

# San Bernardino County Homeless Partnership

## Interagency Council on Homelessness

Administrative Office  
215 North D Street, Suite 301, San Bernardino, CA 92415-0044  
Office: (909) 501-0610



December 21, 2020

Dear CoC Partners,

In mid-November 2020, the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) issued a document to all Continuums of Cares (CoCs) providing guidance for the 2021 Point-In-Time Count (PITC) during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

As part of the guidance, HUD included an exception allowance to permit CoCs to request an exception to some or all of the unsheltered PITC requirements. On December 7, 2020, the Office of Homeless Services (OHS) was directed by the Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH) Chair and Vice-Chair, along with County of San Bernardino leadership to request an exception from HUD to not conduct a 2021 unsheltered PITC for several reasons, which included:

- **Health and Safety:** Local government and community leaders have expressed a high degree of concern about the health and safety of employees, volunteers, and those experiencing homelessness in terms of exposure to COVID-19.
- **COVID-19 Surge:** The region is currently experiencing a surge in COVID-19 cases, resulting in reduced capacity in our hospitals and intensive care units.
- **Unsheltered Count Accuracy:** There is a concern we do not have the necessary resources to complete an unsheltered count.

A request for an exception was submitted on December 10, 2020, to Mr. William Snow, Senior Program Specialist with the HUD Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs per HUD guidance. After reviewing the request, HUD granted the San Bernardino County CoC the exception to conducting any unsheltered PITC in 2021.

The OHS is still committed to looking at our other data sources to help determine the extent and needs of our local unsheltered population for future planning and policy purposes. Data sources will include the Homeless Management Information System, Coordinated Entry System, Sheriff's Homeless Outreach and Proactive Enforcement Team outreach data, and current by-name lists.

Thank you for all your hard work and commitment to serve people experiencing homelessness in your community. For additional assistance or further information, please contact Amy Edwards at (909) 501-0610 or [Amy.Edwards@hss.sbcounty.gov](mailto:Amy.Edwards@hss.sbcounty.gov).

Respectfully,

Maria Razo, Chair  
ICH

Jessica Alexander, Vice-Chair  
ICH

Tom Hernandez, Chief  
OHS

### Members of the Interagency Council on Homelessness

Members of the Board of Supervisors  
City of Victorville  
Housing Authority of the County of San Bernardino  
San Bernardino Law and Justice Group  
San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools

City of Rancho Cucamonga  
Town of Yucca Valley  
Community Development and Housing Agency  
Mountain Regional City Representative  
Members of the Homeless Provider Network

City of San Bernardino  
Department of Behavioral Health  
San Bernardino County Human Services  
Homeless Representative