

Praise for *Bridges Out of Poverty*

The ideas and tools in this book, when adopted, can make businesses more humane and more profitable and governments more intelligent and more effective. They can make nonprofits more insightful and more sustainable and individuals more understanding and more successful. I know, because over the course of my career I have had the privilege of leading, observing, and experiencing all these forms of transformation. Read, and use, this book. And make a real difference in the world and in the fight against poverty.

–Beth Kuhn, Workforce Futurist and Founder, Stonegate Strategies;
Former Business Leader and State Government Official, Louisville, Kentucky

Bridges Out of Poverty offers powerful change-knowledge essentials for key leaders and social change practitioners. Persons living in poverty become informed and inspired to design their own lives.

–Frances Ervin, Executive Director, TRIO/Educational Opportunity
Centers Program, Wichita State University, Wichita, Kansas

In our efforts to address poverty across the Tucson community, we used extensively the concepts offered by Bridges Out of Poverty and related resources, both for motivating people in need to take responsibility for their own lives and for engaging the general public on the complexity of poverty through presentations and poverty simulations.

–Giulio Grecchi, Former Board Member and Systemic Change Chair,
Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Tucson, Arizona

The quartet of Dr. Ruby Payne, Phil Devol, Terie Dreussi-Smith, and Gene Krebs is more than impressive; their words have been my life jacket in uncharted waters. They have taken time to listen when needed and to mentor when necessary. I cherish our friendships dearly. Having backgrounds in education, addiction, healthcare, and policy, coupled with their personal experiences, fuels the passion of the authors to continue to educate through training and advocacy on a full-time basis. I genuinely believe that Ruby, Phil, Terie, and Gene have made a bridge for all of us in this world. Every edition of Bridges Out of Poverty contributes to making this world a better place for all.

–Sonia Bond-Holycross, Education and Development Coordinator,
Partners in Hope, Troy, Ohio

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Bridges Out of Poverty provided us with the lens of economic class to create concrete tools and strategies to prevent, reduce, and alleviate individual and community instability. Our community is better off, and more people are thriving because of this framework.

–Ryan Kusumoto, President/CEO, Parents and Children Together, Honolulu, Hawaii

When we set the goal of reducing poverty by 50% in the Omaha metro area, Bridges Out of Poverty was the obvious choice. Bridges and Getting Ahead are holistic and empower the individual to improve their situation and trajectory.

–Roger Howard, CPA, Volunteer CEO, Omaha Bridges Out of Poverty, Omaha, Nebraska

This new edition of Bridges Out of Poverty reinforces the key concepts of collaboration and relationship-building so keenly valued over here.

–Kath Herbert, Consultant, Hawker Brownlow Education, Melbourne, Australia

Essential reading for everyone looking for proven, practical, and innovative insights for helping individuals and families break free from poverty and find hope for a better future.

–Michael Simon, President, Simon Solutions, Florence, Alabama

This book is an inspiring dedication to the people we serve and a must-read for transformational growth for individual service providers, organizational leaders, and community members.

–Suzie Johnson-Smith, Social Services Supervisor, City of Peterborough Social Services Division, Peterborough, Ontario, Canada

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aha! Process delivers a perfect strike in this fifth edition with a vision that is innovative, practical, and full of hope. Bravo!

–John Wayne Smith, MD, FACP, Cooperative Christian
Ministries and Clinic, Hot Springs, Arkansas

As someone who attended more than 20 trainings before becoming certified as a trainer, aha! Process and the Bridges constructs have been essential in my work for almost 25 years. Building relationships is key, and mutual respect for each other's experiences can break through barriers and build bridges.

–Dee Washington, Harbor Impact Coalition, Toledo, Ohio

Bridges Out of Poverty is an invaluable tool to educate criminal justice professionals to recognize how socioeconomic class contributes to compliance issues for individuals being supervised.

–Melissa A. Knopp, Esq., Project Manager, Stepping Up Ohio,
Peg's Foundation, Columbus, Ohio

Bridges Out of Poverty is the must-have book for anyone working with under-resourced individuals and communities. Learning and applying these strategies helped change my mindset, attitude, and behavior. I found that when I present and apply the Bridges constructs and strategies, the minds of individuals from different political persuasions, races, ethnicities, and economic classes are opened to an alternative narrative and mindset. They also see the role they can play in transforming lives and communities. We can go from criminalizing poverty to seeing them for who they really are: resourceful and resilient individuals wanting to work towards a brighter future.

–Dr. Ciriaco “Cid” Pinedo, President and CEO, Children's Fund,
San Bernardino, California