

Cadette Breathe
Take Action Project Sample Sessions: Food and Shelter

Project 1

Shelter Aid—*provide assistance to a local shelter or drop-in center*

Project 2

Food Bank Aid—*provide assistance to a local food resource group*

Resources

- United Way Northeast Florida: 904-390-3200
- Emergency Services and Homeless Coalition: 904-354-1100
- World Hunger Education Service PO
Box 29056 Washington, DC 20017
202-269-6322, www.worldhunger.org
- Feeding Northeast
Florida: 904-513-1333

Project 1: Shelter Aid

Map It:

1. Learn about homelessness in the community. Contact homeless shelters or social service agencies in the area.
2. Visit a shelter or drop-in center to find out what kind of assistance they need.
3. Survey people in the community to determine the public's opinion about local homelessness.

Plan It:

1. Receive training from an organization that focuses on homelessness.
2. Read a book or an article about homelessness.
3. Watch the movie "Women of Brewster Place" and have a discussion.
4. Serve at a soup line or shelter and have lunch with someone who is homeless.

Do It:

1. Help with administrative duties such as mailings, promotions, etc.
2. Cook or serve food at a shelter or drop-in center.
3. Provide maintenance, such as painting and decorating rooms, at a shelter or center.
4. Provide activities for children at a shelter or center.
5. Tutor children at a shelter or center.
6. Put together "I Care" kits that include toothpaste, brush, shampoo, etc. for shelter clients (speak with a shelter or center first to receive permission and find out the needs).
7. Coordinate a supplies drive for a shelter or center such as blankets, towels, books, etc. (speak with a shelter or center first to receive permission and find out the needs).

Think About It:

1. Create a personal list of the challenges experienced during the project.
2. Role-play situations and solutions experienced during the project.
3. Make a collage of the emotions experienced during the project.

Advocate It:

1. Create a list of local shelters in your community.

Project 2: Food Bank Aid

Map It:

1. Call or visit a local food bank or food shelf. Interview the coordinator or director and ask what kind of assistance is needed.

Plan It:

1. Recruit volunteers to help.
2. Contact your school, grocery stores, restaurants, bakeries, hospitals, etc. in the community to find out if they are, or would like to be part of, a food rescue program or food donation program.

Do It:

1. Sort and pack food at a food shelf or food bank.
2. Help out with special events such as large food drives.
3. Organize a local food drive.
4. Coordinate a local food rescue program.
5. Collect grocery store coupons to donate to food service programs.

Think About It:

1. Write a Public Service Announcement about hunger to be read over the local radio station.
2. Create a comic book based on the project experience.

Advocate It:

1. Speak on behalf of a food resource group at a town meeting or other community forum