



# Global Action Days

## Global Poverty Day

### October 17

### What is Global Poverty Day?

Global Poverty Day is designated to raise awareness of the need to eradicate extreme poverty around the world. Poverty eradication is a leading part of United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Goal #1 – No Poverty: “End poverty in all its forms everywhere”.

### Why do Girl Scouts celebrate?

According to the World Bank, about 9.2% of the world, or 719 million people, live in extreme poverty, on less than \$2.15 a day. In the United States, 11.6% of the population, 37.9 million people (11.1 million are children), lived in poverty as of 2021.

### How can GSME Girl Scouts celebrate?

As Service Units and troops, celebrate Global Poverty Day with discussion, activities, and community action. Whether at a Service Unit event or in your own troop, talk to girls about Global Poverty Day and what it means to girls worldwide and within the US, Maine and their local community. Discuss how to bring awareness about poverty and what each girl can do to help.

### Activities for Global Poverty Day

The theme for Global Poverty Day changes each year. These are suggestions for generic activities that can be modified based on any theme.

- The Poverty Wheel: A wheel serve as a good visualization device for the problem of poverty. A wheel's hub represents absolute poverty, and the spokes represent the different needs of the extremely poor. The rim of the wheel represents a life fulfilled. Have the girls write what those needs are on the spokes, and then discuss how those needs could be met.
- With the girls, look at the current World Poverty Rate at World Poverty Clock ([worldpoverty.io/](http://worldpoverty.io/)). Look at various results by changing the countries/continents, the geographic (rural/urban) filters and the demographic (female/male/all ages) filters. Discuss the results with the girls.
- Research this year's theme for Global Poverty Day, also known as International Day for the Eradication of Poverty. Discuss the theme with your troop. Ask how they think the theme affects them and other girls/women they know. How about girls and women around the world? Is there a Service Project your troop can do locally on Global Poverty Day?

### Resources:

- GSUSA Global Action Days Toolkit: available on Volunteer Toolkit & GSME website
- United Nations Sustainable Development Goals – Goal #1: No Poverty: [www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/poverty/](http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/poverty/)
- United Nations: [www.un.org/en/observances/day-for-eradicating-poverty](http://www.un.org/en/observances/day-for-eradicating-poverty)
- Overcoming Extreme Poverty: [overcomingpoverty.org/](http://overcomingpoverty.org/)
- World's Largest Lesson: [worldslargestlesson.globalgoals.org/goal/no-poverty/](http://worldslargestlesson.globalgoals.org/goal/no-poverty/)
- UNESCO SDG Resources for Educators - No Poverty: [en.unesco.org/themes/education/sdgs/material/01](http://en.unesco.org/themes/education/sdgs/material/01)