

Public Service Announcement – January 6, 2011

Sixth Annual Homeless Census, Colusa County January 26, 2011

The Colusa, Glenn, & Trinity Community Action Partnership and the Dos Rios Continuum of Care (COC) are partnering for the Sixth Annual Homeless Census in Colusa. The Dos Rios Continuum is a four county collaborative established to promote solutions for currently homeless individuals and families to gain permanent housing in compliance with Housing & Urban Development (HUD) standards for Homeless Continuum, and currently serves Colusa, Glenn, Tehama, & Trinity counties, and recently added to the partnership is Lassen, Plumas, & Sierra counties. The seven county COC Partnership is a group of private and public agencies and non-profits that strive to improve services for homeless individuals and families in Colusa County. The COC developed a ten-year Homeless Continuum of Care Plan which identifies and addresses the number of homeless and the types of services that will be provided in an effort to gain and maintain permanent housing. As a component of the plan, the Continuum of Care Partnership is required by the Federal Government to take a physical count/survey of homeless individuals/families on a specified day every other year; that date has been identified as **Wednesday, January 26, 2011**. A cooperative team of area organizations, community groups, and public service agencies that directly and indirectly provide help to the homeless are involved in this particular project. The survey includes:

- A point in time count of homeless families/individuals that will allow Colusa County to continue to receive current, and pursue additional Federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funding. For the COC competitive homeless assistance programs, HUD defines a homeless person as a “person sleeping in a place not meant for human habitation or in an emergency shelter; and a person in a transitional housing for homeless persons who originally came from the street or an emergency shelter.”
- Information gathered will be useful in advocating for other assistance to help the homeless and special needs populations.
- Results will give the COC a base for planning services to meet the needs of the homeless children and families in the Colusa area.

If you know someone who is homeless, please direct them to a census taker on **Wednesday, January 26, 2011**. There will also be mobile survey teams made up of community volunteers and agency representatives out in the county on this date as well. Each survey participant will be provided a special gift for their time and willingness to complete the census. If you would like more information, contact Donna Dennis of the Department of Health & Human Services (530) 458.0290.

Census takers will be at the following locations:

Colusa Health & Human Services, 251 E. Webster, Colusa, CA 95932 (530) 458.0250

Impact Colusa, 541 Fremont Street, Colusa, CA 95932, (530) 458-5776

Colusa County Behavioral Health, 162 E. Carson St., Colusa, CA 95932 (530) 458.0520

Colusa One Stop, 146 Market Street, Colusa, CA 95932 (530) 458-0326