As the 2020 Census approaches, ensuring that every person in Bayfield County is counted is crucial that the County and its local governments have complete and thorough representation. To aid this goal, the Bayfield County Board of Supervisors established a Complete Count Committee (CCC) on Tuesday, July 30 with the specific purpose to count every community member in the 2020 Census.

The County is seeking community members from across Bayfield County in order to gather a pool of local knowledge from various areas. This local knowledge will be critical to gathering accurate data. The County believes that CCC Members, should represent all aspects of a community including tribal governments, education, health, social services, media, businesses, community organizations or just regular citizens.

In past Census’, certain demographics are deemed “hard to count,” due to their living arrangements or capabilities. For Bayfield County this can include “seasonal residents” who are away during winter months, millennials and seniors. Other Census data also has a history of undercounting minorities, children under 5 years, the homeless, immigrants, and more. With the creation of the CCC, its local members can work together to ensure that everyone is counted.

A complete census count not only provides up-to-date information on the demographics of Bayfield County, but determines apportionment of government representation and redistricting. Redistricting is what determines the representation that Bayfield County has in the state and federal government and the size of our state and federal legislative voice. Having accurate statistics also determines state and federal funding, resource allocation, and documentation for grant proposals. In other words, an accurate count will act to greatly benefit the community and is critical for redistributing federal and state funding. More funding will directly benefit the entire Bayfield County community.

As tribal, state, and local governments work to get a complete count, we are starting now to help educate every person in Bayfield County about the importance to participate in the Census. We are also encouraging you to join the Complete Count Committee as well. Those wishing to participate in making the Census accurate, cost and time efficient can keep up to date by monitoring the news flashes on the Bayfield County web page at [www.bayfieldcounty.org](http://www.bayfieldcounty.org). Help Bayfield County to ensure that the 2020 Census counts every person by joining the Complete Count Committee.