



# Financial Stability.

*Creating opportunities  
for success.*

Jennings County  
United Way  
jcunitedway.com



This work is about connectedness and relationships; it's about all of us. Bridges offers a common language of understanding, both for people living in poverty and for those who work with them—the two target populations of the Bridges initiative. The focus of Bridges initiative is on shared responsibilities, new insights, interdependence and solutions. The Bridges theory of understanding economic diversity has proven effective in important areas of education, delivery of human services and employee retention and working together for long-term community sustainability.

In *A Framework for Understanding Poverty* and *Bridges out of Poverty*, Dr. Ruby Payne asserts that there are powerful hidden rules that govern behavior and interactions within different economic classes. When educators, human service providers, and employers work with people in poverty, these hidden rules are often the source of irritation and confusion among the parties and can be a barrier to success. By better understanding the challenges faced by people in poverty, and by learning to suspend the judgments that often accompany interactions along the continuum of economic class, providers can be partners in paving the way to economic stability.

Poverty creates unique and often hidden obstacles that require specific strategies to overcome. The Bridges approach views individuals living in poverty as problem solvers who have the capability to exercise choice and power in designing their own "future stories." By assessing the various resources available or lacking to people in poverty, such as financial, emotional, mental, spiritual, physical, and support systems, plans to grow these resources can be developed in an atmosphere of mutual respect and dignity.

## **Bridges out of Poverty Workshops- October 18 & 19 2016**

a two part series for professionals, agency staff, community leaders, caseworkers, employers, churches and those working to restore hope in people's lives. "Day 1" explores the Hidden Rules, "Day 2" applies them. ("Day 1" is prerequisite for "Day 2", but not required together)

**8:30am-3:00pm –registration & more info online at [jcunitedway.com](http://jcunitedway.com)**

**\$35 (\$45 out of county), Includes lunch & a copy of "Bridges out of Poverty"**

**-Scholarships available-**

**Getting Ahead in a just getting' by world-** 16 week small group class for clients that helps identify barriers, build resources and empower struggling individuals and families to achieve their life goals. Call to refer clients or facilitate class!

**Circle of Hope Network** Bringing together GA grads and people who have completed Bridges, to establish supportive relationships as GA grads work towards a new future story. Call for more information.

**Financial Peace University-** Dave Ramsey's 9 week class is for people of all economic backgrounds. Learn how to become debt free and build wealth. Free Preview. Call for more information.

**Poverty Simulation-** Step into struggling shoes and experience poverty. This experience is designed to help participants begin to understand the challenges faced by a typical low-income family trying to survive from month to month. The objective is to sensitize participants to the realities faced in poverty. Call for more info.