



## **Youth Outreach Tips** *for the 2016 Point in Time Count*

- Have something to offer youth, such as granola bars and socks. Youth are more likely to engage if they can receive an incentive.

Then folks can explain what the project is and ask the youth if they would be willing to spend a moment of time talking.

- If the youth is willing, explain more fully what the Point in Time Count is and how the data collected will help young people in the future.
- Explain that participation in the count is voluntary.
- If the youth does not want to provide their name, use a code: [first 3 letters of last name+first 3 letters of first name+age].
- Distribute information on local resources. Have a resource list on hand out if the youth wants more info, regardless of whether the youth participates in the count.
- Be genuine and respectful.
  - Be aware of body language of the youth and yourself; and how you are presenting yourself to youth
  - Be sincere; make the youth feel comfortable
  - Never assume you know their situation
  - Do not make promises you cannot keep