

Poverty Simulation Recap of 4.29.25

Community Action of Southeast Iowa has partnered with Quad County Community Partnership for Protecting Children (CPPC) to offer Poverty Simulations in southeast Iowa. Since Planning Director Rachel Nunnikhoven Albrecht became a trainer in 2023 we have provided this training five times to over 333 people in southeast Iowa.

The most recent simulation was sponsored by Harmony Bible Church and City Hope Foundation on April 30th in Burlington. They had had 65 participants with their staff, volunteers, and some community members attending. We had an additional 25 volunteers through Building Bridges Out of Poverty.

The target audience of a Poverty Simulation are those who have never experienced poverty for themselves. In the most recent simulation, 64% of participants said they had never personally experienced poverty in their life. Here are a few responses from their post evaluation:

- The systems can be very frustrating and time consuming.
- This increased my compassion for people who are in poverty.
- Ignorance can be a huge hindrance to helping people in poverty.
- I can be an advocate and helper.
- There can be many barriers that cause issues for people getting help.
- We need to get awareness out about resources.
- Eviction can cause a complete break down of the family unit.
- Poverty is stressful and frustrating.
- Great experience. Never being through poverty it was eye opening. I will [use] this information in my work and life in general.

97% said they learned at least one thing they can do to help someone in poverty as a result of the simulation. 100% said they would recommend the simulation.

Links to pictures from the day, details, and more information are available on our website:
<https://caofseia.org/poverty-simulation/>

