



**International Social Work in the 21st Century: Addressing the Challenges of Poverty and Behavioral Health, (Critical Factors that Impact the Well-being of People Around The World)”!**



*The Department of Social Work*

**Thursday April 6, 2017: Poverty Simulation**

**FEE: \$10.00 (Registration Required)**

**The ASU West Campus: Building J**

**2400 Gillionville Road**

**10:00am-2:00pm**

**“Walk in My Shoes”**

On day one of the International Social Work Conference 2017, a poverty simulation will be offered to the attendees. The poverty simulation experience is designed to help participants begin to understand what it might be like to live in a typical low-income family trying to survive from month to month. The poverty experience is an interactive, non-traditional, powerful training that equips participants to understand the effects that poverty has on individuals, families, and communities. During the experience, each participant is given a unique identity, is placed in a family, and lives a “month” in poverty.

Participants could play the role of a single mother who works long hours to provide for her children, a teenager who is responsible for his/her younger siblings, or a grandparent who cares for the children of his/her incarcerated adult children. Some participants are refugees, others are immigrants, and still others have no home. Each family must work together to have food, shelter, and utilities. It is a simulation, not a game. The object is to sensitize participants to the realities faced by low-income people. A select number of students will be indulged in the process and community and human service professionals who are charged with providing social and other services to a genre of consumers will be engaged also. The experience includes a debriefing session (focus groups) to help process the experience. Additionally a pre-test and a post-test will be administered to capture qualitative and quantitative data for research purposes and for the production of scholarly materials.

**Friday April 7, 2017: Main Conference**

**8:00am-4:00pm**

**All Students With ID: FREE**