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DO JUSTICE. LOVE KINDNESS. WALK HUMBLY WITH GOD. MICAH 6:8

YOUTH GROUP MOBILIZATION TO ALLEVIATE HUNGER PACKET

hungeroffering.org



# **HUNGER HURTS: MOBILIZING YOUTH GROUPS TO FIGHT HUNGER**

#### A LOOK AT HUNGER AT HOME AND ABROAD

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- » Texas has one of the highest numbers of food-insecure individuals in the US according to 2020 food insecurity projections due to COVID-19.
- » Texas is projected to be home to the most food-insecure children in the US 2.3 million (3 out of 10 Texas Children).
- 2 of the 5 highest counties with projected child food insecurity (CFI) in 2020 are in Texas.

## Global Hunger\*\*:

- » 820 million people did not have enough to eat in 2018.
- » Food and Agricultural Organization of the UN warns of an emerging "crisis within a crisis" when projecting the global impact Covid-19 will have on food insecurity across the world.
- » Some 265 million people in low and middle-income countries will be in acute food insecurity by the end of 2020 unless swift action is taken.

Print and share this Hunger & Poverty fact sheet with your youth group.

\*"The Impact of the Coronavirus on Local Food Insecurity" by Feeding America

# WHAT IS THE TEXAS BAPTIST HUNGER OFFERING?

Do justice.
Love kindness.
Walk humbly
with God.
- Micah 6:8

The Texas Baptist Hunger Offering expresses love of kindness by alleviating hunger in Texas and around the world.

The Hunger Offering partners with faith-based ministries in Texas and across the world to address both physical and spiritual hunger in individuals, families, and communities.

The Hunger Offering meets immediate needs by providing essentials and food relief. The cycle of poverty and causes of hunger are addressed through development efforts. Longterm solutions are encouraged through education, job training, mentoring, community gardens, sustainable farming, water projects, etc.

Through the collective effort of churches, youth groups, and individuals, an environment of empowerment is created for those who are hungry, hurting, and broken – all in the name of Christ. Lives are transformed.

100% of gifts to the Hunger Offering are distributed to more than 150 ministries in Texas and across the world.

<sup>\*\*2020</sup> Global Report on Food Crises. by World Food Programme.

## **HOW A \$100 HELPS HUNGER OFFERING MINISTRIES**

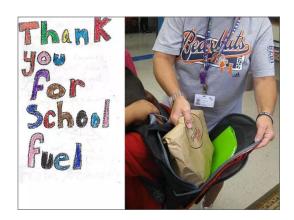
- » \$40 Food Supplies
- » \$9 Water Access & Development
- » \$7 Gardening & Horticulture
- » \$6 Education
- » \$5 Job Training
- » \$5 Case Management
- » \$4 Animal Husbandry
- » \$3 Meal

- » \$3 Transportation
- » \$2 Supplies & Basic Needs
- » \$1 Counseling
- » \$1 Mentoring
- » \$1 Building Construction
- » \$1 Finance Assistance
- » \$1 English Classes
- » \$9 Other Relief & Development uses

Hunger Offering ministries focus on both relief and development.

Relief: Meeting people's immediate food needs through food supplies, meals, basic necessities, etc.

**Development:** Enabling people to meet their own needs through efforts such as job training, education, gardening, mentoring, animal husbandry, water access, etc.



#### **MINISTRY EXAMPLES:**

Relief: School Fuel, San Marcos, Texas

School Fuel is a ministry that provides hunger relief for more than 500 children who are receiving reduced or free meals at school. Most of them go home on the weekends to little or no food. The Hunger Offering helps this ministry stuff backpacks with a meal sack containing two meals and four snacks for each day of the weekend.

**Development:** Lubbock Impact

Lubbock Impact works with the working poor of Lubbock to help break generational poverty and make lasting changes in their community. They base all their work on three principles: help, dignity, and truth. Help recognizes that everyone needs help from time to time. Everyone who comes to Lubbock Impact can receive help. Dignity recognizes that everyone is entitled to be treated with respect and love. Truth guides their work. They tell the truth about life, actions, and Jesus Christ. With a holistic approach that ranges from medical clinics to free hot meals, Lubbock Impact helps create positive change in their community.

# WHY SHOULD MY YOUTH GROUP BE INVOLVED?

#### A BIBLICAL BASIS FOR RESPONDING TO HUNGER: SCRIPTURES FOR LESSONS

- Meeting physical needs is a hallmark of faith: Matthew 25:35-40, Mark 12:30-31, 2 Corinthians 9:8, James 2:15-18, 1 John 3:17-18, Ephesians 2:10
  - "How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action." 1 John 3:17-18 (NRSV)
  - "For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life." Ephesians 2:10 (NRSV)
- Siving to the needy in the name of Christ honors Him and is a catalyst for bringing God glory: Proverbs 14:31, 2 Corinthians 9:11-12
  - "Whoever oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God." Proverbs 14:31 (NRSV)
  - ° "You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God." 2 Corinthians 9:11-12 (NRSV)
- » No one is too young; no gift is too small: 1 Timothy 4:12, 2 Corinthians 9:6-7, Luke 21:1-4
  - "Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity." 1 Timothy 4:12 (NRSV)
  - ° "The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:6-7 (NRSV)
- » God blesses generosity: Isaiah 58:10, Proverbs 19:17, Deuteronomy 15:10
  - ° "Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and will be repaid in full." Proverbs 19:17 (NRSV)
  - ° "Give liberally and be ungrudging when you do so, for on this account the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in all that you undertake." Deuteronomy 15:10 (NRSV)

CONTACT HUNGEROFFERING@TEXASBAPTISTS.ORG TO INQUIRE ABOUT WORKSHOPS FOR CAMPS AND DNOW WEEKENDS.

# **5 YOUTH GROUP ACTION STEPS**

1

#### PRAY:

Start by asking your youth group to pray for the hungry.

- » Use the Hunger Offering ministry map to pick a country or region of the world to pray for.
- » Pray for Hunger Offering ministries working to feed the hungry and address the cycle of poverty. Ask God to give them energy to serve, insight to understand the needs of their communities, and boldness to share Christ.
  - » Pray for compassion for the hungry and hurting. Ask God to open your eyes, heart, and hands. Ask Him to use your youth group to address hunger needs.
  - » Ask God to receive the glory and honor through the Hunger Offering.

2

#### **GIVE:**

- Youth possess passion and energy that can be channeled to draw awareness to hunger and respond to it. Guide their passion and help them garner their resources to get involved with the Hunger Offering and live out the gospel. Youth may not have much money, but they have the potential to raise large amounts.
- » We believe the Hunger Offering is a great way to emphasize the spiritual discipline of giving. Create a culture of giving in your youth group by designating a few weeks to talk about hunger and alleviate it by collecting a Hunger Offering gift.

## Set a goal.

You know your youth group best. Set a short-term giving goal for the group and challenge them to meet it. This could look like a week, a month, or a season.

If you would like to raise funds for a specific Hunger Offering project and want a target amount to raise, contact hungeroffering@texasbaptists.org.

## Decide how to give.

Sacrificial giving: Take up a one-time offering or weekly offering. Encourage youth to give sacrificially. This may entail sacrificing a routine spending habit to be able to give. Use this offering to remind youth of their abundance in comparison to the great needs of others.

Fundraising: Be creative, work together, and raise money to fight hunger.

- » Host a 5k walk-a-thon or run.
- » Host a sports tournament.
- » Have a bake sale.
- » Divide the youth group into teams and have a contest to see which team raises \$100 first.

#### How to deliver gifts to the Hunger Offering.

- 1. Give online at texasbaptists.givingfuel.com/hunger-offering
- 2. Write a check payable to your church designated for the Texas Baptist Hunger Offering.
- Mail a payable check to: Texas Baptist Hunger Offering 7557 Rambler Rd., Ste. 1100, Dallas, Texas 75231-2310



3

#### **SERVE:**

Since hunger is everywhere, there are many opportunities to serve and live on mission where you are. Local missions and trips are great ways to emphasize spiritual formation and underscore the responsibility of living out the gospel. If your youth group is not already helping at a local food ministry, see if they can volunteer. There are Hunger Offering ministries across the state. Contact us and get connected with a Hunger Offering ministry in your area.

4

#### **CHALLENGE:**

The Hunger Offering is not just for youth groups or Texas Baptists. Anyone can give and everyone can make a difference! Encourage your youth to ask their friends and family to join in their fundraising endeavors or match their offering. Challenge your entire church to take up a designated offering on a <a href="5th Sunday Offering day">5th Sunday Offering day</a>, the special <a href="Mother's Day Offering">Mother's Day Offering</a>, or a Sunday of your choosing.

5

#### **SHARE:**

We want to see what your youth group is doing to fight hunger. Encourage your youth to be influencers by bringing awareness to hunger. Check out Hunger Offering graphics below and feel free to use them for sermons or share them on social media. Be sure to tag the Hunger Offering on social media and use #HungerOffering and #youthfighthunger, so other churches and youth groups can be inspired and challenged.

We would love to hear from you, so contact us anytime via email at hungeroffering@texasbaptists.org or social media.

- @HungerOffering
- @HungerOffering
- @txb\_hungeroffering





# **DIGITAL RESOURCES**

Click to see map of **Hunger Offering ministries**.

Share this "How the Hunger Offering Works" video with your youth group.

Share this <u>Hunger Offering story about Terri</u>, a formerly incarcerated mother who enters Exodus Ministries with a 6-day-old baby. Through the help of Exodus and the Hunger Offering, Terri rebuilds her life and is now a proud restaurant owner and follower of Jesus.









To download these social media images and more visit: hungeroffering.org/resources/promotions

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