

Is there a better way to help those people in our communities that are living at or below poverty level? Are we treating them with value and dignity as well as keeping their pride intact, or just perpetuating a problem? We have been taught that we are to treat others with mercy and give to those less fortunate, but does that mean just giving food, shelter, clothing or dollars, or is that just a band aid for the moment?

In Robert D. Lupton's book, *Toxic Charity*, he says "Mercy is an open door, an opening, an invitation to touch a life, to make a difference. **But it is not a destination.**" Are we doing more harm than good? Have we become enablers to whatever situation the receiver is in at the time? What are we doing to help them help themselves?

Join us on **Oct. 20 at Connexion Church, located at 2915 Townway Rd. in Danville**, or on **Oct. 21<sup>s</sup> at First Presbyterian Church, 302 W. Church St. in Champaign** for the "A Better Way Workshop." Come and hear how others in our area have taken the initiative to make a lasting effect on how mercy and compassion can work together in a way that keeps the receiver's pride and dignity intact.

To register for either workshop or if you have questions please call 217.337.2022. If you wish to register online, the link for Oct. 20 in Danville is:

<http://www.presencehealth.org/body.cfm?id=1886&action=detail&ref=26561>

Oct. 21 in Champaign

<http://www.presencehealth.org/body.cfm?id=1886&action=detail&ref=26561>

The payment of \$15.00 can be mailed to: Center for Healthy Living, 1400 West Park Street Urbana, IL 61801

Please RSVP by Oct. 15.

The \$15 per person includes a copy of the book "Toxic Charity" by Robert D. Lupton, lunch, and snacks throughout the day.

Thank you for your time and interest. We hope you can make it.

Sincerely,

Faith in Action of Vermilion and Champaign Counties

