



News Release

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Arapahoe County participates in statewide homeless count

LITTLETON, CO --- In order to understand and assist Colorado's homeless, Arapahoe County, in conjunction with the Colorado Interagency Council on Homelessness, will conduct a statewide homeless count Jan. 29 - 30. This count is the second of two statewide homeless counts.

This past summer volunteers and agencies from across the state participated in the first statewide homeless count in 17 years. That survey indicated at least 11,890 homeless individuals live in Colorado during the summer, many of which are families with children.

The homeless count will be a one-day point-in-time survey of families and individuals from throughout Colorado to determine what homelessness looks like across the state. The purpose of the count is to help state and local governments understand the causes of homelessness, assist with statewide planning efforts and the allocation of resources, and create public awareness that homelessness is a statewide concern. Additionally, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development requires a January count in order for Colorado to receive certain federal homeless prevention funds.

"The homeless count will help Arapahoe County in planning ongoing support for programs that aid the homeless and those who are on the verge of homelessness," said Don Klemme, Community Resources Director.

In an effort to make the count as accurate as possible, organizers will station volunteers during the one day count at various places where homelessness would probably be encountered, including soup kitchens and service providers. In addition to providing a head count of the homeless, organizers will ask where the homeless individual or family stayed the previous night and, if possible, their age, gender and ethnicity.

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