

Christian Citizenship Seminar 2017

Largely due to unjust US government policy regarding native land rights, hunger and poverty are issues often faced by today's Native American population. In fact, nearly one in four individuals who identify as Native American face food insecurity, meaning they are often uncertain about the source of their next meal. This rate of food insecurity is nearly 10% higher than the rest of the United States' population, creating a situation in which native populations often face greater health risks and lower standards of living.

In 2014, the Diné Policy Institute reported that only 10 full service grocery stores served the entire Navajo Nation. The Navajo Nation has a population of 250,000 people and covers an area of 27,000-square-miles extending into Utah, Arizona and New Mexico.

Native Americans face poor nutritional standards and are often disconnected from the land where they live. CCS participants will learn about the history of native land rights and the current food insecurity experienced on Native American reservations, as well as the enduring impacts on native health and well-being. As followers of Jesus, how can we join with our native sisters and brothers to positively affect change in this situation?

Native  
American  
Rights:  
**Food  
Security**

April 22 - 27, 2017



Church of the Brethren

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Youth and Young Adult Ministry Office  
of the Church of the Brethren

<sup>1</sup> <http://mazon.org/inside-mazon/rural-work-hunger-among-native-american-communities>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.feedingamerica.org/hunger-in-america/impact-of-hunger/hunger-and-poverty/hunger-and-poverty-fact-sheet.html?referrer=https://www.google.com/>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.npr.org/sections/thesalt/2015/04/01/396607690/navajos-fight-their-food-desert-with-junk-food-and-soda-taxes>

# Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Matthew 5:6: (NRSV)

Christian Citizenship Seminar (CCS) provides high school aged students the chance to explore the relationship between faith and a particular political issue, and then act from a faith perspective regarding that issue.



## Who is Eligible to Attend?

All high school youth and their adult advisors are eligible to attend the seminar. Churches are strongly encouraged to send an advisor with their youth, even if only one or two youth attend. Churches are required to send one advisor for every four youth.

Registration will be limited to the first 60 participants; register right away!

## What is the cost?

The \$400 registration fee includes:

- Event programming
- Lodging for five nights
- 2 dinner meals, one in New York City and one in Washington D.C.
- Transportation from New York to Washington D.C.

*Note:* Each participant will need to bring additional money for most meals, sightseeing, personal expenses, and subway/taxi fares.

## Where and When?

We will begin on Saturday, April 22 at 2:00 p.m. in New York City and will end by 12:00 (noon) on Thursday, April 27, in Washington, DC.

## Registration

To register for Christian Citizenship Seminar go to [www.brethren.org/ccs](http://www.brethren.org/ccs).

Registration opens December 1, 2016, at 12 p.m. central time.