**You will read two articles about people who have worked to change the lives of people around the world. Then, you will write an article for your school’s newspaper that explains what these people have done, why it is important, and what challenges they have faced.**

Famous African Americans

Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.

In Harlem, a New York City neighborhood, 7th Avenue is also known as Adam Clayton Powell Jr. Boulevard. Who is this man, and how did he get a street named after him? Here is the story. Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. (1908-1972) was a very important resident of

Harlem. He was also a member of Congress. Powell was known for his strong

views on race issues. He fought against **segregation** and **discrimination**.

How did Powell get to Congress? He started out as a Baptist minister in Harlem. Then, in 1941, he was elected to the New York City Council. He was the first African American to be on the council. From there, Powell’s political power grew. In 1944, he was elected to

Congress. He was one of only two African Americans in Congress at the time.Things were tough for him, because some of the people in Congress were racists. They didn’t want him there. But Powell fought to be treated equally. He forced others to accept him.

While in Congress, Powell helped to pass many laws. He fought for laws that made it easier for African Americans to vote. He also helped to desegregate the nation’s schools.

Powell’s **accomplishments** were many. It should come as no surprise that he has his own street in Harlem.

**segregation** – the separation or isolation of a race, class, or group

**discrimination** – treating some people better than others without a good reason **accomplishment** – achievement; important thing that someone has done

**A Rally Against Poverty**

Fifteen-year-old Matthew Hector called on a crowd of 20,000 people to fight world poverty.He was one of many people who spoke out at a recent **rally** (or large meeting), in London,England. "We believe the world should be fair, so that everyone has the same opportunity to...have a good life," he said. The rally launched a worldwide campaign called "Make Poverty History." The goal was to challenge world leaders to end poverty. People who live in **poverty** do not have enough money, food, and medical care for a healthy life. More than a billion people around the world are poor.

About half of those people are children. Many of the poorest countries are in Africa.

One of the most famous speakers at the rally was Nelson Mandela. He was the former president of South Africa. Mandela urged people to help those in need. He said, "While [there is poverty], there is no true freedom." Many of the world's poorest countries are in Africa.

**Leading the Way**

In his speech, Mandela challenged world leaders not to "look the other way" from the problem of poverty. In July 2005, leaders of the eight wealthiest countries, including the United States, met in Scotland. They promised to take action to end poverty. Mandela and other supporters of "Make Poverty History" hoped that world leaders keep their promise.

**rally**: a big gathering of people intended to get them excited about something

**poverty**: condition of being poor.

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1. Highlight challenges that each person faced.
2. Underline what each person has done or worked to fix
3. 1st paragraph: About Adam Clayton Powell, what he did, and how it was important
4. 2nd paragraph: About Matthew Hector *or* Nelson Mandela, what he did, and how it was important
5. 3rd paragraph: Conclusion, what is *your* opinion.

Write your news article