

American Example: Students engaged in anti-poverty research and actions
www.povertyusa.org

Poverty USA (www.povertyusa.org) is an initiative of the Catholic Campaign for Human Development and is an instrument of the Catholic Church working to break the cycle of poverty. It is also a domestic anti-poverty program of the U.S. Catholic Bishops. The mission of Poverty USA is to help low-income people participate in decisions that affect their lives, families, and communities--and nurture solidarity between poor and non-poor populations.

<http://www.povertyusa.org/the-state-of-poverty/poverty-usa-tour/>

One of the strategies of Poverty USA is to involve students. See: www.povertyusa.org/poverty-resources/education-center/ The idea is to get educators to initiate meaningful discussions about poverty in America today with students so they not only begin to understand the size and scope of the problem, but also start thinking about the ways in which they can take action to help create awareness about poverty in their communities.

[Grades K-5](#)

[Grades 6-12](#)

[Adult Education](#)

Each unit is then further divided into 4 sections:

- *Focus:* The main theme, topic or concept covered in the unit, together with introductory remarks suitable for reading aloud to your group.
- *Activity:* Endeavors designed to get your group members thinking not only about the life of those in poverty, but their own lives as well.
- *Getting Involved:* Community-oriented activities that can be pursued either in a group setting or on their own--activities that, by encouraging community involvement, will help your group further its understanding of poverty in America.
- *Learning more:* Suggested resources – both print and online--for further exploration of topics and issues related to poverty in America.

[Ending Poverty in Community Curriculum \(EPIC\)](#)

The EPIC Curriculum, a toolkit for Young Advocates, is an interactive, interdisciplinary curriculum for high school classrooms. The lessons introduce participants to the epidemic of poverty in the United States and to the steps they can take to work with the poor in eliminating the root causes of poverty today.