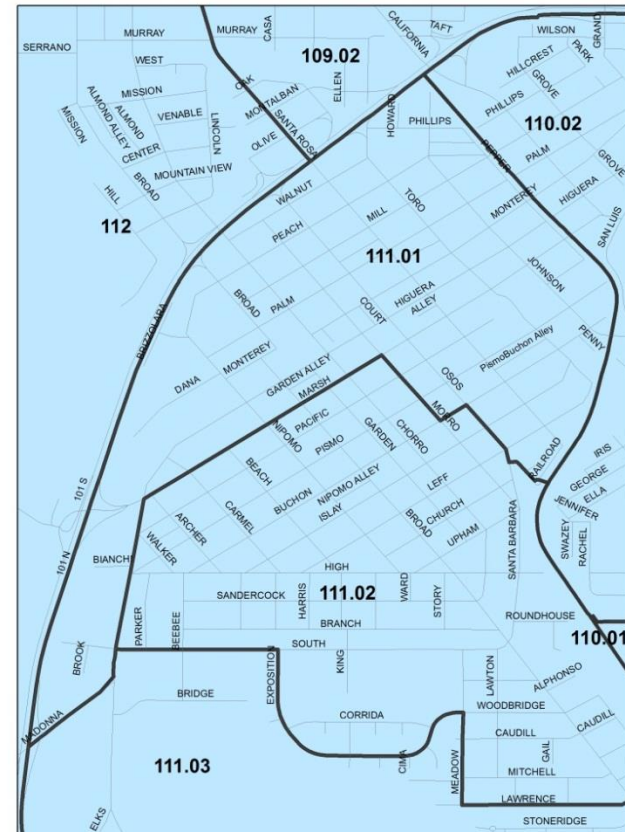
Survey

- ▶ Administered subsequent to the census
- ▶ Source of data on HUD subpopulations
- ▶ Includes some community driven questions

Census + Survey = PIT Count

CENSUS

- ▶ Early morning street count
Monday, January 26th
- ▶ Street Teams of 2-3 (1 homeless and 1 volunteer) canvas each map area in the county
- ▶ Special youth count should be conducted separately (early afternoon on the same day or other time)
- ▶ Local institutions and individuals on housing providers waitlists are contacted via telephone
- ▶ Shelter providers/HMIS administrators will provide the numbers served on the evening of **January 25th**



SURVEY

- ▶ Interviews to be conducted by homeless individuals and local service providers
- ▶ Survey quotas will be determined by ASR using shelter and street counts for each area of the county

3966245565 (Office use)

14. Are you currently receiving any of the following forms of government assistance? **(Shade all that apply)**

(1) Food stamps; (2) Cash Aid (CALWORKS)

General Assistance SSI (Supplemental Security Income) / SSDI
 Medical/Med-Care VA Disability Compensation
 Veterans Benefits Other governmental assistance
 WIC (State disability benefits, workers compensation, unemployment, etc.)
 Rental Security **(If yes to any of these, go to 15)**
 I am not currently receiving any of these **(Skip question 14a)**

14a. If you are not receiving any government assistance, why not? **(Shade all that apply)**

Don't think I'm eligible I have applied for one or more of these services and I am currently waiting for approval
 Have no identification Don't know where to go
 No permanent address Turned down
 No transportation Will apply soon
 Never applied Benefits were cut off
 Immigration issues Don't need government assistance
 Paper work too difficult Other _____

15. Are you currently using any of the following services/assistance? **(Shade all that apply)**

Emergency shelter Legal assistance
 Food banks Health services
 Bus passes Mental health services
 Job training Other _____
 Alcohol/drug counseling Not using any services
 Shelter day services

16. Are you currently employed? **(Shade only 1)**

No, unemployed **(Go to question 17a)**
 Yes, part-time **(Skip to question 17)**
 Yes, full-time **(Skip to question 17)**

16a. What is keeping you from getting employment? **(Shade all that apply)**

Need education No permanent address
 Need training No transportation
 Need clothing No tools for trade
 No shower facilities No work permit (has to be #)
 No phone No photo identification
 Health problems Don't want to work
 Disabled No skills
 Alcohol/drug issues Retired
 Criminal record Spouse/partner doesn't want me to work
 No child care Other _____

17. What is your total (gross) monthly income from all Government benefits? (County, State, Federal monies) **(Shade only 1)**

Zero \$201 - \$500 \$1501 - \$2000
 \$1 - \$150 \$501 - \$1000 Over \$2000
 \$101 - \$250 \$1001 - \$1500

18. What is your total (gross) monthly income from all non-government sources? (Job, panhandling, recycling, etc.)

Zero \$201 - \$500 \$1501 - \$2000
 \$1 - \$150 \$501 - \$1000 Over \$2000
 \$101 - \$250 \$1001 - \$1500

19. Do you panhandle, or ask people for money or spare change?
 Yes **(Skip question 18a)**
 No **(Skip to question 20)**

19a. In a typical month, how much money do you make from panhandling (in dollars)? (Office use)

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20. Do you have any children (living with you or not)?
 Yes **(Skip question 20a)**
 No **(Skip to question 27)**

20a. Do you have any children? **(Shade all that apply)**

18 or over living with you How many? 1 2 3 4 5 or more
 In foster care How many? 0 1 2 3 4 5 or more
 Under 18 not living with you How many? 0 1 2 3 4 5 or more
 Under 18 living with you How many? 0 1 2 3 4 5 or more

20b. If your children are between ages 5 and 18 and living with you, are they enrolled in school?
 Yes No

21. Were you ever in foster care? (Before your 18th birthday, were you ever removed from your home by the state, county, or court and sent to live with people other than your mother or father?)
 Yes No

22. Since you became homeless this last time, have you needed medical care and been unable to receive it?
 Yes No

23. Where do you usually get medical care? **(Shade only 1)**

Hospital emergency room Community clinic
 Homeless Health Team Private doctor
 Project clinic / nurse Friends / family
 Emaline Ave. Clinic Don't ever go
 Watsonville Clinic Other _____
 Yes, hospital/clinic Don't know

23a. How many times in the last 12 months have you used the emergency room for any treatment?
 times 1 2 3 4 5 or more (Office use)

24. How many nights, if any, have you spent in jail or prison during the last 12 months?
 nights 1 2 3 4 5 or more (Office use)

25. Are you currently experiencing any of the following:

25a. Physical disability Yes No Declined to state
 25b. Mental illness Yes No Declined to state
 25c. Depression Yes No Declined to state
 25d. Alcohol abuse Yes No Declined to state
 25e. Drug abuse Yes No Declined to state
 25f. Domestic/partner violence or abuse Yes No Declined to state
 25g. Chronic health problems Yes No Declined to state
 25h. AIDS/HIV related illness Yes No Declined to state
 25i. Getting prescription medication Yes No Declined to state
 25j. Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) Yes No Declined to state
 25k. Developmental disability (i.e., chronic condition that significantly limits a person's ability to speak, hear, see, learn, or perform fundamental tasks) Yes No Declined to state

26. What is the highest level of education you have completed?
 Less than 8th Grade AA degree
 Less than high school diploma BA degree or above
 High school diploma/GED Technical Certificate
 Some college no degree

27. Do you usually get enough to eat on a daily basis?
 Yes Sometimes No

REPORTING

- ▶ Final Census numbers will be made available to the COC April 1, 2015
- ▶ NOFA PIT data (including subpopulations) will be released to the COC April 15, 2013
- ▶ Final Comprehensive Reports will be available for public release July 1, 2015

NEXT STEPS

- ▶ Identify and reserve facilities to be used as training and deployment centers (regional representation)
- ▶ Review and finalize survey and census instruments
- ▶ Gather any relevant secondary data sources (local efforts, strategic planning, etc.)
- ▶ Identify service providers who can recommend homeless workers for census and survey efforts (adults and youth)
- ▶ Identify survey coordinators willing to stock survey supplies and manage the distribution of surveys to the interviewers and review the returned surveys for quality assurance.

NEXT STEPS CONTINUED

- ▶ Develop volunteer recruitment plan and planning database – optimize volunteers and guides to work in areas of their expertise
- ▶ Develop plan for targeted subpopulation group outreach efforts (veterans, youth, rural, coastal, vehicles etc.)
- ▶ ASR to develop a PIT Count Project plan and Timeline
- ▶ Develop a media and public awareness plan
- ▶ Plan for report review and dissemination of results

THANK YOU

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