



Zoom Class: Poverty in Southeast Iowa #2

Tuesday, September 28, 2021, 1-3pm

Please be open and respectful in your comments.

Have an attitude toward hearing and understanding others.

Discussion Questions

1. Southeast Iowa Poverty Data
 - a. What statistic was shocking or stood out to you?
 - b. What data piece do you think is missing or wish you knew?
 - i. Maybe someone knows and can share it or we can find it.
 - c. What needs are you currently seeing among those of low income?
 - d. What is one way you think a “sad statistic” could be positively affected?
2. What is self-sufficiency?
 - a. How would you define self-sufficiency?
 - b. Social Security Income (SSI) as of 2021 is at \$794 for an individual and \$1,191 for a couple. Federal Investment Program or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (FIP/TANF) maximum benefit for a household of two is \$361 in Iowa.
 - i. What assumptions are behind a provision of this amount?
 - ii. Some believe people should be self-sufficient at this level. What additional supports could help a family or individual maintain in our community at this level of income?
 - iii. What would you have to give up to be self-sufficient at this level?
3. Myths and worldviews
 - a. Can you think of a way “success stories” taint our view of reality?
 - b. Is there a myth you see or combat frequently in your profession or family?
 - i. How do you, or could you help to change others view in a positive way?
 - I. Your peers may have some suggestions.
4. Why poverty?
 - a. What are some ways you are not self-sufficient?
 - b. How were you, or how do you see others, supported in ways those of low income may not be?
 - c. Can professional supports be substituted for informal supports? Why or why not?
5. Resources
 - a. What resources have you found particularly helpful for clients or those around you?
 - b. Are there other resources you would like to share with the group?
 - c. What is a dream support you would develop if money and resources were not an obstacle?