

Hygiene Packs

Suggested list for children, youth, and adults: toiletry items, such as-

- Bars of soap
- Shampoo
- Deodorant
- Lotion
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrush
- Mouthwash
- Comb/hair brush
- Wash cloth
- New underclothes/socks (please identify size), etc.
- Other

Please do not use travel or sample size items. Place these items in a large zip-lock bag for distribution. Include a gospel tract and/or New Testament in a modern translation.

Clothing/Coats

Throughout Appalachian there are clothing centers that distribute clothing to needy families and persons. Often these centers are staffed by local volunteers. You can help them by -

- Boxing the clothing according to size
- Making sure the clothing is in good repair and clean
- Do not ship clothing that is out of date
- New clothes are welcome
- New shoes are needed for children and youth (no used shoes please)

New Mom Packs

- Disposable Diapers
- Baby care items - shampoo, baby brush, etc.
- Baby wipes
- Receiving blankets
- Pacifier
- Cloth diapers
- Baby gowns
- Baby booties

Include a New Testament in a modern translation and other literature for new moms.

Back-to-School packs

Paper, pencils, erasers, pen, glue, scissors, ruler, crayons, notebooks, etc.

Let children and youth become involved in project by gift-wrapping the items and placing them in a shoebox. You can also use backpacks or 2 gallon zip lock bags.

Talk to a local school teacher for ideas on what your school pack should contain. You may want to place a suggested age or grade on the outside of the pack. Include a New Testament in a modern translation.

The Golden Food Box

Below is a suggested food list of non-perishable food for a family of four. Each box is individually packed and ready for distribution. Determine what food items you want to include, purchase a supply of suitable boxes, tape the suggested food list on the outside of the box and challenge each family in the church to fill at least one box. You may want to include a New Testament or Bible in each box. Please contact Appalachian Regional Ministry for suggested delivery sites.

- 5lbs. sugar
- 5lbs. self-rising flour
- Salt
- Pepper
- Canned soups
- Canned meats
- Pasta
- Spaghetti sauce
- Macaroni and Cheese
- Crackers
- 4 cans green beans
- 4 cans corn
- 4 cans peas
- 4 cans pork 'n beans
- 5lb. bay of dry beans (pinto, great northern, navy)
- Small can shortening
- Powdered milk
- Box instant potatoes
- Box instant oats
- Dry cereal
- Peanut butter
- Jelly
- Mayonnaise
- Mustard
- Catsup
- Coffee and/or tea
- Flavored drink mix
- Clothes detergent

For a location to ship to, call or e-mail us at 606-316-4298
E-mail bbarker@arministry.org

Appalachian Regional Ministry

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A Partnership Ministry of Southern Baptists to Appalachia



Facing Poverty In Appalachia

Central Appalachia has been described as the “poverty pocket of America.” A conspicuous thirty-seven of the 100 poorest counties in America are in the 10 state region served by Appalachian Regional Ministry. This neediness makes the work challenging for those who serve in the high poverty areas.

In addition to limited resources, our churches and ministry centers deal with other related issues—abuse, drugs, illiteracy, health needs, substandard housing, food, clothing, transportation, worldview, and a whole list of other issues. Whether it is a Bible study group or a children’s event the above challenges confront those who minister to the poor.

It is easy for those who have enough to meet their physical needs to be condescending toward those who are living in poverty. It is also easy to give token allegiance to reaching them for Christ, while at the same time, because of social economical differences, not to welcome them into our churches.

I’m reminded of a well meaning preacher who came to central Appalachia to preach in 2004. After visiting with

the pastor and learning that he received only \$34.00 a week, the visiting preacher decided to teach the congregation on Biblical Stewardship. A few weeks later I was visiting and one of the ladies in the congregation told me about his sermon and then added, “but he didn’t understand that you can’t tithe off of food stamps.” What the visiting preacher also did not know was that the local pastor seldom got paid and it made no difference to him. He loved his people and week after week faithfully preached the Word, visited the sick, cared for the dying, and reached out to his community with the gospel.

Year-round ministry centers across West Virginia, Kentucky, and Tennessee face real challenges as they work to provide food, basic household items such as toiletries, detergents, cleaning supplies, and hygiene items. Other needs include Back to school supplies and new mom packs.

You and your church can get involved. As a matter of fact, every member of your church can become involved in missions without leaving home. This brochure contains a number of ideas to help get you started.

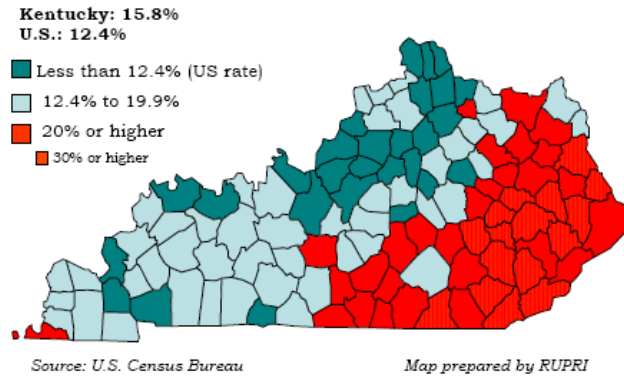
How? Working with your pastor, Women’s Ministry Director, Men’s Ministry Director, and Youth Director decide on which need you feel God is leading your church to meet or contact Appalachian Regional Ministry and we will give you the contact information of a ministry center that needs assistance.

- Then place a list of the needed supplies in your church bulletin.
- Set a date for the collection of the materials. Allow 3 or 4 weeks for people to purchase the supplies.
- Ask each family to put together a package(s) or food box(es.)
- If possible, get individuals from the church to take a weekend and personally deliver the materials/supplies.

For a shipping address to a ministry center in Appalachia contact Bill Barker at 606-316-4298 or email him at bbarker@arministry.org.

Just the Facts

Percent of Population in Poverty, 1999



Poverty Rates in Kentucky’s Ten Poorest Counties

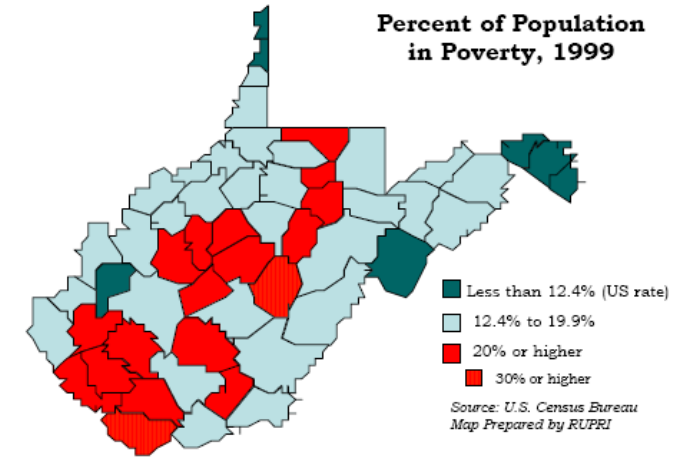
County	Poverty Rate	Child Poverty Rate
Breathitt	37.8%	51.5%
Clay	37.3%	51.8%
Jackson	34.8%	48.1%
Knott	33.7%	46.6%
Knox	35.4%	50.6%
Magoffin	38.0%	51.2%
McCreary	41.4%	56.9%
Morgan	36.3%	48.4%
Owsley	46.6%	65.4%
Wolfe	38.9%	57.2%

(US Census Bureau Data, Reported by Eller et al. 1994
1995 Kentucky Population Research Data (<http://cbpa.louisville.edu/ksdc/kpr/povest/>))

The U.S. poverty rate in 1999 was 12.4 percent. In Kentucky the poverty rate was 15.8 percent. The poverty rates in Kentucky counties ranged from 4.1 percent (Oldham County) to 45.4 percent (Owsley County). Forty-four counties in Kentucky had poverty rates over 20 percent (all were nonmetro), and sixteen counties had rates over 30 percent.

The Economic Research Service, USDA, defines “persistent poverty counties” as those with poverty rates of 20% or higher in 1969, 1979, 1989 and 1999. Forty-three counties in Kentucky are “persistent poverty counties.” (Census 2000)

Percent of Population in Poverty, 1999



More than 293,000 people in West Virginia live below the poverty line. West Virginia’s poverty rate is 16.8 percent and nearly one in six West Virginians lives in poverty. (“2003 Annual Social and Economic Supplement,” U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2003) .

Over 96,000 West Virginia children age 18 and younger live in poverty. At 25.1 percent, nearly one in four children in West Virginia lives in poverty. (“2003 Annual Social and Economic Supplement,” U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2003)

Over 11 percent of West Virginia’s 283,000 seniors live below the federal poverty line. (“2003 Annual Social and Economic Supplement,” U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, 2003)

The U.S. poverty rate in 1999 was 12.4 percent. In West Virginia, the poverty rate was 17.9 percent. The poverty rate in West Virginia’s counties ranged from 9.3 percent (Putnam County) to 37.7 percent (McDowell County). Eighteen counties in West Virginia had poverty rates over 20 percent in 1999 (4 metro and 14 nonmetro counties).

If anyone has this world’s goods and sees his brother in need but shuts off his compassion from him—how can God’s love reside in him? (1 John 3:17 HSCB)