

What is the CROP Walk?

The CROP Walk is a community-wide event, organized by DCIC since 1975, to raise funds to end hunger at home and around the world. It is sponsored by Church World Service. This 6.3 mile walk begins and ends at Temple Beth-El in Poughkeepsie. There are three stops along the route with access to bathrooms and water.

What is Church World Service?

Founded in 1946, CWS is a co-operative organization of 36 Christian denominations working together to eradicate hunger and poverty, promote peace and justice among the world's most vulnerable people. It serves people of all faiths.



What does CWS do?

CWS works with partners around the world to: build interfaith and intercultural coalitions support sustainable grassroots development provide disaster relief and refugee assistance promote fair national and international policies provide educational resources.



Learn more about CWS

-Food Security

Food security occurs when people have consistent access to sufficient safe and nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life.

-Emergencies

WS provides assistance to communities impacted by disaster — and stays for the long term to ensure that vulnerable persons recover and are prepared for the future.

-Immigrants & Refugees

More than 25 million people around the world are refugees – uprooted by persecution and armed conflict. CWS assists refugees and displaced persons in many ways. CWS offices and affiliates provide immigration legal services, including assistance with travel documents, petitions for family members and more.

-Women & Children

Women make up approximately one half the population of the world, yet nearly two-thirds of the world's illiterate are women. All around the globe women face hardship caused by lack of education, lack of opportunity and lack of equality. It is a recipe guaranteed to perpetuate the patterns that trap so many of them – and their children – in poverty.

-Water

More than one billion people lack access to safe water – and more than 3.4 million of them die each year from waterborne diseases. We're helping change that.



Where does the money raised for CROP Walk go?

The money raised goes to a variety of programs to relieve hunger and poverty and respond to emergency situations around the world.

25% of the money we raise stays right here in Dutchess County to help fight hunger in our own community. In 2019 over \$14,000 from our CROP Walk went to four local organizations to help fight hunger: Dutchess Outreach, the Community Action Agency, the Beulah Baptist Saturday Soup Kitchen and the Fishkill Reformed Church Food Pantry benefited.

When is the money collected?

After the walk, each organization's recruiter collects the money raised by his or her team of walkers and turns it in to DCIC at the CROP Walk Harvest Event. The money is then sent to Church World Service who sends us back our local share.

In 2019, around 200 walkers from over 50 congregations, community groups, and organizations in Dutchess County raised over \$57,000! The DCIC CROP Hunger Walk has consistently ranked as one of the highest yielding CROP Walks in New England.



What Can you do for CROP?

Finding a CROP Walk team is easy:

- Look for a CROP team online.
- Ask your school, faith group or organization if they have a CROP Walk team.
- Contact the DCIC.
- You can even join the CROP Walk by sponsoring yourself and raise money as a walker online
- No time to walk? You can also donate to the DCIC CROP Hunger Walk

Start a CROP Walk Team

If your organization or congregation doesn't currently have a recruiter or a team, it's easy to start:

- Sign-up online to become a recruiter and walkers can find you; recruit friends, family and co-workers to become walkers.
- Attend a one of two CROP Walk Recruiter Training sessions in August or September.

Help DCIC with our CROP Walk

Contact the DCIC Office if you'd like to:

- Join the CROP Walk committee and help us organize and plan the event, there is always a lot of work to do!
- Volunteer to help DCIC on the day of the CROP Walk. We will need volunteers for set-up and clean-up, registration, and helping with the DCIC CROP Bake Sale.

Teams and individuals who raise the most money for our CROP Walk are honored each year at the DCIC Annual Meeting.

