

Session Title: Walk a Mile in Poverty Experience: A Family and Children Living in Poverty Awareness Session. (Needs 15 Destination Volunteers- Please consider volunteering if you plan to attend 2017 Convention)

APA Divisions:

- Div37: Child and Family Policy and Practice
- Div45: Psychological Study of Culture, Ethnicity and Race
- Div35: Society for the Psychology of Women
- Div41: American Psychology- Law Society
- Div32: Society for Humanistic Psychology
- Div16: School Psychology
- Div17: Society of Counseling Psychology

Collaborating APA Committee and Offices:

- OEMA: Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs
- Women's Programs Office/ Public Interest Directorate

Program Description: Lizzie Devereux (Confirmed) with the United Way of Central Maryland will facilitate the Walk a Mile Experience. The program is a hands-on interactive learning and awareness building activity. It provides a symbolic experienced of what it means to deal with crisis and struggles to make ends meet. **What the session will look like:** Participants assume the role of a family member living at or near the poverty line and are challenged to make life decisions while overcoming a lack of resources and confusing support system. **(Please note: participants do not literally walk a mile during this session. The session will be in a room at the convention center)**

Family Archetypes: Five Profiles

Family A: Rent Apartment with Section 8 Assistance (Mom/Grandma/Nephew/Daughter)

Family C: Motel (Mom/Dad/Daughter/Son)

Family H: Shelter (Mom/Dad/Daughter)

Family P: Home with mortgage (Mom/Dad/Daughter/Older Son/Younger Son)

Family S: Rent Apartment (Mom/Dad/Oldest Son/Younger Son)

Timetable for Experience:

- Volunteer Training (Phone conference prior to convention with 15 volunteers): 30 minutes
- Experience Itself: 2 hours
 - Introductions: ~20 minutes
 - Experience: ~70 minutes
- Debrief and Call to Action: (Plan is to tie this to a next session as a Conversational hour in the same room to allow us time to process the experience)

Program Goals: By engaging in this activity, participants will gain knowledge of...

- current landscape of poverty both nationally and locally
- impact of policies on practice
- social factors that contributes to poverty
- types of challenges that individuals living in poverty may experience on a day-to-day basis
- individual and family behavior in light of the environmental contexts in which they live and act
- unique strengths of people who live in poverty as they are challenged to make life decisions while overcoming a lack of resources and confusing support system
- social services and social safety net available to people living in poverty in our community

- and increase awareness of the nature of the challenges, which clients may choose to remain very private about. Even having in mind that a patient *may* be living in poverty will help inform treatment and intervention recommendations

Destinations: Full room set-up requires 15 Destination Volunteers and 13 tables total

1. 211 phone (floating)
2. Bank
3. Check Cashing
4. Child Care
5. Community Action Agency
6. Food Destinations
 - Convenience Store
 - Fast Food
 - Grocery
7. Extras Stores
 - Thrift Store
 - Rental Center
 - Layaway
 - Rental
 - Pawn Shop
8. Government Agencies (DHR, Housing Authority, DHMH)
9. Nonprofit Agencies
10. School
11. School Bus (floating and with school)
12. Transportation Ticket Center
13. United Products (Employer)
14. Live United, Inc. (Employer)
15. Way Communications (Employer)

Facility Needs

- Table for check in
- Microphone
- PowerPoint
- Tables- 13 (14 total)
- Chairs- Minimum of 50