

Global Poverty Day



What is Global Poverty Day?

Global Poverty Day is designated to raise awareness of the need to eradicate extreme poverty around the world. Poverty eradication is a leading part of United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Goal #1 – No Poverty: “End poverty in all its forms everywhere”.

October 17

Why do Girl Scouts celebrate?

Approximately 9% percent of the world is living on less than \$2 a day. That's just over 700 million people living on less than \$1.90 a day, the international line for extreme poverty, and of that about 310 million are children under the age of 15. In the United States, there are just over 1.7 million people living in extreme poverty, and of that about 729,000 are children under the age of 15. (worldpoverty.io/)

Girls are key to ending global poverty. An informed and educated girl is more likely to earn a higher income in a career of her choice, prepared to make informed choices about her health and family, and pass along the benefits that she's received to others in her community, meaning that everyone benefits.

How can GSME Girl Scouts celebrate?

As Service Units and troops, celebrate Global Poverty Day with discussion, activities, and community action. Whether at a Service Unit event or in your own troop, talk to girls about Global Poverty Day and what it means to girls worldwide and within the US, Maine and their local community. Discuss how to bring awareness about poverty and what each girl can do to help.

Activities for Global Poverty Day

The theme for Global Poverty Day changes each year. These are suggestions for generic activities that can be modified based on any theme.

- The Poverty Wheel: A wheel serve as a good visualization device for the problem of poverty. A wheel's hub represents absolute poverty, and the spokes represent the different needs of the extremely poor. The rim of the wheel represents a life fulfilled. Have the girls write what those needs are on the spokes, and then discuss how those needs could be met.
- With the girls, look at the current World Poverty Rate at World Poverty Clock (worldpoverty.io/). Select various age groups, or countries and discuss the results with the girls.

Resources:

GSUSA Global Action Days Toolkit: available on Volunteer Toolkit & GSME website

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals – Goal #1: No Poverty: www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/poverty/

United Nations: www.un.org/en/sections/issues-depth/poverty/

Overcoming Extreme Poverty: overcomingpoverty.org/

World's Largest Lesson: worldslargestlesson.globalgoals.org/goal/no-poverty/

UNESCO SDG Resources for Educators - No Poverty: en.unesco.org/themes/education/sdgs/material/01