



**COALITION**  
FOR THE  
**HOMELESS**



**Street Count Volunteer Training**  
**Wednesday, January 25, 2017**  
**6-7pm**

# Welcome!

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- What is Street Count?
- **Why** is it at 4 a.m.?
- Find a group
- What we are doing
  - Know your forms
  - Our approach
- Questions?

# What is this?

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- Point-In-Time (PIT) count happens four times a year
  - Counts sheltered individuals and people receiving services from homeless programs
  - All communities participate
- Street Count happens one time a year
  - Counts unsheltered individuals for one night of the year
- PIT and Street Count help with federal funding



# *Why* is it at 4 a.m.?

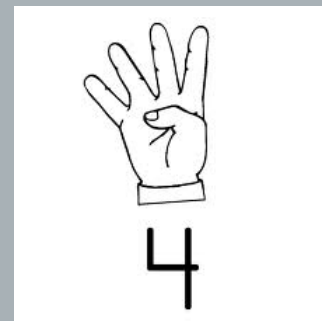
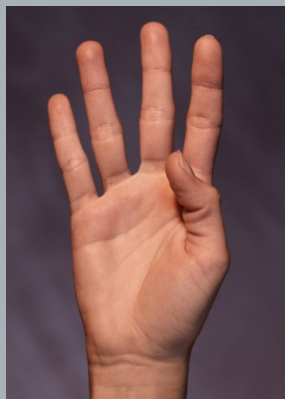
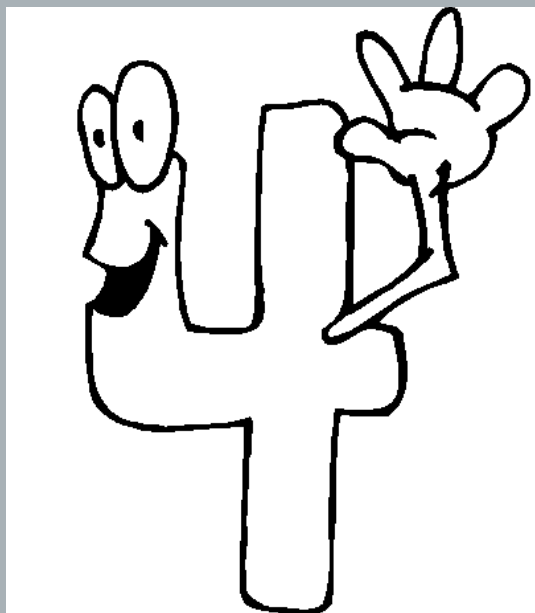
4

- Point-In-Time for the community: January 24
- Street Count: early morning of January 26
  - People did ***NOT*** sleep in a shelter
  - People ***ARE*** in camps, on benches, at bus stops, etc.

# Find a team

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- Groups of **FOUR**



# What We Are Doing

# The break-down for Thursday, January 26

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1. Report to Hotel Louisville at 3:45 a.m.
2. Get with assigned team.
3. Be ready to go at 4 a.m.
4. Go to assigned area and count
5. Report back to Hotel Louisville by 6:45 a.m. with forms.
6. Eat breakfast!

# Know your forms

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- Group Sign-In
- Tally Sheet
- Street Count Questions
- Basics





# Group Sign-In

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- Everyone complete sign-in form now.
- MUST put at least one cell phone number on the form

TEAM #1	
Name	Cell#
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

# Teams

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- Identify a Team Leader (MUST have this person's cell number)
- Pick a person to drive (if necessary)
- Pick at least one person to bring a flashlight



# Tally Sheet

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- **VERY** important sheet - how we get our count
- Everything is tallied and written on this form
- **MUST** be returned to us

 COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS	
2016 Louisville Metro Street Count	
Team:	Team leader:
<p>Count ALL persons whether or not they have been interviewed. Ask ALL adults the following two questions: *** Have you served in the U.S. Armed Forces? *** Were you activated into active duty as a member of the National Guard or as a Reservist? If the answer to <u>either</u> of these two questions is yes, count the person as a veteran.</p>	
	Total Counted
Male	
Female	
Transgender	
Total	
Persons with Pets	
Dog	
Cat	

# Tally Sheet Part II

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- Understanding the Tally Sheet
  - Name, DOB, Gender (note: if you can't get all the information, get what you can)
  - Length of Time Homeless
  - Common Assessment

Name	DOB	M/F /T	Length of Time Homeless	Com. Assmt. Y/N

# Tally Sheet Part III

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- Subpopulations

- Veterans

- ✦ Use the questions at the top of the page to determine their veteran status

- Severely Mentally Ill

- ✦ Observation Counts

- Substance Abuse

- HIV/AIDS

- Domestic Violence (optional)

- Parenting Youth

Vet Y/N	SMI Y/N	SUD Y/N	HIV/AIDS Y/N	DV Y/N	Parenting Youth Y/N

# Street Count Questions

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- Use tally sheet to mark answers

## Street Count Questions

### Homeless Experience

If the answer to **any** of these three questions is “yes”, that is to be counted as chronically homeless

1. Have you been living in an emergency shelter and/or on the streets (including bus stations, underpasses, encampments, abandoned buildings, etc.) for the past year or more?
2. [If no] How many different times have you had to stay in a shelter or lived on the streets in the past three years? [Must have had 4 or more episodes in the past 3 years to be considered chronically homeless per HUD’s definition]
3. In addition to right now, how long would you say that you’ve stayed in these kinds of places over the past three years?

### Disability Status

1. Do you have: (ask individually so that you can mark each one on the sheet)
  - a. chronic physical illness?
  - b. developmental disability?
  - c. drug or alcohol problem?
  - d. serious mental health problem?

# Map

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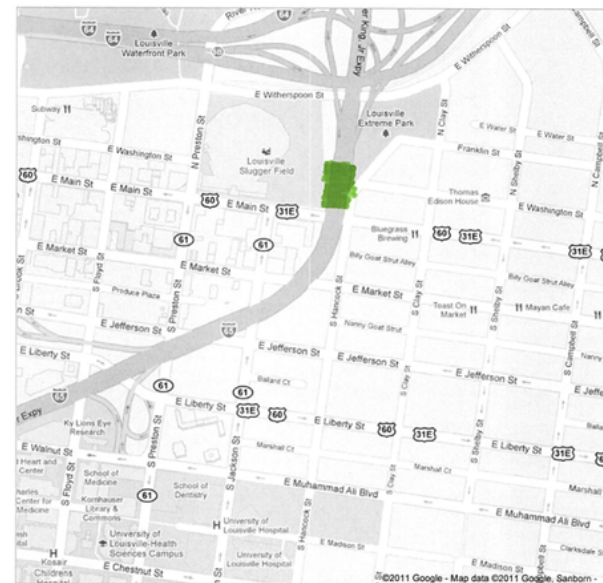
- Area will be highlighted on map
- May have notes on places to check

Louisville, KY, United States - Google Maps

Page 1 of 1

Google maps Address Louisville, KY

Notes under pass by slugger field e  
--main street and hancock street



# Basics

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- Cell phone will be monitored by Annie Behymer
- Approach tips
- Safety tips

## BASICS

Do not go where you feel unsafe.

Always have someone with you.

At least one person in every team should have a cell phone and my cell phone number 502-572-6500 (Susanne Binford).

Announce yourself before walking up on anyone. Especially in covered areas. “Hi, I’m participating in the street count. Is anyone in there?” “Do you need some socks?”

If you are walking into someone’s area and they tell you to go, please leave.

On your route check any underpasses, areas behind buildings, areas around fast food restaurants and gas stations. Check places you might sleep if you



# Tally Sheet and Question Sheet

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- Questions on the “Street Count Questions” that do not need to be tallied (physical disability, other)
- The discrepancy is due to the sensitive nature of the question from a complete stranger



# The Bag

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- Outreach materials – socks, hat, scarf, gloves, food, Street Tips, hand warmers
- Take some extra things if you know your area may be populated
- Bring back whatever is left over, MHOT can use later



# Approach & Safety

# Approaching Someone/Camp

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- Announce, announce, announce – you are walking into their space
- Use a “pick up line” – “Hi, I’m George. I’m helping the Coalition for the Homeless with the Street Count. Can I ask you a few questions? I have some socks/food/hat/etc.”
- Let them wake up
- Remember: they know the Street Count is happening



# Team Safety

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- Use the buddy system – safety phrase for discomfort (“squirrel!”)
- Trust your instincts – leave yourself an out
- Keep a safe and respectful distance
- Beware of dogs! Don’t:
  - ✦ Run
  - ✦ Pet
  - ✦ Approach without owner restraint
  - ✦ Make eye contact

# Do...

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- Introduce yourself and explain what you are doing.
- Be sincere and thank people for their time.
- Honor requests to not participate
- Dress appropriately! It will be cold and you will be walking. We do NOT recommend your cute boots.

# Do...

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- Approach if uncertain about homelessness.
- Bring a flashlight.
- Carry ID and a cell phone with you, but leave other valuables behind.

# Don't...

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- Touch people to wake them up
- Invade personal space
- Mandate participation in the survey
- Put anyone in danger
- Be judgmental
- Promise housing or services



# Don't...

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- Give money or offer rides
- Give out your cell phone number
- Deviate from the questions
- Separate from your team
- Wear all black
- Share any confidential info or photos of participants

# Be Smart

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- If you feel uncomfortable, let someone know immediately.
- Pack light and keep valuables at home.
- If you have questions, feel free to ask them.

# What If...

# What If...

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- Someone doesn't want to take the survey or wants to stop?
- Someone seems like they need help?
- You are uncertain about what to do?
- You need to get a message to someone?

# Questions?

# Volunteer Checklist

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- ✓ Dress appropriately!
  - ✓ Bright colored clothing
  - ✓ Dress warmly – gloves, scarves, hats, etc.
  - ✓ No valuables
- ✓ Bring a flashlight .
- ✓ See you **no later than 3:45 am** tomorrow!

# Take team photos and share!

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- Please take photos of your team – at training, while walking the streets, and selfies
- Share them on Facebook and Twitter with the hashtag **#StreetCountLou** OR email them to [streetcount@louhomeless.org](mailto:streetcount@louhomeless.org)
- Please respect the privacy of homeless individuals and do not take any photos that identify them or their locations
- Follow the Coalition on Facebook ([facebook.com/louhomeless](https://facebook.com/louhomeless)) and Twitter [@louhomeless](https://twitter.com/louhomeless) for photos

# Wrap-up

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- Make sure that every person encountered is tallied, whether they answer questions or not.
- Come back to the site no later than 6:45 a.m. (Finish counting by 6.)
- Turn in all forms and clipboards, ESPECIALLY the tally sheet.
- Turn in the tally sheet.
- Turn in any leftover outreach materials.



# BREAKFAST!!

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# **Thank you so much!**

**Mental Health Outreach Team, Centerstone**

**Hotel Louisville, Wayside Christian Mission**

**Coalition for the Homeless**

**Linda Ross Catering**