

- United Nations Development Programme (www.undp.org)
- World Health Organization (www.who.int/en/)

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10 FACTS ABOUT WORLD HUNGER/ POVERTY



10 FACTS ABOUT WORLD HUNGER AND POVERTY AND WHAT UNITED METHODISTS CAN DO

UMCOR's World Hunger/Poverty Program supports life- and hope-giving enterprises that emphasize action and compassion. Our role model is Jesus, who ministered to the most vulnerable in his time and expects us to do the same today.

Here are 10 types of UMCOR programs that address issues of hunger and poverty in the world—and a fact about each one that we hope will get you thinking about how you can become involved. For more information on these program topics, please visit our website, umcor.org.

1 ERADICATION OF THE ROOT CAUSES OF HUNGER AND POVERTY

More than 800 million people go hungry every day in a world that has unparalleled wealth and food production capacity. It is not a question of whether there is enough food but a matter of accessibility and equal distribution to all people. (June Kim, *New World Outlook*)

2 AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, AND FOOD SECURITY

Seven million agricultural workers in Africa have died of HIV/AIDS since 1985. Sixteen million more deaths are likely in the next two decades, seriously affecting agriculture and education. (FAO)

3 STEWARDSHIP OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT

The wealthiest fifth of the world's people consumes 86 percent of all goods and services, while the poorest fifth consumes 1 percent. (UNDP)

4 EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND LITERACY

Nearly four million youth in the US between the ages of 14 and 24 are high school dropouts. (US Census)

5 MICROCREDIT AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

Two-thirds of illiterate people are women, and the rate of unemployment among women is two-thirds that of men. (Bread for the World)

Almost 80 percent of poor children in the US live in working households. (US Census)

6 HEALTH EDUCATION

Nearly 2.5 billion of the world's 6.3 billion people lack access to basic sanitation. One billion people lack access to safe drinking water. Contaminated water kills 2.2 million people per year. (UNDP)

7 LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

As many as 300,000 children under age 18 (some as young as 8 years old) serve in government forces or armed rebel groups. (HRW)

8 SUPPLEMENTAL FOOD PROGRAMS

Underweight malnutrition remains the leading cause of disease and death in the world. (WHO)

9 ADVOCACY TO ALLEVIATE HUNGER AND POVERTY

More than 33 million people, including 13 million children, live in households in the United States that experience hunger or are at risk of hunger. (US Census)

10 THE MOBILIZATION OF RESOURCES THROUGH UNITED METHODIST CONNECTIONS

For seven cents per American per day, hunger could be cut in half in the United States and worldwide by 2015. (Bread for the World)

GET INVOLVED TO HELP END HUNGER AND POVERTY

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SIGN UP FOR THE UMCOR HOTLINE. You'll receive a weekly digest of UMCOR's response to hunger and poverty, disasters, and development needs around the world. It's easy to sign up at our website.

LEARN MORE. Check out the following web links for additional resources on hunger and poverty issues.

- Bread for the World (www.bread.org)
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (www.fao.org)
- Human Development Reports (<http://hdr.undp.org>)
- Human Rights Watch (www.hrw.org)