Great Falls to Participate in nationally Coordinated Point-in-Time Homeless Count – Volunteers Needed.

On January 30-31, the Great Falls Area Continuum of Care and volunteers from the community will participate in the nationally coordinated Point-in-Time (PiT) Homeless Count.

Trained volunteers will count and survey individuals who are staying in shelters, short-term housing and sleeping without shelter. Our PiT Count will provide a "snapshot" of homelessness in our community.

It will indicate the *minimum* number of people experiencing homelessness in our community. Other forms of homelessness, such as people staying temporarily with friends, are not typically included in a PiT Count.

Our PiT Count will improve our understanding of the needs and circumstances of the people who are affected by homelessness in our community. The survey will provide us with key data on gender, age, ethnicity, veteran status and more.

Results from the PiT Count will be made publicly available and we will use the results of the PiT Count to improve our response to homelessness.

Individuals, businesses, civic groups, and others interested in volunteering to help make the count as effective as possible are encouraged to contact Gary Owen at (406)799-2416 or go@uwccmt.org.

- Volunteers will be required to participate in one of two training opportunities on either Monday, January 27 at 11:00am or Wednesday, January 29 at 11:00am.
- Volunteers will meet on Thursday, January 30 at 3:30 pm at NeighborWorks GF to prepare bags of food, water and basic necessities which will be provided to those experiencing homelessness.
- Teams will go out to conduct the count on either the evening of Thursday, January 30 from 5-8pm or the morning of Friday, January 31 from 5:30-8:30am.

There are also opportunities to support the effort by helping to provide the food, water and basic necessities.