



COUNTY OF YOLO

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 26, 2009

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Yolo County Homeless Census

(Woodland, CA) – The Yolo County Homeless & Poverty Action Coalition (HPAC) is conducting a point-in-time street count of the homeless on Jan. 29, 2009. The count will occur from 6:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., and will include a survey component. The count is a collaborative effort of community volunteers, including homeless and formerly homeless individuals, and HPAC member and partner agencies.

The federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires that a point-in-time homeless count occur within specific guidelines in order to qualify for Continuum of Care/Supportive Housing Program (SHP) funding. Yolo County homeless services providers currently receive about \$411,000 in SHP funding. Additionally, the count provides information that allows service providers to target services to meet the specific needs of the homeless in our communities.

The count will include both sheltered and unsheltered homeless individuals and families. The count of sheltered individuals will occur the night before the street count and include emergency shelters, transitional housing, and motel voucher programs. The unsheltered homeless count will be of those sleeping in places not meant for human habitation according to HUD guidelines.

The count includes a survey component, and it is expected that the results will be available to the Yolo County Board of Supervisors within one month, and additional survey data will be available in early spring.

“The homeless census is a valuable tool for all of us who work with the countywide homeless population,” said Yolo County Board of Supervisors Chair Mike McGowan. “It’s a collaborative effort by the county, the cities of Woodland, Davis, West Sacramento and Winters, law enforcement and other community volunteers, and is instrumental in helping us to identify needs and secure funding to provide appropriate services.”

HPAC is an affiliation of public sector groups and private, non-profit agencies. Its mission is to provide leadership on homelessness and poverty in Yolo County with the vision to create and sustain a comprehensive, coordinated and balanced array of human services for homeless and low-income individuals and families within Yolo County.

For more information, contact Louise Collis, Senior Program Manager for the City of West Sacramento and Chair of the HPAC at (916) 617-4555.

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