

U.S. Poverty at a Glance

1. Today, 37 million people in the U.S. live below the Poverty Line. (U.S. Census Bureau)

- That's 12.6% of the total population (1 out of every 8 Americans).
- If all the poor people living in the U.S. were to populate a single state, it would be our nation's largest state—bigger than California, which has a population just over 36 million.
- The Poverty Threshold for a family of four is \$19,971. For a family of three: \$15,577. For a family of two: \$12,755. For unrelated individuals: \$9,973 (for all states in the contiguous U.S.). The thresholds vary by household size and are updated annually for inflation. Details: www.census.gov
- An important part of CCHD's mission is to educate people about U.S. poverty facts and encourage people to work together to eliminate poverty—not just for a day, but for a lifetime.

2. One out of every six children and one out of every ten families lives in poverty in the United States. (U.S. Census Bureau)

- 12.9 million children in America (under 18 years of age) live in poverty. That's 17.6% of all children.
- 9.9 percent of families (7.7 million) continue to live in poverty.
- Minorities experience much higher poverty rates than whites. African-Americans have a poverty rate of 24.9%; Hispanics have a 21.8% poverty rate; and the poverty rate for Asians is 11.1%. The poverty rate for whites is 8.3%.

3. To learn more about poverty in the U.S. and how people can help break the cycle of poverty for good, visit www.PovertyUSA.org

- PovertyUSA.org is an interactive site, up-to-date and a good resource for teachers and students, parents, the media and the general public.



CATHOLIC CAMPAIGN FOR HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

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CCHD at a Glance

Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD)

1. CCHD is one of the largest private funders of self-help programs for poor people in the United States.

- Was founded in 1970 by the Catholic Bishops of the United States.
- Has supported 7,000+ community-based development projects with funding totaling over \$280 million.
- All projects are initiated and led by poor and/or low-income people.
- Funded projects are selected based on need, without regard to religious affiliation.

2. CCHD identifies and funds permanent solutions to poverty in the United States.

- Poverty often results in a self-perpetuating cycle, which is caused by social conditions, not by poor people themselves.
- There is a difference between short-term fixes and long-term solutions.
- CCHD funds long-term solutions that permanently break the cycle of poverty.
- CCHD provides a hand-up, not a hand-out.

3. CCHD is efficiently run.

- 89% of all money raised by CCHD directly supports its core mission of community empowerment and economic development, as well as education about poverty causes and solutions, and awareness building.
- Most of CCHD's income is donated by Catholics in an annual parish collection.
- The remainder comes from generous community-minded individuals, religious orders and foundations.
- CCHD is based on a principle of solidarity—challenging and inviting Catholics to join together and support solutions to poverty wherever it exists, not necessarily where the donor lives.