

Preconvention Institute—Thursday, November 2, 2017—9:00am-12:00pm

Presenter: Michael Dames

Title: “Working with Communities on Issues of Economic Disparity”

Abstract: Bridges Out of Poverty workshop provides both the social service provider and the community member key lessons in dealing with individuals from poverty. Topics include increasing awareness of the differences in economic cultures and how those differences affect opportunities for success. This workshop is based on the book Bridges Out of Poverty: Strategies for Professionals and Communities, a collaboration between Ruby K. Payne, Phillip DeVol, and Terie Dreussi Smith.

Outline:

Learning Objectives: *As a result of this presentation participants will be able to:*

- Define and describe the concept of generational poverty and its impact on people who are poor.
- Articulate the primary causes of poverty.
- Articulate the impact of poverty on family structures.

Primary Audience: Social workers and related professionals; social work students; human services professionals; clergy

Content Level: Basic/Intermediate

Number of Continuing Education Contact Hours: 3.0

Bio Information: Michael Dames has Master of Science degrees in both special education and school administration. He started his career in corporate America and worked in marketing for 13 years. He has been a professional educator since 1995. Michael is currently the director for HOPE worldwide Charlotte. This organization's goal is to improve the lives of people in poverty. The Charlotte chapter has several unique components. It is introducing sustainable programs that teach organizations how to build intentional relationships across economic lines. It helps people learn how to build resources and increase their social capital. Most importantly it teaches people how to transition out of poverty. Michael is a living example of an individual who grew up in situational poverty in a single parent household who successfully transitioned out of poverty. He is consulting with various schools and human service providers in his community and across the nation to embed the Bridges and Framework constructs into their organizations. He is committed to helping community and school leaders design programs that create effective schools and sustainable communities and help people transition out of poverty.

Bibliography: