

**“How Long Must I Cry for Help?”**  
*Bending the Arc Toward  
God’s Vision of Justice for Children*

**2015 NATIONAL OBSERVANCE  
OF CHILDREN’S SABBATHS**  
**October 16-18, 2015**

In our rich nation, 1 in 5 children lives in poverty.

1 in 3 Black children lives in poverty.

1 in 3 Latino children lives in poverty.

1 in 4 children under the age of 5 live in poverty.

1 in 11 children live in extreme poverty, at less than half of the official poverty level.

**We can and must end child poverty now.**

*“I know you are asking today, ‘How long will it take?’ Somebody’s asking ‘How long will prejudice blind the visions of men?’ I come to say to you this afternoon however difficult the moment, however frustrating the hour, it will not be long, because truth pressed to earth will rise again. How long? Not long, because no lie can live forever. How long? Not long, because you still reap what you sow....How long? Not long. Because the arc of the moral universe is long but it bends toward justice....Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer [God]. Be jubilant, my feet. Our God is marching on.”*

(Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., at the conclusion of the 1965 March from Selma to Montgomery)

*On the National Observance of Children’s Sabbaths weekend*, places of worship will unite in concern and action to end child poverty and to help bend the arc toward God’s vision of justice for children. These Children’s Sabbath celebrations span faith traditions, race, ethnicity, income, generations and geography. *Together*, we will answer the call to love and justice as we work to end child poverty.

On the Children’s Sabbath weekend places of worship will:

**Pray, Preach and Hold Services** that lift up sacred texts and teachings about our call to love and protect every child beloved by God.

**Listen** to the voices of children and families in poverty and learn what we can to do help end child poverty.

**Proclaim** and answer God’s call to love and justice, especially for those who are the youngest, poorest and most vulnerable.

**Participate** in active responses to love and seek justice for children — especially the more than 15 million children in poverty in our nation today — through education programs, hands-on service projects and advocacy efforts.

**Promise** to *persist* throughout the year in caring acts of service and committed advocacy to help bend the arc toward God’s vision of justice.

**We Will Participate:** \_\_\_\_\_

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*www.childrensdefense.org/childrensabbaths*

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