

Dear friend,

Every two years the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) organizes volunteers to count homeless in LA County. This year we are partnering with LAHSA in this effort by organizing our volunteers, staff members, and supporters to participate as volunteers. The reason why it is important to count homeless people is because when we know who and where homeless people are in Los Angeles County, we are better able to plan and identify resources to provide vital services, and ultimately move homeless families and individuals into housing. This year, we need approximately 4,000 volunteers to conduct a successful Count.

Please consider joining us in counting the homeless on one of the three Homeless Count nights. The Count will take place on the nights of January 25-January 27, 2011. Volunteers will meet-up at deployment sites in communities across Greater Los Angeles to receive training and then go out in teams by car and on foot, to visually count the number of homeless persons living in a specified area. You can sign up at <http://theycountwillyou.org>. Don't forget to put our organization's name in the "organization name" field when you sign up!

2011 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Schedule:

- Tuesday, January 25, 2011 (Evening) – San Gabriel Valley, East LA County
- Wednesday, January 26, 2011 (Evening) – West LA, South Bay
- Thursday, January 27, 2011 (Evening) – Metro LA, South LA, San Fernando Valley
- Thursday, January 27, 2011 (Morning) – Antelope Valley

Volunteer Opportunities:

- *Counters\*; January 25-27, 8PM-1AM:* Counters will be deployed in groups of two or three to count specific blocks in your area. You will receive training and materials on the day of the count from trained volunteers. You will be outside counting for up to four hours. (Antelope Valley counters begin at 6AM.)
- *Trainers; January 25-27, 7PM-10PM:* Trainers will be responsible for training all counters at a specific deployment center. Trainers will take on a leadership role and should be comfortable giving directions. LAHSA will provide training prior to the date of the count.
- *Deployment Center Coordinators; January 25-27, 6PM- 2AM:* Deployment center coordinators will be in charge of running a deployment center in their local area. Deployment center coordinators will take on a leadership role and should be comfortable giving directions. This includes setting up, ensuring volunteers are trained and deployed appropriately, collecting and reviewing all tally sheets, and cleaning up after the count is over.
- *Transporting Materials; January 24-28, varying times:* Before and after the count, we need assistance in transporting material and tally sheets to and from deployment centers back to LAHSA headquarters. All materials must arrive to Deployment Centers by 6:00PM.
- *Office Volunteers; Monday-Friday, 9AM-8PM (Varying hours per day/week):* Office work includes making phone calls to recruit volunteers and helping with data entry. Preferable hours are in the afternoon (5PM-8PM) with hours of volunteering ranging from 1-3 hours.

For more information visit or to sign up: [www.theycountwillyou.org](http://www.theycountwillyou.org).

Find us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/GreaterLAHomelessCount>

\*Volunteers must be 18 years of age or older.