



BASIC NEEDS BADGE

People who live in poverty do not have enough money to pay for their basic needs, like food, clothing, and shelter. You can help people in poverty by donating new or gently used toys and clothes, helping to build houses, or pitching in at a homeless shelter.

Facts about Basic Needs:

- The biggest food bank network in America feeds over 25 million people per year.
- 23% of schools worldwide do not have a toilet.
- Poverty is not just defined by money, but also by access to healthy food, safe housing, and quality education.



Read these stories of kids living without their basic needs.



Our parents died years ago and we live with our older brother, but his income is not enough to provide for all of us, so we did not have materials to go to school, and sometimes we would go days without food. Here we can get food, clothes, and school materials. Now that we have this support we can go to school. When we grow up, Amir wants to be a doctor and I want to be an artist. —Merkez, 13, Ethiopia

HELP THOSE IN NEED



I live with my father and two older siblings in a rented wooden house on a garbage pile, with no bathroom or toilet. If we need to wash or use the toilet we have to go to the public toilet and pay 1,000 rupiah per entry. We buy water costing 2,500 rupiah per container for cooking. After school I have to help my father collect bottles and other scrap. —a 12-year-old boy, Philippines



I go to school in the morning and then I come to this corner to juggle with my oranges. I don't have time for lunch, I do that at 4pm when there are less cars to get money from. After that I come back here with my brother who is 11 years old. He can't juggle so he dances by my side. We make about 20 bolivianos (\$2.50) each day. At night we go home. It's far away - two hours' journey. —Carlos, 9, Bolivia



Yes, I do feel different [from other kids] because it's like, everybody at school, are like, they have money, and my family, our...our family is so cold. They can't pay for our student fee or anything because we're so poor and we just don't have a lot of money. —an 8-year-old boy, Canada