



Family Promise[®] of Warren County, Inc.

Building community, strengthening lives.

Homelessness/Poverty Fact Sheet

- Nearly 47 million people (1 in 7) in the U.S. live below the poverty line.
- 1 in 5 U.S. children under age 18, or nearly 15 million, live in poverty.
- The poverty line for a family of four is \$24,300.
- A worker needs to earn \$11.66 /hour to reach the poverty level for a family of four.
- There is no county in the country where the federal minimum wage is enough to afford a Fair Market Rent, one-bedroom apartment.
- Nearly 1.3 million school children were homeless in school year 2012-13.
- 51% of homeless children are too young for school and are not counted.
- The three most cited reasons for family homelessness are: 1) Lack of affordable housing, 2) unemployment, and 3) poverty.
- Nearly 40% of all homeless persons are families with children, in NJ, they are more than 50% of all homeless persons.
- Homeless families are often hidden from our view—they are living in shelters, cars, campgrounds, or doubled up in overcrowded apartments.
- 17.6 million households now pay more than 50% of their income for housing.
- Only 25% of those eligible for federal housing assistance receive help, due to lack of funding.
- For every ten extremely low income households, there are only three affordable rentals available on the market.
- To meet the needs of low-income families, we need 4.5 million affordable housing units added to the current supply.
- In America, just over 16 million children live in households where they have to skip meals or eat less to make ends meet.
- Two-thirds of poor children live in families in which at least one family member works.