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The University of
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NEWS RELEASE

Nov. 10, 1997

Contact: The Rev. Bob Varker, (406) 728-3655; or The Ark, (406) 549-7821.

HUNGER AWARENESS WEEK IS NOV. 17-21

MISSOULA--

Missoula residents are invited to participate in the 24th annual Hunger Awareness Week, which aims to educate the public about hunger and raise money for organizations involved in the fight against hunger.

A number of activities are planned for Hunger Awareness Week on The University of Montana campus Monday, Nov. 17, through Friday, Nov. 21. Funds raised will go to the Missoula Food Bank, Poverello Center and Oxfam International. Last year's Hunger Awareness Week raised nearly \$5,000.

A canned food collection will kick off Hunger Awareness Week at the Griz-Weber State football game, Saturday, Nov. 15. Contributions for the Missoula Food Bank will be accepted by campus ministry students and staff posted at each entrance to Washington-Grizzly Stadium.

Visitors to the University Center atrium during Hunger Awareness Week will be treated to a fanciful, two-story contraption designed by two local men in the outlandish style of cartoonist Rube Goldberg. Despite its playful appearance, the device has a serious message: Ball bearings sent down its tubes signify the number of children who die of hunger-related causes every minute.

The atrium will also be the site of a Hunger Awareness Week display table, with

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educational literature, videos and collection cans available. Information on Bread for the World's letter-writing campaign in support of the "Hunger Has A Cure" resolution -- HR 1507 - also will be offered.

Other opportunities to participate in the week's activities include:

- Students who use the UM Dining Services meal plan have the option of donating \$3 to \$8 from their plan to the fund-raising effort.
- Off-campus students, faculty and staff may contribute at the Hunger Awareness Week display in the UC atrium or at special collection cans in several UC businesses.
- Local restaurants are invited to donate a portion of the week's proceeds to Hunger Awareness Week.
- People may elect to fast or to eat less than usual on Wednesday, Nov. 19, and Thursday, Nov. 20, which have been designated as "Fast Days." The Fast Days are designed to be a sign of solidarity with those who experience hunger regularly. Money saved from not eating may be donated to Hunger Awareness Week.

Fast Days will end with a "Hunger Banquet" at 5:30 p.m. Thursday in the Cascade Country Store in the Lodge. UM Dining Services will offer meals reflecting the world's diet, with 15 percent of diners receiving a full meal, 25 percent eating rice and soup and 60 percent receiving only rice and water.

Hunger and poverty in Missoula will be addressed at the banquet by speakers Bill Carey, director of the Missoula Food Bank, and Larry DeGarmo, director of Poverello Center.

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At 6:30 p.m., after the banquet, a candlelight procession will be led from the Lodge to University Congregational Church. An ecumenical "Service of Prayer That All Might Feast" will begin at 7 p.m. at the church, which is located at 405 University Ave.

Hunger Awareness Week is sponsored by the United Methodist, Lutheran, Episcopal and Roman Catholic campus ministries, UM Dining Services and UM's Residence Life Office.

For more information, call the Rev. Bob Varker at 728-3655 or The Ark at 549-7821.

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