



Oxfam
America



Get inspired: Host or attend an Oxfam America Hunger Banquet[®] event

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Everyone on earth has the same basic needs; it is only our circumstances—where we live and the culture into which we are born—that differ. Some are born into relative prosperity and security, while millions, through no choice of their own, are born into poverty.

—From the Oxfam America Hunger Banquet[®] event script

What's it all about?

One in seven people goes hungry. But hunger is not about too many people and too little food. Our rich and bountiful planet produces enough food to feed every woman, man, and child on earth. Hunger is about power. Its roots lie in inequalities in access to resources. The results are illiteracy, poverty, war, and the inability of families to grow or buy food.

Few experiences bring to life these inequalities more powerfully than an *Oxfam America Hunger Banquet* event. Unique and memorable, the *Oxfam America Hunger Banquet* allows organizers and participants alike to experience firsthand how our decisions affect others in the world.

Here's how it works: Guests draw tickets at random that assign them to a high-, middle-, or low-income tier, based on the latest statistics about the number of people living in poverty. Each income level receives a corresponding meal—filling and nutritious or sparse and simple. When the meal is done, guests are invited to share their thoughts and take action.

After an *Oxfam America Hunger Banquet* event, few participants leave with full stomachs, but all possess a greater understanding of hunger and poverty—and are motivated to do something to help

How do I get started?

Go to oxfamamerica.org/hungerbanquet to download a free toolkit with step-by-step instructions on how to organize your own *Oxfam America Hunger Banquet* event, as well as plenty of other tools to help you get the word out. You'll also hear from other supporters and find out who's hosting an *Oxfam America Hunger Banquet* in your community.

Oxfam America

We're an international relief and development organization that creates lasting solutions to poverty, hunger, and injustice. We are part of Oxfam, a confederation of 15 Oxfams working in more than 90 countries. Together with individuals and local groups in these countries, we save lives, help people overcome poverty, and fight for social justice. Learn more about us at oxfamamerica.org.

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The students found immense value in the experience, and for many it was a life-changing event.

—Kristal A. Gerdes, professor and Oxfam America Hunger Banquet[®] event organizer, Menomonie, Wisconsin

Working together to end poverty and injustice

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