

# POVERTY IN INDIANAPOLIS: understanding the crisis

As the numbers below demonstrate, Indianapolis faces significant poverty-related challenges. Indianapolis also has hundreds of organizations and individuals working to alleviate poverty and its underlying causes. **The Faith & Action Project at Christian Theological Seminary** seeks to bring together those people so they can learn from each other,

find greater strength through collaboration, and spread the word about the most workable, replicable ideas. By providing a platform for collaboration and celebrating the most effective anti-poverty programs, the Faith & Action Project seeks to ignite a solution-oriented movement for improving life in Central Indiana and beyond.



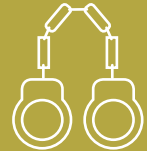
**20.8%** of Marion County residents live below the federal poverty line, compared to **14.5%** of Indiana residents and **13.5%** of Americans

Marion County's poverty rate increased **45%** from 2005 to 2012, compared to **28%** for Indiana, and **20%** for the U.S.



Poverty is accelerating in Indianapolis: in 2000, **11%** of Marion County residents lived in poverty (compared to **20.8%** now)

The rate of violent and property crimes in Marion County (**66.7** crimes per **1,000** people) is more than twice as high as the rates for Indiana (**32**) and the U.S. (**31**)



**31.9%** of Marion County children live in poverty, compared to **20.5%** in Indiana and **20.4%** in the U.S.

Only **77%** of Marion County ninth-graders graduate from high school in four years, compared to **87%** in Indiana and **85%** nationally



# Help to spark a revolution of hope. Bring your visionary solutions to the Faith & Action Project.



Poverty is eroding the foundations of Indianapolis. In response, **Christian Theological Seminary**, with support from the Mike and Sue Smith Family Fund, has created the **Faith & Action Project** to inspire collaboration among faith communities, nonprofits and government agencies in order to reduce poverty in our city.



Many are already working diligently on these issues in our community. The Faith & Action Project seeks to help accelerate these efforts, inspire new ideas, and encourage others to get involved. Through annual public events and grant awards, the Faith & Action Project aims to ignite a solution-oriented movement in Indianapolis and beyond.



Visit [www.cts.edu](http://www.cts.edu) or call Lindsey Rabinowitch at 317-931-2336 to:

- Learn more about the Faith & Action Project
- Review guidelines for participating organizations and timeline for proposals
- Meet Advisory Board members