

VIDEO SCRIPT

TITLE: PSA: "Musical Chairs"

PREPARED FOR: St. Mary's Food Bank

WRITER: Steve Pender

DRAFT: Final

FADE IN:

1 INT. "DINING ROOM" – EARLY EVENING

Two girls and two boys between eight and twelve years of age are playing "musical chairs." They circle a round table containing three nutritious meals. There are, of course, only three chairs. The children move cautiously. Each knows he or she will have only a split second to claim a seat after the music stops. A quick reaction is important because the stakes in this version of "musical chairs" are high: The child who fails to claim a chair goes hungry.

We see no details of the room; only the children and table are lit. The color is a bit washed out and the picture quality is slightly grainy.

As the scene begins, we are slowly moving from a high angle down to table top level. We HEAR a simple, instrumental version of a children's tune: "Pop Goes the Weasel."

NARRATOR (V.O.)

Most of us take our place at the dinner table for granted.

The music CUTS OFF in mid note.

CUT TO:

BOY 1. His eyes widen. He glances to his right, in the direction of the nearest chair.

CUT TO:

GIRL 1 . She glances to her left, then lunges for a seat.

CUT TO:

A flurry of chaotic movement. As the NARRATOR continues, chairs are pulled back and bodies slide into them. BOY 2 muscles his way into a seat, brushing back GIRL 2, who steps back in surprise. We HEAR rustling clothing, shuffling feet and scraping chair legs.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

(continuing)

But every night in Arizona, one child in four -

CUT TO:

The children at the table. GIRL 2 sadly watches the winners dig into their meals. We HEAR a low and ominous musical chord.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

(continuing)

- goes to bed with an empty stomach.

DISSOLVE TO:

2 INT. ST. MARY'S WAREHOUSE - MORNING

An AGENCY REPRESENTATIVE selects food with the help of SMFB VOLUNTEERS. The VOLUNTEERS wear SMFB shirts and hats. Other SMFB signage is prominent. The colors are saturated, the picture free of grain.

The musical chord SEGUES to a low key instrumental with a steady beat.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

(continuing)

Saint Mary's Food Bank is working to end
childhood hunger -

DISSOLVE TO:

3 INT. ST. MARY'S WAREHOUSE - MORNING

The AGENCY REP carries a box of food toward the camera. The box fills the frame.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

(continuing)

- by providing food to agencies -

DISSOLVE TO:

4 EXT. FRONT ENTRANCE TO A FAMILY'S HOME – LATER THE SAME DAY

An Emergency Food Box in the hands of the AGENCY REP. The REP gives the box to a grateful BLUE COLLAR MOM as a DAUGHTER and SON look on.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

(continuing)

- that feed Arizona's hungry. It's a daily challenge, and we need your help.

TRANSITION TO:

5 ANIMATION & GRAPHIC. SMFB CONTACT INFORMATION

We SEE the Saint Mary's Food Bank "Horn of Plenty" and SMFB's contact information. We also SEE the face of GIRL 2. She raises her head and stares sadly at us.

The music SEGUES to a sustained, slightly melancholy chord.

NARRATOR (V.O.)

(continuing)

Send your check today to Saint Mary's Food Bank.
Because childhood hunger isn't a game.

FADE OUT.

THE END