OXFAM TOOLKITS

# HOW TO HOST AN OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET® EVENT

## DIRECTIONS AND TOOLS

OXFAM

# OXFAM TOOLKITS

In keeping with Oxfam's belief in the power of people against poverty, Oxfam toolkits are designed for individuals and groups looking for a hands-on way to join the effort. These practical how-to guides collect ideas and advice from Oxfam's experts as well as supporters around the country. Oxfam toolkits represent an entry point into the world of activism—building a grassroots movement for change, one person at a time.

## TOOLKITS AVAILABLE:

**HOW TO GET STARTED**
A MENU OF IDEAS

**HOW TO HOST AN OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET® EVENT**
DIRECTIONS AND TOOLS

**HOW TO FUNDRAISE FOR OXFAM**
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**HOW TO HOST A HOUSE PARTY**

**HOW TO TAKE ACTION**
ORGANIZING IN YOUR COMMUNITY

**HOW TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE ON CAMPUS**

**HOW TO HOST AN OXFAM JAM**
FIVE EASY STEPS TO A SUCCESSFUL EVENT

**FARMERS' MARKET ACTION GUIDE**
RESOURCES FOR OXFAM VOLUNTEERS

All toolkits are available for download at **oxfamamerica.org/toolkits**.

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# DEAR FRIENDS,

On the Thursday before Thanksgiving 1974, something remarkable happened. Responding to Oxfam's call, 250,000 people nationwide participated in the first Oxfam Fast for a World Harvest; they fasted either for the day or for a meal, raising awareness about hunger and donating the money they would have spent on food to Oxfam. So began a national movement to alleviate hunger and poverty in our world.

Today, when you bring people together at an *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event, you're part of this movement. Over the past four decades, more than 950,000 people have attended *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* events around the country. By raising funds and awareness, you can change lives.

In this toolkit, you'll find a step-by-step planning guide, a script, character tickets, and other resources to help you host a successful event. Please email me if you need any help.

The organizing community that you belong to is a source of inspiration for me and the staff at Oxfam. It is wonderful to be part of a movement of people working together to end the injustice of poverty. Thank you for all of your efforts.

Best,

**JACLYN MILNE**
**DIGITAL ENGAGEMENT SPECIALIST, COMMUNITY EVENTS**
**OXFAM AMERICA**
**actfast@oxfamamerica.org**

## PLANNING YOUR EVENT IN A COVID-19 WORLD:

This toolkit was designed as a resource to help organizers plan in-person events. We recognize that this year, due to COVID-19, events may look different. We encourage you to take all the necessary precautions if you choose to go forward with an in-person gathering. If you decide to host a virtual event this year, you can still use this as a guide, but can tailor your event to best fit your needs. We offer digital materials on our website that will help you put on your *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event: **oxf.am/hungerbanquet**.

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# 4 THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE YOU GET STARTED

## 1. YOUR OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET® EVENT IS PART OF A MOVEMENT.

This interactive and memorable event has been changing people's lives for more than 40 years. Every year, thousands of people attend *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* events around the country—most of which are hosted by volunteers like you.

## 2. YOUR EVENT WILL BRING HUNGER AND POVERTY ISSUES TO LIFE.

When guests arrive at an *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event, they draw tickets at random that assign each to a high-, middle-, or low-income tier—based on the latest statistics about poverty around the world. Each income level has a different experience. The 20 percent in the high-income tier are served a sumptuous meal; the 30 percent in the middle-income group eat a simple meal, like rice and beans; and the 50 percent in the low-income tier help themselves to small portions of rice and water. A master of ceremonies (MC) reads a script (see page 9) to guide participants through this interactive experience. Finally, your guests come together to share their thoughts and take action after the meal.

## 3. WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU.

Oxfam has event experts on staff to answer your questions and offer advice. We also encourage you to use our online registration form to let us know about your event, and once your event is over, we'd love to hear how it went!

Oxfam created this unique event over 40 years ago, and we encourage others to use it in their schools and communities. We do ask that you credit Oxfam in the title of the event and in your promotion. For example, if you are hosting an event at Harvard University, you should name your event "Harvard University Oxfam Hunger Banquet®." If you have any questions, please refer to our **Licensing Agreement**.

Contact us via email at actfast@oxfamamerica.org.

## 4. YOU CAN MAKE AN IMPACT.

At the end of your *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event, people who attend will feel moved; they'll want to know what they can do to help. Make sure you invite them to take action on their mobile phones or sign up for Oxfam's online community using the sign-up sheet you will find on page 23. It's an easy yet meaningful way to get involved. And by growing our community, we increase our power to respond to global crises, raise awareness, and change the unjust laws that keep people trapped in poverty.

> // I was really excited to come to my first Oxfam event. And I feel very grateful that it was an *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* [event]. It was incredibly moving. I even was choked up a few times. It's just a really important reminder about inequality and that it's not a choice which group you're in. It's all luck of the draw. //
>
> —*Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event participant

# PLANNING YOUR EVENT

To help make your *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event a success, Oxfam has compiled some tips and techniques for planning your event from start to finish. We've included advice gleaned from staff and volunteers who have organized events all over the country. Given COVID-19 and the effects the pandemic has had on the planning of in-person events, some of this guidance may not apply to your event. Use your judgment to decide if these steps make sense for your event.

## STEP 1: FIND PEOPLE TO HELP YOU

Recruit volunteers immediately and divide them into three committees:

### PUBLICITY COMMITTEE (PUB)

This group handles publicity and media. The purpose of these publicity efforts is to get people to attend your *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event. By contacting local media, you can also share your message about poverty and hunger issues with an audience well beyond your guest list.

Your publicity should reflect the nature of the *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event, including the themes of social justice and education. Sometimes organizers keep their publicity purposefully vague to intrigue prospective guests and to add an element of surprise.

### LOGISTICS COMMITTEE (LOG)

This team's responsibilities are threefold: managing guest registration and sign-ups, soliciting donations, and recruiting additional volunteers to prepare for and staff the event. This committee's ultimate goal is to ensure that the *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event runs as smoothly as possible.

Many organizations run *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* events as fundraisers for Oxfam, so they try to spend as little as possible. Whether your event is a fundraiser or not, you will be working within a budget, so keeping expenses down will be important. Your budget will probably include allowances for food, publicity, a sound system, decorations, and possibly the cost of a venue and/or speaker(s). It is a good idea to make your own list before planning your fundraising strategy. Once you have a list, you can begin brainstorming ways to limit expenditures.

### PLANNING COMMITTEE (PLA)

The planning committee oversees the structure and design of the program and makes sure that your *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event effectively conveys its message. This committee also plans the agenda and content of the program, including how much time is allocated to each part. It arranges for an MC, speakers, and VIP guests.

- ❑ Will your event be a fundraiser? Consider how you will collect funds and let participants know how to donate.

## STEP 2: GET ORGANIZED & REGISTER YOUR EVENT

This suggested sequence of events will assist you as you prepare for your *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event.

### FIVE TO EIGHT WEEKS BEFORE

- ❑ Set a date for the event. (LOG)
- ❑ Reserve a venue or decide a platform, such as Zoom or other conferencing tool, if your event is virtual. (LOG)
- ❑ Select an MC and a speaker. (PLA)
- ❑ Create a list of local celebrities to invite. (PLA)
- ❑ Seek out food donations. (LOG)
- ❑ Register your event and order free materials on our website at oxfamamerica.org/ohbregister. (PLA)

### FOUR WEEKS BEFORE

- ❑ Send invitations. (PUB)
- ❑ Post your event online. (PUB)
- ❑ Prepare a press release. You can find templates after you register your event on our website. (PUB)
- ❑ Determine seating arrangements or virtual breakout groups. (PLA)
- ❑ Decide on decorations. (PLA)
- ❑ Recruit volunteers and assign roles. (LOG)

### THREE WEEKS BEFORE

- ❑ Publicize on social media. (PUB)
- ❑ Design menus. (PUB)
- ❑ Purchase or make decorations. (PLA)
- ❑ Put up posters. (PUB)
- ❑ Send out press releases and make follow-up calls. (PUB)
- ❑ Check all final details. (LOG)
- ❑ Review the suggested script. (PLA)
- ❑ Make follow-up calls to media. (PUB)

### THREE DAYS BEFORE

- ❑ Print out or email tickets for all income groups. (LOG)
- ❑ Buy food, pick up donated food, or review plans with chef. (LOG)
- ❑ Check on table settings for each group. (LOG)
- ❑ Make last-minute press calls. (PUB)

### THE BIG DAY

❑ Continue publicity. (PUB)

❑ Set up and decorate room. (PLA)

❑ Set up a sign-up table. (LOG)

❑ Orient volunteers. (LOG)

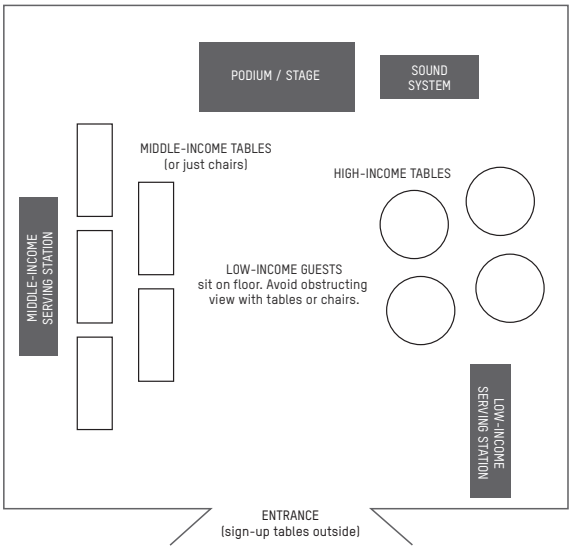
❑ Coordinate food for each income. (LOG)

❑ Test texting on character cards. (LOG)

❑ Greet guests and make sure everyone has a ticket. (PLA)

❑ Begin! (PLA)

### SUGGESTED ROOM LAYOUT




### WHAT'S ON THE MENU?

A typical *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event includes three different meals. Please note that the menu below is a suggestion. A variety of foods will work to touch on the disparity the event highlights.

- High-income (20 percent of guests): pasta, sauce, salad, and juice
- Middle-income (30 percent of guests): rice, beans, and water
- Low-income (50 percent of guests): rice and water

### POTENTIAL SPEAKERS

- Returned Peace Corps volunteers
- Professors or teachers
- University presidents
- Local elected officials
- Community leaders
- Directors of area nonprofits, such as food banks or refugee resettlement organizations
- Leaders of faith groups
- Local public figures or media personalities
- Chefs or sustainable food advocates

## STEP 3: RUN YOUR EVENT

The big day is here! To ensure that everything goes smoothly, assign tasks to four people or groups:

### MASTER OF CEREMONIES

This is the most demanding of all the responsibilities. If possible, we recommend having two MCs. The MC needs to have a commanding presence to hold the audience's attention for the duration of the *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event. It falls on the MC's shoulders to get the audience to participate in the sharing session, one of the most important parts of the event. Along with being an effective public speaker, the MC should have a good grasp of the *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event concept and objectives. Use our suggested event script on page 9 as a guide. The MC should be briefed on what food will be provided and how it will be served, as he or she will be expected to give directions concerning the food.

### VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR(S)

The volunteer coordinator assigns people to specific tasks and leads the orientation for all volunteers before the event. Some volunteers will put up the decorations, set up the room, and perhaps prepare the food. Others will greet the guests, help them choose their tickets, answer questions about texting for character information, staff the sign-up tables, serve the food, and clean up once the *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event is over.

The volunteers need to be fully versed in their roles. Volunteers not only serve a practical purpose, but they are also the first people to interact with participants as they arrive, so they set the tone for the banquet. Volunteers also play an important role at the end of the event by helping guests sign up for Oxfam's online community by phone or on paper sign-up sheets (see page 23).

### SOUND SYSTEM MANAGER

The sound system is an essential feature of the *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event to keep the audience involved. An effective sound system that can be heard over the crowd, particularly while people are finding their way to their appointed areas, will help your MC maintain control of the event. Look into the quality of the acoustics when you select the site for your *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event, and arrange for at least two microphones (one or two for the MCs and at least one cordless microphone for the audience during the sharing period).

### VIP GUEST RELATIONS

- Your VIP guest list may include public figures, speakers, and sponsors.
- Speakers need to be briefed on where to sit, as well as when they will speak during the program and for how long. They should be introduced to the MC and other speakers.
- Sponsors, whether individuals or businesspeople, should see how their support contributed to the event, and they should be thanked, both in person and by the MC as part of the program.

# 13 INSIDER TIPS TO MAKE YOUR EVENT A SUCCESS

1. Know your audience. Who's coming to your *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event? What are their interests? Their values? This will help you plan an event that resonates with them.

2. Consider distributing information to your guests beforehand. Will people have a better reaction if they're well-informed? Or will the element of surprise be more effective?

3. If you want your event to have a lasting impact, people should leave not only with a greater understanding of poverty, but also with knowledge of what they can do to help. Make sure you invite them to join Oxfam's online community, either by signing up on their phones by texting ACTNOW to 77547, or by filling out the sign-up sheet on page 23, so they can participate in the movement to end poverty and hunger.

4. Don't allow the event to go over the allotted time (ideally 90 minutes).

5. The MC's role is very important. Choose this person carefully, make sure they are prepared, and have them walk around in the audience and be a part of the banquet. If you think it might be easier or more engaging, you might ask two or more people to share the MC role.

6. Have the MC and volunteers emphasize that the event is based on examples of real people Oxfam has worked with.

7. If questions come up, you can always direct them to Oxfam's website for more information about issues and statistics that demonstrate how resources are unequally distributed globally.

8. Consider adding your own elements to the event. You can add a story or example from your own community.

9. If people in the low-income group do not eat their food, point this out. In reality, picky eating is not a reasonable choice for hungry people.

10. Use the hashtag #oxfamhungerbanquet to spread the word about your event on social media. Encourage guests to share their own photos and experiences.

11. During the group discussion, use audience comments to illustrate the point of the *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event. You'll be amazed what people feel inspired to share.

12. Access Oxfam staff and other online resources for your event at **oxfamamerica.org/hungerbanquet**.

13. Sometimes during the event, people may want to interact with the other income groups—exchanging food, switching seats, etc. Before doing so, they may ask a volunteer if this is allowed. Arm your volunteers with the line: "It's your world. Do what you'd like." This will leave the participants with flexibility and will add to the reflection portion of the event.

"[At *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* events] I have heard insightful thoughts from many people, from teens to veterans. No matter who is in the room, there's always evidence of a change in viewpoints. … It helps create an environment where we can talk about what's wrong and how each of us can act with Oxfam to right these wrongs."

—Event organizer

# EVENT PLANNING GUIDE FOR 100 PEOPLE

This planning guide is intended to augment our tips on planning an *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event. This list addresses many particulars of the actual event; see page 3 for the recommended organization of the event in the weeks leading up to it.

***Note:*** *While this guide is based on an event for 100 people, make sure you follow school or local guidelines for how many people can gather safely in person, if that is the route you choose.*

Although an *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event can range in size from as few as 20 attendees to as many as 600, the following is based on 100 people attending the event. Please adjust as appropriate to your anticipated audience size. One hundred people translates into 20 in the high-income group, 30 in the middle-income group, and 50 in the low-income group. Base your planning on the minimum number of attendees that you can reasonably expect. Although this approach may seem counterintuitive, it will help you to avoid setting too many high-income seats and skewing the ratio of high- to lower-income participants. If your estimate proves to be too low, simply invite additional attendees to join the low-income group on the floor. For example, you may hope to have 150 people attend the banquet but feel certain that you'll get at least 100. Plan the setup, tickets, and food for 100. Everyone over and above 100 can sit on the floor and share with the others in the low-income section.

## FOOD

The 50 people in the low-income group typically receive about one-half cup of rice in a small bowl or paper plate. Often a large tray of rice is sufficient for this number of people. Water and cups are provided but usually no forks or spoons.

The 30 people in the middle-income group usually receive about one-half cup of rice and a spoonful of beans in a small bowl or plate. They also get a fork or spoon, a napkin, water, and a cup. Cups are often filled with water ahead of time and placed on a buffet table close to where this group is served so they can take their water as they go through the line.

The 20 people in the high-income group are served a meal often consisting of pasta, salad, bread, and juice. As this meal can be virtually anything other than rice and beans, it is easiest to ask the dining service or restaurant that is donating or preparing the food to give you a tray with 20 portions of whatever they are making that day, as well as a bowl of salad and some rolls.

Food can be your biggest expense—but through donations, it can often cost nothing at all! Try these tips to keep your food costs down:

- Dining services, restaurants, and others are far more likely to make a donation when you describe it as a pan of rice rather than dinner for 50! Be sure to emphasize how little you are actually asking for. A tray of pasta, a bowl of salad, or a bag of bread sounds much easier and less costly than numerous dinners.
- Emphasize the importance of ordering less rather than more food for this event. People often don't eat the small quantities given them, and having leftover food at an event that focuses on hunger can be very upsetting and frustrating.
- If you have a dining hall or cafeteria food service, begin by asking one of the managers about a food donation. They are often willing to supply most, if not all, of the food you will need.
- Ask local restaurants to help by providing the rice, rice and beans, a large salad, etc.
- Spread the menu out among the organizers, asking each one to cook some rice or buy some rolls or juice, etc.
- Ask for donations from local restaurants and grocery stores. Let potential donors know that they will receive publicity through your event. When talking with potential sponsors, emphasize the positive nature of your *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event. Many businesses and organizations make it their policy to support social justice or public service efforts as a means of helping the community and maintaining a positive public image. Be sure to write a professional letter or email first and then follow up immediately with a call or a visit.

Asking for donations to feed dozens—even hundreds—of people may seem daunting, but with just a little coordination, you can get all your food donated. Remember: You aren't asking for full meals for each person. Be sure to send thank-you notes or emails to those who donated.

Finally, when planning your food service, consider ways to reduce the amount of waste from your event. Serve water from pitchers instead of plastic bottles, recycle silverware, and compost uneaten food.

## FOOD CHECKLIST

### LOW-INCOME GROUP

- ❑ 50 servings (i.e., one-half to three-quarters of a cup) of rice in a tray with one or two serving spoons
- ❑ 50 small paper plates or bowls
- ❑ 50 cups (do not offer plastic water bottles)
- ❑ Water in a bucket with a ladle or in pitchers

### MIDDLE-INCOME GROUP

- ❑ 30 servings (i.e., one-half to three-quarters of a cup) of rice and beans in trays with serving spoons
- ❑ 30 small paper plates or bowls
- ❑ 30 forks or spoons
- ❑ 30 napkins
- ❑ 30 cups
- ❑ Water in pitchers or another container

### HIGH-INCOME GROUP

- ❑ 20 dinner-size portions of pasta, salad, and rolls (or whatever is offered)
- ❑ 20 nice napkins
- ❑ 20 regular plates, glasses, forks, knives, and spoons
- ❑ Table linens for the tables
- ❑ Juice, tea, or another beverage for 20

## PROGRAM

- **Keep to 90 minutes or less,** as it's difficult to hold people's attention when they're seated on the floor for too long. Let people know either through a program or at the welcome what to expect in terms of speakers, video, etc. This will help you avoid having people leave during or immediately following the meal portion of the banquet.
- **Be sure that any speakers have all the information they need,** including what the event is about; what their role is; where they need to be, at what time, and for how long.
- **The role of MC is central to the success of the event** and must be assigned to someone who can assume this responsibility, including spending time preparing for the role by familiarizing themself with the script and understanding the intended outcome of the event. The MC will often lead the all-important sharing portion of the event and must be able to create an atmosphere that encourages people to speak up.
- **Do a run through on all audiovisual equipment,** and test the Wi-Fi, the Oxfam slideshow, the microphones, and the sound system. Make sure that everything is in working order and that a knowledgeable person is taking responsibility for operating everything. Give the AV person a script that indicates the various points at which each piece of equipment will be used and for how long.
- **Print *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event character tickets** in three distinct colors in the appropriate quantities (i.e., 20 high-income tickets, 30 middle-income tickets, and 50 low-income tickets). On page 14, you can find our printable tickets. Print as many as you need for the number of attendees—more than one person can have the same character ticket. Distribute the tickets in at least two boxes, bags, or baskets.
- **Recruit eight to 10 volunteers for the event, and have them arrive 60–90 minutes beforehand,** depending on the setup required. Develop a list of volunteer roles, instruct all volunteers on what is about to happen and the goals of the event, and assign roles to volunteers. Give specific instructions regarding the significance and timing of each task.

## SAMPLE VOLUNTEER CHECKLIST

- ❑ **Appoint one person to handle AV equipment.**
- ❑ **Appoint one person to greet and accompany the keynote speaker or other special guests**. Make sure the greeter knows who these people are and what their roles will be during the banquet.
- ❑ **Appoint two to four people to distribute tickets at the door** (determined by number of entrances to the room).
- ❑ **Appoint at least one or two people to staff the sign-up, donation, and information tables.** You may want to set up more than one table for sign-ups, one at the front and one at the back of the room.
- ❑ **Appoint two to four people to answer questions and guide people to the area determined by their ticket.** They should encourage people to text to learn about their character.

### THESE SAME PEOPLE OR OTHERS CAN BE GIVEN THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL TASKS:

- ❑ **Two people to serve and wait on the high-income group.** This role may include actually putting the food on the plates in advance of the banquet. Note: It can be very distracting to have people preparing plates of food during the opening of the banquet. This potential distraction should be weighed against the need to keep the food warm. It all depends on the particulars of the venue and the way the food is provided.
- ❑ **Two people to serve rice and beans from a buffet table to the 30 people in the middle-income group.**
- ❑ **Two people to deliver the tray of rice with a serving spoon, plates/bowls, and the water and cups to the 50 people in the low-income group.** Participants will have to determine for themselves how to split the rice from the communal bowl.
- ❑ **Four to five people to distribute materials, including pens, either before the event or at the end when you invite people to join Oxfam's online community.** (It's often distracting to have people passing out materials while someone is speaking, so you may wish to set out materials throughout the room before the event begins.)
- ❑ **The same four to five people can circulate through the room and stand by the exits to collect the sign-up sheets and petitions.** Mail all these materials to Oxfam (see the contact information on page 23).
- ❑ **Afterward, all stay to help clean up.**

# SAMPLE OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET® EVENT SCHEDULE

**5:00–6:00**

- Volunteers arrive.
- Volunteer coordinator assigns volunteers to specific tasks.
- Volunteers set up and decorate site, designating areas for sign-ups, donations, and information.

**6:00–6:15**

- Volunteers greet guests and have them draw tickets.
- Volunteers remind guests to learn about the person whose story is on their ticket.
- Volunteers encourage guests to sign up, donate, and take information.
- Volunteers direct guests to their income groups.

**6:15–6:20**

- Host gives welcome address.
- Host acknowledges sponsors, donors, and other people who made the event possible.

**6:20–6:35**

- MC reads *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event script.

**6:35–6:50**

- Attendees eat meal.
- Play slideshow (optional; this is offered in our suite of materials).
- Play music (optional).

**6:50–7:15**

- MC asks for a moment of silence to reflect on the *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event.
- MC leads sharing period.

**7:15–7:30**

- MC concludes and invites attendees to sign up to join the Oxfam community by texting ACTNOW to 77547, or at the sign-up tables.
- MC invites attendees to make a contribution if using this event as a fundraiser.

# SAMPLE OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET® EVENT SCRIPT

**Note:** Throughout this script, you will see icons/prompts for the use of on-screen slides from the "Oxfam Hunger Banquet® event slides" Powerpoint file (included in the free downloadable materials order form). The use of these slides is purely optional; they have been provided to enhance the visual experience of attendees, particularly with virtual events. It is recommended that there is a person designated to manage the process of screen-sharing/advancing/stop screen-sharing of the slides.

[OPTIONAL: PRESENT SLIDE 1 AS ATTENDEES ARRIVE/JOIN]

## INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event.

[FADE-OUT/STOP PRESENTING SLIDE 1]

[OPTIONAL: PRESENT SLIDE 2]

We are here today because **more than 1.8 billion people** were living in poverty before we were faced with the coronavirus pandemic. Those 1.8 billion people were living on the equivalent of less than $3.20 per day (or $1,168 per year), which is the international poverty line. They accounted for 23 percent of the global population.

[OPTIONAL: TRANSITION TO SLIDE 3]

The effects of the pandemic are estimated to have added another 185 to 223 million people living in poverty. About two-thirds of people experiencing poverty due to COVID-19 live in South Asia.

[FADE-OUT/STOP PRESENTING SLIDE 3]

[PAUSE]

**More than 3.1 billion people (nearly 42 percent of the world's population)** lack the economic resources to afford a healthy diet that meets all of their nutrient intake requirements and helps prevent malnutrition. This is an increase of 4 percent from 2019, due mainly to food-price increases.

[PAUSE]

Every day, **6,164 children under age 5** die from malnutrition or a related, preventable illness.

[PAUSE]

You may think hunger is about too many people and too little food. That is not the case. Our rich and bountiful planet produces enough food to feed every person on earth.

[OPTIONAL: PRESENT SLIDE 4]

Hunger is about power. Its roots lie in inequalities in access to resources. The results are illiteracy, poverty, war, and the inability of families to grow or buy food.

Hunger affects everyone, in countries rich and poor, in urban and rural areas. But some of us face greater challenges than others. Every day, resources like land and water are becoming harder to access. Global shifts in the climate are adding to the problem, making it difficult for people to sow and harvest crops.

[FADE-OUT/STOP PRESENTING SLIDE 4]

Let me give you an example of how inequality brings about hunger, especially for women and girls. In many low-income communities, women are the ones who collect food, water, and fuel. They maintain the home and look after children, the sick, and the elderly. When food is scarce, women often eat less so others can have enough. Adding to that, 53 percent of all primary-school-age children who may never set foot in school are girls (34 million). Women also have fewer opportunities to learn new skills, access credit, or find decent-paying jobs.

But the situation is far from hopeless: we have made progress. Efforts like yours have helped to decrease the proportion of the world's population living in hunger. But hundreds of millions of people still don't have access to the food they need. Global food prices remain extremely volatile, meaning that for many people, food that is within reach one day may not be affordable the next. In July 2022, global food prices were 13 percent higher than a year earlier, even though they fell 9 percent from the level of June 2022.

Meanwhile, the gap between the wealthy few and the many living in poverty is steadily growing wider, with the pandemic intensifying those inequalities and putting progress further out of reach.

Your presence here today shows that you are concerned. You want to make a difference.

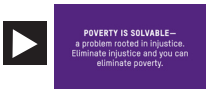
Today, you join Oxfam in the fight against world hunger.

For anyone who refuses to accept a world of poverty and discrimination, Oxfam stands with you in tackling inequality at its roots. With your help, we offer lifesaving support in times of crisis and advocate for economic justice, gender equality, and climate action.

We acknowledge that Oxfam's mission to fight inequality to end poverty and injustice is not going to happen overnight. Changing and rebuilding broken systems takes time, and

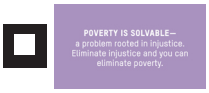
people are experiencing crises and need help right now. Which is why we approach our mission in two ways: we partner with local organizations worldwide to offer lifesaving support to those who need it now, while we tackle the root causes of poverty for the long term.

We demand equal rights, equal treatment, and equal opportunities so that everyone can thrive, not just survive. We fight inequality to end poverty and injustice—now and for the long term.




[OPTIONAL: PRESENT SLIDE 5]

Poverty is solvable—a problem rooted in injustice. Eliminate injustice and you can eliminate poverty. It's not going to be quick or easy, but it can be done. Oxfam won't patch a problem and then disappear or stand by silently and watch others suffer.



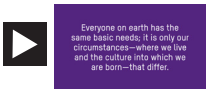

[FADE-OUT/STOP PRESENTING SLIDE 5]

Oxfam doesn't impose solutions. They see people's power to change their own lives. They believe that people have the right, and the understanding, to create solutions for their own communities and to control their own futures.

Although they are committed to community-based work, they know that there are also larger barriers that keep people from thriving. They recognize our responsibility to hold the powerful accountable. That's why, together we call on companies and governments to change the policies and practices that keep people trapped in poverty.

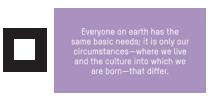
They also educate the US public on hunger and poverty, which is what this *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event is all about.

This event illustrates how food and other resources are inequitably distributed in the world. As such, an *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event can only touch upon the issues. There are many complex ways poverty manifests itself. We will not have time to go into all the problems associated with lack of access to health care, education, and employment opportunities, and the realities of the day-to-day struggle for survival.




[OPTIONAL: PRESENT SLIDE 6]

The one thing to remember is this: Everyone on earth has the same basic needs; it is only our circumstances—where we live and the culture into which we are born—that differ. Some of us are born into relative prosperity and security, while millions—through no choice of our own—are born into poverty.




[FADE-OUT/STOP PRESENTING SLIDE 6]

As each of you walked in the door here today, you drew your lot at random. Look around, and you can see that equality and balance don't exist here.

Please note: No one section of this room represents a single country. While the United States is one of the wealthiest countries on earth, in 2020, more than 38 million Americans (11.6% of the population) lived in food insecurity. Overall, 10.5 percent of all US households were food insecure, but some households experienced significantly higher rates of hunger:

- 15.3 percent of households with children under age 6,
- 21.7 percent of Black households, and
- 27.7 percent of households headed by single women.

Stark inequalities prevail everywhere.

Now I would like to introduce you to the three segments of the world's population. But remember—it's too easy to measure this world purely in economic terms. It is really about each person's ability to achieve a sense of security and to access resources. And it's about the powerful role you can play when you decide to stand up against injustice.

[OPTIONAL: PRESENT SLIDE 7]

[MOVE NEAR HIGH-INCOME GROUP.]

If you are sitting over here, you represent the 20 percent of the world's population with the highest per capita income.

[FADE-OUT/STOP PRESENTING SLIDE 7]

To be a member of this very fortunate group, you need to earn a minimum income of just $7,300 a year. Can you imagine—earning less than $8,000 a year gets you into this group?

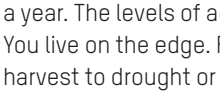
Most of you are lucky enough to be able to afford a nutritious daily diet. Because some of you even exceed your daily requirement of calories, you are likely to face health problems such as heart disease and diabetes.

The good news is that many of you have access to the best medical care in the world. It's a given that your children will attend school; the only uncertainty is how many years they will study after high school. You and your family probably live in a comfortable and secure home. You may even own at least one car and two televisions. When you take your annual vacation, you don't worry about your job disappearing in your absence. You have access to virtually everything you need and the security to enjoy it.

[OPTIONAL: PRESENT SLIDE 8]

[MOVE NEAR MIDDLE-INCOME GROUP.]

If you are sitting here, you represent roughly 30 percent of the world's population. You earn between $2,182.70 and $7,300.00 a year. The levels of access and security you enjoy vary greatly. You live on the edge. For many, it would take losing only one harvest to drought or a serious illness to throw you into poverty.




[FADE-OUT/STOP PRESENTING SLIDE 8]

You probably own no land and may work as a day laborer, a job that pays a paltry amount—but it's better than nothing. Your small income allows for some use of electricity and a few years of schooling for your children—especially if they are boys. Alternatively, you may have left your family to go work in the city. You hope that the money you earn from your less-than-minimum-wage job as domestic help or sweatshop worker will eventually allow you to move back home and make a better life for your family.

Let me put a name to a person in this middle-income group: Pablo (pahb-loh), who was born in Ecuador. Pablo's parents could only afford to send him to school through eighth grade, so as a teenager he took a job at an oil company. There, Pablo witnessed the unfair treatment of many workers, as well as grave destruction of the environment. It was hard for him not to speak up about what he saw, but he knew that if he made trouble, he might lose his job, and his family was relying on him.

[OPTIONAL: TRANSITION TO SLIDE 9]

[MOVE NEAR LOW-INCOME GROUP.]

If you are sitting on the floor, you represent the majority of the world's population—just over 50 percent. Your income is less than $2,182.70 a year—under $5.98 a day—although many of you earn much, much less.

[FADE-OUT/STOP PRESENTING SLIDE 9]

Every day is a struggle to meet your family's basic needs. Finding food, water, and shelter can consume your entire day.

For many of you women, it would not be uncommon to have to walk five to 10 miles every day to get water, spend several more hours working in the fields, and of course, take care of the children. And when food is scarce, you often eat less so that other family members will have enough.

Many of you, both women and men, are frequently hungry. It is quite likely that you don't get the minimum number of calories your hardworking life requires. Some of you are unhoused or living in structures so flimsy that a hard rain or strong wind could cause a major catastrophe.

Even though education is the single most powerful weapon against poverty, school is a luxury few of your children will ever experience. Most girls don't even bother to dream about school.

Adequate health care is out of the question. For most of you, early death is all too familiar, with many mothers expecting to lose one or two children before they turn five.

If you are lucky enough to work, you are probably a tenant farmer who must give your landowner 75 percent of your harvest. Or you may get occasional work as a day laborer at a large plantation growing bananas, sugar, or coffee for export. You reap few benefits from these crops; you'd prefer to grow food your children could eat.

Let me introduce you to a real person from this group: Flonira (Flo-NEERA) is a widowed mother of four in northern Rwanda. Her husband was shot during the war and she is struggling to support her children. In her community, women are not seen as having a voice nor are they valued for their work.

[GESTURES TO THE WHOLE ROOM]

Take a moment to look around you now. Eighty percent of you are not seated at the table. Eighty percent of you do not share in the bounty of our planet.

Now—ask yourself this: What can I do to make a difference? What can I do to tackle this injustice?

Now, I have some news that will affect several of you.

As we've said, no one can choose the circumstances into which they are born. Some people have the good fortune to change their lives for the better, but for most, the circumstances of life are determined by factors outside of their control.

[ASK TWO PEOPLE FROM MIDDLE-INCOME GROUP TO STAND.]

Please meet Dianke (Dee-AHN-kay) and Kerene (Keh-RAY-neh), farmers from a small village in eastern Senegal. Dianke, you earned a good income from the 29 acres of land where you grew groundnuts and other crops. Your family had worked this land for generations, thanks to land tenure granted by the local chief.

Then the government gave this land to a Canadian company intending to build a gold mine. Because you—like many rural Africans—did not have a land title, you received no compensation.

Kerene, you were able to keep your smaller farm nearby. But you suffered a serious setback to your income when one of your cows and two calves died after drinking water polluted by the chemicals used at the mine.

With your future uncertain, I invite both of you to make a place for yourselves in the low-income group.

[ASK ANY SIX PEOPLE FROM LOW-INCOME GROUP TO STAND.]

Meet Maritza (Mar-ee-sa), Eleni (Eh-leh-knee), and four other workers at a clothing factory in the Dominican Republic. For many years, all of you earned very low wages: just pennies an hour. Your bosses were abusive, and sometimes they locked you in the factory until late at night. Even with these long hours, Maritza, you sometimes could not afford food for your two children.

All of that changed when a new company bought your factory. This company made clothing, too, but the owners were committed to paying a living wage and respecting workers' rights.

Maritza, as president of the workers' union, you can now make sure that your fellow employees are treated fairly. And with the wages you earn, you've not only been able to feed your family—you've sent your daughter to university and your son to high school, fulfilling a longtime dream to educate your kids.

Today, the factory is doing good business selling to customers in the US who don't mind paying a little more for clothes that they know are ethically made. But it's still the exception, rather than the rule, among factories in your area.

You lucky few can now move to the middle-income group. But before you go …

[ASK FOUR PEOPLE FROM MIDDLE-INCOME GROUP TO STAND.]

Let me introduce Siriaco (See-ree-AH-koh), his wife, and his two teenage sons. Siriaco, you planted corn and beans as usual this year, carefully tending your field high on the slopes of a mountain in Guatemala. But when the rainy season came and went, and very little rain fell, you started to worry.

You did everything you could short of making it rain, even fertilizing your field twice. But the harvest still failed. Most years, you can grow about 1,800 pounds of corn. This year, you got about a tenth of that.

Because your harvest is so much smaller this year and because you spent so much money trying to fertilize your field, selling your crops won't be enough to provide for your family.

In order to earn money to buy the food you need to survive, your family will have to migrate temporarily to work as pickers on a coffee plantation. As you prepare to leave your home, the four of you can now take your places in the low-income group.

[PEOPLE EXCHANGE PLACES AND SIT. NOW TURN TO HIGH-INCOME GROUP AND ASK ANY MAN TO STAND. THEN TURN TO LOW-INCOME GROUP AND ASK ANY WOMAN TO STAND]

Now, I'd like to introduce you to two people: Pieter (P-Ter) and Nthabiseng [en-TAH-bee-seng]. They don't know each other, but they were born on the same day, not far apart, in the same country: South Africa.

[GESTURE TO SOMEONE IN HIGH-INCOME GROUP] Pieter was born in a wealthy suburb of Cape Town, to parents who are both university-educated doctors.

[GESTURE TO SOMEONE IN LOW-INCOME GROUP] Nthabiseng was born to a poor family in the rural area of Limpopo. Neither of her parents went to school. Her father does odd jobs to support the family.

Though you two were born at the same time, your lives could not be more different. Nthabiseng, you went to a primary school for a few years and received good grades. But your family couldn't afford to keep paying for your books, school fees, transportation, and uniforms, so you had to drop out. If you decide to have children, it's highly likely that they will face the same situation.

Pieter, you recently graduated from college and are now contemplating going to medical school to become a doctor like your parents. Or maybe you'll travel the world first. You're not sure yet, but you have plenty of time to decide: You are likely to outlive Nthabiseng by more than 15 years. [ASK EVERYONE TO TAKE A SEAT. THEN TURN TO ADDRESS ENTIRE ROOM.]

These are just a few snapshots of life as it plays out each day around the globe.

Now we invite you to eat. Those of you in the high-income group will be served a nutritious meal. [MC MAY MENTION MEAL]

Those in the middle-income group may proceed to the buffet tables, where rice and beans [IF THIS IS THE CASE] are available. Women in the middle-income group, we ask that you go to the end of the line and let the men serve themselves first. People in the low-income group seated on the floor, help yourselves to rice and water. Again, women, please wait and let the men take their rice first before you serve yourselves. [YOU CAN ALSO SERVE RICE IN LARGE BOWLS PLACED ON THE FLOOR AND HAVE PEOPLE SERVE EACH OTHER.] Bon appétit!

[AFTER PEOPLE FINISH EATING, MC ADDRESSES THE ROOM AGAIN.]

Please join me in a moment of silence to reflect on our experience here today. [MOMENT OF SILENCE]

[SHARING PERIOD: MC WALKS AMONG AUDIENCE MEMBERS, ASKING IF PEOPLE ARE COMFORTABLE SHARING HOW THEY FEEL ABOUT BEING IN THE GROUP THEY ARE IN. AFTER DISCUSSION PERIOD, MC RESUMES READING SCRIPT.]

## SUGGESTED DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

*Note: Because these can be very personal questions for some participants, establish the room as a safe space.*

**YOUNG AUDIENCES**

- Do you think it's fair that the world is divided this way? Why or why not?
- Do you think that the people who got the big meal should help the others? Why or why not?
- Why do you think the people in the low-income group are there?

**OLDER AUDIENCES**

- Would anyone like to share any of the thoughts they have on what has taken place here?
- Could someone read their character ticket out loud and share their thoughts on the character they are playing?
- How do you think COVID-19 is changing wealth gaps?
- Does anyone have any ideas on how our personal choices affect the world's unequal distribution of resources?
- What might we all do to bring about a fairer distribution of resources?
- How can we all work together to address gender inequalities that contribute to poverty?

If people are only focused on the dynamics of the banquet itself, remind participants that this is a simulation, not reality for most of us. Challenge the audience to discuss what this meal represents in the real world and ask what can be done to change things for the better.

There is still a lot of work to be done, yet there is also hope.

Many of the stories you've heard today are those of real people. Let me update you on some of the steps they've taken to change their situations.

At age 17, Pablo decided to voice his concerns to his supervisor at the oil company. Soon after speaking up, he was fired—but the experience inspired him to become a lawyer and defend the rights of his fellow workers. He spent many years working odd jobs during the day and studying for his degree at night, then went to work for a grassroots organization defending communities and the environment. Five years later, Pablo's efforts to protect Ecuador's rural people and land earned him a prestigious environmental award.

As for Flonira, she joined an Oxfam-affiliated tree tomato cooperative. She received training in production, marketing, and financial management. Not only is she making a profit, but she is helping supplement her son's college education abroad, helping him gain a leg up as well.

And in Senegal, Dianke and Kerene attended a training session run by a local human rights organization. With funding from Oxfam, this organization teaches villagers how to form groups and monitor problems related to mining. "We learned how to protect the water, to protect our animals, and we learned about our rights. We watch for rights violations," Dianke says.

By attending this *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event, you have deepened your awareness of world hunger and poverty. The test is how you put this knowledge to use. Our event ends here, but this is just the beginning for each of you. As I look around the room today, I can see that this experience has had an impact on many of you. **If what you've learned or experienced has stirred something in you, take action now. Today. Before you leave.**

**We ask you to join Pablo, Flonira, Dianke, and Kerene, and one another in the movement of people who won't live with poverty. Be a part of the generation of change.**

[OPTIONAL: TRANSITION TO SLIDE 10]

**If you haven't already, please take out your phones and text ACTNOW to 77547 to join the global movement of people working together to ensure that everyone, everywhere, has access to clean water, to education, and to a life free from poverty. You'll find these instructions on your character cards as well.**

[IF APPLICABLE, YOU MAY WANT TO MENTION HOW SOMEONE CAN MAKE A DONATION RIGHT AT THE EVENT.]

[PAUSE TO ALLOW TIME FOR PEOPLE TO TAKE THIS ACTION ON THEIR PHONES. RESUME WHEN IT APPEARS MOST HAVE DONE SO.]

[FADE-OUT/STOP PRESENTING SLIDE 10]

Thank you.

I want to leave you with the words of someone whom many have found inspiring, in large part because—despite what seemed like insurmountable obstacles—he was able to bring about changes that few believed possible. I quote from a speech he made to a group of people like you at an event organized by Oxfam some years ago. I am honored to close with his words:

"Massive poverty and obscene inequality … rank alongside slavery and apartheid as social evils. In this new century, millions of people … remain imprisoned, enslaved, and in chains. They are trapped in the prison of poverty. It is time to set them free.

"Like slavery and apartheid, poverty is not natural. It is manmade and it can be overcome. … Overcoming poverty is not a gesture of charity. It is an act of justice. It is the protection of a fundamental human right, the right to dignity and a decent life.

"We thank you for coming here today. Sometimes it falls upon a generation to be great. You can be that great generation. Let your greatness blossom.

"Of course the task will not be easy. But not to do this would be a crime against humanity, against which I ask all humanity now to rise up." [PAUSE]

The speaker was the late Nelson Mandela.

Together, we can change the world. Rise up. Thank you for coming and for joining this global movement.

SUPPLEMENTAL RESOURCES

# CHARACTER TICKETS

To make your *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event more engaging for your guests, we have developed character tickets. Event participants can access information about the individual on their ticket by texting the name of the person on their ticket to 77547. These stories are drawn from real situations people in these income groups around the world have experienced. They do not, however, represent all experiences. Print the tickets on the following pages onto colored paper and have guests draw the character tickets randomly as they arrive. Use a different color for each income group.

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET® **HIGH INCOME**

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Emiliana and you live in Tanzania.

Text **EMI** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

Want to host your own *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event? Visit **oxf.am/hungerbanquet** for a complete guide to help you get started.

**OXFAM**

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET® **HIGH INCOME**

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Diane and you live in the United States.

Text **DI** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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**OXFAM**

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET® **HIGH INCOME**

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Manuel and you live in Peru.

Text **MANU** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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**OXFAM**

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET® **HIGH INCOME**

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Julie and you live in Australia.

Text **JUL** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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**OXFAM**

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET® **HIGH INCOME**

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Svetlana and you live in Russia.

Text **SVET** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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**OXFAM**

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET® **HIGH INCOME**

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Taha and you live in Chad.

Text **TAHA** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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**OXFAM**

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET® **HIGH INCOME**

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Faiumu and you live in Samoa.

Text **FAI** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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**OXFAM**

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
**HIGH INCOME**

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Farah and you live in Jordan.

Text **FAR** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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**OXFAM**

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
**HIGH INCOME**

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Ranjani and you live in India.

Text **RAN** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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**OXFAM**

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
**HIGH INCOME**

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Sang and you live in the United States.

Text **SANG** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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**OXFAM**

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
MIDDLE INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Ilfide and you live in Haiti.

Text **ILF** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

Want to host your own *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event? Visit **oxf.am/hungerbanquet** for a complete guide to help you get started.

OXFAM

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
MIDDLE INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Tufa and you live in Ethiopia.

Text **TUFA** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
MIDDLE INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Esther and you live in Haiti.

Text **EST** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
MIDDLE INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Chheng and you live in Cambodia.

Text **CHHENG** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
MIDDLE INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Net and you live in Cambodia.

Text **NET** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
MIDDLE INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Zaymid and you live in Somalia.

Text **ZAY** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
MIDDLE INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Vo and you live in Laos.

Text **VO** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
MIDDLE INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Tafue and you live in Tuvalu.

Text **TAF** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
MIDDLE INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Sofik and you live in Armenia.

Text **SOF** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
MIDDLE INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Tirivashe and you live in Zimbabwe.

Text **TIR** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
MIDDLE INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Ruqia and you live in Yemen.

Text **RUQ** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
MIDDLE INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Moon and you live in Thailand.

Text **MOON** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
MIDDLE INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Selena and you live in Rwanda.

Text **SEL** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
MIDDLE INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Assia and you live in Armenia.

Text **ASSIA** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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MIDDLE INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Mele and you live in Tonga.

Text **MELE** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
LOW INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Sharice and you live in the United States.

Text **SHA** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
LOW INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Sabina and you live in Peru.

Text **SAB** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
LOW INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Amuria and you live in Kenya.

Text **AMU** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
LOW INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Miguel and you live in the Dominican Republic.

Text **MIG** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
LOW INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Adis and you live in Ethiopia.

Text **ADIS** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

Want to host your own *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event? Visit **oxf.am/hungerbanquet** for a complete guide to help you get started.

OXFAM

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
LOW INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Sadio and you live in Senegal.

Text **SAD** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
LOW INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Demitu and you live in Ethiopia.

Text **DEM** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
LOW INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Sin and you live in Cambodia.

Text **SIN** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
LOW INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Korsaga and you live in Ivory Coast.

Text **KOR** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
LOW INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Sarlosa and you live in Papua.

Text **SAR** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
LOW INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Bwire and you live in Uganda.

Text **BWI** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
LOW INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Luz and you live in Peru.

Text **LUZ** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
LOW INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Lai and you live in Peru.

Text **LAI** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
LOW INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Gidey and you live in Ethiopia.

Text **GID** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
LOW INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Marian and you live in Sierra Leone.

Text **MAR** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
LOW INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Munni and you live in India.

Text **MUN** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
LOW INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Guillermo and you live in El Salvador.

Text **GUI** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
LOW INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Ambiyo and you live in Somalia.

Text **AMB** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
LOW INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Ezequiel and you live in Puerto Rico.

Text **EZE** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
LOW INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Loian and you live in Vanuatu.

Text **LOI** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
LOW INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Luisa and you live in Peru.

Text **LUI** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
LOW INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Alvaro and you live in East Timor.

Text **ALV** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
LOW INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Charles and you live in Malawi.

Text **CHA** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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OXFAM

OXFAM HUNGER BANQUET®
LOW INCOME

**Welcome.** Thank you for joining us.

Here—today—you are Noolarami and you live in Uganda.

Text **NOO** to **77547** now—before the event begins—to learn more about your character.

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# CONTACT OXFAM AMERICA

Do you have a good story to tell about your *Oxfam Hunger Banquet* event? Have questions?

### EMAIL

actfast@oxfamamerica.org

# TAKE ACTION

There are two simple but critical steps that you can take to foster a global community and maximize the impact of your event:

1. **Register your event.** Use our online form to share the basic details of your event.
2. **Have attendees sign up to join our community.** Attendees will want to take action, so invite them to text ACTNOW to 77547. Encourage people to sign up to join Oxfam's community of concerned global citizens.