- Religious organizations help the poor
- Hospitals, shelters, food, other community services
- Salvation Army, Young Men's Hebrew Association
- Social gospel: wealthy members of society have the duty to help the poor

- Jane Addams starts the settlement house movement to help the poor
 - Opens Hull House in Chicago: taught English, U.S. gov't and health care, provided day care, provided recreation opportunities
- Other settlement houses open around the country
- Addams and reformers push for better health laws, child labor laws and women's voting rights