



# REGION 8

Macomb County • Monroe County • Oakland County • Wayne County

TOGETHER, end poverty.

*What would it be like to live in poverty for a day? ...for a month?*

## *Raise Awareness through a Poverty Simulation*

### **Poverty Simulations...**

offer an opportunity to learn more about the realities of living in poverty through a “role-playing” experience. Each participant enters the workshop with a new identity based on true-to-life experiences of those living in poverty.

### **Make ends meet...**

before the end of the 3-hour simulation or risk eviction, homelessness and even starvation. The Poverty Simulation consists of four 15-minute weeks, followed by a debriefing period where participants hear from others in the workshop and learn about a variety of experiences.

### **Better understand...**

the barriers that exist to those living in poverty. **74% of participants** reported they were more likely to work with community resources to assist those living in poverty as a result of the workshop.

### **Discover strategies...**

to reduce poverty and make an impact in your community. Learn what issues have the highest priority in our region. Create action plans to increase community outreach for your organization.



**Simulations are limited to 80 people. Participants will be taken on a first come-first serve basis. Additional Poverty Simulations will be planned based on interest.**

### **To participate in the September 13, 2010 Simulation:**

*Please complete the enclosed registration form and return it to:*

*Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency*

*Fax: (734) 246-2288, Attn: Lee or E-mail: [ibarrett@waynometro.org](mailto:ibarrett@waynometro.org)*

**To express your interest in becoming involved in Region 8 Poverty Reduction Initiatives, please email [KoppingerS@michigan.gov](mailto:KoppingerS@michigan.gov)**





Hello!

**Please save the following date to attend a Poverty Simulation Workshop.**

**When: Monday, September 13, 2010**

**Time: 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**  
Please arrive at 8:30 a.m. for registration

**Where: Macomb Community College – John Lewis Center (Bldg. K)  
Room K-301  
14500 E. 12 Mile Rd.  
Warren, MI 48088**

**Cost: None**

**Sponsor: Voices for Action (V4A) - Region 8 Poverty Reduction Initiative**

**Seating is limited - Please R.S.V.P. by completing the attached  
Registration Form and faxing it to (734) 246-2288 or e-mail to  
[lbarrett@waynemetrol.org](mailto:lbarrett@waynemetrol.org) by September 1, 2010.**

You have been identified as being a leader in our community who would be interested in gaining a greater understanding of individuals who live in poverty.

### **What is a Poverty Simulation Workshop?**

Poverty Simulation Workshops were designed to sensitize participants (through role-playing) to the struggles faced by people living in poverty. Each participant is assigned a role in a “family” with low-income. Based on real experiences, roles can range from single parents caring for their children, to students living with unemployed parents, to senior citizens living only on Social Security Income. All family members are challenged to perform their roles while facing the realities of their circumstances, and each must interact with community resources and service organizations. The simulation represents one month (four 15-minute weeks), followed by a debriefing period for participants to discuss and share workshop experiences.

Among the many benefits for holding a Poverty Simulation Workshop are to:

- 1) Increase awareness about this devastating condition that affects so many of our residents;
- 2) Generate dialogue within the community, resulting in opportunities for participants to become involved in poverty reduction efforts;
- 3) Identify volunteers who are willing to assist individuals in need to “navigate” through the system and access benefits more easily.

For more Poverty Simulation Workshop information: <http://communityaction.org/Poverty%20Simulation.aspx>

If you cannot attend the September 13, 2010 Simulation, the next Regional Poverty Simulation will be hosted by Monroe County on September 17, 2010.  
For more details, please contact Kim Ruiz at 734.241.2775 or [kruiz@monroecountyop.org](mailto:kruiz@monroecountyop.org)

**Thank you for your support!**