

Somebody's Hurting Our People: Child Poverty, Women, and People with Disabilities

Federal Assistance Information

Despite the growing need for federal assistance, social service programs in the U.S. have been restructured to shift critical resources away from the poor.

Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)

- TANF only assists 23% of poor families and children
- In 2016, only 1.4 million families were helped by TANF (Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, 2017)

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

- In 2017, SNAP provided nutritional support to 40 million low-income Americans monthly (USDA, 2018)
- The current administration has proposed a 30% cut to SNAP



Poor People's Campaign

A NATIONAL CALL for MORAL REVIVAL

Poverty and Inequality

Did you know that while the U.S. economy has grown 18-fold in the past 50 years, wealth inequality has expanded, the cost of living has increased, and social programs have been restructured and cut dramatically?

General Wage Facts:

- Since the 1970's, wages for the bottom 80% of workers have remained stagnant
- Today, 64 million people are working for less than \$15 an hour
- The individuals at in top 1% of the country make more than 20% of the national income
- In 2017, the 400 wealthiest Americans owned more wealth than the bottom 64% of the entire U.S. population
- The top 3 wealthiest individuals in the country have a combined wealth of approximately \$248.5 billion, which is equivalent to the combined income of the bottom 50% of the U.S.

Housing Facts:

- Over the past 30 years, rent has gone up faster than income in nearly every urban area in the country

- In 2016, there was no state or county in the nation where someone earning the federal minimum wage could afford a 2-bedroom apartment at market rent
- Only 1 in 4 of those eligible to receive federal housing assistance do so
- 2.5 to 3.5 million people live in shelters, transitional housing centers, and tent centers

Insurance and Health Facts

- 32 million people are uninsured
- 40% of Americans have taken on debt because of medical issues

Debt Facts

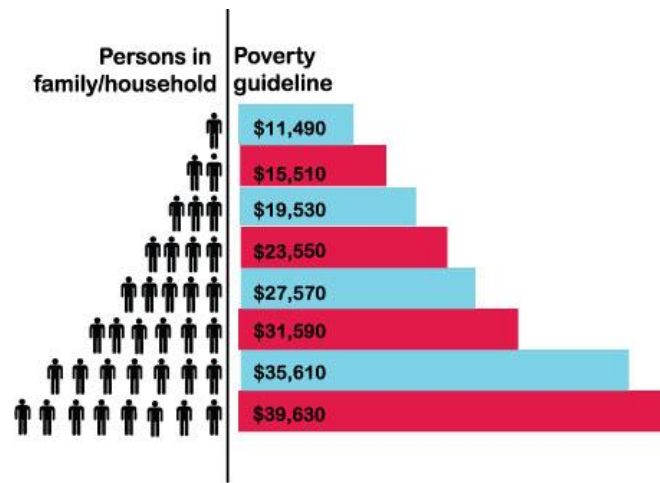
- The bottom 90% of the country holds more than 70% of the country's debt
- Student debt has grown to 1.34 trillion
- 44 million Americans have accumulated student debt
- 19% of all U.S. households have zero wealth or negative

Principles for Ohio Poverty Rate

In 2016, 14.6% of people fall below the poverty line (\$24,340 for a family of four).

- 20.1% of children under the age of 18 fell below the poverty line in 2016
- 15.9% of women ages 18 to 64 fell below the poverty line in 2016
- 12.2% of working men fell below the poverty line in 2016
- 30.3% of people with disabilities fell below the poverty line in 2016

Source: Center for American Progress, 2018



The Official Poverty Measure (OPM) is too narrow a definition of poverty today. The OPM is an income-based measure developed in the 1960s that uses the Federal Poverty Line (FPL) to define poverty. In 2016, the FPL was \$12,486 for a single person under the age of 560 and was \$25,449 for a household of four.

According to the OPM, in 2016, 12.5% of the U.S. population were poor and nearly 30% were low income, which is defined as living at less than twice the poverty line.

An alternative measure developed in 2009, the Supplemental Poverty Measure (SPM), takes into account income as well as the cost of food, clothing, housing utilities, and government programs that have assisted low-income families and individuals who are not otherwise designated as poor.

Using the more thorough SPM, 43.5% of the U.S. population were poor or low income in 2016.

The Federal Poverty Line Verses the Supplemental Poverty Measure

Did you know there are 140 million people who are poor or low-income in the United States today?

SPM 2016 Poor or Low-Income Demographics

- 51.9% of children under the age of 18 (38.2 million children)
- 40.7% of adults between the ages of 18-64 (81.5 million adults)
- 42.5% of elders over the age of 65 (20.8 million elders)
- 33.9% of White people (67.1 million Whites)
- 60.3% of Black people (25.9 million Blacks)
- 65.1% of Latinx people (37.4 million Latinx)
- 41.1% of Asian people (7.6 million Asians)

Source: Poor People's Campaign

Living with Disabilities in Ohio

Did you know that more than 14% of Ohioans live with a disability?

Data from the 2015 American Community Survey shows older people than younger people have a disability in Ohio. This reflects national trends. Aging has been documented as a primary risk factor for “disabling diseases and conditions,” according to research from the National Institute of Aging.

2015 Unemployment Rate for People Age 16 to 64

- 5% of Americans were unemployed without a disability
- 12% of Americans were unemployed with a disability
- 17% of Ohioans were unemployed with a disability

Source: National Center for Family and Demographic Research at Bowling Green State University

Our Demands

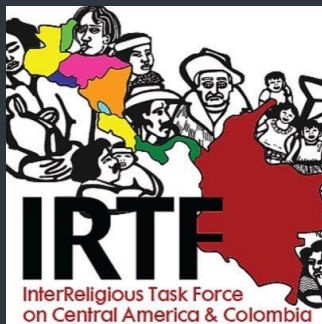
The entire list of demands for the Poor People’s Campaign can be found on their website.

- We demand federal and state living wage laws, guaranteed annual incomes, full employment and the right for all workers to form and join unions. We also demand fully-funded welfare programs for the poor.
- We demand equal pay for equal work.
- We demand equity in education, ensuring every child receives a high-quality, well-funded, diverse public education. We demand free tuition at public colleges and universities and an end to profiteering no student debt. We demand equitable funding for HBCU’s.
- We demand the expansion of Medicaid in every state and the protection of Medicare until the full implementation of single-payer universal health care for all.
- We demand reinvestment in and expansion of public housing, ensuring that all have a decent house to live in.
- We demand equal treatment and accessible housing, health care and mobility, adequate income and services for people with disabilities.
- We demand public infrastructure projects and sustainable community-based and controlled economic initiatives that target poor and rural communities.
- We demand relief from crushing household, student, and consumer debt.
- We demand that the wealthy and corporations pay their fair share of our country’s urgent needs around decent and affordable housing, free public education, a robust social safety net and social security.
- We demand the repeal of the 2017 federal tax law and the reinvestment of those fund into social programming that helps all.
- We demand a change in the current poverty standards. We demand an accurate assessment of who is poor – based on access to decent and adequate housing, education, health care, water, sanitation and public utilities, childcare, as well as income, savings and debt, welfare – and that is made widely available to all.

Overview of 40 Days of Moral Action Campaign

By engaging in highly publicized, non-violent moral fusion direct action, over a 6-week period in at least 30 states and the District of Columbia between May 13 and June 23, the Campaign will force serious nation examination of the enmeshed evils of systemic racism, systemic poverty, ecological devastation and the war economy during a key election year while strengthening and connection informed and committed grassroots leadership in every state, increasing their power to continue this fight long after June 2018. During these 40 days of Moral Action, the Campaign will push forward a concrete moral agenda, and draw on art, music, popular education and religious traditions to challenge the nation’s distorted moral narrative.

Source: Poor People’s Campaign



Sources

- Poor People's Campaign
- Center on Budget Policy Priorities
- National Center for Family and Demographic Research at Bowling Green State University
- US Department of Agriculture
- Center for American Progress

40 Days Campaign Information

- **Week One (May 13-19):** Somebody's Hurting Our People: Child poverty, Women, and People with Disabilities
- **Week Two (May 20-26):** Linking Systemic Racism and Poverty: Voting Rights and Immigration
- **Week Three (May 27-June 2):** The War Economy, Veterans, Education and Our National Priorities
- **Week Four (June 3-9):** Ecological Devastation and Health
- **Week Five (June 10-16):** Everybody's Got the Right to Live: Jobs, Income and Housing
- **Week Six (June 17-22):** A New and Unsettling Force
- **June 23rd:** Mass rally in Washington D.C. and Global Day of Solidarity

Each Monday (we will gather on Tuesday, May 29th, the week of Memorial Day), people will gather at Trinity Episcopal Church in Columbus, Ohio to participate in training. We will then move to the Statehouse for a rally.

- 11:00 AM-12:00 PM: Pre-rally training and coordination meeting for Direct Action Participants, Peace Team and Marshalls at Trinity Episcopal Church
- 2:00 PM- 3:00 PM: Poor People's Campaign Action: Somebody's Hurting Our People at the Ohio Statehouse

Social Media

National:

- **Poor People's Campaign:**
 - Website: <https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/>
 - Email: info@poorpeoplescampaign.org
 - Press Request: press@poorpeoplescampaign.org
 - Twitter: @UniteThe Poor
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/aneppc/>

Ohio

- **Ohio Poor People's Campaign**
 - Twitter: @OhioPPC
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/OhioPPC/>

Cleveland

- **IRTF Cleveland**
 - Website: <https://www.irtfcleveland.org/>
 - Email: IRTF@irtfcleveland.org
 - Twitter: @IRTFCleveland
 - Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/IRTF1981/>
 - Instagram: @IRTFCleveland
 - Snapchat: @IRTFCleveland

