

Share in *Hope* Food Drive

Lent 2010

Sponsored by Catholic Charities/DC and the Archdiocese of Washington to benefit parish food pantries and the Capital Area Food Bank

Thank you

for any way you are able to participate in the Share in Hope Food Drive—Lent 2010.

Your generosity helps relieve the pain of hunger in the Washington, DC metropolitan area, including those areas that are part of the Archdiocese of Washington.



Share *in Hope*

 **Catholic Charities**
Archdiocese of Washington
Opening doors to help and hope.

Now take some time to learn more about poverty and how you can help reduce it. Take the Poverty Quiz to see how much you know about poverty in the United States.

Poverty USA Quiz

1. The number of people living in poverty in the United States decreased from 2007 to 2008.
 TRUE FALSE
2. The number of families in poverty is decreasing.
 TRUE FALSE
3. The “working poor” in America are growing even poorer.
 TRUE FALSE
4. According to the U.S. government, a family of four—two adults and two children—is poor if it earns less than \$35,000 annually.
 TRUE FALSE
5. African Americans have the highest number of people in poverty.
 TRUE FALSE
6. The rate of child poverty is higher in the United States than in most other economically advanced countries.
 TRUE FALSE
7. The federal minimum wage is \$5.85 per hour.
 TRUE FALSE
8. The poverty rate among the elderly in the United States is higher than that of any other age group.
 TRUE FALSE
9. Most Americans believe the federal government should play a smaller role in helping the poor.
 TRUE FALSE

For more information visit: www.usccb.org/cchd/povertyusa/PovertyUSA_Quiz2010.pdf

ANSWERS: 1. FALSE 2. FALSE 3. FALSE 4. TRUE 5. FALSE 6. FALSE 7. TRUE 8. FALSE 9. FALSE

Poverty USA: The State of **Poverty** in America

The official poverty rate in the United States rose in 2008 to 13.2 percent, up from 12.5 percent in 2007.

In 2008, 39.8 million people were in poverty, up from 37.3 million in 2007 — the second consecutive annual increase in the number of people in poverty.

Between 2000-2008, the number of poor Americans grew by more than nine million.

The number of people living in extreme poverty, that is, those with incomes below half the poverty line, rose to over 17 million people. That is the highest level on record since data first became available in 1975.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Housing and Household Economic Statistics Division: 2008

See: www.usccb.org/cchd/povertyusa/povfacts.shtml

Visit the websites of these organizations to learn more about poverty—domestic and foreign—and how you can help eliminate it.

Catholic Charities DC: www.catholiccharitiesdc.org/support/volunteer/

A rich variety of programs in the DC area helping the poor and vulnerable. Learn how you can volunteer your time in the Washington, DC area in direct service to the needy.

St. Vincent de Paul Society in the Archdiocese of Washington: www.svdpwashdc.com

Working at the parish level to respond to the needs of the poor and vulnerable. Contact the St. Vincent de Paul Society of the Archdiocese of Washington to see how your parish can start a chapter.

Catholic Charities USA: www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/NetCommunity/

For 100 years Catholic Charities has been working to reduce poverty in the USA. Learn more about their work and how you can help.

Catholic Campaign for Human Development: www.usccb.org/cchd/

The Catholic domestic anti-poverty campaign investing in human development and institutional change. Learn more about how you can be part of the work of the CCHD and its important work of reducing poverty in the USA.

Catholic Relief Services: www.crs.org

The American Bishops' effort to help reduce poverty overseas. Learn how you can help give hope to a world in need.