

2002

## Hunger and homelessness awareness week

Tamara John  
*California State University, Monterey Bay*

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.csumb.edu/caps\\_thes](https://digitalcommons.csumb.edu/caps_thes)

---

### Recommended Citation

John, Tamara, "Hunger and homelessness awareness week" (2002). *Capstone Projects and Master's Theses*. 234.

[https://digitalcommons.csumb.edu/caps\\_thes/234](https://digitalcommons.csumb.edu/caps_thes/234)

This Capstone Project is brought to you for free and open access by Digital Commons @ CSUMB. It has been accepted for inclusion in Capstone Projects and Master's Theses by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ CSUMB. Unless otherwise indicated, this project was conducted as practicum not subject to IRB review but conducted in keeping with applicable regulatory guidance for training purposes. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@csumb.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@csumb.edu).

Tamara John  
CHHS 400/499  
Senior Capstone/Field Seminar  
Dr. Brian Simmons

May 24, 2002

Senior Capstone Project  
Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week

Creating awareness of issues surrounding hunger and homelessness on the CSU Monterey Bay campus.

Many people within the surrounding communities of CSU Monterey Bay are homeless. Along with the basic services, such as food and shelter, people who are homeless need respect. To promote this respect within communities several events will be implemented to challenge participants beliefs and assumptions about people who are homeless.

## **II. Executive Summary**

Dehumanization of people who are homeless is an issue that affects the homeless population every day. Homelessness is an issue within all of our communities but dehumanization allows Americans to shut their eyes to this.

The “not in my backyard syndrome” has affected many people who are homeless and organizations that provide services for them. Our society tries to make the homeless population a criminal population so that their rights and freedoms can be taken away legally by creating laws that are targeted towards them. I believe that by remembering that there are “real” people involved with the issues of homelessness our community can help better the lives of people marginalized due to their homelessness.

My capstone is a community action event that will decrease the dehumanization of the homeless population through awareness and education. The awareness and education will be presented through several activities including a Hunger Banquet, a Faces of Homelessness Panel, a Movie Night, and a Service Day. The reflections and evaluations will be done at the end of each event.

The Hunger Banquet will give participants a visual understanding of the inequities surrounding the distribution of food and knowledge about the conditions of hunger around the world. The Faces of Homelessness Panel will offer participants first account experiences on the issues surrounding homelessness within our community. The movie night will offer an alternative, non-threatening way for the community to become aware of the situations and issues surrounding hunger and homelessness. The Service Day at Dorothy’s is an all-encompassing day that will integrate service, community building, and reflection into a fun, interactive experience.

### **III. Issue, Population, and Agency**

Dehumanization of people who are homeless will be the main issue related to my capstone. This issue affects the homeless population especially those who are part of Dorothy's Hospitality Center community.

### **IV. Background History**

Homelessness is an issue within all of our communities. There is no getting round the fact "Homelessness remains a problem despite the longest economic expansion in American history, and so it is an issue that remains troubling for any persons of conscience in this country. Over the course of a year at least 2.3 million and probably as many as 3.5 million people experience homelessness at least for a short period. The question of numbers, of how many people are homeless, is a very tricky one. It implies that there is a stable population, there is "the homeless." We shall see that that is not true" (Burt, 2000).

These numbers represent total of about one percent of our population in the United States. But does this population get to be an accepted part of society? No. Dehumanization allows Americans to shut their eyes to the discrimination against people who are homeless. How many times have you crossed the street to avoid passing a person who is homeless? How many times have you pretended not to see?

The "not in my backyard" syndrome has affected many people who are homeless and organizations that provide services for them. "Residents, business owners, and tourists, uncomfortable at the presence of the homeless, support moving them away from downtown. These feelings often apply to homeless resource centers such as soup kitchens and housing facilities. For years, organizations dedicated to assisting the less fortunate

have fought a growing sense of not in my backyard and anti-homelessness ordinances” (Hess, 2000).

How do we get “these people” out of our backyards? We create laws that target the homeless population. Our society tries to make the homeless population a criminal population so that their rights and freedoms can be taken away legally. In many cities officials are cleaning up areas to improve business and property value. These types of projects are “Often officially referred to by police as the “Quality of Life Enforcement Program”... criminalize those whose “quality of life” doesn’t meet city standards. Offenses range from obstructing the sidewalk, sleeping in public and littering, a charge often used to dispose of a homeless person’s meager belongings if they are left lying on the ground” (Mesler,1995). The issue of criminalizing is not isolated “An increasing number of U.S. cities are criminalizing non-criminal behavior such as loitering and sleeping in public” (Pascale, 1994).

The laws that are put in place to prevent people who are homeless from being near shops, businesses, and homes are a caused by people’s ignorance and ability to look the other way. These “Anti-sleeping, anti-sitting, and anti-panhandling ordinances reflect concern for the civil liberties of the fortunate rather than for the human rights of the destitute. People often defend their right to walk through a bus station without confronting beggars, but what about the basic human right to food and shelter? Yet as a culture, we still want to believe that poverty is the fault of the individual rather than society” (Pascale, 1994).

Even “Policymakers and community and business leaders, though, sometimes forget that “real” people lie at the heart of these seemingly insurmountable issues. It is

important to remember that every person who is homeless has their own story and has arrived in this situation via various circumstances” (Hess, 2000).

I believe that by remembering that there are “real” people involved with the issues of homelessness our community can help better the lives of people marginalized due to their homelessness.

## **V. Project Description**

My capstone is a community action event that will decrease the dehumanization of the homeless population through awareness and education. The awareness and education will be presented through several activities including a Hunger Banquet, a Faces of Homelessness Panel, a Movie Night, and a Service Day. The reflections and evaluations will be done at the end of each event.

The Hunger Banquet will give participants a visual understanding of the inequities surrounding the distribution of food and knowledge about the conditions of hunger around the world. This is done through an illustrative banquet where each participant assumes the role of a different person, a couple who will have an elaborate five course meal, several will have just enough to eat, and many who will go home hungry. This will be followed by a discussion and a reflection period where evaluations will be filled out to encourage and develop thought and awareness.

The Faces of Homelessness Panel will offer participants first account experiences on the issues surrounding homelessness within our community. Five people, who are currently facing homelessness, will share their stories in an informal gathering that creates an awing, inspirational atmosphere where understanding and compassion is

developed. These amazing, real, and informative accounts will be followed by a question and answers period along with reflection.

The movie night will offer an alternative, non-threatening way for the community to become aware of the situations and issues surrounding hunger and homelessness. “Pay It Forward” a mainstream movie, offers an interesting, somewhat glamorized view of hunger and homelessness and society’s commitment and resistance to service. By watching this movie and then talking about the realities and the glamorization of homelessness the participants will have extended knowledge of the true issues surrounding hunger and homelessness along with a perspective of how the media portrays hunger and homelessness within our society.

The Service Day at Dorothy’s is an all-encompassing day that will integrate service, community building, and reflection into a fun, interactive experience.

- The service: Food preparation, daily chores, and clean up.
- The community building: A baseball game and personal interactions, and
- The reflection: Written evaluations, discussions and questions at the end of the activities to look back on and learn from the day.

These aspects will be used to educate, motivate, and involve the community as a whole to promote social change in the form of respect and consideration for others.

My vision is that there will be an increased number of people, within the CSU Monterey Bay community and surrounding local communities, who are aware of and interested in changing the issues involving hunger and homelessness. I believe that by educating the community with first hand, personal experience we can begin paving the road towards equality for people who are homeless. I do not wish to end homelessness-

that is not within my abilities- but I do hope that through education and awareness respect and understanding within communities can develop.

## **VI. Application of project to academic requirements**

The planning and implementation of the events for Hunger and Homelessness Awareness week will honor the CSU Monterey Bay's vision statement and three of my major learning outcomes in several ways. This community action event will encourage "serving the diverse people of California, especially... historically undereducated and low-income populations" through direct service to the homeless population in Salinas and surrounding communities at Dorothy's Hospitality Center. This direct service will "integrate work and learning through service and reflection". The collaboration between Dorothy's Hospitality and CSU Monterey Bay continue "building a collaborative, intellectual community distinguished by partnerships with existing institutions" by connecting Dorothy's Hospitality Center and CSU Monterey Bay for the activities. Both the community action events presented on campus and in the community will be facilitated in a way that will "contribute to the well-being of our communities, and quality of life and development of its students, faculty, and service areas" by offering a variety of activities that will educate the community as a whole and challenge the ideas and assumptions of its participants by offering education and asking reflective questions. Educating and challenging participants will help "develop and encourage the social responsibility and skills to be community builders" and "provide California with responsible and creative leadership" because through knowledge social change and personal inspiration are developed.



**The Collaboration major learning outcome will be addressed in the following ways:**

\*I will demonstrate my knowledge, skills, and attitudes of collaboration by working with key stake holders: CSU Monterey Bay Service Learning Institute, Dorothy's Hospitality Center, and the Resident Advisors in an interprofessional setting to plan and implement this community action project through decision making, completing tasks, and applying knowledge of group interaction and process.

\*I will collaborate with these different organizations in order to gain resources, funding, and expertise from others. The initial contact will be made personally to establish relationships and trust. Further communication will be made via email, telephone, and meeting times to complete tasks, solve problems, and make decisions.

\*At the end of the collaboration process I will have each stakeholder fill out an evaluation on how they felt the process went, what they liked, and what they would change.

**The Knowledge of Health and Human Services will be addressed in the following ways:**

\*I will demonstrate an understanding of the fundamental principles and issues common to the community health and social work human services field through the utilization of my knowledge and attitudes of the field in the community action project.

\*I will demonstrate my knowledge and attitudes of health and human services through the project by educating participants on health issues pertinent in the homeless community and what they can do to help prevent and promote health conditions within the homeless community to promote social justice.

\*To help illustrate my knowledge of the field and my ability to share that knowledge I will have participants orally reflect on the event and fill out an evaluation about the event.

**The Leadership major learning outcome will be addressed in the following ways:**

\*I will demonstrate my understanding of the need for leadership and my ability to motivate others by promoting a vision of social justice for people who are homeless and promoting sustained change in diverse communities throughout the events.

\*I will demonstrate my knowledge, skills, and attitudes in this area by asking the participants hard questions about the status quo of systems serving the homeless population while beginning to integrate two communities, marginalized persons of Salinas and CSU Monterey Bay, together.

\*The evidence of leadership will be demonstrated in the attendance to the events and evaluations of my leadership by key stakeholders.

My capstone presentation will consist of an oral introduction of my interest and myself, an outline of my capstone through power point, and display boards with photographs and short quotes/statements.

## **VII. Conclusion**

This community action project will benefit the homeless population and Dorothy's Hospitality Center by promoting understanding and respect towards people who are homeless through education. To evaluate whether or not this project accomplishes its purpose reflections will be held after each event. These reflections will allow the participant to think about where they were coming into the event and where

they stand after the event. If the majority of people find the event educational than the project has succeeded.

This project will continue to benefit people who are homeless and directly service Dorothy's Hospitality Center because I have developed an easy to follow handbook on Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week. This handbook has every piece of information necessary for any person to implement this project. I also included notes on what worked well and what needed improvements along with special considerations that need to be made so that the next person can build on the project to make it stronger and more effective.

**Evaluation of Project:**

After reviewing the feedback given to me, totaling the attendance of this year's event, and witnessing the effects the events had on the participants I can conclude that Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week was successful.

The 80 total participants who were engaged and active during the different events demonstrated my leadership ability. My leadership ability was also demonstrated by the affect the events had on the student participants.

Since the event I have had numerous individuals email me and talk with me about continuing their involvement in improving and changing the systems that service or do a disservice to people who are homeless. For example, one woman did her democratic participation project about homelessness. For this she interviewed me and organized a second baseball game between the guests at Dorothy's Hospitality Center and the students at CSU Monterey Bay. I have also had five other students interview me for projects that they were doing on Hunger and Homelessness within our county. Some of the same students also asked me to set up interviews for them with people who are currently homeless.

All of this continued engagement demonstrates my ability to encourage others to ask hard questions about the status quo of systems serving the community. It also demonstrates my ability to use my leadership skills to develop, articulate, and sustain a vision for collaborative success because it shows that our work was successful.

My knowledge of health and human services is demonstrated in the responses from the evaluations filled out by participants. After reading all of the responses I can summarize that the majority of them were positive and that the individuals felt a sense of

pride and connection to what they had accomplished through the activity. Some examples of the responses are:

- “Homeless people need love too. Also they are people just like me.”
- “I feel humble about my experience here. What I did today was more for the site, not to make me feel ‘better’ about myself”
- “Strengths: A lot of team work and collaboration”
- “It is unfortunate we don’t have more places like Dorothy’s-it’s so easy to provide such basic services to homeless people: warmth, color, food, clothing...”
- “How nice everyone was, when they didn’t have much”
- “The strengths were everyone’s smiling faces.”

The weaknesses that were pointed out were lack of participants, a need for more advertisement and a desire for more involvement with people who are homeless. Some examples of these responses are:

- “I would advertise this event more.”
- “I wanted to interact with more homeless people-but it still felt great to help out in the garden!”
- “I would encourage more communication among the students and people receiving services”
- “Weakness- more people!”

My knowledge, skills, and attitudes towards leadership and collaboration are demonstrated by the evaluations filled out by the key stakeholders in this project. The positive responses I received from the collaboration evaluation where:

- “Tamara was very flexible and stressed the importance of input and ideas of all group members”
- Tamara was able to build consensus and sustain participation “because she is so aware of issues relating to homelessness”

- “Tamara’s creativity, work ethics, and knowledge is very impressive”
- “Tamara is a fountain of knowledge, she has taught me so much about homeless issues and different perspectives of community members.”
- “Tamara does a fantastic job when encouraging other’s to reflect on issues she is presenting. She is persistent. She is very patient and understanding which helps the process of reflection.”
- “Tamara has extensive knowledge and passion to share with people around her. I am thankful that I could be a part of this event.”
- “Tamara is one of the most fair and just people I know. She encourages thought provoking conversation and participation by all.”
- “I sponsored the dinner that went along with the Speakers panel. I think that Tamara was the glue that held the program together.”

Overall I found that this experience gave me a chance to demonstrate my knowledge, skills, and attitudes in all three of the Major Learning Outcomes that I specified. It also gave me the chance to develop and gain new knowledge and skills that I otherwise would not have.

# **Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week Resource Binder**

**Tamara John**  
University Service Advocate

## **Table of Contents**

Introduction

Timeline

Contacts

Volunteers

Advertising

Activities

Hunger Banquet

Faces of Homelessness Panel

Movie Night

Service Day at Dorothy's Hospitality Center

Donations

Evaluation



## **Introduction**

Homelessness is an issue within all of our communities. There is no getting around the fact; “that 760,000 people are homeless on any given night, and 1.2 to 2 million people experience homelessness during one year.” National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, via the National Coalition for the Homeless. These numbers are largely contributed to by the cost of living within in the United States because “In no state does a full-time minimum wage job cover the costs of a one-bedroom unit at Fair Market Rent, and in 45 states and the District of Columbia, families would need to earn at least double the minimum wage in order to afford a two-bedroom unit at Fair Market Rent.” Out of Reach: Can America Pay the Rent?, via the National Coalition for the Homeless.

These statistics definitely show the devastating numbers, however they leave out the most important element: the faces. People talk about the problem and even try to think of solutions but too often do the actual people who are homeless get looked over and ignored. How about respect and dignity being part of the plan? Does this population get to be an accepted part of society? No. Dehumanization allows Americans to shut their eyes to the discrimination against people who are homeless. How many times have you crossed the street to avoid passing a person who is homeless? How many times have you pretended not to see?

The “not in my backyard” syndrome has affected many people who are homeless and organizations that provide services for them. “Residents, business owners, and tourists, uncomfortable at the presence of the homeless, support moving them away from downtown. These feelings often apply to homeless resource centers such as soup kitchens and housing facilities. For years, organizations dedicated to assisting the less fortunate have fought a growing sense of not in my backyard and anti-homelessness ordinances” (Hess, 2000).

How do we get “these people” out of our backyards? We create laws that target the homeless population. Our society tries to make the homeless population a criminal population so that their rights and freedoms can be taken away legally. In many cities officials are cleaning up areas to improve business and property value. These types of

projects are “Often officially referred to by police as the “Quality of Life Enforcement Program”... criminalize those whose “quality of life” doesn’t meet city standards. Offenses range from obstructing the sidewalk, sleeping in public and littering, a charge often used to dispose of a homeless person’s meager belongings if they are left lying on the ground” (Mesler,1995). The issue of criminalizing is not isolated “An increasing number of U.S. cities are criminalizing non-criminal behavior such as loitering and sleeping in public” (Pascale, 1994).

The laws that are put in place to prevent people who are homeless from being near shops, businesses, and homes are a cause of people’s ignorance and ability to look the other way. These “Anti-sleeping, anti-sitting, and anti-panhandling ordinances reflect concern for the civil liberties of the fortunate rather than for the human rights of the destitute. People often defend their right to walk through a bus station without confronting beggars, but what about the basic human right to food and shelter? Yet as a culture, we still want to believe that poverty is the fault of the individual rather than society” (Pascale, 1994).

Even “Policymakers and community and business leaders, though, sometimes forget that “real” people lie at the heart of these seemingly insurmountable issues. It is important to remember that every person who is homeless has their own story and has arrived in this situation via various circumstances” (Hess, 2000).

I believe that by remembering that there are “real” people involved with the issues of homelessness our community can help better the lives of people marginalized due to their homelessness.

## **Timeline**

I just looked at a calendar and made these dates up, they do not have to be exact but I would stick close to them because it gives you a good time frame.

---

October 1	Contact other USAs via email, let them know what is going on
Following staff meeting	Have USAs sign up to volunteer, give them bags for donations
October 1	Contact R.A.'s via email, ask them for their monetary support
October 7	Contact Ray Lee in person, make plans with him for Hunger Banquet
October 7	Contact Otter Bay in person, let them know when you will be there and pick up menu
October 7	Contact Conference and Event in person, fill out paper work to reserve room, give them room lay out, and ask for microphone
October 7	Contact transportation and reserve the van
October 9	Contact Dorothy's via telephone, tell them about panel and service day, set up meeting time
October 17	Invite panelist in person and ask them what they would like to have for dinner (set price limit)
October 17	During meeting with Dorothy's: Arrange transportation for panelist and make plans for baseball game, food, and other activities
October 18	Revise and Copy fliers
October 18	Revise and Copy all sheets i.e. Evaluation, orientation, etc.
November 4	Make sure supplies are at Dorothy's and that panelist are still interested/able
November 7	Rent movie, buy or pick up food/beverages
November 12	Send thank you notes/emails to everyone!
November 14	Evaluate evaluations
November 15	Update resource binder for next year
October 28- November 8	Take meal card donations and clothing donations
October 21-November 8	Advertise
November 9- 27	Clothing and food donation stuff

## **Contacts**

Ray Lee  
Dinning Commons Manager  
831-582-5016

Robert Smith, Founder or Community Assistant  
Dorothy's Hospitality Center  
831-424-1102/ 424-1962 office  
30 Soledad Street Salinas

Safeway  
Bakery Department  
Will donate pastries, pies, and cakes early in the morning (~5am), if you go and ask.

## **Volunteers**

The best supporters in accomplishing the events of the week are other USA's and Resident Advisors. The other USA's are instrumental in helping to facilitate the activities because they have the necessary experience and expertise. The Resident Advisors are the best source for obtaining money because they are required to hold an event each month.

\* This is a sample email that can help the other USA's get informed and active:

---

Hello Everyone,

This is what we have on Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week so far. Sorry it is long but please read the whole thing!

### **What we need from ALL USA'S:**

- \*Attendance to at least one event
- \*Someone to drive the van on Friday November 9
- \*Sign people up for Hunger Banquet
- \*Sign people up for meal card donations, especially during meal times
- \*Make and deliver baskets (contact person Anna Perez-Rick)
- \*Collections of jackets and socks
- \*Advertise! Get people to come to our events!

We don't care when you help out but we do expect that you work three hours of your time during this week to collect donations and sign people up for the Hunger Banquet. **Please send us the hours you are going to help, what you would like to do, which event you are planning to attend and any questions by October 16, 2001.** We know it seems far away but as we all know things tend to sneak up!

**Our events and goals for this year:**

November 5-9 Collect jackets and socks

40 jackets

200 pairs of socks

This means each of us needs to get 10 pairs of socks and 2 jackets!

**November 5-9 Thanksgiving Donations**

\$2000 dollars

We only need to raise \$100 Each!

**November 6, 2001 6-8pm Hunger Banquet**

50 people

Get 3 of your classmates to go!

**November 7, 2001 7-10pm Faces of Homelessness Panel**

75 people

Have 4 of your friends attend this event!

**November 8, 2001 8-10pm Movie Night**

20 people

Just tell people about this one!

**November 9, 2001 9-12 and 11-2 Service Day at Dorothy's**

75 people

You only need to get 4 people who want to have fun to come to this one!

Thanks Everyone.

\* After they know what is going on have them sign up during the next staff meeting:

---

## **USA Sign Ups for Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week**

### **Monday November 5, 2001**

8-10	10-12	12-2	2-4	4-6	6-8

### **Tuesday November 6, 2001**

8-10	12-2	5-7

### **Wednesday November 7, 2001**

8-10	12-2	5-7

### **Thursday November 8, 2001**

8-10	12-2	5-7

### **Friday November 9, 2001**

All Day	8:30-12	10:30-2

\* After they have signed up, write up the information and send it to the on email:

Name	Date	Time	Activity	Clothing Donation Collections
Miranda	5 9	8-10 & 4-6 8:30-2	Meal card donations Service Day	205,206,210
Cristin	5 8 9	12-2 5-7 8:30-2	Meal card donations Service Day	Wilderness
Manuel	5	6-8	Meal card donations	Minuteman
Angela	6 9	8-10 8:30-2	Meal card donations Service Day	Off campus
Ruth	6 7	8-10 5-7	Meal card donations	Trenton, Princeton
Anna	6 7	5-7 5-7	Meal card donations	Saratoga
Lani	6 7	6-8 7-10	Hunger Banquet Panel	Spotsylvania
Lisa	7	5-7	Meal card donations	Fredericksburg
Krystal	8	12-2	Meal card donations	?
Iris	8	5-7	Meal card donations	Petersburg
Judith	9	8:30-2	Service Day	Gettysburg
Alfredo	9	8:30-2	Service Day	208
Roberto	9	8:30-2	Service Day	208
Bridgette	?	?	?	Yorktown, off campus
Thanksgiving Basket Assembly				
Lisa				
Manuel				
Cristin				
Brenda				
Viana				
Linda				
Alfredo				
Lani				
Anna				





\* This is the form to fill out if you get support from a R.A.:

---

### **FP RA Program Proposal & Evaluation**

**Step 1: Proposal** - Please fill out the questions on this top part and email to Brian and Kirsten. Step 1 is due by the 20th of the month preceding the event month.

*Program Title & Brief Description:*

*Program Date & Time:*

Location: (if you indicate the annex, we will reserve it automatically for you on this date)

Who else is involved with the program? If another RA what duties does each person have?

Expected Cost:

*How will you publicize the program?*

*What help do you need to complete the program?*

### **Step 2: Approval**

\_\_\_\_ Event Approved / Some suggestions for the event may be:

\_\_\_\_ Please complete a activity form and turn it into MJ before the first of the month.  
(Activity forms will need to be completed only if risk is present, it occurs out of FP, or we need the assistance with another department on campus.)

### **Step 3: Evaluation**

Attendance:

*Total Cost & Receipt totals:*

<i>Store Name</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Type of purchase (pro card, cash, check, other)</i>
-------------------	---------------	--

- a.
- b.
- c.

1. How did the program meet the needs of the residents?

2. If you or someone were to do it again, what could be done to improve the program (publicity, preparation, at the event, or what to change?)

3. What was the response of the participants?

4. Other comments:

## **FP RA Program Proposal & Evaluation for Movie Night**

**Step 1: Proposal** - Please fill out the questions on this top part and email to Brian and Kirsten. Step 1 is due by the 20th of the month preceding the event month.

*Program Title & Brief Description:* Movie Night Showing of a movie about hunger and/or homelessness with discussion afterwards

*Program Date & Time:* November 8, 8-10pm

*Location:* (if you indicate the annex, we will reserve it automatically for you on this date)  
Saratoga Community Center

*Who else is involved with the program?* If another RA what duties does each person have? University Service Advocates

*Expected Cost:* \$30

*How will you publicize the program?* Fliers, emails

*What help do you need to complete the program?* Please make sure the VCR and TV are working properly

## **FP RA Program Proposal & Evaluation for Panel**

**Step 1: Proposal** - Please fill out the questions on this top part and email to Brian and Kirsten. Step 1 is due by the 20th of the month preceding the event month.

*Program Title & Brief Description:* Faces of Homelessness Panel, Five people who are currently homeless will come and share their stories

*Program Date & Time:* November 7, 7-10pm

*Location:* (if you indicate the annex, we will reserve it automatically for you on this date)  
University Ballroom

*Who else is involved with the program?* If another RA what duties does each person have? University Service Advocates

*Expected Cost:* \$75

*How will you publicize the program?* Fliers, emails

*What help do you need to complete the program?* none

## **FP RA Program Proposal & Evaluation for Service Day**

**Step 1: Proposal** - Please fill out the questions on this top part and email to Brian and Kirsten. Step 1 is due by the 20th of the month preceding the event month.

*Program Title & Brief Description:* Service Day @ Dorothy's, Community Service at day shelter in Salinas

*Program Date & Time:* November 9, 9-2

*Location:* (if you indicate the annex, we will reserve it automatically for you on this date) Dorothy's Hospitality Center

*Who else is involved with the program?* If another RA what duties does each person have? University Service Advocates

*Expected Cost:* \$40

*How will you publicize the program?* Fliers, emails

*What help do you need to complete the program?* None

## **Activities**

Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week is implemented in the hopes that it will decrease the dehumanization of the homeless population through awareness and education by putting a name to a face. The awareness and education will be presented through several activities including a Hunger Banquet, a Faces of Homelessness Panel, a Movie Night, and a Service Day. The reflections and evaluations will be done at the end of each event.

The Hunger Banquet will give participants a visual understanding of the inequities surrounding the distribution of food and knowledge about the conditions of hunger around the world. This is done through an illustrative banquet where each participant assumes the role of a different person, a couple (8%) who will have an elaborate five course meal, several (20%) will have just enough to eat, and many (72%) who will go home hungry. This will be followed by a discussion and a reflection period where evaluations will be filled out to encourage and develop thought and awareness.

The Faces of Homelessness Panel will offer participants first account experiences on the issues surrounding homelessness within our community. Five people, who are currently facing homelessness, will share their stories in an informal gathering that creates an awing, inspirational atmosphere where understanding and compassion is developed. These amazing, real, and informative accounts will be followed by a question and answers period along with reflection.

The movie night will offer an alternative, non-threatening way for the community to become aware of the situations and issues surrounding hunger and homelessness. “Pay It Forward”, a mainstream movie, offers an interesting, somewhat glamorized view of hunger and homelessness and societies commitment and resistance to service. By watching this movie and then talking about the realities and the glamorization of homelessness the participants will have extended knowledge of the true issues surrounding hunger and homelessness along with a perspective of how the media portrays hunger and homelessness within our society.

The Service Day at Dorothy’s is an all-encompassing day that will integrate service, community building, and reflection into a fun, interactive experience.

- The service: Food preparation, daily chores, and clean up.

- The community building: A baseball game and personal interactions, and
- The reflection: Written evaluations, discussions and questions at the end of the activities to look back on and learn from the day.

These aspects will be used to educate, motivate, and involve the community as a whole to promote social change in the form of respect and consideration for others.

## **Hunger Banquet**

To hold a Hunger Banquet contact Ray Lee from the Dinning Commons. Ray is extremely nice, reliable, and easy to work with. He has done the banquet with us for the last three years and had experience before that so he really knows what he is doing. He will set up the food, room, and service arrangements for you, just tell him how many people you are expecting.

### **Volunteers Needed-**

- Three people to encourage students to come in as they walk through the dinning commons.
- One person to collect money and hand out 'roles'.
- One or two people to read the welcoming script.
- One person to facilitate reflection and evaluation at the end of the night.

### **Materials Needed-**

- Color-coded roles and single sheet of color paper for each group to put in appropriate area.
- Sign in sheets.
- Envelop to collect money.
- Lots of pens for sign in/meal card payments and evaluations.
- Radio with CD player.
- There is a CD with songs associated to hunger and homelessness included in this binder that can be played during dinner.
- Micro phone (only if you want it)

### **What the night will look like-**

5:30-5:40	Make sure set up is good, get music ready
5:40-6:00	Recruit people to join the banquet
5:40-6:00	Sign people in give them roles
6:10-6:25	Introduction
6:25- 6:55	Dinner and conversation
7:00- closure	Oral reflection and written evaluation



November 5-9, 2001  
What are you going to do about it?

Sign-in sheet for hunger banquet

Name	Signature	Social Security Number	Donation of \$6 towards Hunger Banquet

\*This is a shortened version of a script taken from Oxfam America's script for a hunger Banquet. You can go to their website at [http: www.oxfamamerica.org](http://www.oxfamamerica.org) to get more information or to develop your own script. We asked one person from each group to read their introduction in order to break up who was speaking and get more participation.

---

## NARRATOR

Welcome to the Oxfam Hunger Banquet

We are here today because 1.3 billion people - about one-quarter of the world population - live in poverty.

[PAUSE]

793 million of these people suffer from chronic hunger.

[PAUSE]

Every 3.6 seconds, a person dies from hunger and other preventable causes. That's 24,000 people a day.

[PAUSE]

You may think hunger is about too many people and too little food. Not true. Our rich and bountiful planet produces enough to feed every woman, man, and child on earth.

The roots of hunger lie in inequalities in access to education, resources and power. The results are illiteracy, poverty, war, and the inability of families to grow or buy food.

The fact that you are here today shows that you are concerned, that you want to learn more about our world of inequality, and that you want to make a difference.

This Hunger Banquet is a metaphor for how food and other resources are inequitably distributed in the world. As such, a Hunger Banquet can only touch upon the issues. We cannot recreate the many and complex ways in which poverty manifests itself. We will not have time to go into all the problems associated with lack of access to healthcare, education and employment opportunities, and the realities of the day-to-day struggle for survival.

The one thing I would like you to remember is this: Everyone on earth has the same basic needs; it is only our circumstances - where we live and the culture we are born into - that differ. Each person's place is randomly determined.

As each of us walked in the door here today, we chose - at random - our lot. Look around, and you can see that equality and balance don't exist here.

It is important to note that no one section of this room represents a single country. While the United States may be one of the wealthiest countries on earth, 30 million Americans do not get enough to eat. Stark inequalities prevail, both worldwide and within countries.

Now I would like to introduce you to the three segments of this world. It's too easy to measure this world purely in economic terms. It is really about each person's ability to achieve a sense of security and have access to resources

## HIGH-INCOME GROUP

If you are sitting over here, you represent the 15 percent of the world's population with a per capita income of \$9,400 or more. You are fortunate enough to be able to afford a nutritious daily diet. As a group, you consume 70 percent of all the grain grown in the world, most of it in the form of grain-fed meat. Since most of you exceed your daily requirement of calories, you face health problems such as heart disease and diabetes.

But most of you don't worry about getting healthcare. You have access to the best medical care in the world. Your children are born destined to go to school; the only uncertainty is how many years they will study after high school.

Access to credit? You turn down more offers than you can count. You and your family live in a comfortable and secure home. You own at least one car and probably two televisions. When you take your annual two-week vacation, you don't worry about your job disappearing.

It's a good life because you have access to everything you need and you have the security to enjoy it.

#### MIDDLE-INCOME GROUP

If you are sitting here, you represent roughly 30 percent of the world's population. You earn between \$765 and \$9,400 a year. The levels of access and security you enjoy vary greatly. You are the folks who live on the edge. For many, it would take losing only one harvest to drought, or a serious illness, to throw you into poverty.

You probably own no land and may work as a day laborer, which pays a paltry amount, but it's better than nothing. Although your village has electricity, you must ration your use. Your children may go to school - for a few years, anyway - especially if they are boys.

Or maybe you are a migrant farmworker in the U.S. South, living in a mobile home with no running water. Even though you work long hours performing back-breaking work, you cannot afford nutritious food for your children. Through no fault of your own, you were born into this harsh life. You hope that your children will have an opportunity to do better.

So, like everyone stuck in the middle, you feel squeezed, and you just hope that the bottom doesn't fall out from your world.

#### LOW-INCOME GROUP

If you are sitting on the floor, you represent the majority of the world's population - roughly 55 percent. Your average income is less than \$765 a year - about \$2 a day - although many of you earn much less. Most of you are from poor countries such as Ethiopia, Bangladesh, Haiti, or Cambodia.

Every day is a struggle to meet your family's basic needs. Finding food, water and shelter can consume your entire day. For many of you women, it would not be uncommon to have to walk five to 10 miles every day to get water, spend several more hours working in the fields, and of course taking care of the children.

Many of you are frequently hungry. It is quite likely that you don't get the minimum number of calories your hardworking life requires. Many of you are homeless or living in structures so flimsy that a hard rain or strong wind can cause a major catastrophe.

If you are lucky enough to work, you are probably a tenant farmer who must give your landowner 75 percent of your harvest. Or perhaps you get occasional work as a day laborer at a large plantation producing crops such as bananas, sugar, or coffee for export. You reap few benefits from these crops; you'd prefer to grow food that your children could eat.

#### NARRATOR

Now, I have some news that will affect several of you:

Like we've said, no one can choose the circumstances into which they are born. Some people have the good

fortune to change their lives for the better, but for most the circumstances of life are determined by uncontrollable factors.

[TURN TO THE MIDDLE-INCOME GROUP; ASK ANY MAN TO STAND.]

You are José Martín. You have just been laid off from your job picking coffee beans, which allowed you to provide the basics for your family in El Salvador. After the price of coffee dropped, your employer was forced to scale back its workforce because it could no longer afford to pay everyone. Please move to the low-income group.

[TURN TO THE LOW-INCOME GROUP; ASK ANY WOMAN TO STAND.]

Anna Hernandez, please stand up. You live in the same village as José, and you eke out a living selling fruit from your garden in the local market each day. Because José and many of your other customers have been laid off from the nearby coffee plantation, they are buying less from you, and you won't be able to afford enough corn for your family. You will receive only a half portion of rice today.

[TURN BACK TO ADDRESS THE ENTIRE ROOM]

This is just a small slice of life as it plays out each day around the globe.

Now, we invite you to eat the way the world eats.

Those of you in the high-income group will be served a nutritious meal. Those in the middle-income group may proceed to the buffet tables where rice and beans are available. People in the low-income group seated on the floor will find rice and water at the table at the far end of the room. Please make your way over there now. Bon appetit!

[MOMENT OF SILENCE] [SHARING PERIOD: MC WALKS AMONG AUDIENCE MEMBERS, ASKING PEOPLE HOW THEY FEEL ABOUT BEING IN WHICHEVER GROUP THEY ARE IN. MC CAN ALSO INTERJECT COMMENTS AND CHALLENGE THE AUDIENCE TO THINK ABOUT WHAT THEY MIGHT WANT TO DO TO TAKE CONCRETE ACTION ON THE KNOWLEDGE THEY HAVE GAINED. HAVE VOLUNTEERS CIRCULATE WITH CORDLESS MICROPHONES AMONG AUDIENCE MEMBERS WISHING TO SPEAK. ]

**Hunger Banquet Evaluation by Participant**

What was the most interesting new thing you learned from this activity?

What did you learn about health issues within the homeless community?

How organized and beneficial did you find this activity?

What did you find most instrumental and helpful in your learning experience?

**Thank You!**

**Hunger Banquet Evaluation by Participant**

What was the most interesting new thing you learned from this activity?

What did you learn about health issues within the homeless community?

How organized and beneficial did you find this activity?

What did you find most instrumental and helpful in your learning experience?

**Thank You!** Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week

## **Faces of Homelessness Panel**

To hold a Faces of Homelessness Panel I suggest working with Dorothy's Hospitality Center. They have connections to people who can sit on the panel. In the past we have held the panel in the ballroom because we have provided dinner at the Otter Bay.

Volunteers are needed to-

- Transport panelist from and to Salinas. (Dorothy's has a van they can use.)
- Facilitate the discussion.
- Administer the evaluations.

Materials Needed-

- Menu (food needs to be preordered because they tend to be extremely slow)
- Micro phone that can be passed around
- Pens and evaluation sheets

What the night will look like-

5:00-5:30	Bring panelist to CSUMB
5:30-7:00	Dinner at the Otter Bay
7:00-7:30	Have everyone introduce themselves
7:30-8:00	Panelist "tell their story"
8:00- 8:45	Open discussion
8:45-9:00	Evaluations
9:00-9:30	Take panelist back to Salinas

Special Notes-

- Try to prepare panelist- let them know it is informal and that they do not need to talk about anything they are not comfortable with.
- Most Vietnam Vets went through Fort Ord at some point or another so revisiting the site can cause unease and flashbacks. If you invite a vet just be aware of how they are handling the situation.

### **Faces of Homeless Panel Evaluation by Participant**

How do you think this activity could be strengthened and improved? What were its strengths?

What will you remember most about this night?

How did you feel about having people who are currently experiencing homelessness visit our campus?

What did you learn about the social situation for people who are homeless?

### **Thank You!**

### **Faces of Homeless Panel Evaluation by Participant**

How do you think this activity could be strengthened and improved? What were its strengths?

What will you remember most about this night?

How did you feel about having people who are currently experiencing homelessness visit our campus?

What did you learn about the social situation for people who are homeless?

## **Movie Night**

To hold a Movie Night you do not have to do much. It is easiest to collaborate with an RA on this one because they have access to all the materials needed. The Saratoga Community Center has a large screen television, VCR, and couches.

### **Volunteers Needed-**

- One person to make the popcorn, start the movie, hold the discussion and give out the evaluation.

### **Materials Needed-**

- Movie (we used "Pay It Forward")
- Two bags of popcorn
- One bag of candy
- Drinks
- Pens and evaluations

### **What the night will look like-**

7:45-8:00	Set up movie, make popcorn, get out other goodies
8:00-9:45	Watch movie
9:45-10:00	Have discussion and fill out evaluations

### **Special Notes-**

- If you wanted to leave an event out this would be the one because it does not have the same impact as the others.
- Anton Prange is a pastor at the Faith Lutheran Church at 1460 Hilby Ave. Seaside. Office 394-1312 Home 394-2163 He is very interested in making connections with our school and has been trying to accomplish this by holding movie nights with discussions, they are not always religious. He is also interested in other events and wants to offer support to the Service Learning Institute.



### **Movie Night Evaluation by Participant**

What would you change to strength and improve this activity? What were it's strengths?

How does this movie relate to your own experiences with a person who is homeless?

What did you find most interesting about the issues surrounding people who are homeless?

What can you change about yourself to improve the lives of people who are homeless?

**Thank You!**

### **Movie Night Evaluation by Participant**

What would you change to strength and improve this activity? What were it's strengths?

How does this movie relate to your own experiences with a person who is homeless?

What did you find most interesting about the issues surrounding people who are homeless?

What can you change about yourself to improve the lives of people who are homeless?

**Thank You!**

## **Service Day**

To hold a Service Day you have to be flexible and just go with the flow because it will be slightly chaotic. There is a lot of preparation, mostly just making contacts, for this event but it is well worth it and the event people enjoy most. Ask an RA to sponsor you for the van and have them drive it for you. Talk to the people at Dorothy's well in advance and have them support you.

### **Volunteers Needed-**

- At least 6 people but more is better. Their roles are explained in the guide, something you can give to your volunteers so they know what is going on.

### **Materials Needed-**

- Van for participants
- Guide for Service Day
- Orientation Sheets and pens
- Latex gloves (available at Dorothy's)
- Baseball equipment (available at Dorothy's)
- Food (provided by Dorothy's)
- Evaluation sheets and pens

### **Special Notes-**

- It is important to show your excitement and try to get the participants to engage because the guests at Dorothy's will not take the first step but will come around.
- You cannot offer food at Dorothy's, it must all be taken to the park, or no one will join you.
- Robert Smith, the founder, was involved last year so he has insight but you will have to be persistent because he gets distracted with everything else he has to do.
- Bring a camera!

## **Guide for Service Day at Dorothy's**

### **Outline for the day:**

- 8:30am-Orientation and tour for participating USAs, material distribution, introductions to other staff
- 9am- First group of volunteers arrive
- 9:15am- Volunteers go to different sites, rotate, small talking reflections
- 11am-Second group of volunteers arrive
- 11:15am- Volunteers go to different sites, rotate, small talking reflections
- 11:30am-Final Reflection for first group of volunteers
- 1:30pm- Final Reflection for second group of volunteers

### **Orientation:**

- Explain what Dorothy's role is in the community, there mission, and the population served
- Have volunteers fill out orientation sheet, contact information
- Give tour of Dorothy's
- Explain the service options
- Tell them to meet in the dinning room at 11:00am

### **Food Preparation:**

- Work with cook to relay his needs to volunteers
- Talk about food distribution and why people come to Dorothy's for food
- Remind them to meet in the dinning room at 11:00am

### **Garden/Clean-Up:**

- Facilitate activities weeding, pruning, raking, watering, cleaning out garbage cans, washing baseboards, washing walls, windows, playing games and talking with guests.
- Talk about the need for the services provided and the people who utilize the services
- Remind them to meet in dinning room at 11:00am

### **Baseball:**

- Organize baseball game with other staff
- One game at 11:30

### **Floater:**

- Do whatever is needed, help people out

### **Reflection:**

- Talk about the population
- Have volunteers refer back to their orientation sheets
- Share experiences, what did they learn?

## **Orientation Sheet**

Today I am looking forward to...

People who are homeless are...

### **Orientation Sheet**

Today I am looking forward to...

People who are homeless are...

### **Orientation Sheet**

Today I am looking forward to...

People who are homeless are...

### **Service Day Evaluation by Participant**

What is the most important thing you will take away with you today?

How did you feel about serving people in the community? Do you think it was beneficial to be on site?

What was the most important thing you learned about the social or health conditions surrounding the homeless population?

What would you change to strengthen and improve this activity? What were its strengths?

**Thank You!**  
**Service Day Evaluation by Participant**

What is the most important thing you will take away with you today?

How did you feel about serving people in the community? Do you feel it was beneficial to be on site?

What was the most important thing you learned about the social or health conditions surrounding the homeless population?

What would you change to strengthen and improve this activity? What were its strengths?

**Thank You!**

### **Final Reflection for Service Day**

Talk about these questions out loud.

Who did you meet today? Where they the people you thought you would meet?

What was the most rewarding thing for you today? What will you take away with you?

Looking back at your orientation sheets have any of your stereotypes or assumptions been challenged?

## **Donations**

To hold meal card donations and clothing donation drives you just need people to volunteer their time.

### Volunteers Needed-

- As many as possible.
- People to deliver food to Healthy Start in Salinas.

### Materials needed-

- Meal card donation sheets.
- Plastic bags.
- Transportation.

### What the event will look like-

Staff meeting	Have people sign up for times and areas
The week before and during the week of	Have people filling out forms and filling up bags
At the end of the week	Take all the clothing donations to Dorothy's.
The week after	Contact Healthy Start to see what their needs for Thanksgiving are
Two weeks before Thanksgiving	Order food through dinning commons
The weekend before Thanksgiving	Make food baskets
As close to Thanksgiving as possible	Deliver food baskets

### Special Notes-

- In the past we have ordered the food and then let the Healthy Start USA or staff member from Healthy Start organize the rest of the events. But this is a summary of what they do.
- Ray Lee will reserve a room for you to make the baskets in.

## **Evaluation**

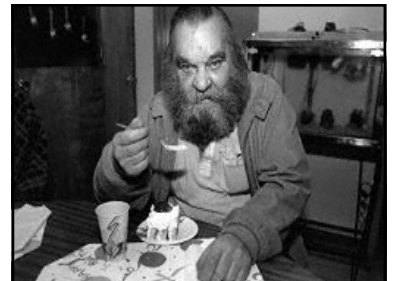
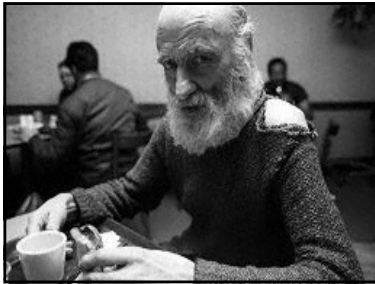
After reviewing the feedback given to me, totaling the attendance of this years event, and witnessing the effects the events had on the participants I can conclude that Hunger and homelessness Awareness Week was successful.

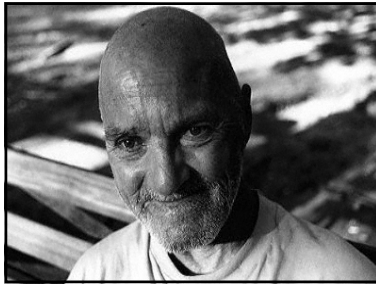
My leadership ability was demonstrated by the 80 total participants who were engaged and active during the different events.

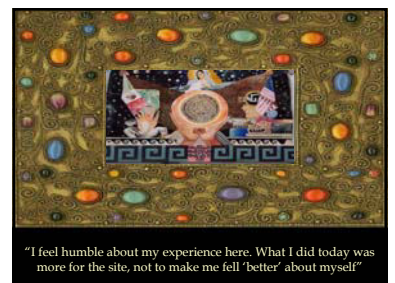
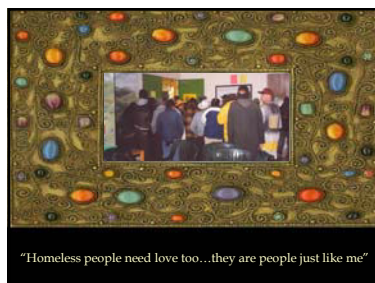
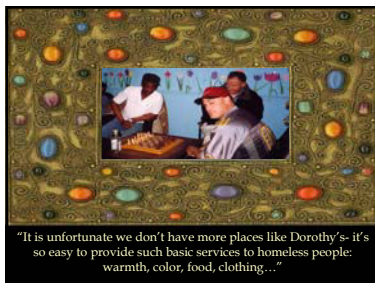
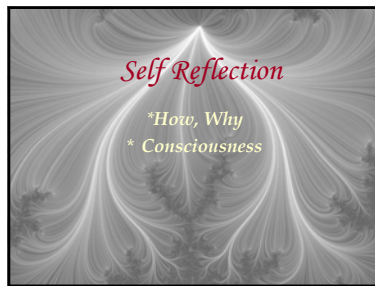
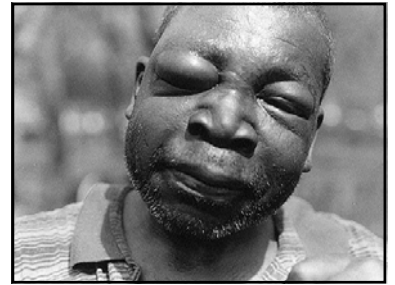
My knowledge of health and human services is harder to demonstrate because I made an error in the development of my evaluations that were filled out by participants. I did not include a scale that they could reference their responses to. Due to this lack of a scale I am not able to statistically analyze the information I received. However after reading all of the responses I can summarize that the majority of them were positive and that the individuals felt a sense of pride and connection to what they had accomplished through the activity. The weaknesses that were pointed out were lack of participants, lack of time, a need for more advertisement and a desire for more involvement with people who are homeless.

My knowledge, skills, and attitudes towards leadership and collaboration are demonstrated by the evaluations filled out by the key stakeholders in this project. Fortunately I was able to modify the evaluation forms filled out by the key stakeholders so that I could statistically analyze the results. (Results Here)









*Thank You!*