

My story of advocating for myself and my family

Angela Sutton

Witnesses
to Hunger

www.witnessestohunger.org

Center for Hunger Free
Communities

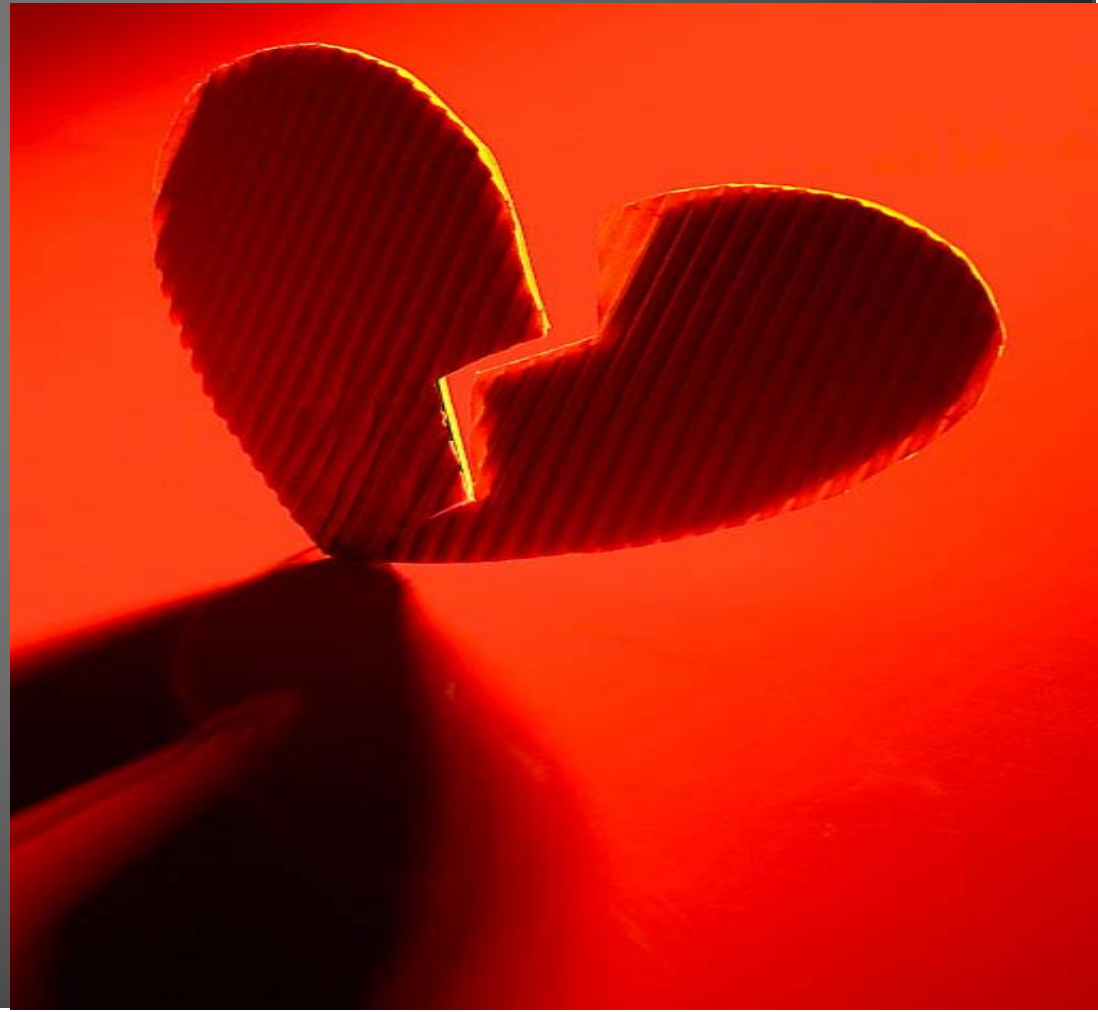
Drexel University School of Public Health



My life

I am a SURVIVOR of

- Rape
- Gun violence
- Homelessness
- Physical
- Verbal
- Emotional
- Psychological



crowding and poor housing



Broken heaters and a bad neighborhood



This is how we are living now!!!



We live in a clean house and a clean community!



Witnesses to Hunger

with Senator Bob Casey, Jr.
Washington, D.C.
May 6, 2009



Mission

To end the cycle of poverty through civic engagement, public education, self and community empowerment.



The Witnesses Model

WHAT WE DO

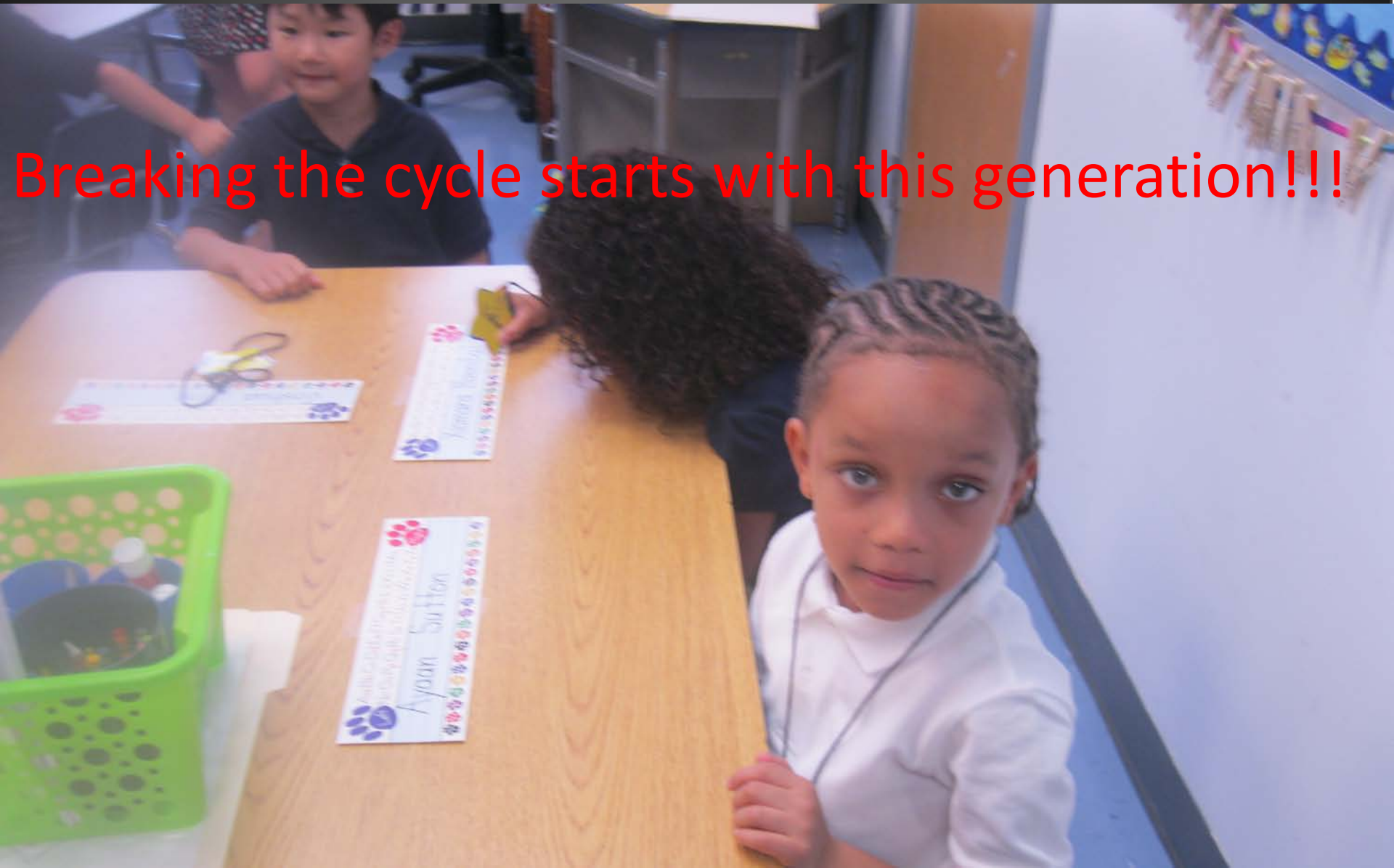
- Advocate for change
 - Legislative visits
 - Talk to the media
 - Public speaking
 - Community events
- Support each other
 - Advisory board
 - Peer mentoring
 - Learning opportunities



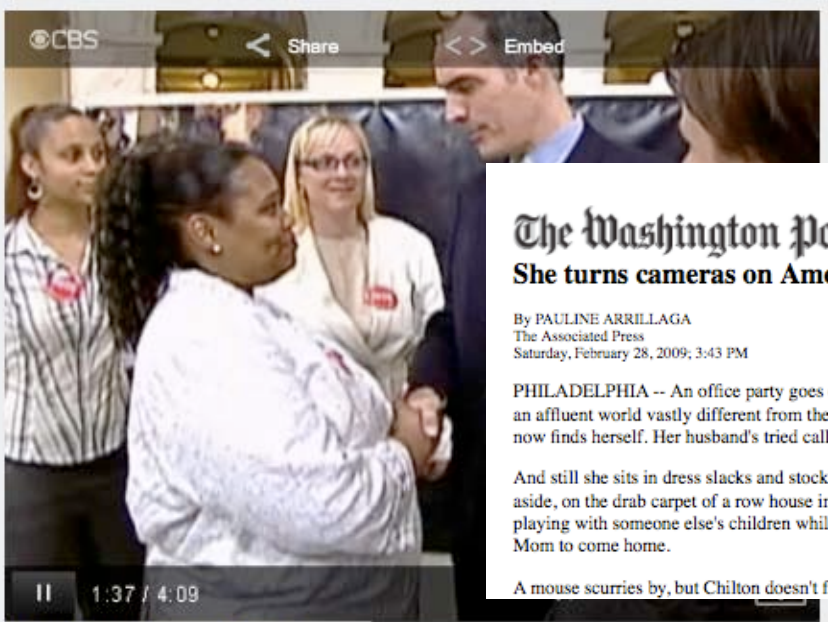


How do we break the cycle?

Breaking the cycle starts with this generation!!!



Witnesses to Hunger: advocacy



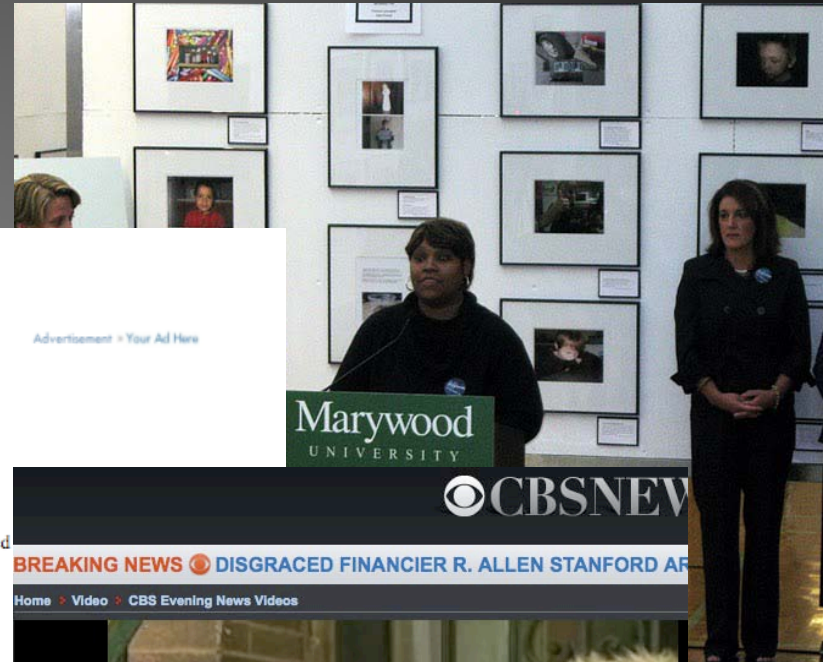
The Washington Post She turns cameras on American hunger

By PAULINE ARRILLAGA
The Associated Press
Saturday, February 28, 2009, 3:43 PM

PHILADELPHIA -- An office party goes on without her, across town in an affluent world vastly different from the one where Mariana Chilton now finds herself. Her husband's tried calling. Twice.

And still she sits in dress slacks and stocking feet, gray suede shoes tossed aside, on the drab carpet of a row house in the Philadelphia projects, playing with someone else's children while her own three kids wait for Mom to come home.

A mouse scurries by, but Chilton doesn't flinch.



[Watch CBS Videos Online](#)

philly.com

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Posted on Thu, May, 7, 2009

Philadelphia poverty rivets D.C. eyes

"Witnesses to Hunger" women take their photos to Capitol Hill.

By Alfred Lubrano
Inquirer Staff Writer

WASHINGTON - On a bus trip that was part field trip, part mission, 21 poor and working-poor women from North Philadelphia rode to the Capitol yesterday to tell the country about the rough life above Spring Garden Street.

In the fall, Drexel University's School of Public Health gave the women, along with 21 others, cameras to chronicle their lives and hard times in a project known as "Witnesses to Hunger." Since The Inquirer published an article about them in November, the women and their photos have been featured in newspapers and on Web sites in Japan, the Middle East, and Europe.



LAURENCE KESTERSON / Staff Photographer
Tamika Haynesworth, a participant in "Witnesses to Hunger," views her work with Sen. Robert P. Casey Jr., who sponsored the Capitol Hill showing.

1 of 15 View images

RELATED STORIES



Ending Childhood Hunger

June 5, 2009 5:15 PM

Speaking Out



Kein Geld, keine Nanny - keine Chance zu studieren, um der Armut zu entkommen: Angela Sutton (hier mit ihrem Sohn Ayaan) könnte ohne Gratislebensmittel und Ausspeisungen nicht überleben.



What pushes me??? *My Family!!!*



Trauma survivors: the reenactment triangle



My Future

*For My Family FAILURE IS
OPTION!*



Advice for others

Reach out to people who can help you

I was an advocate for myself. My PHA was expedited because I used constituent services at my Senator's office. It was not easy, but being persistent helped. I prayed a lot. There were many days when I did not think it was going to happen, but it did.

*Constituent Services are assistance offered by elected officials to better serve people in their communities.

Thank you!



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