Annual Poverty Simulation

When: Tuesday, September 3, 2019
Registration: 1:30 pm
Simulation Start Time: 2:00 pm
Where: Memorial Union, Stotler Lounge
Participants: Students, Faculty, Staff

WE NEED FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENT VOLUNTEERS
If you are interested in participating, please email hickmanli@missouri.edu.

In 2016, 826,358 Missourians were at or below 100% of the federal poverty level.*

This poverty simulation is a unique tool that helps people begin to understand what life is like with a shortage of money and an abundance of stress.

During the simulation, participants role play the lives of low-income families—including single parents, people with disabilities, and senior citizens—on Social Security. The task of each family is to provide for food, shelter and other basic necessities during four, 15 minute “weeks”. Families interact with community resources and try to meet their needs and care for their families.

Although, it uses “play” money, fictional scenarios and time limits, the simulation is not a game. It enables participants to view poverty from different angles and then to discuss the potential for change with local communities. It is designed to sensitize those who frequently deal with low-income families and to create a broader awareness and understanding of the lives of families in poverty.