

Lancaster County Poverty Statistics

(Source: U.S. Census Bureau)

Population

507,766 (estimated 2009)

Percent in Poverty

9.2% (estimated 2008) or
46,714 people

Children in Poverty

Approximately 13.3% or
16,459 people

Senior Citizens in Poverty

Approximately 7.0% or
4,600 people

The official registration and financial information of the Community Action Program of Lancaster County, Inc. may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1 (800) 732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

The Community Action Program of Lancaster County



Helping People-Changing Lives!

Community leaders formed CAP of Lancaster County in 1966 to assist low and moderate income individuals with the resources, skills, and knowledge needed to become self-sufficient. CAP of Lancaster has a budget of over \$45 million and employs 330 people who provide services to qualified individuals throughout Lancaster County.

Contact:

Reed Reynolds
601 S. Queen Street
P.O. Box 599
Lancaster, PA 17608-0599

P: 717-431-1027 x 3203

F: 717-299-9341

E: RReynolds@caplanc.org

The Community Action Program of Lancaster County

Presents:

A Poverty Simulation



*A Life Lesson -
Living in Poverty*



What is a Poverty Simulation?

The Poverty Simulation is a profoundly moving experience. It provokes thought, emotion and insightful conversation about the realities of poverty and how entire communities need to work together to address the problem. Most importantly, it moves people to get involved and make a difference!

The Community Action Program (CAP) of Lancaster County's poverty simulation is a series of role playing scenarios that give participants the opportunity to learn about the realities of poverty and its effects. People adopt a new persona and a family profile that they must live with for the duration of the exercise.

They must navigate through daily tasks that many of us take for granted. During four 15-minute "weeks" those assigned adult roles try to maintain their home, feed their families, send their children to school, maintain utility services while trying to navigate local support and

resources. Those playing the roles of children have an opportunity to see what it is like to go to school, and cope with family dynamics, peer pressure and the need for love and attention under the constant cloud of poverty.

In the end, participants from all walks of life come together to experience poverty, which typically

"An eye-opening experience!"

- Poverty Simulation Participant

stimulates thoughts, conversation, action and compassion regarding the poor in our communities. The power of this unique learning resource is that it affords real insight in to the state of chronic stress and the life barriers that poor families endure daily.

How to Host a Poverty Simulation

In order to host an event your organization will need to provide the following:

- 40-82 participants

- A large room – approximately 3,000 square feet
- Tables and chairs for the participants and approximately 20 - 25 CAP staff and volunteers who stage the event
- Light refreshments throughout the event

See the back panel of this brochure for contact information.

Is there a Cost to Host a Poverty Simulation?

We suggest a donation in the range of \$500-\$1,000 to the Community Action Program of Lancaster County for those organizations with the means to do so. Otherwise, there is no cost other than those associated with the above requirements.

