



# **DO YOU KNOW THEM?**

**41.8 percent of Wisconsin's female-headed households with children had incomes that fell below the poverty line in 2007, this compared to 4.4 percent of married-couple families with children.**

-- From Institute for Research on Poverty, *The First Wisconsin Poverty Report*, 2009



# DO WE CARE?

**While Wisconsin's poverty rate is lower than the national average, between 1994 and 2007, our poverty rate grew by 18.18 percent, faster than any other state.**


-- From *The Landscape of Poverty in Wisconsin*, presentation by Jim McCluskey and Ann Herda-Rapp, UW-Marathon County, 2009.



# DID YOU HEAR?

**Female-headed nonmetropolitan families have the highest poverty rate (37 percent) of any type of family.**

-- U.S. Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service, "Rural Poverty at a Glance," 2004



# **DID YOU KNOW?**

**In Marathon County (the site of this conference), the poverty rate was 6.9 percent in the 2005-2007 period.**

**The poverty rate for whites was 6.0 percent, while for Asians it was 15.9 percent, and for Hispanics it was 24.7 percent.**

-- From the American Community Survey 3-Year Estimates, 2005-2007



# FOOD FOR THOUGHT:

**Among Wisconsin counties, Iron (NW), Milwaukee (SE), Ashland (NW), Burnett (NW), Juneau (central), Winnebago (central), and Rusk (NW) saw the largest percentage increases in poverty between 2000 and 2005.**



# WHAT CAN WE DO?

**The unemployment rate in Wisconsin jumped from 5.6 percent in 2007 to 9.4 percent in 2009.**

-- From Institute for Research on Poverty, *The First Wisconsin Poverty Report*, 2009



# DO WE CARE?

**The three WI regions with the highest poverty rates in 2007 were Milwaukee County (17.3 percent), the 10-county area of rural NW Wisconsin (14.4 percent), and Rock County (12.8 percent). Waukesha County, on the other end, had a poverty rate of 3.7 percent.**

-- From Institute for Research on Poverty, *The First Wisconsin Poverty Report*, 2009



# **CONSIDER THIS:**

**Poverty in southeastern Wisconsin became even more concentrated in the 1970s and 1980s: according to a 2001 report from the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago and the Housing Opportunity Partnership for Southeast Wisconsin, concentrations of poor households in already poor neighborhoods increased significantly, particularly in the Milwaukee-Waukesha, Racine and Kenosha areas.**

*-- From *Sprawl, Race and Concentrated Poverty in Southeast Wisconsin**



# WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

**Nonmetropolitan poverty rates for African-Americans are three times that of whites, and rates for Hispanics are twice that of whites.**

*-- Rural Research Needs and Data Sources for Selected Human Services Topics, Report from Mathematica Policy Research, for the US Department of Health and Human Services*



# **DO YOU KNOW THEM?**

**“The risk of poverty increases with more children in the household. About one in ten families with one or two children are poor (9.5%) increasing to 16.6% of households with three or four children, and 40.7% of households with five or more children.”**

-- From UW Extension, “Children and Poverty,” 2007



# STOP AND THINK:

**The Hmong poverty rate nationally fell from 37.8 percent in 2000 to 32.7 percent in 2005. In Marathon County (the site of this conference), the Asian (mostly Hmong) poverty rate fell from 30.6 percent in 2000 to 15.9 percent in 2007.**

-- Data from the American Community Survey, *We the People: Asians in the United States, Census 2000 Special Reports*, and Mark Pfeifer's "Hmong American Socioeconomic Profile" in *Asian American Press*, 2007



# **THINK AND ACT:**

**The U.S. Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service (2004) reports that “completely rural” counties, those not adjacent to metropolitan counties, have the highest poverty rates, 16.8 percent, far higher than the largest metropolitan areas (11.5 percent), with pockets of extremely high rates of poverty the greater the distance from metropolitan areas.**

*-- From “Rural Poverty at a Glance,” Rural Development Research Report*



# WHO SUFFERS?

**A larger percentage of households in rural areas live in poverty compared to households in metropolitan areas, and even more notably for children living in poverty.**

-- From UW Extension, "Fighting Hunger in Wisconsin Communities," 2005



# **TAKE A LOOK:**

**13.9 percent or more than  
1,270,000 Wisconsin children --  
one in seven -- lived in house-  
holds with incomes that fell below  
the poverty line in 2005, while the  
poverty rate for working-age  
adults was 9.4 percent and 7.3  
percent for the elderly.**



# ARE YOU LISTENING?


**“The poverty rate among children varies greatly by race and ethnicity. African American children in Wisconsin are almost six times as likely as white children to be poor—52.6% as compared to 8.9%. More than one-quarter of Hispanic children are poor (26.6%), as are 25.7% of American Indian children and 22.7% of Asian children.”**



# **JUST THE FACTS:**

**According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service, the rate of food insecurity for children (15.6 percent) is nearly twice that for households without children (8.5 percent).**

-- From "Food Insecurity in the United States: Conditions and Trends," *Briefing Rooms*, 2007



# WOULD YOU BELIEVE?

**540,000 Wisconsin residents –  
or one in eleven -- lived in  
households that were food  
insecure in 2001-2003.**

-- From UW Extension, "Fighting Hunger in Wisconsin Communities," 2005

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a spoon with a tomato over a bowl of food. The background is a light blue and white geometric pattern.

# **CAN YOU IMAGINE?**

**Low-income families in Wisconsin are at greater risk of lacking adequate food: in 2005, 44 percent experienced food insecurity and 19 percent experienced hunger. With the current recession, those numbers are now likely even higher.**

-- From UW Extension, "Fighting Hunger in Wisconsin Communities," 2005



# DID YOU HEAR?

**The number of SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program -- formerly called the Food Stamp Program) recipients grew by 37 percent in Wisconsin the past two years.**

-- From Institute for Research on Poverty, *The First Wisconsin Poverty Report*, 2009

A close-up photograph of a hand holding a spoon with a tomato over a bowl of food. The background is a light blue and white geometric pattern.

# **DID YOU KNOW?**

**In one examination of food insecurity among Wisconsin children, with seventy elementary schools in 23 counties participating, an average of 22 percent of the children came from food insecure households**

-- From UW Extension, "Communities Document: Food Insecurity and Hunger," *University of Wisconsin Extension Impact Reports*, 2006