

**1. What are the top five specific ways that you, as President, would increase economic opportunity for low-income Americans and decrease poverty, hunger, and homelessness?**

Bernie will guarantee a good public education, a good job, decent and affordable housing, a secure retirement, good health care, and a clean environment as fundamental rights.

We have seen what happens when corporations and billionaires control our system of government to protect their own profit and greed. The era of Wall Street billionaires controlling our government and elections must come to an end, and we must take back our democracy for the American people. Corporate America and the billionaire class have been waging a 40-year war against the working class. Working together, we are going to make sure that is a war they will lose.

Together with millions of people throughout this country we will demand health care as a human right including comprehensive reproductive healthcare. We will demand tuition- and debt-free college, universities and trade schools for all. We will demand racial justice. Economic justice. Environmental justice. And together, we will win.

When Bernie is in the White House, we will:

- Guarantee health care to all as a human right, regardless of income or immigration status, by passing [Medicare for All](#).
- Guarantee the right to a decent job that pays a living wage. That means raising the minimum wage to a living wage for all, enacting a federal jobs guarantee, and making it easier for workers to join unions.
- Guarantee every person – regardless of income – a fundamental right to a safe, decent, accessible, and affordable home by implementing his \$2.5 trillion [Housing for All](#) plan to end our affordable housing crisis. In the richest country on Earth, we will invest nearly \$32 billion over the next five years to end homelessness in America.
- Guarantee the right to a quality education for everyone in this country regardless of their zipcode--from childcare and pre-k through college by passing [College for All](#), cancelling all student loan debt, and implementing his [Thurgood Marshall Plan for Public Education](#).
- Guarantee every seniors and people with disabilities can live in dignity and security, and are not forced to choose between paying for basic necessities like medicine, food, or housing. We will [expand Social Security](#), guarantee home and community based long-term care services, and more so that everyone in this country can retire with the dignity they have earned and everyone with a disability can live with the security they need.
- Guarantee everyone the right to a clean environment. We will launch the decade of the Green New Deal, a 10-year, nationwide mobilization centered around justice and equity. Together, we will solve our climate crisis, create 20 million jobs, and save our planet for future generations. The Green New Deal is not only a serious climate plan, but an

opportunity to uproot historical injustices and inequities to advance social, racial, environmental and economic justice, including redressing the exclusion of black, brown, Native American, and other vulnerable communities from the programs that made up the original New Deal.

- End hunger. We will provide \$215.8 billion for free, year-round universal school meals, including breakfast, lunch and snacks. We will expand the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) by \$311 billion to increase the benefits from the “thrifty” plan which provides inadequate benefits to the more generous “low-cost” food plan, include those with incomes up to 200 percent of the federal poverty line, remove punitive work requirements, remove barriers for college students to access SNAP, and ensure people are not denied benefits due to past interaction with the criminal justice system. We will expand the Meal on Wheels to end waitlists for our seniors in need. We will also expand the SNAP program and benefits to the people of Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands, and American Samoa so they are on par with the benefits in the continental United States.

Bernie knows that the only way we achieve these goals is through a political revolution – where millions of people get involved in the political process and reclaim our democracy by having the courage to take on the powerful corporate interests whose greed is destroying the social and economic fabric of our country.

What Bernie believes is that change never takes place from the top down. Our campaign seeks to create a political revolution that mobilizes millions of voters to stand up and demand their voices be heard in government. That’s why it is the core of Bernie’s campaign. Not Me, Us.

**2. What is your single greatest concrete career accomplishment to date that has increased economic opportunity for low-income Americans and/or decreased poverty, hunger, and homelessness?**

Bernie is proud to have worked with Representative Jim Clyburn to secure \$11 billion for Community Health Centers in the Affordable Care Act, which serve 28 million patients a year in underserved communities. 63 percent of patients served by Community Health Centers are racial or ethnic minorities, and 22 percent are African-American. That fight did not finish with that victory. He is fighting alongside Rep. Clyburn to expand Community Health Centers even more so that more underserved communities can get the health care they need.

Bernie is also very proud to have worked with workers at Amazon and Disney to end starvation wages at those companies.

75% of Disneyland workers were unable to cover their monthly living expenses. At Amazon, a trillion dollar company owned by the wealthiest person in the history of the world, workers were paid wages so low that thousands of Amazon workers relied on food stamps, Medicaid and public housing to survive.

Alongside the workers at those companies, we relentlessly demanded to end these injustices. We launched strategic campaigns to put constant pressure on Amazon and Disney. The key to these campaigns was lifting up the movement and the voices in that movement that too often do not get the platform they deserve.

We made sure that Jeff Bezos and Disney CEO Bob Iger saw the faces of the human suffering they were causing. We organized with Disney and Amazon workers across the country, produced countless videos with workers sharing their stories, and held town halls with the workers to draw attention to the injustices at these companies. And we did not stop until we won.

Last year, Jeff Bezos of Amazon announced that the company would raise its minimum wage for all United States employees to \$15 an hour — a move that impacted more than 350,000 full-time, part-time and temporary workers.

After a long fight, Disney announced a \$15 minimum wage. A move that raised the wages of 38,000 workers at the company.

This is what happens when we stand up and fight for justice together.

When Bernie talks about the political revolution — people standing up in their communities and at their workplace and fighting for change — he means exactly what the Amazon and Disney workers and people everywhere did to achieve this victory.

But this fight is far from over because it is not just Amazon and Disney workers who deserve a \$15 minimum wage.

Bernie is more convinced than ever after these victories that if we continue to fight for each other — for economic, social, racial and environmental justice — we will win.

**3. As President, how would you staff and structure the development, leadership, and daily management of your economic opportunity, poverty, hunger, and homelessness initiatives in your White House, Cabinet, and Administration?**

When Bernie is in the White House, we will return to a government of, by, and for the people — not the billionaires and giant corporations. We'll do that by building a movement — a movement with enough power to insist that all of our elected representatives return power to the people, a movement that not only identifies the deep corruption of our politics but rejects cynicism and instead insists on solutions, action and accountability. That is how we will govern. This is how we will select nominees and advisors.

Bernie is committed to ensuring his administration will look like America. That means a diverse set of backgrounds, viewpoints, and lived experiences. A Bernie Sanders administration will put working families first, and his staff will represent that. We will not have former corporate executives, big donors, and lobbyists in our administration. Instead, we will ensure everyone working in a Sanders administration makes it a priority to guarantee fundamental economic rights to all, regardless of income, race, or immigration status.