

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY



Breaking the Cycle: POVERTY SIMULATION

Today **40 million** Americans live in poverty. They are your neighbors, coworkers, fellow parishioners, and your child's school friends.

What if? It is a powerful question that we tend to overlook. What if I lived in poverty? Everyday millions of Americans face poverty head on and have to make critical either/or decisions. Decisions like either to:

- buy medicine or pay rent
- eat or pay utilities
- repair a car or miss work

Poverty is a reality and decisions like these are made every day in our community.

Without experiencing poverty, it is difficult to understand. **Breaking the Cycle** is an in person or digital interactive experience that promotes awareness, increases understanding and inspires local change. When you participate in a poverty simulation, you increase your understanding of the dynamics of poverty and how to create social change through impact, collaboration and service.

In the simulation, participants take on the identity of a low income family living on a limited budget and are challenged to effectively allocate resources over a five month period. This brief, simple, but powerful experience develops a more complete understanding of issues surrounding poverty.

WHAT SHOULD PARTICIPANTS EXPECT?

- A 60-minute simulation of life in poverty
- A unique team-building experience
- Time to reflect and share experiences
- Increased employee participation

WHO SPONSORS POVERTY SIMULATIONS?

- Corporations
- Educational institutions
- Nonprofits
- Faith-based organizations



For more information,
contact Lori DiMatteo, at 401-444-0714,
Lori.DiMatteo@unitedwayri.org
or visit our Campaign Leader Tool

United Way
of Rhode Island

