

*At the heart of every human relation
is the desire to thrive.*

The Community Action Poverty Simulation will open your mind to truly understanding the dynamics of...

Living in poverty...

Working, yet being poor...

Raising a family in poverty...

To schedule a Poverty Simulation for your organization, business, church group or club, please contact:

NEK-CAP, Inc.

PO Box 380

Hiawatha, KS 66434

Phone: 785-742-2222, ext. 135

Toll-free: 888-904-8159, ext. 135

Email: lgrier@nekcaph.org

Fax: 785-742-2164

*"The cry of the poor is not always just,
but if you don't listen to it you will
never know what justice is."*

-Unknown



NEK-CAP, Inc's Vision

*One by one all families and communities
become self-reliant.*

NEK-CAP, Inc. administers government and private grants such as Administration for Children and Families/Department of Health & Human Services; Kansas Department for Children & Families (DCF); Kansas Housing Resources Corporation (KHRC); the State Department of Education (KSDE); United States Department of Agriculture (USDA); and Housing & Urban Development (HUD).

*NEK-CAP, Inc. is an equal opportunity
provider and employer.*

Updated 10/21/2015

NEK-CAP, Inc.

We provide comprehensive education and social services to low-income community members through collaborative partnerships focused on promoting family development, empowerment, and economic security.



Community Action Poverty Simulation



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A Month in Poverty



In Week One

You'll try to figure out what you have to do first, what can wait and what the consequences of your actions may be.

In Week Two

You'll realize how frightening it is when you don't have enough money for all your bills. The frustration of waiting in line after line begins to take its toll.

In Week Three

The delicate balance you have maintained begins to fall apart when such real life events as eviction notices, child care arrangements falling through, and problems with your job begin.

In Week Four

You will struggle to get all of your bills paid, avoid the payday lenders, and keep your children in school, fed and safe.

At the end, you'll be changed forever...

Poverty

Feeds into cycles of teen pregnancy, drug and alcohol abuse, poor health, and nutrition, violence, incarceration.

The Community Action Poverty Simulation (CAPS) is a unique tool that community action agencies are able to use to educate everyone, from policy makers to local community leaders, about the day to day realities of life with a shortage of money and an abundance of stress. CAPS is a copyrighted tool made available by the Missouri Association for Community Action to organizations that want to promote a greater understanding of poverty.

During a simulation, participants role-play the lives of low-income families, from single parents trying to care for their children to senior citizens trying to maintain their self sufficiency on Social Security. The task of each family is to provide food, shelter and other basic necessities during the simulation while interacting with various community resources staffed by low-income volunteers.

Although it uses "play" money and other props, fictional scenarios, and time limits, CAPS is not a game. It is a simulation tool that enables participants to view poverty from different angles in an experiential setting, while empowering low-income volunteers by allowing them an opportunity to interact with leaders from their community.

Who might participate in your poverty simulation? Local human service agency personnel; church staff, volunteers and clergy; school faculty and staff; high school and college students; community leaders and volunteers; government officials and policymakers, employers; law enforcement officials and many others.

What is needed for a Poverty Simulation:

- 🍷 A large room (3,000 square feet)
- 🍷 Approximately 125-175 chairs and 12 tables (depending on your group size)
- 🍷 Approximately two (2) hours to set-up for the simulation
- 🍷 15-20 Resource Volunteers to be at the resource tables
- 🍷 40 - 88 participants (minimum number recommend is no less than 40 participants/maximum is 88)
- 🍷 Microphone for facilitator (preferably wireless)

Please contact our agency regarding fees to facilitate the Poverty Simulation.