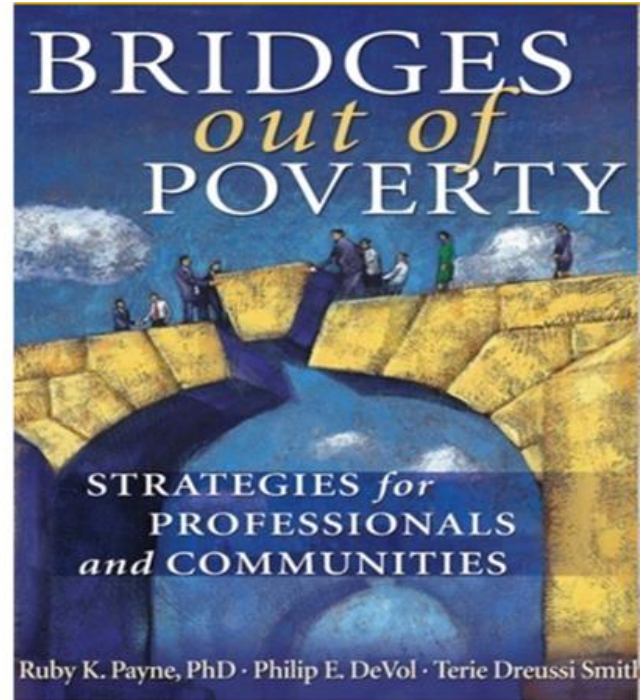


Bridges out of Poverty

Building Blocks to
Sustainable Communities

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2017



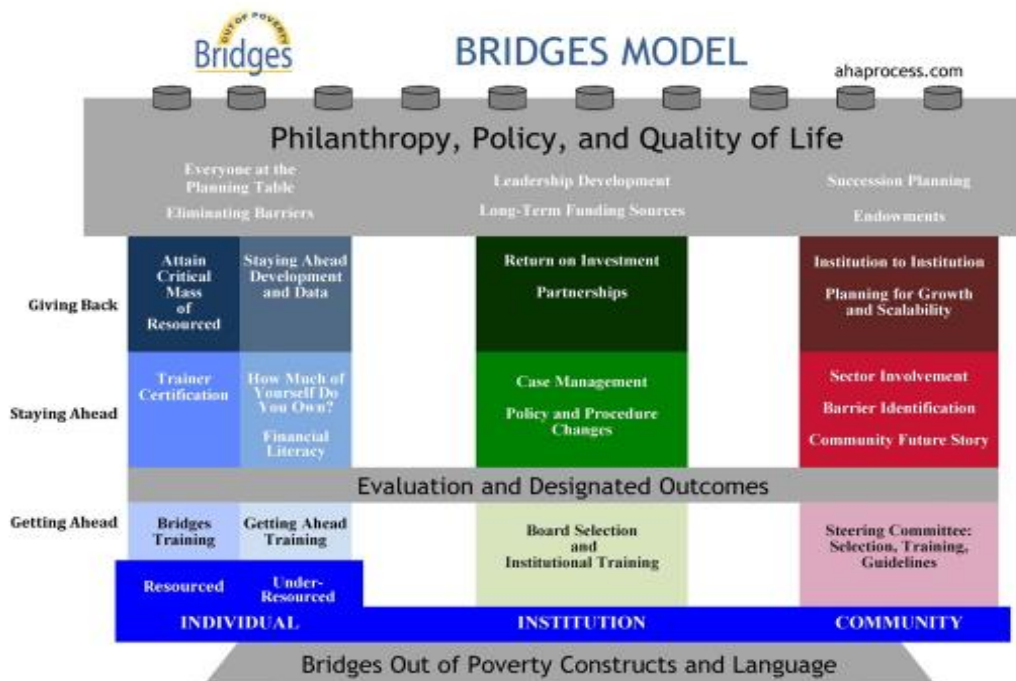
HANDOUTS

BUILDING BRIDGES

MODEL OVERVIEW



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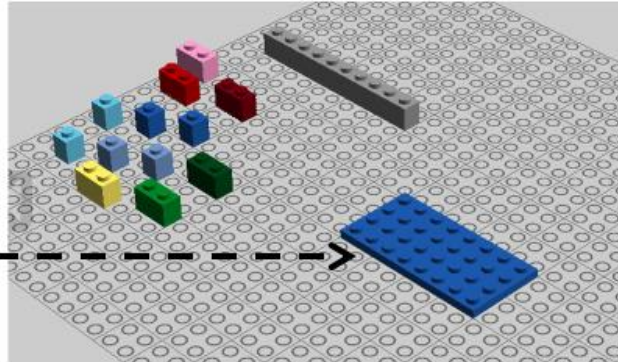


Data collection at every level

Originally developed by Philip DeVol. Adapted by Jodi Pfarr

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Bridges start with a strong foundation



BRIDGES CONSTRUCTS



1. Use the lens of economic class to understand and take responsibility for your own societal experience while being open to the experiences of others.
2. At the intersections of poverty with other social disparities (racial, gender, physical ability, age, etc.), address inequalities in access to resources.
3. Define poverty as the extent to which a person, institution, or community does without resources.
4. Build relationships of mutual respect.
5. Base plans on the premise that people in all classes, sectors, and political persuasions are problem solvers and need to be at the decision making table.

Source: *Bridges Out of Poverty* Training Supplement, p. 25



BRIDGES CONSTRUCTS



(continued)

6. **Base plans on accurate mental models of poverty, middle class, and wealth.**
7. **At the individual, institutional, and community/policy levels: Stabilize the environment, remove barriers to transition, and build resources.**
8. **Address all causes of poverty (four areas of research).**
9. **Build long-term support for individual, institutional, and community/policy transition.**
10. **Build economically sustainable communities in which everyone can live well.**

Source: *Bridges Out of Poverty Training Supplement*, p. 25



Affordable Housing: The Growing Gap



1991

47 affordable rental units available per 100 extremely low-income families

1997

36 affordable rental units available per 100 extremely low-income families

2015

39 affordable rental units available per 100 extremely low-income renters

Sources: United States Department of Housing and Urban Development, "Rental Housing Assistance—The Worsening Crisis: A Report to Congress on Worst Case Housing Needs" and "Worst Case Housing Needs: 2015 Report to Congress."

Organizational Principles

1. Everyone owns it, no one owns it.
2. Don't wait for authorization to act.
3. Transparency.

Guiding Principles

1. Focus on practice/action.
2. All three classes must change thinking and behaviors.
3. Action guided by the experience and knowledge of people in transition.

Guiding Principles

(continued)

4. Bring all classes and races to the table.
5. Bring all sectors.
6. Bring all political persuasions.
7. Stabilize the environment and build resources.
8. Address all causes of poverty.
9. Provide long-term support for transition.
10. Create a sustainable community.