



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE January 8, 2026***

### **A Complete Count Ensures Our Region Receives the Resources It Needs Community Volunteers Needed for Annual Point-in-Time (PIT) Homeless Count**

The Rural Nevada Continuum of Care (RNCOC) is calling on community members, service providers, civic groups, and local leaders to participate in the upcoming Point-in-Time (PIT) Count, the annual census of individuals and families experiencing homelessness. The PIT count is a coordinated statewide effort that is done simultaneously with the Southern and Northern Nevada Continuums of Care. **This year's PIT count will take place on the evening of Wednesday, January 28 into Thursday, January 29, 2026.** Volunteers are essential to ensure every person is counted.

The PIT Count is mandated nationwide by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and provides a snapshot of homelessness on one night each year. Local results not only help communities understand trends and needs, but it also directly influences how state and federal funding is allocated. An inaccurate count can understate need and reduce the resources available to local communities. A complete and accurate count is critical to protecting community resources and shaping effective homelessness response systems. Undercounting can result in reduced housing dollars, fewer supportive services, and a diminished ability to demonstrate need in HUD funding competitions.

The PIT count also informs local planning. Data from the PIT Count reveals emerging trends, identifies geographic areas of need, and shows the scale of homelessness among key subpopulations such as families, youth, veterans, and survivors of domestic violence.

**Volunteers Make the Difference!** Community participation is essential for a thorough, high-quality PIT Count. Volunteers will work in teams to visit shelters, outdoor locations, encampments, and other areas where people may be sleeping. All volunteers receive training on the survey process, safety protocols, and HUD requirements. Counts are conducted in coordinated teams and often include outreach workers and individuals with lived experience of homelessness, which helps ensure accuracy and trust.

#### **How to Get Involved**

Individuals, nonprofits, businesses, faith groups, and students are encouraged to sign up. Learn more and register to volunteer at: <https://ruralnevadacoc.org/PIT-2026>

#### **For questions, contact:**

[RNCOC@wingedwolf.org](mailto:RNCOC@wingedwolf.org)

#### ***About the Rural Nevada Continuum of Care***

*The RNCOC coordinates regional strategies and resources to prevent and end homelessness. Through partnerships with local governments, service providers, and community members, the CoC works to ensure access to safe shelter, housing, and support services for individuals and families experiencing homelessness.*