



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Ryan Boyd
Assistant Director
Monongalia County PIT Coordinator
Bartlett Housing Solutions
304.225.3413 (office)
304.554.2143 (fax)
rboyd@bartletthousingsolutions.org
www.bartletthousingsolutions.org

Volunteers Needed to Count Homeless Population in Monongalia County

MORGANTOWN, WV – Bartlett Housing Solutions in partnership with the West Virginia Coalition to End Homelessness is looking for volunteers to count individuals and families who are experiencing homeless in Monongalia County.

The volunteers are needed for the annual "Point in Time" Count in January, which is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and helps communities understand and plan to meet the needs of fellow citizens experiencing homelessness.

"The annual count helps Bartlett Housing Solutions, the West Virginia Coalition to End Homelessness, Monongalia County officials, the City of Morgantown, service agencies and rural communities to strategically address the housing and service needs of individuals and families who are experiencing homeless or at risk for homelessness," Ryan Boyd, Assistant Director of Bartlett Housing Solutions and Monongalia County PIT Count Coordinator said.

The process also helps to ensure annual funding that provides crucial housing and supporting services for the homeless population.

To have the best and most accurate count possible dozens of volunteers are needed. Teams of three or four volunteers will span out across the 366 square miles of Monongalia County to count and survey those who sleep outdoors and in places that are not safe or meant for habitation.

The process of surveying helps to identify local trends among the homeless population such as families with children, unaccompanied youth, the chronically homeless and veterans. The PIT

10 West Run Road | Suite 200 | Morgantown, WV 26508
Main: 304.292.0101 | Fax: 304.554.2143
www.bartletthouse.org



Count also helps identify the magnitude of challenges such as substance use or mental and physical health issues.

The PIT Count will take place on January 23, 2018 beginning at 4 p.m. and ending at 4 p.m. on January 24, 2018.

Volunteers must be at least 18-years-old. A training session will be offered several times in January. PIT volunteers will also be given necessary tools to help aid in the count.

To participate, complete a PIT Count volunteer profile at:

www.bartlethousingsolutions.org/pitcount

###