

POVERTY AWARENESS ACTIVITIES

1. CWJC Poverty Quiz
2. Budget Your Day
3. Shanty Village
4. One in Eight
5. Popcorn



Budget Your Day

Fill in dollar amounts for how much you might spend in one typical day:

Breakfast _____
Toiletries _____
Clothing _____
Transportation _____
Lunch _____
Dinner _____
Entertainment (music, TV, books, etc.) _____
Candy/Snacks _____
House/Apartment _____

TOTAL: _____

Did you know...

- \$ 1.2 billion people in the world live on less than \$1 per day. (United Nations Food and Agriculture)
- \$ Wealthiest 20 percent of world's population consumes 86 percent of the world's resources. (United Nations Food and Agriculture)
- \$ Poorest 20 percent of the world's population consumes 1 percent of the world's resources. (United Nations Food and Agriculture)
- \$ In the United States, 13 million children live in households where meals are skipped or they eat less to make ends meet. (United Nations Food and Agriculture)
- \$ The basic health and nutritional needs of the world's poorest can be met for an additional \$13 billion a year. Animal lovers in the United States and Europe spend more than that on pet food each year. (United Nations Developmental Program)

Shanty Village

(For the fall or spring)

Build a “shanty village” out of cardboard boxes in the yard. Each person may wear a t-shirt, shorts, socks, and shoes. No blankets or coats.

Each participant may take \$5. They may choose clothing from a small pile of donated clothes for \$.75 per item. They must also purchase food and transportation.

Each participant must survive 24 hours.

One in Eight

Tape a red piece of paper to the back of one chair for every eight chairs in your group. During the session, have those with the red paper stand. Draw attention to the fact that one in eight Americans lives in poverty.

Popcorn

During your meeting, have someone pop a bag of microwave popcorn, bring it into the meeting, and eat it. After several minutes, discuss the experience of wanting something but being unable to attain it, the difficulty of concentrating while wanting something else, and the disparity of some having resources while others do not.