

Key Websites

A Catholic Campaign Against Global Poverty

www.usccb.org/globalpoverty

Contains information about how the issues of trade, aid and debt affect poor people around the world.

Campaign to Reduce Poverty in America

www.CatholicCharitiesUSA.org/poverty

Learn about this Catholic Charities USA campaign geared to reduce poverty in the United States by 50 percent by the year 2020 and what you can do as one person.

Poverty USA

www.povertyusa.org

Contains daily action ideas to combat poverty: *Today's way to help.*

The Hunger Site

www.thehungersite.org

Provides an opportunity to help eliminate hunger through the click of the mouse.

Fair Trade Program

www.crsfairtrade.org

Supports low-income farmers and artisans, helping them enter the U.S. trade market and provides socially conscious consumers opportunities to assist through the purchase of Fair Trade products.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:

OFFICE FOR SOCIAL ACTION

900 S. Woodward Street
Allentown, PA 18103-4179

Mrs. MaryAnn Hartzell, Director

610- 289-8900, ext. 231

E-mail: mhartzell@allentowndiocese.org



"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace."



**SAY "NO" TO
POVERTY**
here and abroad

“As Catholics, we must come together with a common conviction that we can no longer tolerate the moral scandal of poverty in our land and so much hunger and deprivation in our world. As believers, we can debate how best to overcome these realities, but we must be united in our determination to do so. Our faith teaches us that poor people are not issues or problems, but sisters and brothers in God’s one human family.”

A Place at the Table: A Catholic Recommitment to Overcome Poverty and to Respect the Dignity of All God’s People, U.S. Catholic Bishops 2002

Consider These Statistics

- ◆ More than 300,000 children die every day from hunger, deprivation and their consequences.
- ◆ Disease and debt, corruption and conflict are threatening the lives and dignity of millions in our increasingly globalized world.
- ◆ Almost 800 million people around the world live with hunger or malnutrition as a daily fact of life.
- ◆ More than 3 billion people live on less than \$2 a day; more than 1.2 billion live on less than \$1 a day.
- ◆ One-sixth of children in the United States grow up poor, despite living in the richest nation in the world.
- ◆ In the United States, thirty-four million people live below the poverty line (\$17,960 for a family of four).
- ◆ The younger you are in our country, the more likely you are to be poor. Discrimination, lack of opportunity, and economic injustice make poverty worse, especially for those in racial and ethnic communities and for persons with disabilities.

A Place at the Table: A Catholic Recommitment to Overcome Poverty and to Respect the Dignity of All God’s People, U.S. Catholic Bishops 2002

Suggested Actions

INDIVIDUALS

- * Join the Diocesan Legislative Advocacy Network
610-289-8900 x231.
- * Support a co-op or a local family-owned business.
- * Knit mittens, scarves, caps for children in the winter.
- * Support your local St. Vincent de Paul Society, soup kitchen, food bank.
- * Purchase Fair Trade coffee and other items.
- * Use public transportation at times, to help ensure that it will remain available for those who depend on it.

CHILDREN

- * Save pennies for children in need.
- * When you get a toy - give a toy to a child who has very little.
- * Share your extra crayons, pencils, cookies, balls with someone who has none.
- * Live without candy or soda for a week. It is good to learn what other children experience.
- * Be polite to everyone; all people deserve to be treated with respect.

FAMILIES

- * Provide a learning experience by volunteering at a local soup kitchen.
- * Visit a friend or parishioner in a nursing home.
- * Read the following books with your children to promote global awareness; The Quiltmaker’s Gift, Old Turtle, The King’s Fountain.
- * Help children to experience the stories of people in developing countries through resources on CRS Kids site:
http://www.crs.org/kids/index_flash.htm.

SHUT-INS

- * Pray for all who are struggling economically.