

Name _____ Date _____

CCHD Poverty Scenarios
Scenario E

Directions: In this activity, you will receive a scenario based on a real problem confronted by people living in poverty. Your group needs to come up with two solutions to this situation. One solution has to be based on "charitable works." How can you meet the immediate needs of individuals or families? The other solution needs to be based on "social justice." How can we help to correct the problem in the community in the long term?

The residents of Louisiana face an environmental challenge. In an area known as "Cancer Alley," refineries release toxic air emissions that are carried downwind to residential areas. These dangerous emissions contain cancer causing agents that are in excess of the state's standards and are inhaled by residents of communities on a daily basis. While laws require emissions to be tested, the company tests the air 10-15 mile away and upwind from the refinery—not downwind— so residents have no way to prove that their community's air is polluted. In addition, bi-weekly industrial accidents, which cause increased air pollution, are further threatening the health of community residents, with many residents suffering from respiratory illnesses.

What would you do to help address this situation?

Charitable Works:

Social Justice: