



INTERFAITH FEDERATION OF GREATER BATON ROUGE

“Hands for Change”

The Interfaith Federation of Greater Baton Rouge is committed to the following goal established by the Louisiana Child Prevention Council: ***To reduce the number of children living in poverty in Louisiana by 50% by 2018.***

We invite children and youth to join the effort to bring about change. Together, let us join hands and make a difference.

Involving Children and Youth

- Learn more about people who were born poor, but became successful. *What does it take to overcome difficulties?*
- Consider ways to encourage others who are less fortunate. *How might you encourage others to stay in school and try hard? (Volunteers in Public Schools might have ideas. Call 225-226-4702)*
- Pray and ask God how you might bring change. *What can someone your age do to help reduce poverty in our community? What might you (or your class) do to help someone with special needs?*
- Trace your hand on colored paper and cut it out. As you do this, remember those who have less food, clothes, and opportunities to learn. *What feelings do you have when you remember others?*
- Submit the cut-out of your hand (described above) to the Interfaith Federation to be used throughout the year at poverty events. (See address below.) Or display them at your own faith community. *Thanks!*

Louisiana Statistics*

(From Children's Defense Fund, Nov. 2008)

A child is born into poverty every 30 minutes.

A child is abused or neglected every 42 minutes.

A child dies before his or her first birthday every 14 hours.

A child or teen is killed by gunfire every 4 days.

Number of poor children (and percent poor) 283,350 (26.8%)

Number of children living in extreme poverty (and percent in extreme poverty) 124,373 (11.7%)

*From Children's Defense Fund

- Federal Poverty Guidelines are calculated annually by Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHS)
- 2008 Poverty Guideline for a family of 4: \$21,200 annual income
- 2008 Extreme Poverty Guideline for a family of 4: \$10,600 (50% of Poverty Guideline)

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