

>>> Good afternoon. We have another terrific webinar for you today entitled homelessness in the United States 2017 HUD estimates of homelessness in the United States. My name is Joe Paskcoski and we have our presenter Steve Blue and you must know Steve. If you do, this is number 30 for Steve, more than anyone else has present and Steve's retiring at the end of the week which we're sad to hear about but he will do some webinars for us after he retires, so we really appreciate that. Currently Steve is the federal government information specialist at the Oklahoma Department of Libraries. He focuses on data, training and working with tribal college libraries and tribal libraries. Before we get started, I have to walk you through some house keeping reminders. First, questions and answers. The presentation will have a Q&A session at the end of the webinar but feel free to text chat your questions through the webinar. Please be keeping track of the questions and read them back to Steve at the end of the webinar and he will answer them. We're also recording today's session and will email a recording to everyone who registered and sending you a certificate of participation using the email you used to register. Because multiple people watch the webinar with you, email FDLP outreach along with the names and email addresses of those needing certificates. At the end of the webinar we'll be sharing a webinar satisfaction survey. Please let you know when the service is available and the url will appear in the chat box. We very much appreciate your feedback after the webinar. Please reserve your comments and use the chat box for questions you'd like to ask the presenter and report any technical issues you encounter. Finally, Steve will be screen sharing his presentation which means once you start -- he starts talking you won't see the chat box in the lower right hand side of the screen. If you just want to watch the chat, mouse over the box to enable it. With that we'll hand the virtual microphone over to Steve who will take it from here.

>> Okay. Hello, everybody. Let me go to my desktop. You will have to tell me if things don't appear.

>> That looks good, Steve.

>> FDLP were doing everything they should we would be familiar with homelessness data with the census of the American community survey. So hopefully we'll start the learning process about approaching this data because this data is very systematic in how this counts the homelessness in our nation and they do a good job. Part of what I will be talking about is showing you they have a high rate of relevance to the reality of the homeless that are actually out in our neighborhoods more about that later. For the intro I will read the December 16th 2017 news release about this data right here, 2017 and the thing to know about the point in time there are two ways of counting homeless. One that's in shelters of various kinds. That is not this. That is part two of AR. We're going to look at part -- part one first which can be some shelters more people who are unsheltered. So in those sort of sheltered off. This is also what gets reported in the press most often and it is the homelessness we see most often as opposed to the homelessness, those who are homeless within shelters, harder to see, not harder to see the people living on our streets. Okay. 2017. Homelessness crept up in the U.S., especially individuals with long-term disabling conditions. Remember that, long-term disabling conditions. According to the latest national estimate by HUD, the 2017 annual homeless assessment report as you see here on the screen, AR, no one calls it anything but AR, 553,742. 553,742 persons experienced homelessness on a single night within a 10-day span of time in 2017 an increase of .76 last year, last year between 2017. 30 states, including the District of Columbia reported decreases in homelessness between 2016 and 2017 but challenges in some major metropolitan areas had an impact on trend lines, New York City and the city, county of Los Angeles that reported nearly a 26% increase in homelessness since 2016 and for those who are in unsheltered locations, not the sheltered homeless but the unsheltered homeless. Back to L.A. We'll be looking at some L.A. data later. Here's a quote from HUD secretary Ben Carson. The many high costs, especially along the west coast, a severe shortage of -- severe shortage of affordable housing is manifesting itself on the street. The high cost of either renting a home or owning a

home or other type of housing -- should have said housing rather than home -- is what the problem is in L.A. county, L.A. city. A couple things here. There are -- this is the 2017 annual housing et cetera but just call it PIT, point in time estimates. It's come plea made the by a 2016 homelessness HMIS report in the U.S. So the acronyms are here. You'll have all the acronyms in the user guide. I have 25 pages, 30 pages. Our acronyms are HMIS but the point in time, the PIT, they are the unsheltered homeless. These publications leapfrog each other. The point in time estimate is always later by one year than the HMIS, the housing management information systems, which is the sheltered homeless. So we have 2017 data for the primarily unsheltered. We have 2016 data for those who are sheltered. Next year it will be 2018, PIT, and if you're working with someone or do the work yourself, you can use volumes that contain data for the same year, 2016, 2017, not 2016, 2017. I will show you the data for 2016, 2017 to the other. This data is available on the HUD exchange website. We assess data from the website which is an official HUD website that's designed for people from HUD and other organizations, particularly, the continuums of care, organizations that count their homeless but there's one website of more. This is not HUD.gov. There are three HUD websites I use. The HUD exchange is one of them. HUD exchange is meant to facilitate sharing data, whether it's a federal agency like HUD or whether it's a statehousing agency like Texas sharing data. So sharing data back and forth from various types of.gov,.org and such. American housing annual homeless assessment report. This is the 2017 data. Usually the response I get quote that can't be accurate but as I found working with it for the past year and a half, this is data collected by people from the service organizationings that work with the homeless in the community which is primarily urban, people that work with homeless people and they know where to look for them and they know when to look for them. They know where they can find them. They know which warm air grates to look for during the winter, those with a lot of card board. So they know which bridges to look under and which warm grates to check. They know because they've been servicing and providing service to the homeless in their area as part of their job and their jobs are funded by the HUD homelessness grants. These counts and surveys are conducted by groups known as continuums of care. Three types of continuums of care, those in major cities like here in my state, Oklahoma City, norm-- Norman, Tulsa. Larger cities. Actually Norman fits in the county and regional. There are some states, and they home have one geography. They do a statewide count. So boseman. I should say Casper. Statewide count for all of Wyoming. , what they do is they conduct what's called a known locations camp, so, again, they know where top find the homeless in their community and their service organizations, which can include rural areas, but they also include service based location such as outreach programs, homeless access centers, soup kitchens, day shelters and warmup shelters, drop in centers and you'll like this example, libraries. We have ours in this library. Within each state the service area of the continue yums of care -- continuums of care were obviously attractive to homeless people and easier to count or survey but the purpose of this AHAR report, annual assessment homeless report is to measure how many families are being served by continuums. How many are unsheltered. How many are in shelters. How many need access to basic services or more services, and you have in your examples both in the user guide and a separate handout the information there coming from the McKinney homeless assistance act that requests those things. Now the continuums, they need to take a complete count, an actual census or they can do either a random sample survey or a nonrandom survey. If they do a nonrandom sample survey, that means they may go to some access centers or day shelters to count them there. That's not really a random access. They can also combine those three types of or two types of samples. There are about 3,000 cities, counties and other geographies that take this count. Legally, they have to choose one night between a minimum of one night between January 22nd and January the 31st. Some continuums choose the same night every year. Some have variance for simple reasons like you may not be able to get volunteers and staff you need to do the same day every year. You may have factors such as a hurricane rolling into town, et cetera. It has to be between January 22nd and the 31st. That's where the point in time the PIT data come frssments part two comes from the housing management information

system estimates of homelessness to give us full title in the U.S. That's gathered every year. That's gathered throughout the year I should say by housing managers, which can include not only government agencies but continuums of care. This data, part two, is gathered October 1st through September 30th and published in November of each year. The PIT data shows those experiencing shelter, homelessness on a single night during the year within that range span. Housing management information data, those experiencing homelessness at any time during the year, any time during the year.

>> Steve, excuse me for one second. Were you going to maybe -- were you going to click on links and show people things?

>> I'm not ready for that.

>> Okay. Just double-checking. Thank you. This is the background before I start showing links, so bear with me. Conduct the point in time surveys and this is important, from dusk until dawn to identify information about homeless individuals in accordance with HUD standards that are meant to minimize the chance of double counting anyone. In the 2017 report, a couple -- 2015 report, HUD asked to collect on gender, ethnicity, race, and if they have children with them, which is called parenting youth and data on unaccompanied youth. The three data categories they collect -- cohorts, ages 18 to 24 and ages 25 and above, the same category the census bureau uses. Remember this, PIT may not represent those who are homeless throughout the year. Only the HMIS data does that even though they may not have been sheltered throughout the year. So it may not represent people who were sheltered in a single night. The HMIS and PIT complement each other but they're different from each other as well. Continuums, count the amount of beds and shelters and if they're being utilized each year for the housing inventory count which is a requirement of the McKinney homeless assistance act and how they get their grants as continuums in the first place. Again. It's published a year after the point in time. They have emergency shelters, transition hall housing facilities and permanent facilities for the chronically homeless during October and September of the following year and they work with the VA and DHHS to get information about veterans, runaway youth and substance abusers. Data comes from 90% of our nation's continuums of care which cover 97% of the geographic U.S. The rate of return of this data is pretty good. The 2016 American community survey was only 78.7% from the entire nation and our homelessness data rate of return was over 90%. Let me mention here. Continuums of care, they do accept and encourage public libraries to join the continuums. We'll go on. I will show you data in a minute. It's important to read this. If you get out in the rural areas, most homeless are in rural areas. There's a type of category known as last balance of state data or the statewide geography that you'll find in Rhode Island and Wyoming. They depend on volunteers in those areas to also conduct a count or more likely in such areas of random or nonrandom surveys of the shelters, depending on volunteers for this. Hold on, Joe. I just lost my screen. Okay. I'm back. Should be seeing the screen again. Here's the bigger part that goes to congress. The report with good photos and such. This is the unsheltered homeless PIT data that's showing up here. The various categories that show up individuals with children and this can include people young enough that I call them children with children but also known as parenting youth. Those below 18, when you look at this section four, homeless veterans, crone economy homeless -- chronically homeless individuals. I mentioned this inventory of beds. It goes into this on a single night, the last 10 days in January, 553,742 people homelessness. Two thirds of those were staying in emergency shelters, transitional housing, and it was 35% who were in sheltered locations. You can figure this out by the number of people, those who are in emergency shelters out of the 553,742. Those in emergency shelters 360,867. Those in unsheltered locations promptly 1 -- approximately-- I said this in the introduction, most of this happened because of increased housing costs in our major cities and counties. We see that right now, unsheltered individuals in the 50 largest cities. Fewer homeless families who had children, youth sometimes who would run away from home. That's what this category is. And this category increase in veterans, but they point to the drop at 45%. They are strong veteran homeless programs. The most increase -- most increase was right here, unsheltered veterans in those major

cities. One of the things I found with veterans is if someone a veteran, they found that it requires an interview with them. They found that identifying someone in this last category as chronically homeless also requires an interview with that person. We have this definition of terms. Some of this will go back up. Additional data from my report. You also have it in your user guide. 61% of people who are homeless are meant 39% were women. Half the people who were homeless self-identified as being white. The other race self-identified most as being homeless, African-American, but they found that people who were unsheltered tended to be more white and the homeless who were in shelters tended to be more African-American. 46% of African-Americans were homeless, were in shelters. Whites, they're just out on the streets wherever they can find a place. Before I clicked out. Remember, this is the first link, got a lot of data in it. People want to see data from where they live so, I will open up this second link and what we have coming up are the state reports. I'm going to scroll through this all the way to the end. You see what I've done. I've gone to screen 127 then I find the report for the geography with the continuum of care geography. Now also in this we're used to seeing state, state, state everywhere, but there's one report for Guam. There's five for Puerto Rico. There's one for the virgin islands -- U.S. virgin islands. I will click on my state, bring it up and some of the things we can look at here, major category sheltered and unsheltered, whether it's emergency shelter, transitional, which can be permanent supportive housing. Scroll through this. We see our numbers our demography. Chronically homeless. The categories, particularly the summary of all the populations. There are a lot of federal programs that tie into these, in fact all of these, parenting youth here. Now you can either scroll down through this. Notice how many screens we have to go through. That's a tedious way. Over here, filter. PIT started in 2007 but I give you 2017 all scopes. That means all of this box. So if you wanted to include everything in Puerto Rico as we should and all the U.S. territories as we should, you've got one report. One has states from D.C. for continuum of care area. These include data of where you live and work. So I will click up where I can see all states and look what shows up here, not just states. But I'm going to choose our state. Look at the way it's balanced, Tulsa city, Oklahoma city, the large balance of state. It tends to be outside urban areas to the more rural areas. The big three, urban areas, Tulsa, another man.-- Norman. Ly click on one of these -- I will click on one of these. Here's my category of shelter, unsheltered. We have various demographics and information. Now one of the things you'll find, as usual, I put more in the user guide than I have time to put in the webinar. I put things in there to use as reference guys. You don't have to go looking for the glossary because it's in there but let's open up another state. Here's L.A. Look at this large number. Look at the unsheltered. Notice the big difference, whether it's emergency shelter and several categories, got information about that in your user guide or transition including housing, what's called permanent supportive housing that they try to put chronically homeless individuals. Notice the large difference between that and unsheltered -- unsheltered. The reason we're looking at L.A., two weeks ago and I don't remember what day it was they had a news article about the huge growth of homelessness in L.A. city and county with descriptions of -- and this is the way they painted it in the newspaper report -- hundreds of encampments appearing in river beds, canyons and it increased by 5% in the last six years. That's why you're looking at L.A. Go back here. There are also these categories. If you like your data in excel, you've got it. These are excel files re-- excel files right here. Notice they go back to the start. These are the only things, this pdf, html and the rest of the things here. This is part one. Part two, the 2016 data. This is a nice big shiny report they send to congress. Some of it I already read for you. Go back. This is that first one. There are smaller reports here. Didn't want that, did I. All right. Now I will pull it up. It's got, as you see here -- hey, my state's in there, changing the estimates. Percentage change. Some of these other reports the same way. After pdf here's

>> You've got to do these two and you've got to abide by these standards. Some are obvious like conduct the count. The last 10 days in January. Must account for all sheltered homeless people. That means if there's some rural areas, even though they are rural they need to know about homeless or unsheltered in that area. The definition of what homeless individuals are, 14 standards they need to

abide by. One of the things they have to abide by is to not count anyone twice and HUD has a lot of regulations and suggestions on how to get information about how to not count someone twice if you're running a survey or a census. They have the 14 here. Then they appear later when you get into the subject areas of the guides, repeat standards that are appropriate. Then they tell you how to -- suggestions on how to do these things and the best way to do them. Also talked about such things as -- I'm showing you this right here, public library shows up as places to go for the homeless. The PIT. This doesn't look like the methodology guide until you look at the subtitle. It's 26 pages for the housing management information. These are those homeless who are sheltered. Some type of shelter. There are some things to talk about here as well. The data here in part two does not include those experiencing homelessness, the continuing of care jurisdictions. That's obvious. It's outside their geography but also doesn't include those experiencing homelessness within the jurisdiction if they're not using emergency shelter. The PIT program is supposed to count them, not the HMIS, the housing program. This is the quote here. You can see this right here. Continuing of care covers 97% of the population including high rates of homelessness. So few people experience homelessness are likely to live outside the continuum community. Now that doesn't mean the balance of the state, which is primarily urban, rural areas isn't a challenge. It's probably the most difficult thing they can do, but outside of the unsheltered, well, they have these different categories types of shelter. Now one of the problems with this is the 2005 violence against women and the department of justice authorization act prohibits quote victim service providers from identifying information about homeless people in an HMIS. So they can't put information about victim service providers, even though they may be staying at their shelter into HMIS. So this doesn't include residential victim service, those or a victim of domestic violence and this keeps them from being identified as being in a shelter even if they're there. When you look at the confidence, for the entire nation it's only a matter of 2003 and 840 people between the high and the low. That measures the uncertainty. That's actually a pretty good rate for a nation with our population of uncertainty about these sheltered homes. That's HUD. You have to click on this. I'm going to go to an easier way way. So I will take it for granted that you do. We will go through the cost of owning versus renting a home and I got step by step screenshots of this. All right. Renter housing costs. Next, we better put a geography in there. Going to put in both. I need you to roll the screen out of the way or, Ashley, if you can do it for me. I can't click this off, hoist.

>> Steve, just mouse over the blue bar at the top and stop screen sharing. Is that what you're trying to do?

>> No I want to get the thing that says participants and panelists out of my way because it's keeping me from bringing up the data. Are you even seeing it on your computer?

>> We're seeing it. It's a dark box. -- box. I can't do that for you but there should be an X you can click out of it.

>> I was afraid I might lose somebody.

>> You're good.

>> All right. Let's look at monthly housing costs and we get an idea why people are having a problem with the high cost of housing. 2504. The monthly housing cost. This is the median. What about everything above the median. That's what's keeping housing expensive in both of those areas. Bring this up again, these categories. People. Obviously, this is telling us housing in L.A. is pretty expensive. I'll put information about how you can look up your housing cost, fees, where you live. Santa Fe, Texas, as opposed to \$929. Okay. What sort of questions do you have here? I'm looking at a few of them.

>> Thank you, Steve. Great webinar.

>> Talked a lot of methodology. When you get your user guides to start going on the websites, just spend some time on them. They will start make sense to you between the methodology stuff I have in the user guide and looking at the actual data. It will start to make sense to you if you spend a bit of time with it.

>> Vicky had a question. Did I get the years right? We've been collecting data on homelessness gender, race, veterans, et cetera since 2007.

>> I'm just talking about HUD, the point in time. The point in time started in 2007.

>> Okay and Heidi asks what user guide are you talking about? That's the use per guide you're going to provide with the webinar.

>> In a day or two. I've got more information in there that I was able to put in this webinar to get you started learning this data. Seems to me we should know, American fact finder data. We should also learn about the data about the homelessness in our area to complement that American fact finder data. Seems like we should spend time learning about both of them.

>> Victoria asked a question regarding the PIT. The 2017 report you showed us had both shelter and unsheltered, so the PIT counts all of them?

>> Actually the PIT actually counts the unsheltered but the continuum of care -- part of the PIT is having a housing inventory count, which counts the number of beds but if you're going to count the number of beds available, you're also going to count if you're being used by anyone and that data will go into the PIT. The HMIS, the part two data has more sheltered data because it includes -- actually depends on the way the continuum does it. Say every month, then they have data that's current enough that they can put in the PIT and the HMIS but if they don't count the data, then they may need to have a once a year HMIS data to get all that part two data. So depending on how they're doing it since they have a choice about -- since they've got the choice.

>> Okay.

>> PIT doesn't count all the shelters. That's the easy answer to -- easy answer to the question I should have given you.

>> Katie has the comment, Victoria, I looked up the standards and it states the point in time count is a count of sheltered and unsheltered people experience homelessness that HUD requires each continuum care nationwide you conduct in the last 10 days. I nits you mentioned -- think you mentioned that.

>> Yeah, but the HMIS is the 2016 county. There are sheltered people in the PIT.

>> Are the presenters doing also qualitative research?

>> Presenter being me, well, no.

>> She may have meant the -- well, I don't know. If you can qualify that. Do you mean Steve or the researchers Steve is talking about.

>> Part of what they do will include qualitative data but it's more like quantity Fayette -- quantitative. Really, if you want to look at the continuum care, which is usually synonymous with the city, you want to use both PIT and hmis. PIT is 2017 and HMIS will always be one-year-old per 2016 or use 2016 with both parts.

>> Nancy had the comment, which has the more data for individual ones -- oh, you just mentioned that, PIT or HMIS. I have a couple questions myself, Steve. Somewhere in all of this -- and maybe you mentioned this. The homeless that are employed versus the unemployed homeless. Is anything like that in all this information?

>> There's nothing to prevent a continuum from getting that data but you're not going to find it in this stief okay.-- in this stuff.

>> Okay. You mentioned Los Angeles having the highest rate. Any place with the lowest operate per population?

>> Well --

>> That you're aware of.

>> They don't emphasize the lowest when looking at the stuff. What you can do is go in the national report.

>> I was thinking maybe some state is doing it right, have some excellent ideas of keeping it down.

>> In general if you go to a rural area it will be less homelessness than a urban area. Just looking at each one of them.

>> Okay. Harshly put the webinar satisfaction survey in the chat box. So please fill that out.

>> I don't think they're understated or underestimate because the people doing the counting are people that provide services to them all year around. They know if they're unsheltered, they know where to look for them during that one day of the year they go out, the last 10 days. They know where to find them. It's in the like you're hiring -- not like you're hiring someone to find them. They know where they're out and the shelter count is accurate because you've done some of the clipboard.

>> The question was how much do you think -- by how much do you think these numbers are understated and Steve just mentioned that. I will go into my wrap-up comments. It's 3:00. We still have time for questions. As I'm talking please get those questions or comments in for Steve. First off, I'd like to thank Steve for another terrific webinar, Again, it's something I want to do. When I return. Which will probably be in March. I have to do some work on digitizing

>> It's a negative definition. It says rural is what urban isn't, but there are places that examine rural ones. The CDC has a web page just on rural health. I tried to put them together in one webinar sometime in March and I would be remiss to not thank the people who worked with me the most Joe and Ashley. I couldn't have done number one much less the rest of them.

>> So thank you.

>> We just put in the chat box the links to Steve's library guide and I put a link at the bottom. My colleague wrote a great article about the FDLP. So please give that a look if you want to check that out. Let's see if we have any last questions for Steve. Glad to hear he's coming back to get the band back together again. Looks like no other questions. I'll close it out. Looking forward to you coming back. We're anxiously awaiting your future webinars. Thank you, Ashley, thank you audience and Steve, have a great retirement and everyone have a great rest of the day and come back tomorrow to the FDLP academy for another webinar. Thank you. [Event concluded]