



STAND UP

TAKE ACTION

AGAINST DEBT AND GLOBAL POVERTY!

OCTOBER 16 – 18, 2009

SAVE THE DATE to join millions of people worldwide in the biggest ever global day of action against poverty. Last year – 117 million people; stood up to demand that world leaders keep their promises to end poverty and inequality, that's almost 2% of the world's population! Once again this year Jubilee USA will join with the UN Millennium Campaign to break that record and send an even louder message to policy-makers around the world.

WHY STAND UP?

In the year 2000, leaders of 189 countries signed the Millennium Declaration, committing to do everything in their power to end poverty. World leaders also established a roadmap to significantly alleviate extreme poverty by 2015 – the Millennium Development Goals.

We are now over halfway to the Millennium Development Goals' target date. Still, 50,000 people die every day as a result of extreme poverty. The gap between the rich and the poor is growing – at least 53 million additional people will be forced to live on less than \$2/day this year, due to the global economic crisis. Meanwhile, the world's poorest countries send \$100 million every day in debt repayment to the world's richest countries and financial institutions. We have the power to change this!

STANDING UP AND TAKING ACTION IS EASY!

- 1.** Decide when and where you plan to organize a STAND UP, then visit www.standagainstopoverty.org to create an account and register your plans.
- 2.** At the time you've chosen for your STAND UP, have the participants stand up together. You can read the STAND UP pledge or another reading, have someone offer a prayer, or simply announce how many people are standing and taking action together. Be sure to count the number of people participating so it will count toward the world record.

- 3.** TAKE ACTION together by having the group sign and send postcards to their members of Congress asking for them to support the Jubilee Act for Responsible Lending and Expanded Debt Cancellation. Postcards will be available from Jubilee USA, contact carly@jubileeusa.org.

HOW TO STAND UP AND TAKE ACTION

No matter where you'll be on October 16 – 18, it's possible to plan a STAND UP. STAND UP in your class on Friday, at a potluck dinner or party, even at work.

Special materials are available from Jubilee USA to help you incorporate a STAND UP into your worship service.

For more info, contact Jubilee Congregations fellow Carly Pildis at carly@jubileeusa.org/202-546-4470.



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STAND UP PLEDGE

“Could I ask you all please to Stand Up Against Poverty (EVERYONE STANDS)

We are standing now with millions around the world on this symbolic day, the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, to show our commitment to the fight against extreme poverty and inequality.

We are standing because we refuse to accept more excuses in a world where 50,000 people die every day as a result of extreme poverty and the gap between rich and poor is getting wider.

We are standing because we want our leaders to honor their promises to meet the Millennium Development Goals – and we ask them to exceed these goals.

As a Jubilee people, we are standing because we believe that debt cancellation is essential to bringing economic justice and an end to global poverty. We stand today in the light of the Jubilee vision of abundant life for all and right relationships between peoples and nations.

We join in solidarity with people from over 100 countries to say:

To the leaders of the wealthy countries –

We urge you to keep your promises on poverty – debt relief, more and better aid, trade justice and gender equality.

To the leaders of all countries – make it your first responsibility to save the lives of your poorest citizens. We ask you to tackle inequality, to be accountable to your people, to govern fairly and justly, to fight corruption and to uphold human rights.

Today, and every day, we will stand up and take action against poverty. We will continue the fight against poverty and inequality and to hold leaders in every part of the world, faithful to their promises.

We are asking not for charity but for justice. We are millions of voices standing in solidarity to say, no more excuses – end poverty now.”