

November 16, 2022

## 'Everyone Counts' - End Homelessness St. John's homeless count will inform local plan to end homelessness

On November 23<sup>rd</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>, 2022, End Homelessness St. John's will conduct the 'Everyone Counts' Point in Time (PiT) Count. It will be the community's third PiT Count of the homelessness population which surveys individuals in a wide range of settings across the city. EHSJ's previous counts took place in 2016 and 2018 and successive counts help shape our community's plan to prevent and end homelessness.

'Everyone Counts' will enumerate people living on the streets, in emergency shelters and short-term housing, those experiencing hidden homelessness ('couch surfers' staying with friends or relatives), and people accommodated in public systems such as health & correctional institutions who have no fixed address and whose imminent release lacks a discharge plan for housing.

"Everyone Counts raises awareness of homelessness in our community while providing key insights that will allow us to set priorities and target resources towards community-led solutions to homelessness", said Doug Pawson, Executive Director of End Homelessness St. John's.

More than 50 volunteers have been mobilized and trained by EHSJ to count and survey individuals experiencing homelessness. The information collected will provide a "snapshot" of homelessness in the city by indicating the minimum number of people experiencing homelessness in St. John's on a single day. The survey will help EHSJ gather additional information about the demographics and service needs of people affected by homelessness. A report on the results of the PiT Count will be released upon completion in early 2023.

**About End Homelessness St. John's:** End Homelessness St. John's exists to prevent and end homelessness. Working collaboratively with community stakeholders, EHSJ is leading the implementation of the St. John's Community Plan to End Homelessness. Through the continuation of coordinated system-wide planning and EHSJ's leadership, St. John's will become the next community in Canada to end homelessness.

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