KEEP TRACK of GETTING AHEAD
SELF-ASSESSMENTS

Contact us or visit our booth and let us show you how easy it is to keep track of GA Self-Assessments

1 • 888 • 764 • 0633
info@CharityTracker.net

BOOK a workshop and GROW your community initiative

Receive $500 in workshop products when you book a workshop before 5 p.m. Central, Wednesday, December 20, 2017
Call (800) 424-9484 to redeem this offer and use the code AddressPoverty

www.ahaprocess.com
General Conference Information

Conference Hotel
All conference events will take place at the
Hilton St. Louis at the Ballpark
#1 South Broadway, St. Louis, MO 63102
Phone: (314) 421-1776

Registration
Registration is located in the Grand Ballroom Foyer on the second floor in the hotel. It will be staffed during the following hours:
Sunday, September 24, 12 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Monday, September 25, 7 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Tuesday, September 26, 7 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Opening Reception
The opening night reception will be located in the Arch View Grand Foyer on the second floor in the hotel. Come join us to see old friends and colleagues and meet new friends!
Sunday, September 24
5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Food and Drink
Your conference registration fee includes the following food and beverages:
Sunday: Opening night reception
Monday: Breakfast and lunch
Tuesday: Breakfast and lunch
There are dining options within the hotel and within walking distance for dinner.

Tweet It Loud …
Please share what you are learning from your fellow attendees. Be sure to use #AddressPoverty in your tweets!

Sponsorship/Vendor Descriptors

Emerge Solutions, a national organization that supports communities in their work of advancing economic equality, promotes lasting solutions to close the economic gap and build community sustainability at all levels. In addition to serving as a network for sharing ideas, best practices, and funding opportunities, Emerge Solutions facilitates research, collaborates with other agencies and organizations, identifies and advances tools to stabilize people and communities, and educates policymakers about how we can create healthier and more sustainable communities for everyone.

CharityTracker is an easy-to-use, secure, web-based client management database that incorporates components of the Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin’-By World program. CharityTracker can be used by facilitators or collaboratively in a community and allows subscribers to record and report data on Getting Ahead investigators. This is a great tool to help assess program effectiveness, especially when a community collaborates to upload data from multiple facilitators.

Sectors help you organize your schedule. Breakout sessions have been coded with icons to designate the sectors with which they are most aligned.

Sectors include:
- Advanced aha! Process Users
- Bridges Out of Poverty
- Bridges for Business
- Criminal Justice
- Educators
- Faith
- Getting Ahead
- Health
- Higher Education
- New to aha! Process Strategies
- Staying Ahead
- Sponsor

Bridges Model
Refer to page 6
### Pre-Conference  Sunday, September 24, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:00 PM – 7:00 PM</td>
<td>Registration and Product Tables Open, Exhibitors Set Up</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom Foyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00 PM – 4:00 PM</td>
<td>Bridges Out of Poverty Recertification with Phil DeVol</td>
<td>Salon G</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00 PM – 3:00 PM</td>
<td>New Attendee Orientation</td>
<td>Salon E &amp; F</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 PM – 7:00 PM</td>
<td>Opening Reception</td>
<td>Arch View Grand Ballroom Foyer</td>
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### Day One  Monday, September 25, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:00 AM – 6:30 AM</td>
<td>Rise and Shine Walking Tour of Local Landmarks</td>
<td>Main Lobby Doors Facing Broadway Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 AM – 8:00 AM</td>
<td>Registration and Breakfast</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom Foyer/Arch View Ballroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 AM – 9:45 AM</td>
<td>Opening Session: From a 30,000-Foot View—Building a Bridges Community</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 AM – 11:30 AM</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Arch View Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30 PM – 2:00 PM</td>
<td>Afternoon Break/Talk with Exhibitors</td>
<td>Arch View Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 PM – 2:30 PM</td>
<td>Afternoon Break/Talk with Exhibitors</td>
<td>Arch View Ballroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:45 PM – 4:15 PM</td>
<td>Afternoon Break/Talk with Exhibitors</td>
<td>Arch View Ballroom</td>
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### Day Two  Tuesday, September 26, 2017

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:00 AM – 6:30 AM</td>
<td>Rise and Shine Running Tour of Churches and Religious-Themed Buildings</td>
<td>Main Lobby Doors Facing Broadway Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 AM – 7:45 AM</td>
<td>Registration and Breakfast</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom Foyer/Arch View Ballroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:45 AM – 9:00 AM</td>
<td>General Session: Getting Ahead Panel</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:15 AM – 10:45 AM</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Arch View Ballroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 AM – 12:15 PM</td>
<td>Open for Discussion</td>
<td>Arch View Ballroom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30 PM – 2:00 PM</td>
<td>Lunch/General Session: Bridging the Divide(s)</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom</td>
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</table>
Book Signing Opportunities

Take this time to get your book or a gift for a colleague or friend autographed by your favorite aha! Process author. Find the authors at the product table, and watch for scheduled meeting times for authors with new releases.

Day One  Monday, September 25, 2017

7:30 – 8:00 AM  A Framework for Understanding Poverty with Ruby Payne
Bridges Out of Poverty with Ruby Payne, Phil DeVol, and Terie Dreussi-Smith

9:45 – 10:00 AM  The R Rules with Betti Souther
Bridges into Health and Healthcare with Terie Dreussi-Smith and Ruby Payne

12:15 – 12:30 PM  Workplace Stability with Ruth Weirich
Getting Ahead While Getting Out with Mitch Libster, Michelle Wood, and Phil DeVol

2:00 – 2:15 PM  Understanding and Engaging Under-Resourced College Students with Karla Krodel and Bethanie Tucker

2:15 – 2:30 PM  Tucker Signing Strategies for Reading, Reading by Age 5, Mr. Base Ten Invents Mathematics, and The Journey of Al and Gebra to the Land of Algebra with Bethanie Tucker
Tactical Communications with Jodi Pfarr

WORKING TO CLOSE THE ECONOMIC GAP IN YOUR COMMUNITY? YOU ARE NOT ALONE

Other communities share your mission and each has a piece of the puzzle.

Connect with a network of members across the nation sharing best practices, data, and encouragement.

Join today!
www.emergesolutions.org
### Pre-Conference for Communities, Higher Education, and K–12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:00 PM – 7:00 PM</td>
<td>Registration</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom Foyer</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00 PM – 7:00 PM</td>
<td>Product Table Open</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom Foyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 PM – 7:00 PM</td>
<td>Opening Reception</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom Foyer</td>
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</table>

### Conference for Communities, Higher Education, and K–12

**Sunday, September 24**

- **6:00 AM – 6:30 AM**: Rise and Shine Walking Tour of Local Landmarks  
  Location: Main Lobby Doors Facing Broadway Street

**Monday, Day One, September 25**

- **6:00 AM – 6:30 AM**: Breakout Sessions
  - Choices: Money Beyond Today, a Financial Curriculum for Low-Income Adults
  - County Government Collaborating for Effective Getting Ahead Outcomes
  - Getting Ahead when the Justice System Puts You Behind
  - How an Employer Resource Network Can Change Your Community, Because It Is a Win/Win!
  - Morning Conversations—A Model to Further the Bridges Dialogue
  - Reducing Health Disparity Through Policy, Community Outreach, and Evidence-Based Care
  - Steps to Starting a Bridges Community
  - Together the Dream Is Possible!
  - The Un-Separation of Church and State: How a Church and a Public School Share Staff to Overcome a Pre-Kindergarten Literacy Shortfall
  - Why Schools Need to Drive Community Bridges Initiatives

- **10:00 AM – 11:30 AM**: Breakout Sessions
  - Applying "Investigations" Lessons During and After College
  - Building the Bridge
  - Disability to Taxpayer, Getting Ahead from the Bottom Up
  - Drawing Mental Models for a Change
  - Emerge Solutions—Growing Regional Initiatives
  - How to Strengthen and Mobilize the Caring Power of Communities
  - Reinventing the Learning Environment to Reach Under-Resourced Students
  - Rural Strategies for Implementing the Resource Builder Model
  - Sharing Key Points from A Framework for Understanding Poverty to Strengthen a TeamMates Mentoring Program
  - Solutions for Employees in Financial Distress

- **11:30 AM – 12:30 PM**: Lunch
  Location: Arch View Ballroom

- **12:00 PM – 3:00 PM**: Pre-Conference Sessions
  - No additional charge for pre-conference sessions with paid registration
  - 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM: Bridges Out of Poverty Recertification
  - 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM: New Attendee Orientation

- **4:00 PM – 7:00 PM**: Product Table Open
  Location: Grand Ballroom Foyer

- **5:30 PM – 7:00 PM**: Opening Reception
  Location: Grand Ballroom Foyer

- **6:00 AM – 6:30 AM**: Break with Exhibitors
## Conference for Communities, Higher Education, and K–12

### Monday, Day One
September 25

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2:45 PM – 4:15 PM</td>
<td><strong>Breakout Sessions</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bridges in Action at The Glen at St. Joseph and Beyond</td>
<td>Lindbergh Room</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Employer Resource Networks as a Business Strategy to Address Poverty</td>
<td>Grand Suites I</td>
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<td></td>
<td>For the Love of the Family: How Schools and Non-Profits Can Partner</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom E</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Getting Ahead for Total Worker Health</td>
<td>Broadway 1</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“Getting Ahead” of the Curve</td>
<td>Market Street Room</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Gateway to Economic Self-Sufficiency</td>
<td>Grand Suites III</td>
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<td></td>
<td>History and Results of Establishing Getting Ahead while Getting Out</td>
<td>Broadway 1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Let the Numbers Do the Talking: Leveraging Data to Show Your Program’s</td>
<td>Grand Suites II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Staying Ahead—Making the Future Relevant Today!</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom F</td>
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### Tuesday, Day Two
September 26

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6:00 AM – 6:30 AM</td>
<td><strong>Rise and Shine Running Tour</strong></td>
<td>Main Lobby Doors Facing Broadway Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 AM – 7:45 AM</td>
<td><strong>Registration and Breakfast</strong></td>
<td>Grand Ballroom Foyer/Arch View Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:45 AM – 9:00 AM</td>
<td><strong>General Session</strong> Getting Ahead Panel</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:15 AM – 10:45 AM</td>
<td><strong>Breakout Sessions</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>A Day in the Life of a Working Bridges Resource Coordinator</td>
<td>Grand Suites I</td>
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<td>Bridging the Gap: The Integral Role of Community on an Evolving Healthcare System</td>
<td>Ballpark 3</td>
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<td>Getting Ahead Research and Results—Confirming the Theory</td>
<td>Broadway 1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Investigations into Economic Class in America for Nursing Students</td>
<td>Grand Suites III</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Money &amp; ME: A Financial Literacy Education System for Organizations</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom F</td>
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<td>R Rules and Community</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom E</td>
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<td>Schenectady Bridges Works Toward Long-Term Community Change</td>
<td>Lindbergh Room</td>
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<td>Tactical Communication for Emergency Responders</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom G</td>
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<td>The 4th R—Reality! Bridging the Gap Between Students and Staff</td>
<td>Grand Suites II</td>
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<td></td>
<td>TIN (Together Initiative Network) 3.0 Panel</td>
<td>Market Street Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 AM – 12:15 PM</td>
<td><strong>Open for Discussion</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Bridges Lindbergh Room</td>
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<td>K–12 Grand Suites II</td>
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<td>Fund Raising Market Street Room</td>
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<td>Health and Health Care Ballpark 3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Higher Education Grand Suites III</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Business Grand Suites I</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30 PM – 2:00 PM</td>
<td><strong>Lunch and Closing Session</strong> Bridging the Divide(s)</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom</td>
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</table>
## Upcoming Online Trainings by Sector

### Framework
- **Framework Recertification** .......................... October 12, 2017
- **R Rules Facilitator Training** ............................. November 3 and 6, 2017
- **Framework Workshop** ................................ January 16–17, 2018
- **Framework Trainer Certification** ........................ January 30–March 6, 2018
  (session on Tuesday of each week)
- **Framework Recertification** .......................... February 8, 2018
- **R Rules Facilitator Training** ............................. February 9 and 12, 2018
- **Boys in Crisis Workshop** ................................. April 26–27, 2018
- **Removing the Mask: How to Develop Giftedness in Students from Poverty** ............................. May 15 and 16, 2018

### Getting Ahead
- **Getting Ahead in the Workplace Certified Facilitator Training** .............................. October 13, 2017
- **Getting Ahead Certified Facilitator Training** ............................................. December 8 and 11, 2017
- **Getting Ahead While Getting Out Certified Facilitator Training** ........................ January 12, 2018
- **Getting Ahead in the Workplace Certified Facilitator Training** .............................. January 22, 2018
- **Getting Ahead Certified Facilitator Training** ............................................. March 9 and 12, 2018

### Bridges
- **Bridges Recertification** .................................. December 14, 2017
- **Bridges Workshop** ......................................... March 13–14, 2018
- **Bridges Recertification** .................................. March 23, 2018
- **Bridges Trainer Certification** ............................. April 4–May 9, 2018
  (session on Wednesday of each week)

### Health and Healthcare
- **Bridges to Health and Healthcare Trainer Certification** .......................... December 1 and 4, 2017
- **Bridges to Health and Healthcare Workshop** ................................. March 19–20, 2018

### Workplace Stability
- **Workplace Stability Certified Training for Non-Bridges Certified Trainers** ................................. October 6, 10, and 11, 2017
- **Workplace Stability Certified Training for Bridges Trainers** ............................. October 27 and 30, 2017
- **Workplace Stability Workshop** ................................ January 24–25, 2018
- **Workplace Stability Certified Training for Non-Bridges Certified Trainers** ................................. February 21, 23, and 26, 2018
- **Workplace Stability Certified Training for Bridges Certified Trainers** ................................. April 13 and 16, 2018

### Free Webinar Series
- **First and Third Thursdays** ............................. 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Central Time
  - Mindset, Motivation, and Argument for Change
  - Assessing Getting Ahead Data
  - Workplace Stability
  - Impact of Poverty on the Faith Community
  - Bridges Mental Model
  - K–12: How We Got Here and Where We’re Going
  - Measuring Growth and Content Comprehension
  - Investigations: Interactions and Transformations

[ahaprocess.com/free-webinar-series]
Breakouts that directly relate to a building block are reflected with an icon and the corresponding model number in the descriptor.

aha! Process continues to find ways for people to communicate the Bridges Out of Poverty model. Last year at the conference we introduced “Building Blocks,” and this year we are providing each conference participant with a complimentary game of “Community and Consequence,” which provides a fun way to talk about building a Bridges model with funders, partners, steering committees, etc. This example of what builds a Bridges community and what sets back the work is fun, entertaining, and educational. Pick up your complimentary game at the conference, or order at ahaprocess.com/store, where the games cost $20 each. Email game feedback to Lynn Jackson at ljackson@ahaprocess.com.
General Session: From a 30,000-Foot View—Building a Bridges Community

Grand Ballroom

For communities to receive continued funding, it’s important that organizations will be able to provide return on investment (ROI) numbers to funders. Increasingly, funders want to see outcomes from their contributions. This session will begin with an overview from Ruby Payne, and then Gina Elias will show how her non-profit in Bartlesville, Oklahoma, is collecting ROI in terms of financial impact in the community.

Ruby K. Payne
founder and president, aha! Process—Highlands, Texas

Payne is the founder of aha! Process and an author, speaker, publisher, and career educator. Recognized internationally for A Framework for Understanding Poverty, her foundational book and workshop, Payne has helped students and adults of all economic backgrounds achieve academic, professional, and personal success. As an expert on the mindsets of economic classes and overcoming the hurdles of poverty, she has trained hundreds of thousands of professionals from many sectors. Payne has written and coauthored more than a dozen books, including the bestselling Framework and Bridges Out of Poverty. Ruby’s recent publications include How Much of Yourself Do You Own? A Process for Building Your Emotional Resources and a newly updated edition of Hidden Rules of Class at Work.

Gina Elias
chief executive officer, Building Bridges of Oklahoma—Muskogee, Oklahoma

Gina currently oversees one of the largest and oldest Bridges sites in the nation with an operating budget of $1.5 million. Gina has experience implementing Bridges constructs throughout Fortune 500 companies, healthcare, education, statewide policy, judicial, banking, and faith-based communities.

County Government Collaborating for Effective Getting Ahead Outcomes

Broadway 1

Collaborative partnerships have been a vital component of the success of the Howard County Getting Ahead initiative. The workshop will discuss how this Getting Ahead initiative is keeping Getting Ahead graduates engaged with their personal plans, active in Staying Ahead supports, and involved with and giving back to their communities. Participants will learn to identify their community assets that could support their Getting Ahead initiatives, how to leverage the business community to support their Getting Ahead/Staying Ahead programs, and how to improve access to employment opportunities and improve service delivery.

Quinton Askew
manager

Jacqueline Scott
deputy director

~Howard County Government—Laurel, Maryland

Choices: Money Beyond Today, a Financial Curriculum for Low-Income Adults

Grand Ballroom F

Research indicates there is a gap in financial literacy programs that recognize the vulnerability and challenges of adults below, at, or slightly above the poverty level. As a result of a collaboration with the FDIC (Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation), an innovative curriculum has been developed and piloted in Oklahoma. The program emphasizes choice, and incorporates the facilitative and investigative approach of Getting Ahead. Workshop attendees will hear about the development process, and will receive an overview of the curriculum.

Recommended level of expertise needed: training as a Getting Ahead facilitator

Deborah Price
divisional director of poverty initiatives

The Salvation Army Arkansas-Oklahoma Division—Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

Gloria Reynolds
community affairs specialist, FDIC Dallas Regional Office—Dallas, Texas

Rise and Shine Walking Tour of Local Landmarks

Gather at the main lobby doors facing Broadway Street

Join Terie Dreussi-Smith for a moderate walking tour around some of the best landmarks St. Louis has to offer. St. Louis, located on the Mississippi River, is one of the United States’ favorite tourist destinations. The city is famous for its architecture, much of which showcases fascinating European style and design. This walking tour of the city’s amazing architecture will provide a bit of lift in your step all day. Gather at the main lobby doors facing Broadway Street.

Terie Dreussi-Smith
@DreussiSmith_T, aha! Process author and consultant—Taylors, South Carolina

8:00 – 9:45 a.m.

10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Monday, Day One, September 25

ADDRESSING THE CHALLENGES OF POVERTY #AddressPoverty ahaprocess.com
Session Descriptors

10:00 – 11:30 a.m. continued

Getting Ahead when the Justice System Puts You Behind
Grand Ballroom G

The justice system is not designed to rehabilitate the incarcerated. Though people have left the confines of prison walls, they are still imprisoned by their records, unable to find work, and unable to get ahead on their fees and fines. What can be done to finally free people from the restrictions of the justice system? The hope is to get them thinking about the legal barriers to getting ahead. Attendees should come away with possible solutions and methods of assisting clients, and they will learn how this Dayton legal clinic works and what aspects might be duplicated by their program.

Cherish Cronmiller
@CHERISHLAW, vice president/chief operating officer, Community Action Partnership of the Greater Dayton Area—Dayton, Ohio

How an Employer Resource Network Can Change Your Community, Because It Is a Win/Win!
Grand Suites I

Those who want solutions that benefit Getting Ahead graduates and businesses in their communities will learn how Employer Resource Networks (ERN) can be the win/win they are searching for. The presentation will show how the Marion Area Employer Resource Network has used Bridges principles to connect its non-profit with the community’s business sector. Presenters will discuss the current businesses in their network, and will have testimonies from them about how their ERN has positively impacted their businesses. The presentation is relevant for those doing Bridges work, as it can help bridge the gap between businesses and non-profits.

Heidi Jones
executive director
Jennifer Johnson
Success Coach
—Marion Matters, Inc.—Marion, Ohio

Morning Conversations—A Model to Further the Bridges Dialogue
Lindbergh Room

The Bucks County Opportunity Council has implemented “Morning Conversations,” an opportunity to “converse” about a specific Bridges construct or strategy. Since 2007, more than 1,300 people in Bucks County have received Bridges Out of Poverty training. Training evaluations reflected that the knowledge gained was relevant to the participants’ work. Bucks County Opportunity Council’s strategic goal could not be effectively achieved if further dialogue around Bridges was not facilitated. Thus, the “Morning Conversation” model was implemented. Participants will discover the value of extending Bridges training to manageable “conversations” that will provide further insight and practical application of Bridges strategies and concepts.

Tammy Schoonover
@BCOpportunity, director of community services, Bucks County Opportunity Council, Inc.—Doylestown, Pennsylvania

Reducing Health Disparity Through Policy, Community Outreach, and Evidence-Based Care
Ballpark 3

Interdisciplinary-care teams engage community partners like WIC (Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children), Head Start, and schools in order to conduct Oral Health Outreach. Outreach teams are deployed to community settings, and deliver evidence-based care to under-resourced and vulnerable populations. Principles from Bridges materials are used to develop trainings to help providers and staff understand how to effectively engage community members and impact health outcomes. Advantage Dental launched trainings based on Bridges materials to train providers and staff in understanding poverty, health equity, health literacy, and how the social determinants of health impact oral health outcomes. This model may apply to health disciplines other than oral health.

Cindy Shirtcliff
licensed clinical social worker
Advantage Dental—Redmond, Oregon

Steps to Starting a Bridges Community
Market Street Room

Applying Bridges constructs throughout a community can be a daunting task. This workshop is for sector leaders who are ready to use Ruby Payne’s framework for addressing poverty and the Bridges model throughout their communities. Learn best practices from one another on how to motivate and mobilize communities to create a system that addresses systemic issues of poverty.

Chuck Holt
president/chief executive officer, The Factory Ministries—Paradise, Pennsylvania

Jim Ott
aha! Process national consultant—Dubuque, Iowa
### Session Descriptors

#### 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. continued

**Together, the Dream Is Possible!**
Grand Suites III

Learn how one community pooled its resources and social capital to help residents identify, strengthen, and utilize resources to begin the process of moving from a situation of daily instability to Achieving the Dream! Participants will go through the process of understanding and appreciating the hidden rules of economic classes, and will learn how people from all mindsets come together to remove barriers to transform their communities. By using a flowchart exercise, participants will begin to identify potential partners in their communities, and will develop a plan to bring all stakeholders to the table to collaboratively transform their communities.

**Carla Boyd**
@careersCB, director of career service, Danville Area Community College—Danville, Illinois

**Michael Mannon**
Vermilion County board chairman—Danville, Illinois

**Norman Anglin**
Getting Ahead graduate/Vermilion County board intern—Danville, Illinois

**The Un-Seperation of Church and State: How a Church and a Public School Share Staff to Overcome a Pre-Kindergarten Literacy Shortfall**
Grand Ballroom E

Be encouraged to think creatively about community collaboration by engaging with church and public school leaders regarding meeting pre-kindergarten literacy needs in their communities. In this workshop, participants will hear from and dialogue with these leaders about how and why they were able join church and school resources in hiring a literacy liaison to improve learners’ chances of transitioning out of poverty.

**Tim Rogers**
lead pastor, Grace Point Church—Paradise, Pennsylvania

**Rich Eby**
assistant to the superintendent, Pequea Valley School District—Kinzers, Pennsylvania

**Katie Beiler**
Pequea Valley Birth to 5 Community Literacy Liaison, Grace Point Church/Pequea Valley School District, Paradise, Pennsylvania

**Why Schools Need to Drive Community Bridges Initiatives**
Grand Suites II

Public education has the opportunity to help every child write their own future story. If people agree that “it takes a village...” then public education has to lead that charge. In Southeast Iowa, Bridges has helped West Burlington High School and its community begin a process that has a chance to help all students and parents write a much better future story. Involved educators in West Burlington hope their experience can help others to not only get schools involved in the Bridges process, but to inspire schools to become leaders. Public education sits in a unique spot in this battle.

**Vern Reed**
director, The Corners—West Burlington High School—West Burlington, Iowa

**Cindee Reed**
business teacher, West Burlington High School—West Burlington, Iowa

#### 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.

**Applying “Investigations” Lessons During and After College**
Grand Suites III

University students will describe how lessons learned during their Investigations into Economic Class in America course apply to their college careers and their lives as college graduates. Five students will present as panelists, and will share stories, anecdotes, and analyses of their journeys through college following the Investigations course. Students will share their physical mental models that illustrate how the “tyranny of the moment” can thwart even the most thoughtful efforts by university programs to support their academic achievement. This activity requires audience participation.

**Myisha Patrick**

**Mecca Sims**

**Rebecca Banks**

**Yvette Martin**

**Taylor Dean**

**Karla Krodel**
~Bridges Out of Poverty Student Union, Youngstown State University Youngstown, Ohio

**Together, the Dream Is Possible!**
Grand Suites III

Learn how one community pooled its resources and social capital to help residents identify, strengthen, and utilize resources to begin the process of moving from a situation of daily instability to Achieving the Dream! Participants will go through the process of understanding and appreciating the hidden rules of economic classes, and will learn how people from all mindsets come together to remove barriers to transform their communities. By using a flowchart exercise, participants will begin to identify potential partners in their communities, and will develop a plan to bring all stakeholders to the table to collaboratively transform their communities.

**Carla Boyd**
@careersCB, director of career service, Danville Area Community College—Danville, Illinois

**Michael Mannon**
Vermilion County board chairman—Danville, Illinois

**Norman Anglin**
Getting Ahead graduate/Vermilion County board intern—Danville, Illinois

**The Un-Seperation of Church and State: How a Church and a Public School Share Staff to Overcome a Pre-Kindergarten Literacy Shortfall**
Grand Ballroom E

Be encouraged to think creatively about community collaboration by engaging with church and public school leaders regarding meeting pre-kindergarten literacy needs in their communities. In this workshop, participants will hear from and dialogue with these leaders about how and why they were able join church and school resources in hiring a literacy liaison to improve learners’ chances of transitioning out of poverty.

**Tim Rogers**
lead pastor, Grace Point Church—Paradise, Pennsylvania

**Rich Eby**
assistant to the superintendent, Pequea Valley School District—Kinzers, Pennsylvania

**Katie Beiler**
Pequea Valley Birth to 5 Community Literacy Liaison, Grace Point Church/Pequea Valley School District, Paradise, Pennsylvania

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**Karla Krodel**
~Bridges Out of Poverty Student Union, Youngstown State University Youngstown, Ohio
Building the Bridge  
*Market Street Room*

In recent years, Cowlitz County, Washington, has seen higher rates of poverty than state and national averages. This is largely due to the reduction of living-wage manufacturing jobs as mills closed during the last recession. This is the story of how Lower Columbia College and Lower Columbia Community Action Program staff are working to educate community members on the effects of living without resources, and to educate those living without resources on how to build their future stories.

**Stefanee Bunn**  
@twurlie77, program manager, Washington WorkFirst

**Steven Boyer**  
Basic Food and Employment Training Program Coordinator, Lower Columbia College  
—Longview, Washington

From Disability to Taxpayer, Getting Ahead from the Bottom Up  
*Grand Ballroom F*

Mary Hicks will share her story that starts by telling how she gained employment from volunteering, how through her employment she was introduced to Bridges Out of Poverty, and how through Bridges Out of Poverty she became a Getting Ahead investigator. She will share what led to her “aha moment” after Getting Ahead, and what support she has received from her community to keep that momentum.

This is a person who was told in 2005 that she had no longer had the ability to learn. Her quest is to encourage and support people who might have given up on themselves. In this session, you will learn how to overcome the bias that people cannot learn past a certain age, and how to support people’s mental models.

**Mary Hicks**  
@Merbear_Mary, volunteer, Muskogee Bridges Out of Poverty—Muskogee, Oklahoma  
Shenia McNac-Salimonu  
coach, Muskogee Bridges Out of Poverty—Muskogee, Oklahoma

Drawing Mental Models for a Change  
*Ballpark 3*

Whenever people learn a new skill or are in a change process, they can use mental models to clarify and give them direction. One of the untapped skills of using the Bridges Out of Poverty lens is drawing mental models that bridge casual and formal story structure. Mental models assist people in helping plan and follow through toward their future stories, especially when they are in poverty.

Terie Dreussi-Smith will review the latest research on mental models, and will use this research review to set up a checklist of what makes a mental model powerful. Then she will review mental models being developed by Bridges, Bridges to Health and Healthcare, and Getting Ahead users.

**Terie Dreussi-Smith**  
@DreussiSmith_T, ah! Process author and consultant—Taylors, South Carolina

How to Strengthen and Mobilize the Caring Power of Communities  
*Grand Ballroom G*

Because of technology, struggling people and helping agencies have greater access to information and resources from across the community, all of which support economic and social well-being. Simple-to-use technology tools help advance a more comprehensive approach for improving people’s lives. Participants will learn how technology can be used to create a web-connected network in their communities; how helping agencies use “community data” to reduce duplication and allocate limited resources where they are most needed; how technology can increase communication among helping agencies and quickly mobilize resources for those in need; and how data-driven collaboration can enhance service delivery systems.

**Michael Simon**  
president, Simon Solutions—Florence, Alabama  
Joey Yarber  
sales associate, Simon Solutions—Florence, Alabama

Reinventing the Learning Environment to Reach Under-Resourced Students  
*Grand Suites II*

The Pequea Valley School District, located in rural Pennsylvania, has a poverty rate of close to 60%. Learn how this school district took radical steps to redefine the educational process from the industrial age to the information age. Learn how Mass Customized Learning has leveled the playing field so that all learners’ educational journeys matter, regardless of resources, class, or any other barrier.

**Erik Orndorff**  
superintendent, Pequea Valley School District—Kinzers, Pennsylvania  
Rich Eby  
assistant to the superintendent, Pequea Valley School District—Kinzers, Pennsylvania
### Session Descriptors

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| 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. | **Rural Strategies for Implementing the Resource Builder Model** | Lindbergh Room (Grand Ballroom E) | Lindbergh Room | Rural Michigan—where many families go to play, relax, and enjoy the beauty of the Great Lakes. Unfortunately, the tranquil rural setting in many rural communities masks deep and rooted problems related to poverty. Join the Harbor Beach Community Hospital as it shares its journey in using the Bridges Out of Poverty Resource Builder Model to address social determinants of health. Dr. Kay Balcer will share how she started the initiative, lessons she has learned, unique rural challenges faced by the team, two-year evaluation results of the initiative, and future plans for sustainability. Participants will learn how smaller communities can work within rural constraints to implement various components of the aha! Process Resource Builder Model.  
*Kay Balcer*  
lead trainer, Community Connections  
—Harbor Beach, Michigan |
| 2:45 – 4:15 p.m. | **Sharing Key Points from A Framework for Understanding Poverty to Strengthen a TeamMates Mentoring Program** | Grand Suite I (Grand Ballroom E) | Grand Suite I | TeamMates is a one-to-one school-based mentoring program started by Dr. Tom Osborne in Nebraska, and has grown into Wyoming, Kansas, and beyond. Learn about this organization and how a local chapter started by Dr. Tom Osborne in Nebraska, and has grown into Wyoming, Kansas, and beyond. Kay Balcer will share how she started the initiative, lessons she has learned, unique rural challenges faced by the team, two-year evaluation results of the initiative, and future plans for sustainability. Participants will learn how smaller communities can work within rural constraints to implement various components of the aha! Process Resource Builder Model.  
*Kay Balcer*  
lead trainer, Community Connections  
—Harbor Beach, Michigan |
| 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. | **Solutions for Employees in Financial Distress** | Bridgeport Public Schools—Bridgeport, Nebraska | Bridgeport Public Schools—Bridgeport, Nebraska | Employees are becoming more aware of the financial stress that impacts their employees and how that affects their engagement and productivity at work. Employees who are drowning in a credit crisis are not in position to get swimming lessons; first, they may need a life vest, in the form of a safe and affordable loan program to help them avoid the debt trap of predatory lending. TrueConnect is a free, voluntary employee benefit program being offered through employers across the United States. It enables employees to access a safe, affordable, regulated bank loan up to $3,000, regardless of their personal credit history. TrueConnect borrowers are eligible for free credit counseling.  
*Douglas Farry*  
co-founder, Employee Loan Solutions Inc.  
—Solana Beach, California  
*David Rothstein*  
national director, Bank On—Cleveland, Ohio |
| 2:45 – 4:15 p.m. | **Bridges in Action at The Glen at St. Joseph and Beyond** | Lindbergh Room (Grand Ballroom E) | Lindbergh Room | The Glen at St. Joseph, a campus for single mothers, intentionally applies the Bridges model. Presenters will share how they use the Triple Lens approach and how they seek to pay it forward. They will also invite others into the discussion to find out what has made a difference for them and their work. A Glen staff member and two Glen graduates will discuss the organization’s evolution regarding Bridges and Getting Ahead. Their follow-up discussion will address how they think, feel and do things differently as Glen Graduates, working single mothers, family leaders, and Bridges advocates.  
*Michele Kesler*  
@MichelleKesler, professional learning coordinator, Educational Service Unit #13  
—Scottsbluff, Nebraska  
*Gail Beyer*  
TeamMates coordinator, Bridgeport Public Schools—Bridgeport, Nebraska |
| 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. | **Employer Resource Networks as a Business Strategy to Address Poverty** | Grand Suite I (Grand Ballroom E) | Grand Suite I | Employer Resource Networks (ERN) are designed to increase employee retention, enhance workplace culture, and improve employee engagement. ERN’s provide an on-site Success Coach to assist employees by helping them resolve barriers to maintaining workplace stability, engaging them in career pathways, supporting them in skills development, and maximizing their productivity. The presentation will touch on how network members use essential skills training like Workplace Stability to educate managers on the challenges their employees face, and how to make referrals to a Success Coach. Participants should walk away with an understanding of the Employer Resource Network model and its potential fit with Bridges Out of Poverty and Workplace Stability initiatives.  
*James Vander Hulst*  
chief disruptive officer, Disruptive Innovations for Social Change—Grand Rapids, Michigan  
*Kristie Place*  
social worker  
—The Glen at St. Joseph, Dayton, Ohio  
*Emma Snell*  
development manager  
—The Glen at St. Joseph, Dayton, Ohio |
| 2:45 – 4:15 p.m. | **For the Love of the Family: How Schools and Non-Profits Can Partner to Create a Lasting Impact in Under-Resourced Families** | Grand Ballroom E (Grand Ballroom E) | Grand Ballroom E | Be motivated and inspired to learn how one faith-based social services agency and a school district have changed the rules in how families in the community are supported. Discover how the incorporated Bridges constructs in the lives of under-resourced families in the community to build trust and relationships. Learn from their innovative and nontraditional approach in how to make a lasting impact with families, and walk with them on their journeys in writing their future stories.  
*Chuck Holt*  
president/chief executive officer, The Factory Ministries—Paradise, Pennsylvania  
*Sharon Ray (and her team)*  
First Choice Administrator, Pequea Valley School District—Kinzers, Pennsylvania |
| 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. | **Forming a State Bridges Learning Community** | Market Street Room (Market Street Room) | Market Street Room | Ohio Bridges Out of Poverty communities of practice have formed an Ohio Bridges learning community. It has joined forces to create innovative and sustainable prototypes, such as Employer Resource Networks and Employer-Sponsored Small-Dollar Loans, and is replicating them across the state. Learn how the community is sharing best practices, quality, and advocacy information to improve prosperity for all Ohio citizens. Participants will understand the importance of having a Bridges Out of Poverty steering committee and how communities of practice in Ohio have started learning communities, and will receive guidelines for identifying potential communities of practice members.  
*Stephen MacDonald (and colleagues)*  
Bridges Out of Poverty coordinator, Lucas County Family Council—Toledo, Ohio |
Gateway to Economic Self-Sufficiency
Grand Suites III
This presentation will highlight the unique partnership between a Pennsylvania community action agency and a community college, and how they work together to address poverty. The Bucks County Opportunity Council has been addressing the root causes of poverty for more than 20 years through its economic self-sufficiency program. Attendees will learn how to develop a strategy for working with Getting Ahead graduates through a long-term coaching program. Presenters will share their self-sufficiency standard, principles of establishing relationships, and how to start an economic self-sufficiency program. They will also teach participants how to establish relationships with their local community college, university, or trade school, and how to launch a scholarship program.

Tobias Bruhn
vice president of advancement and executive director of foundation and alumni relations, Bucks County Community College
—Newtown, Pennsylvania
Erin Lukoss
@BCOpportunity, chief executive officer, Bucks County Opportunity Council
—Doylestown, Pennsylvania

Getting Ahead for Total Worker Health
Ballpark 3
Getting Ahead for Total Worker Health explores the use of Getting Ahead in the Workplace, Total Worker Health, and Workplace Stability among low-wage healthcare employees and employers. This subgroup of healthcare employees typically has high rates of job-related injuries, and its members often experience workplace instability and low job retention at the same organization. Anticipated outcomes for those attending include developing an understanding of Total Worker Health, in addition to new Getting Ahead in the Workplace, Beacon Voice resource, Workplace Stability, and MyVoice apps.

Heidi Gullett
@hgullett, assistant professor, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine
—Cleveland, Ohio

“Getting Ahead” of the Curve
Broadway 1
Tom Martindale will present the history of the Muskogee Bridges Out of Poverty initiative and the events that led up to the reading of The One World School House: Education Reimagined by Salman Khan. Martindale will discuss the premise of the book; how the Khan Academy, a free online global classroom for all ages, reimagined education; and how the Muskogee Bridges organization began to implement it. Treasure McKenzie will present what the Khan Academy looks like in a Getting Ahead setting. Student successes and real-life examples will be used during the session. Attendees will gain knowledge of a free and impactful educational tool.

Treasure McKenzie
@Treasure13, director, Muskogee Bridges Out of Poverty—Muskogee, Oklahoma

Tom Martindale
aha! Process consultant—Muskogee, Oklahoma

History and Results of Establishing Getting Ahead while Getting Out in Marion, Ohio
Grand Ballroom G
Curriculum co-authors will discuss how Getting Ahead while Getting Out was started in Marion, Ohio, the results they have seen from the classes, and how the graduates are doing and the impact they are having in their community. They will also discuss the services Marion is providing to Getting Out graduates to help them in their transition from incarceration to being productive citizens in their communities. Individuals who attend this presentation will gain a better understanding of the Getting Out program, and will be encouraged to establish a Getting Out program in their community.

Michelle Wood and Mitchell Libster
aha! Process consultants and co-authors
—Marion, Ohio

Let the Numbers Do the Talking: Leveraging Data to Show Your Program’s True Impact
Grand Suites II
Participants will learn from others and strategize for their own organizations about the best way to implement data into their day-to-day work in helping under-resourced families in their communities. In this interactive workshop, attendees will learn about ways to track, compile, and analyze data to discover, plan, and report the story of what’s happening in their organizations. They will banish their fear of words and terms such as “logic model,” “statistics,” and “data tracking” by using data to tell the story of their respective organizations, as well as the stories of their participants.

Cathy Koenig
director of student services, Pequea Valley School District—Kinzers, Pennsylvania

Staying Ahead—Making the Future Relevant Today!
Grand Ballroom F
This session will discuss how the Staying Ahead initiative at Partners in Hope in Troy, Ohio, guides individuals and families on a deeper exploration of the eleven resources addressed in Getting Ahead. Since 2014, this initiative has included relevant programming and opportunities for community involvement that reinforces the constructs of Getting Ahead. Partners in Hope works to assist its partner families’ real-life application of their resources for achievement of their goals. Discussion will include the reality of program development (the good, the bad, and the ugly), as well as examples of multiyear progress of clients in the Staying Ahead program.

Sonia Holycross
education and development coordinator

Jessica Echols
executive director
—Partners in Hope, Inc.—Troy, Ohio

#AddressPoverty ahaprocess.com
6:00 – 6:30 a.m.  
**Rise and Shine Running Tour of Churches and Religious-Themed Buildings**  
Gather at the main lobby doors facing Broadway Street  
Jim Ott will lead a gentle running tour around some of the most beautiful churches and other religious-themed buildings in St. Louis. Known for its architecture, the city is especially known for its ornate churches and other spiritual-themed structures, some of which are quite famous. This light jogging tour is 2.75 miles, and is expected to take about 30 minutes. Gather at the main lobby doors facing Broadway Street.

Jim Ott  
aha! Process national consultant—Dubuque, Iowa, @JimOtt30

7:45 – 9:00 a.m.  
**General Session: Getting Ahead Panel (Getting Ahead Graduates)**  
Grand Ballroom  
Join a group of Getting Ahead graduates who are experts at navigating the intersection of poverty and middle class. Participants will learn from this group how poverty impacted their daily lives, as well as their growth of resources and expansion of bridging capital as they interact with community entities, the workplace, and friends and colleagues. Attendees will learn how to more effectively work with other people, both within institutions and communities, as these graduates share their journeys to stability.

**Brandy Bates**  
*Case Manager/Chemical Dependency Counselor Assistant at New Day Recovery, Youngstown, Ohio*  
**Getting Ahead experience:** I participated in Getting Ahead in 2010, and was in the first class to take it as a standalone course at Youngstown State University. I also co-facilitated an Investigations class.  
**What I love most about Getting Ahead:** The gift of getting to know myself better more and the relationships I formed.  
**Hobbies:** Hiking and beauty hunting (the fact that beauty is in everything).  
**Contact:** Brandyb1221@gmail.com

**Allison Cross**  
*Director of First Baptist of Knoxville Food Co-Op, Knoxville, Tennessee*  
**Getting Ahead experience:** I’m an April 2016 Getting Ahead graduate, and am scheduled to take a facilitator’s class.  
**What I love most about Getting Ahead:** Learning that I have a voice and that my voice matters, and healing from the inside out.  
**Hobbies:** Being with my grandkids, and swimming.  
**Contact:** colonialcross@gmail.com

**Sheonta Fountain**  
*Receptionist at Hirschbach Motor Lines, Dubuque, Iowa*  
**Getting Ahead experience:** 2017 Getting Ahead graduate, and Getting Ahead in the Workplace.  
**Facilitators:** Dawn, Ermina, Destiny, and Andrea.  
**What I love most about Getting Ahead:** Learning about the 11 resources.  
**Hobbies:** Reading books, watching television, and enjoying family.

**Ermina Soler**  
*City of Dubuque Circles Coordinator, Dubuque, Iowa*  
**Getting Ahead experience:** 2009 Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin’-By World graduate and facilitator. Currently using Getting Ahead in the Workplace. Also, certified Bridges out of Poverty and Workplace Stability trainer.  
**What I love most about Getting Ahead:** Its materials provide a perspective for solutions and resolutions, rather than blame and shame.  
**Hobbies:** Reading, writing, and fairy gardening.  
**Contact:** esoler@cityofdubuque.org

**Steve Story**  
*Owner of Titan Heating and Air, LLC, Muskogee/Tulsa, Oklahoma*  
**Getting Ahead experience:** Graduated on January 23, 2015 from Getting Ahead, co-facilitated two Getting Ahead classes, and became a certified trainer for Getting Ahead While Getting Out.  
**Facilitator:** Tom Martindale.  
**What I love most about Getting Ahead:** To me, the best part of Getting Ahead has been the friendships and relationships that have formed from going through the class. I’ve also enjoyed seeing people blossom after graduating from my first class as an investigator.  
**Hobby:** Reading.  
**Contact:** titanheatingair@yahoo.com, steve.story10@yahoo.com

**Jesse Quintana**  
*Community Action Partnership Facilitator and Weatherization Program Inventory Control Specialist, Lewiston, Idaho*  
**Getting Ahead experience:** I graduated from Getting Ahead in 2011, and have been a Getting Ahead facilitator for about five years. I teach others what I have learned and help them to lead successful lives.  
**What I love most about Getting Ahead:** The best part of the process has been developing better relationships, which include being a father to three children.  
**Hobbies:** Playing with my kids, and thrill sports like skydiving.  
**Contact:** j.quintana@cap4action.org
A Day in the Life of a Working Bridges Resource Coordinator
Grand Suites I
Hear the success stories and challenges of Working Bridges resource coordinators who are embedded in a diverse group of companies and industries. Their job: provide access to a wide range of resources to help employees solve their non-work-related issues. Working Bridges at Granite United Way, operating in the Upper Valley (a border community encompassing both Vermont and New Hampshire), promotes financial stability and job retention for employees by providing access to community-based resources. Bridges Out of Poverty and Workplace Stability are the fundamental underpinnings of their daily work. Participants will learn about the eight key observations that guide their practice.

Prudence Pease
Working Bridges resource coordinator

Angel Hudson
Working Bridges resource coordinator

Rob Schultz
Director, Working Bridges @ Granite United Way
Area Director for Upper Valley Region
- Granite United Way
- West Lebanon, New Hampshire

Bridging the Gap: The Integral Role of Community on an Evolving Healthcare System
Ballpark 3
Bridges to Health and Healthcare utilizes the Bridges out of Poverty framework to offer new and innovative solutions in reducing health disparities. Healthcare systems are continually challenged to move beyond their walls and partner with community organizations in order to improve overall population health. Community plays a unique role in advancing the agenda of population and community health initiatives. The content of this session offers a fresh perspective and approach in coordinating anti-poverty and healthcare services within under-resourced communities.

Nicole Baptiste
aha! Process national consultant
— Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Getting Ahead Research and Results—Confirming the Theory
Broadway 1
The growth and sustainability of Bridges/Getting Ahead sites hinges on outcomes. This session will review research by Elizabeth Wahler (Indiana University) and Ines Jindra and Michael Jindra (University of Notre Dame), as well as studies that are underway and planned. Data collection and management systems such as CharityTracker and Charity Check will be discussed, and outcome reports from selected sites will be shared. A discussion will cover what’s needed locally, nationally, and by sector.

Philip DeVol
aha! Process author and national consultant—Marengo, Ohio

Investigations into Economic Class in America for Nursing Students
Grand Suites III
In this session, Angela Martindale will look at preliminary data from research where Investigations was taught to beginning-level nursing students to help improve retention rates. Discussion will contain topics of experience from the researcher in teaching the course, and how the course can be adapted to nursing and healthcare students. The purpose of this study is to determine if the course, Investigations into Economic Class in America for Nursing Students, will affect retention rates of beginning-level pre-licensure nursing students. Participants will learn how to assist students through the course, and will facilitate more so than teach.

Angela Martindale
@admartindale, visiting clinical assistant professor, The University of Tulsa—Tulsa, Oklahoma

Money & ME: A Financial Literacy Education System for Organizations
Grand Ballroom F
This financial literacy program was strategically written for low-income people. The content of the workbook includes life skills as they relate to money (e.g., meal planning, self-discipline, organizing, boundaries, and more). Participants each receive a money kit which includes the tools they need to be successful. Trainers are equipped with six one-hour PowerPoint presentations with discussions and activities for participants. This presentation will address cultural sensitivity, content of the program, and logistics for implementing it within an organization. The curriculum helps participants develop a plan to pay off all their creditors. It also helps with basic life skills, organizing techniques, and self-discipline.

Sara Money
@moneymomme, director and developer, Money & ME—Albuquerque, New Mexico
Schenectady Bridges Works Toward Long-Term Community Change
Lindbergh Room

In upstate New York, Schenectady Bridges has reached the point of believing in a sustainable transformation of their entire community. Unwilling to settle for anything less, Schenectady is focusing on three core components to make this transformation happen: forming a multisector collaboration that includes funding, empowering employment and education, and developing indigenous leadership. Mike Saccocio, executive director of City Mission of Schenectady, will share what the community has done so far on this path toward sustainability, how the multimillion-dollar grant has helped grow the initiative, and what the next steps are for the community.

Mike Saccocio
executive director, City Mission of Schenectady—Schenectady, New York

R Rules and Community
Grand Ballroom E

OhioGuidestone, a foster care services organization, will share its process and results for utilizing R Rules as a tool to work with schools and community organizations to develop connections and build partnerships. This session will guide participants through a process that has R Rules as the catalyst. Connections made with schools, faith- and community-based organizations, employers, healthcare providers, and more provide the necessary supports for success. Working with strong community partners, OhioGuidestone’s R Rules students are breaking down barriers, building resources, and learning processes for setting goals, building social capital, and setting the stage for a brighter future.

Jennifer Hedinger
community initiatives manager, OhioGuidestone—Cleveland, Ohio

Amy Heran
education service coordinator, OhioGuidestone—Cleveland, Ohio

The 4th R—Reality! Bridging the Gap Between Students and Staff
Grand Suites II

Using Bridges concepts, Vern Reed and Jim Ott have developed professional development experiences for school staff that include participation of high school students and which focus on their “real lives” and the hidden rules of the school system. This workshop will detail their work and will give participants ideas for their own work in schools. Through intentional conversation and addressing barriers from school and student perspectives, they focus on professional development within the context of a particular school culture. This specific application of Bridges concepts examines barriers that those who don’t know the hidden rules must understand and overcome. This workshop, intended for school personnel, will present Bridges concepts that can be applied in school settings that lead to improved academic, emotional, and behavioral outcomes.

Jim Ott
@jimott30, aha! Process national consultant—Dubuque, Iowa

Vern Reed
The Corners—West Burlington High School—West Burlington, Iowa

TIN (Together Initiative Network) 3.0 Panel
Market Street Room

For the past three years, the Together Initiative Network has inspired schools, non-profits, and community leaders throughout the country to collaborate to address poverty. Learn how the Together Initiative Network in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, is moving from a small community collaborative to a countywide system that helps people overcome poverty. Hear lessons they learned and success stories they experienced during the past year. Participants will be inspired with key non-negotiable steps to take back to their communities to begin or energize Bridges and community collaboratives.

Community leaders
Lancaster County, Pennsylvania
Session Descriptors

11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Open for Discussion
These sessions ask deeper questions and share best practices about certain sectors or topics. Facilitated by senior practitioners and ahaprocess national consultants, these sessions give participants time to think about sector-specific issues and about how ahaprocess strategies can help move individuals and organizations in these sectors further and faster. The sessions provide time for questions and discussions from all participants.

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<td>Gina Elias</td>
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<td>Carla Boyd</td>
<td>Chuck Holt</td>
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<td>K–12</td>
<td>Criminal Justice</td>
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<td>Grand Suites II</td>
<td>Grand Ballroom G</td>
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<td>Bethanie Tucker</td>
<td>Gary Rudick</td>
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<td>Vern Reed</td>
<td>Pedro Perez</td>
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12:30 – 2:00 p.m.

General Session/Closing Remarks: Bridging the Divide
Grand Ballroom
Bridging the Divide(s), a book project in the works by Philip DeVol and Gene Krebs, draws on the experience of Bridges sites to address the political, class, and social divides that people increasingly encounter every day. This collaboration is intended to help the uninitiated understand the concepts of Bridges/Getting Ahead. The co-authors will discuss lessons learned from the Healthier Buckeye Council initiative in Ohio that awarded grants worth $3,704,610 to ten Bridges sites in 2016 to expand their initiatives. The project also touches on the urgency needed to act before automation and artificial intelligence become more prevalent.

Phil DeVol
aha! Process author and national consultant—Marengo, Ohio
Phil DeVol is an international consultant who has been working with ahaprocess since 1997. He used ahaprocess concepts to make institutional changes at the addiction treatment center where he was the executive director for 19 years. During this time he also co-wrote Bridges Out of Poverty with Ruby Payne and Terie Dreussi-Smith. His book Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin’-by-World is being used to engage people in poverty in the work of building communities where everyone can live well. It worked so well that DeVol used it as a basis for a prison reentry model called Getting Ahead while Getting Out. He works with community leaders to help them move quickly from an attraction to application of Bridges concepts. Getting Ahead and Bridges are being used in hundreds of communities in the U.S., as well as a number of sites in Canada, Australia, Ireland, Scotland, Slovakia, and the Czech Republic. His books have been translated into Spanish, Slovak, and Czech.

Gene Krebs
former state representative—Camden, Ohio
Gene Krebs spent eight years in the Ohio House of Representatives. After leaving elected office, he was a think tank executive, and served on the Joint Committee on High Technology Startup Business, Sales Tax Holiday Study Committee (which he chaired), and the Eminent Domain Task Force. He was appointed by Democrat Governor Ted Strickland to Ohio’s 21st Century Transportation Task Force and by Republican Governor John Kasich to the Local Government Innovation Council. He is chair of the Ohio Consumers’ Counsel Governing Board, and was for many years a fulltime professional farmer. His wife is a professional artist, and they live on a 400-acre family farm.

Addressing the Challenges of Poverty Conference
SAVE THE DATE! September 23–25, 2018
Atlanta

The conference will showcase the great work being done in communities across the world in the following areas:
- Building Bridges Communities
- Getting Ahead
- Criminal Justice and Reentry
- Faith, Family, and Youth
- K–12 Students and Parents
- Health and Business
- Higher Education

Reach out to ahaprocess.com for more information.
Building Bridges
Solutions for the Resourced and Under-Resourced

Solutions for the resourced provide businesses, agencies, and organizations a deeper understanding of the challenges faced by people in poverty.

Solutions for the under-resourced are tools to uncover the realities and barriers in the community and create stability and success in life.

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Solutions for the Resourced

Solutions for the Under-Resourced

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[Image of book covers related to poverty and community building]
Building Bridges
Solutions for the Resourced and Under-Resourced

Solutions for the Resourced
- Tactical Communication: Exploring the Dynamics of Conflict and Negotiation
- Getting Ahead: Building Skills for Success

Solutions for the Under-Resourced
- Bridges to Health and Healthcare: Enhancing Access and Outcomes
- Understanding and Engaging Under-Resourced College Students: Strategies for Inclusivity
- Getting Ahead: Building Resources for a Better Life

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2017 Bridges Community Award

Thank you for innovation showing change at the individual, organizational, community, and policy levels. Congratulations on creating change for a sustainable community where all can live well.
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