Why Bridges Out of Poverty?

• December 2013- National trainer introduced 150 professionals to “Bridges Out of Poverty” in Central Virginia. Funding was provided by Casey Family Programs.
• 2014 Community collaboration presentations and meetings.
• December 2014- National trainer introduced Bridges to 440 professionals in Central Virginia.
• Early 2015 Central Virginia Steering Committee and sub-committees were established and now meet quarterly.
RESOURCE BUILDER MODEL

WORKING ACROSS SECTORS TO ADDRESS THE ROOT CAUSES OF POVERTY, SUPPORT INDIVIDUALS AS THEY BUILD RESOURCES, AND ACHIEVE A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY WHERE EVERYONE CAN LIVE WELL.

COMMUNITY WIDE APPROACH
- INDIVIDUAL
- INSTITUTIONAL
- COMMUNITY/POLICY

PK-12

EMPLOYERS

HIGHER EDUCATION

COMMUNITY AND NONPROFITS

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

HEALTHCARE

4 CAUSES OF POVERTY
- INDIVIDUAL BEHAVIORS
- COMMUNITY CONDITIONS
- EXPLOITATION
- POLITICAL/ECONOMIC STRUCTURES

11 REQUIRED RESOURCES
- FINANCIAL
- EMOTIONAL
- COGNITIVE
- SPIRITUAL
- PHYSICAL
- RELATIONSHIPS
- HIDDEN RULES
- LANGUAGE
- SUPPORT SYSTEMS
- INTEGRITY/TRUST
- MOTIVATION/PERSISTENCE

http://www.ahaprocess.com/the-model/
FINANCIAL
Being able to purchase the goods and services of that class and sustain it.

EMOTIONAL
Being able to choose and control emotional responses, particularly to negative situations, without engaging in self-destructive behavior. Shows itself through choices.

MENTAL
Having the mental abilities and acquired skills (reading, writing, computing) to deal with daily life.

SPIRITUAL
Believing in (divine) purpose and guidance.

PHYSICAL
Having physical health and mobility.

SUPPORT SYSTEMS
Having friends, family, and backup resources available to access in times of need. These are external resources.

RELATIONSHIPS/ROLE MODELS
Having frequent access to adult(s) who are appropriate, nurturing, and who do not engage in destructive behavior.

KNOWLEDGE OF HIDDEN RULES
Knowing the unspoken cues and habits of a group.
Integrity and trust:
Your word is good, you do what you say you will do, and you are safe.

Motivation and persistence:
You have the energy and drive to prepare for, plan, and complete projects, jobs, and personal changes.

Formal register:
You have the emotional control, vocabulary, language ability, and negotiation skills to succeed in work and/or school settings.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Register</th>
<th>Explanation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Frozen</td>
<td>Language that is always the same. For example: Lords Prayer, wedding vows, pledge of allegiance, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Formal</td>
<td>The standard sentence syntax and word choice of work and school. Has complete sentences and specific word choices.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consultative</td>
<td>Formal register when used in conversation. Discourse pattern not quite as direct as formal register.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Casual</td>
<td>Language between friends and is characterized by a 400 to 800 work vocabulary. Word choice general and not specific. Conversation dependent upon non-verbal assists. Sentence syntax often incomplete.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intimate</td>
<td>Language between lovers or twins. Language of sexual harassment.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
If an individual depends upon a random episodic story structure for memory pattern, lives in a unpredictable environment, and does not have the ability to plan, then...

The Individual cannot plan.

If an individual cannot plan, he/she cannot predict.

If an individual cannot predict, then he/she cannot identify cause and effect.

If an individual cannot identify cause and effect, he/she cannot identify consequences.

If an individual cannot identify consequences, he/she cannot control impulsivity.

If an individual cannot control impulsivity, he/she has an inclination to criminal behavior.
Mental Model for Wealth

Connections

- Growing Divide Between Rich and Super Rich
- Corporate Property Concerns
- Charitable Activities
- Media & Political Linkages
- Travel
- Sponsorship, Attendance
- Event, Vacation
- Available Cash for Membership
- Keeping Up
- Lawyers & Accountants
- National & International Advisers
- Boards of Directors
- Private Clubs & Associations
Future orientation, choice and power

“If you choose, then you have chosen”

• What did you do?
• When you did that, what did you want?
• What are 4 other things you could have done instead?
• What will you do next time?
| Phase I | • Expose community to “Bridges Out of Poverty” philosophy  
• Training to be performed by national trainers to Bedford community  
• Recruit key community members to train as trainers  
• Visit other communities who are successfully implementing Bridges |
| Phase II | • Secure funding for train the trainer  
• Train key community members to be trained as trainers  
• Send local trainers into the community to embed the philosophy |
| Phase III | • Recruit and train volunteers to run “Getting Ahead in a Just Getting by World” classes  
• Provide “Getting Ahead” classes and collect outcome data |
| Phase IV | • Establish a “Champion” agency to coordinate the newly formed sustainable community.  
• Nurture relationships developed in the “Getting Ahead” classes and start mentoring relationships  
• Create “Bridges Circles” that provide an environment for fellowship/partnership of all social classes. Building Social Capital |
What is a Sustainable Community?