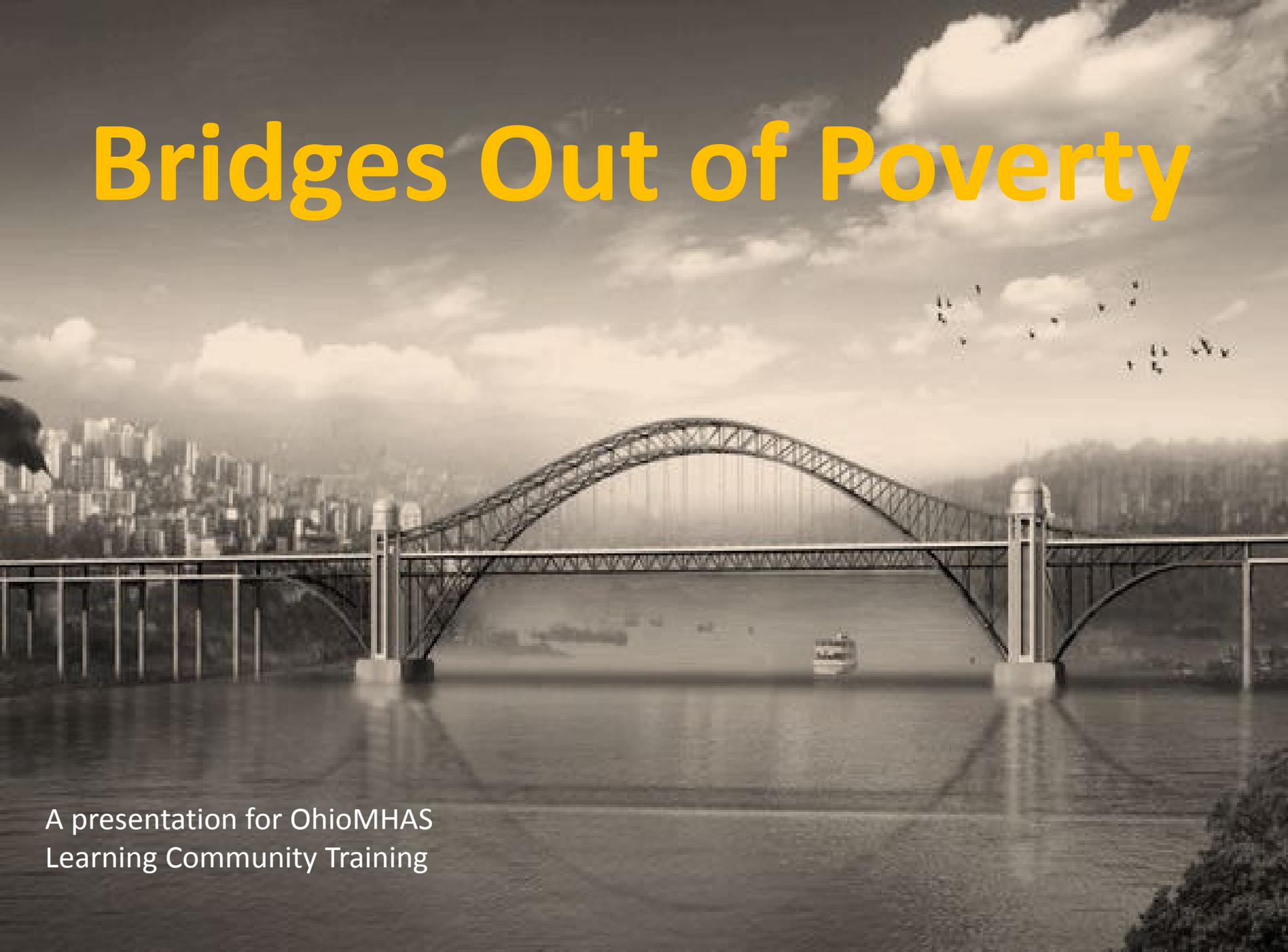


Bridges Out of Poverty



A presentation for OhioMHAS
Learning Community Training

Generally speaking, we can define “poverty as the extent to which a person, institution, or community does without resources.”

SOCIETAL SYSTEM

POLICY



Individual



Institution



Community

Adapted from J. Pfarr Consulting

WORKSHOP GOALS

- To increase your understanding of our customer base
- Define poverty
- Understand the relationship between poverty and the OhioMHAS mission
- Identify strategies to apply the Bridges concepts when developing, funding, and monitoring OhioMHAS community initiatives



**Hiring
Practices**

**Program
Design**

Policies

**“But we’ve
always done
it that way...”**

**Communication
Style**

**Community
Collaboration**

**Service
delivery**

AGENDA

- What is Bridges Out of Poverty?
- Poverty and OhioMHAS mission
- Define Poverty
- Poverty in Ohio
- Access to Resources
- Mental Models
- Hidden Rules
- Developing Strategies

WHAT IS
BRIDGES
OUT OF
POVERTY

Bridges out of Poverty is a framework for understanding economic class

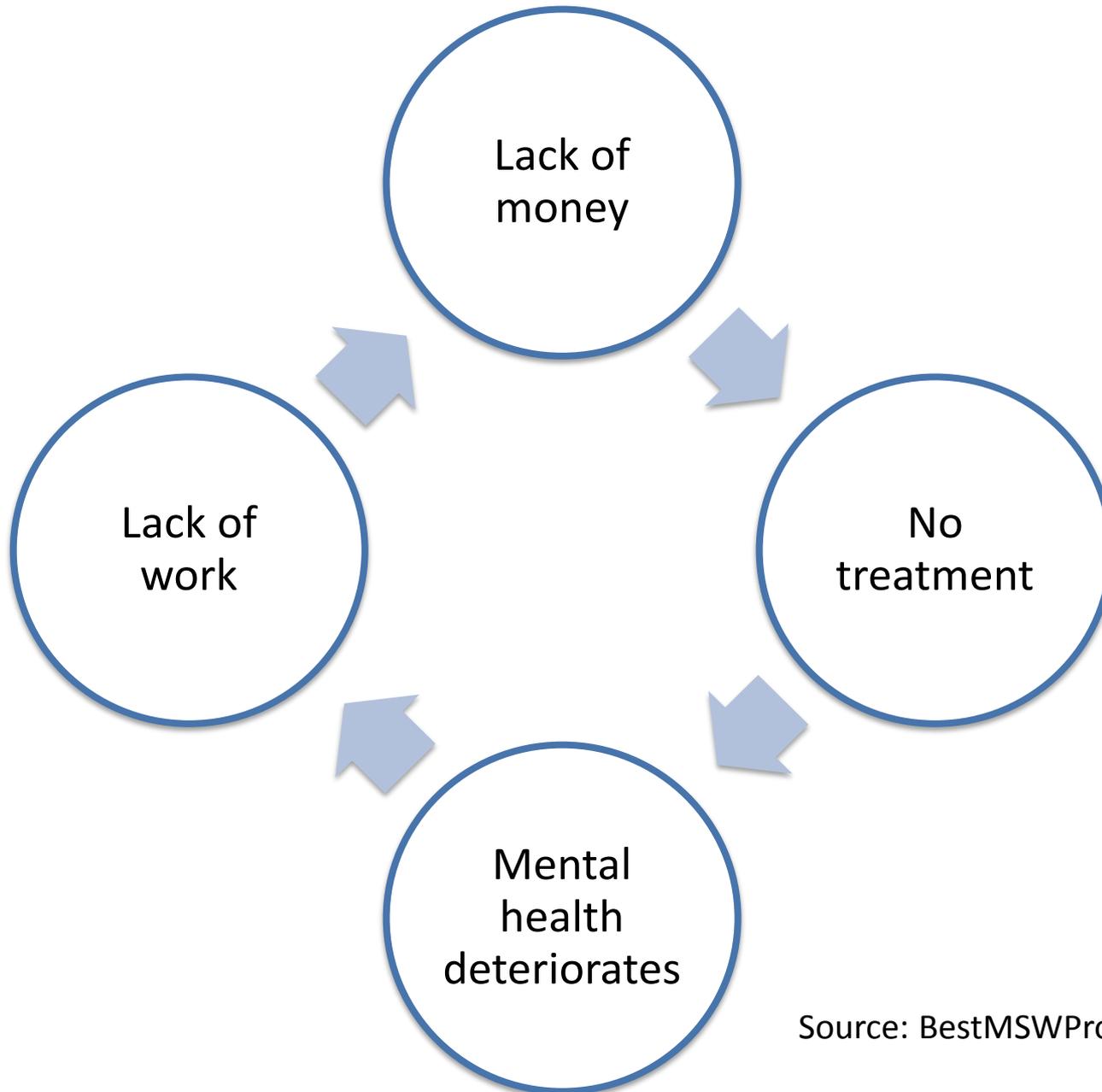
- People and organizations use Bridges to develop program and strategies that:
- Improve relationships at an individual level
- Improve outcomes at an organizational level
- Change systems at a community level

There is a clear connection between
mental health and poverty

Poverty and Mental Health

- In 2005 to 2010, the prevalence of depression among adults age 45-64 was five times as high for those below poverty level
- According to a CDC study, suicide rates in the US tend to raise during recessions
- Lack of money is the #1 reason why adults in America do not receive proper mental health services

<http://www.bestmswprograms.com/mental-health/>



Source: BestMSWPrograms.com



The mission of OhioMHAS is to provide statewide leadership of a high-quality mental health and addiction prevention, treatment and recovery system that is effective and valued by all Ohioans .

Access to service
Adherence/compliance
Effectiveness
Fragmented systems

Effective services for consumers, better access
Organizations achieving outcomes
Coordinated services

Bridges Out of Poverty

An inclusive framework of thinking about people from various economic backgrounds and its application to improve services

WHAT IS
POVERTY

We can define “poverty as the extent to which a person, institution, or community does without resources.”

Aside from abject poverty,
there are two kinds.

Situational Poverty

- Situational poverty is a shorter time, for 5 years or less, and is caused by a change in circumstance (i.e. death, illness, divorce, etc.)

Generational Poverty

- Generational poverty is defined as being in poverty for two generations or longer.

Tammy Story:



Discuss the type of poverty
Tammy and her family
face.

What kind of barriers do
you think Tammy and her
boys encounter? Why?

60 Minutes story:



Discuss the type of poverty people in this clip face.

What kind of barriers do you think they encounter?
Why?

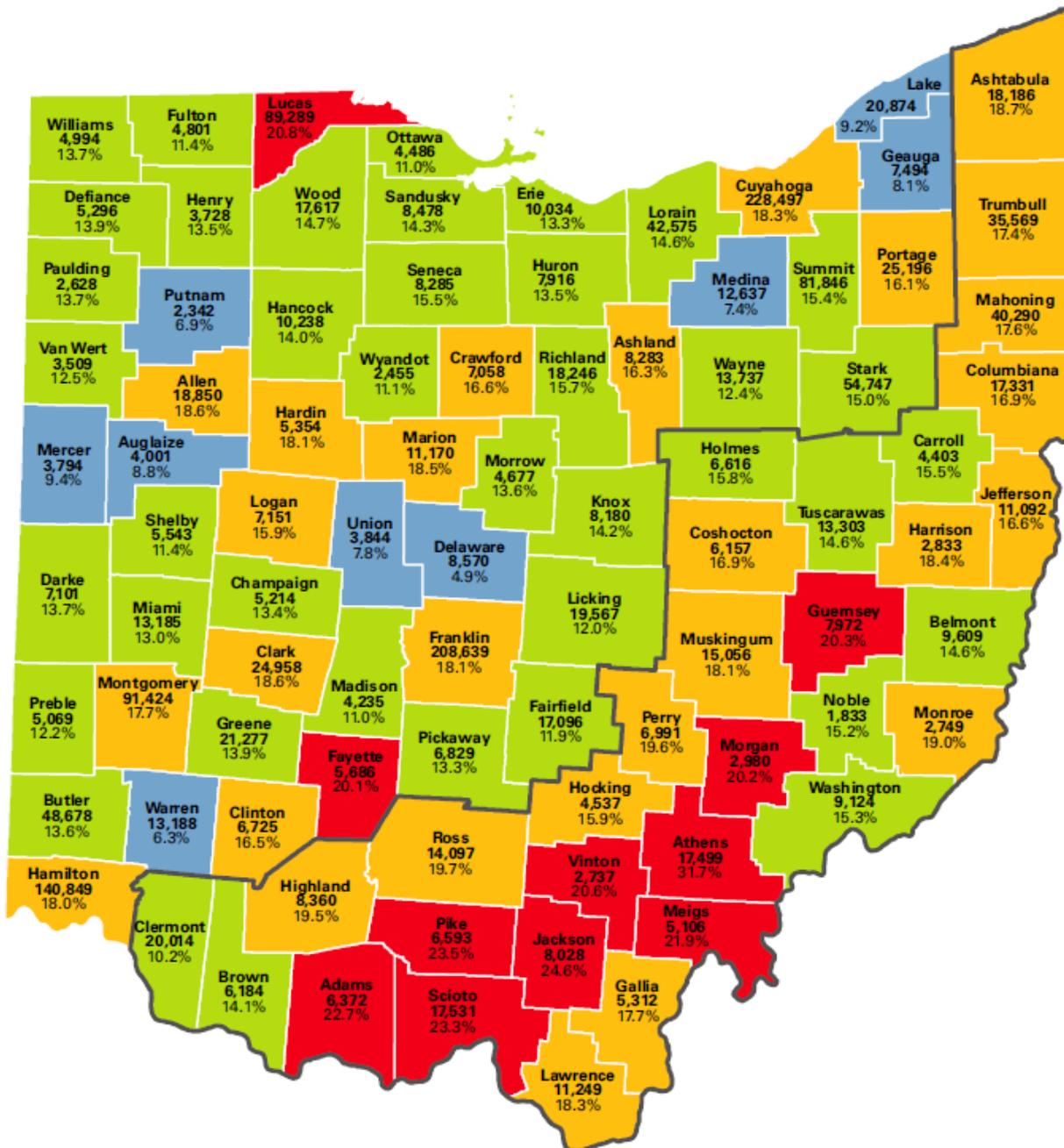
2015 Poverty Guidelines

Persons in Family/Household	Poverty Guideline
1	\$11,770
2	\$15,930
3	\$20,090
4	\$24,250

For the 48 Contiguous states and the District of Columbia
Source: US Department of Health and Human Services

Ohio

Poverty in Ohio by County 2009-2013 American Community Survey



Statewide Poverty
1,773,853
15.8%

Percentage
County Population
in Poverty

- 4.9% - 9.9%
- 10.0% - 15.8%
- 15.9% - 19.9%
- 20.0% - 31.7%

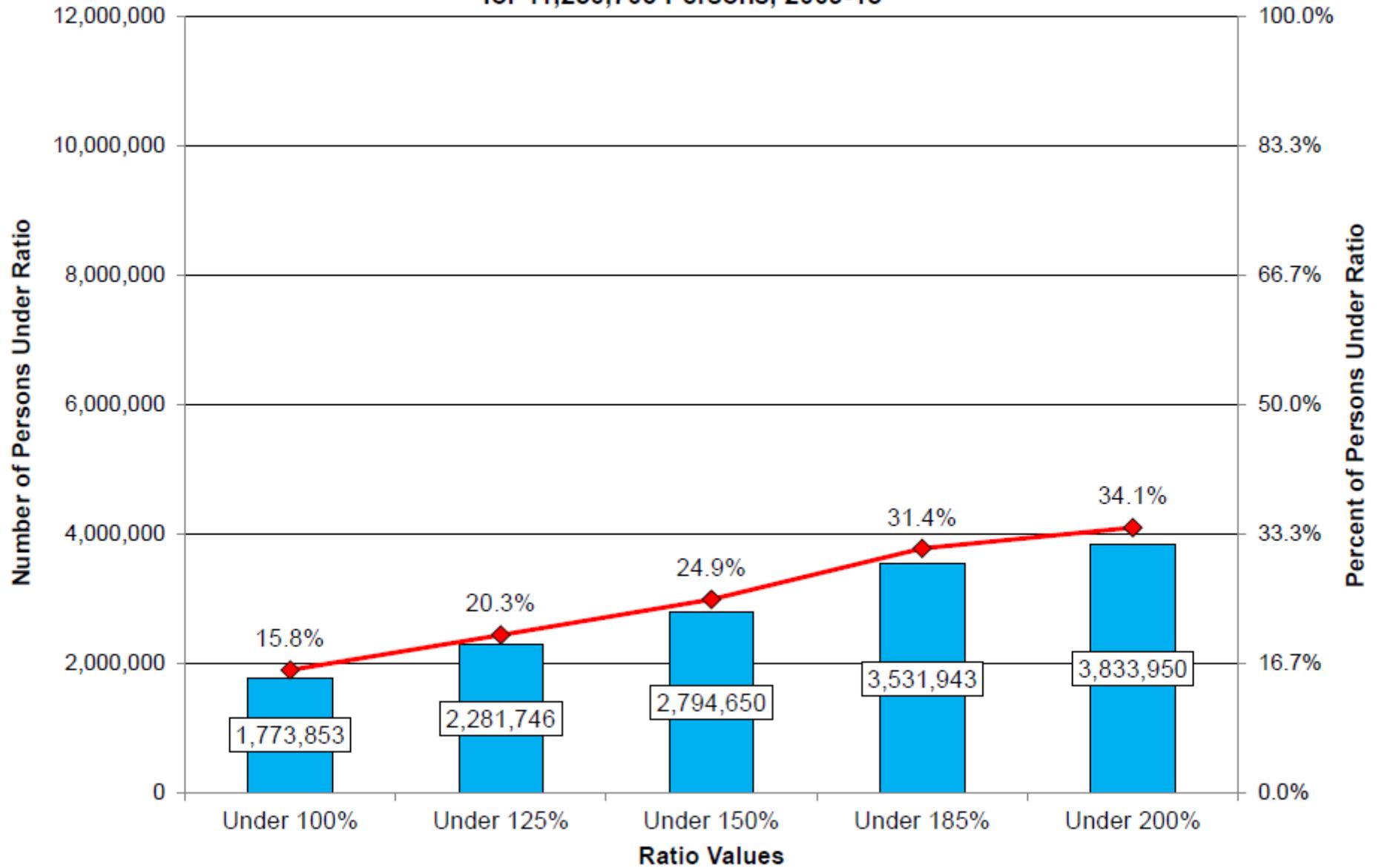
Appalachian Ohio

This map shows the 2009-2013 American Community Survey estimates of the number and percentage of persons in poverty by county

Source:
2009-2013 American Community Survey,
U.S. Census Bureau

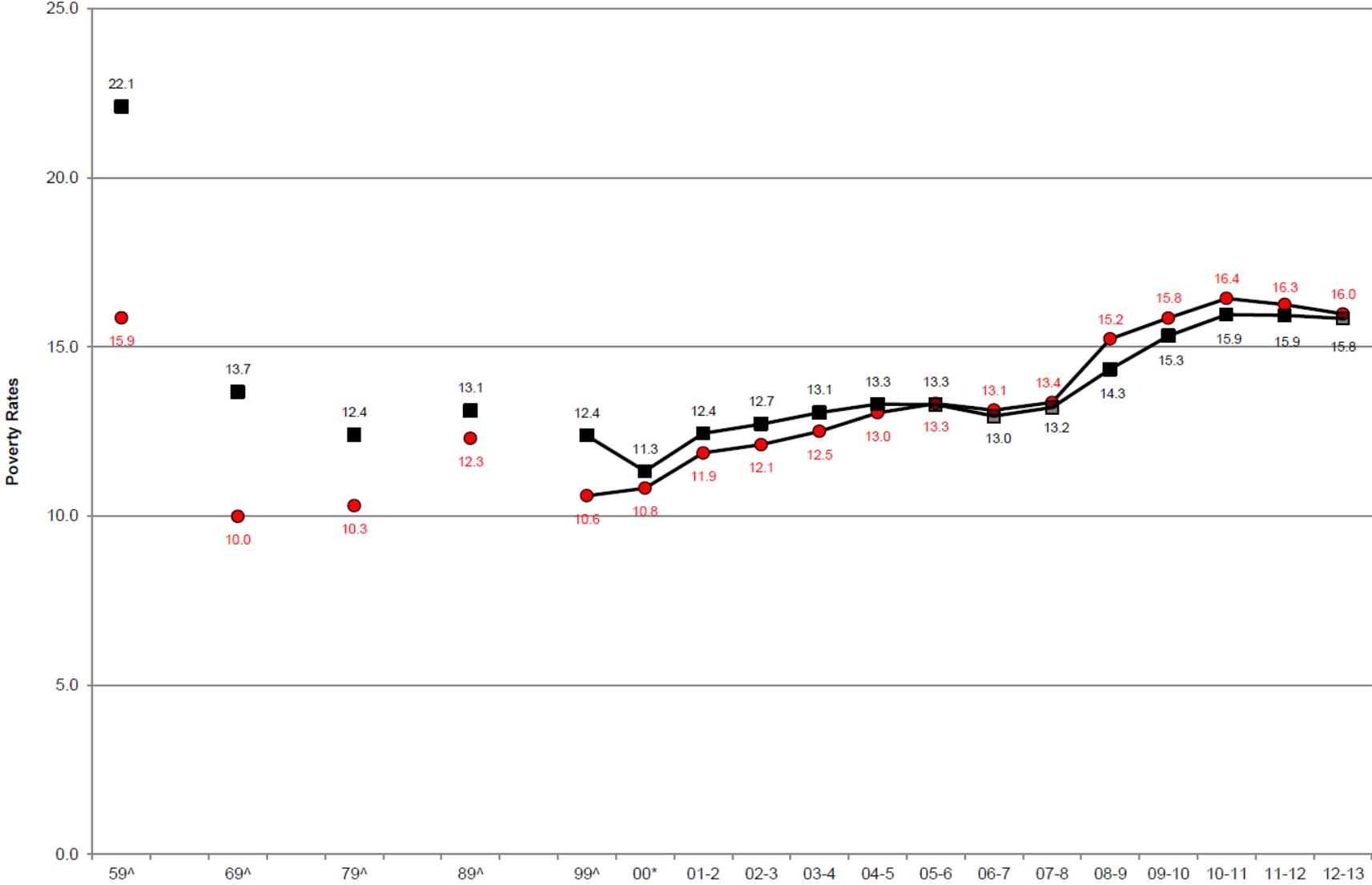
Prepared by:
Office of Research
Ohio Development Services Agency
December 2014

Poor and Near-Poor Persons in Ohio: The Ratio of Income to Poverty Level for 11,230,706 Persons, 2009-13



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

Percentage of Persons for Whom Poverty Status Was Determined That Were in Poverty, Ohio and the U.S.: 1959-2013



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

● Ohio ■ U.S.

Notes: * - CPS; ^ - decennial census; hyphenated - ACS

“Poverty is more than the choices of the poor.”

Key Points to Consider About Poverty

1. This workshop focuses on economic environments.
2. **Poverty (economic class) is relative.**
3. Economic class is a continuous line, not a clear-cut distinction.
4. Generational poverty and situational poverty are different.

Key Points to Consider About Poverty

5. This work is based on patterns. All patterns have exceptions.
- 6. An individual brings with him or her the hidden rules of the class in which he or she was raised**
- 7. Schools and businesses operate from middle class norms and use hidden rules of the middle class.**
8. In order to build relationships of mutual respect between economic classes, we need to be aware of more than one set of hidden rules.

Key Points to Consider About Poverty

- 9. The more we understand about how class affect us and a open about how it affect others, the more effective we can be.**
10. In order to achieve, one may have to give up relationships (at least for some time).

UNDERSTANDING

ACCESS TO

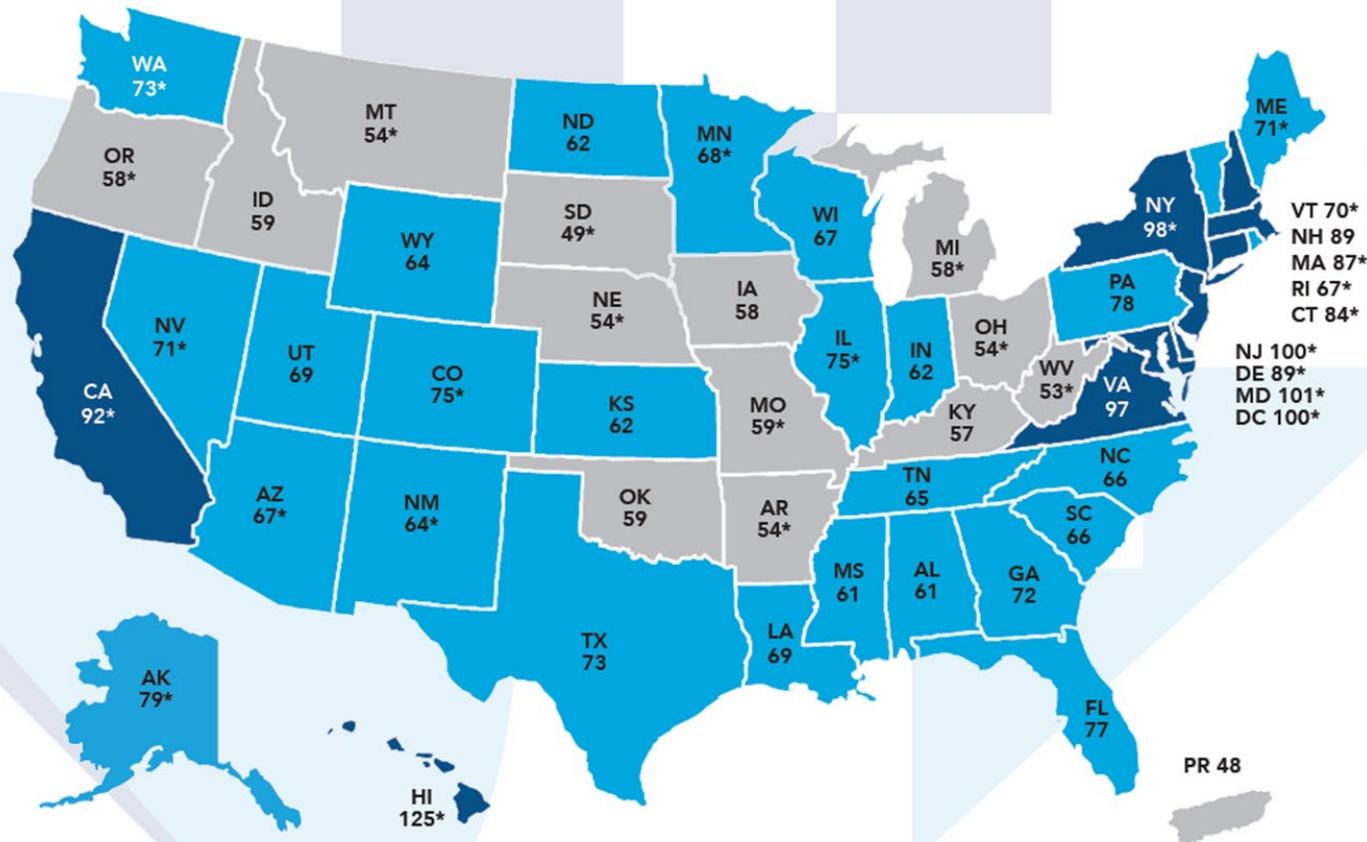
RESOURCES

OUT OF REACH 2015

2015 HOURS AT MINIMUM WAGE NEEDED TO AFFORD RENT



In no state can a minimum wage worker afford a **ONE-BEDROOM** rental unit at Fair Market Rent, working a standard 40-hour work week, without paying more than 30% of their income.



Hours needed at minimum wage to afford a one-bedroom unit

■ 60 hours per week or less ■ Between 61-79 hours per week ■ 80 hours per week or more

*This state's minimum wage exceeds the federal minimum wage

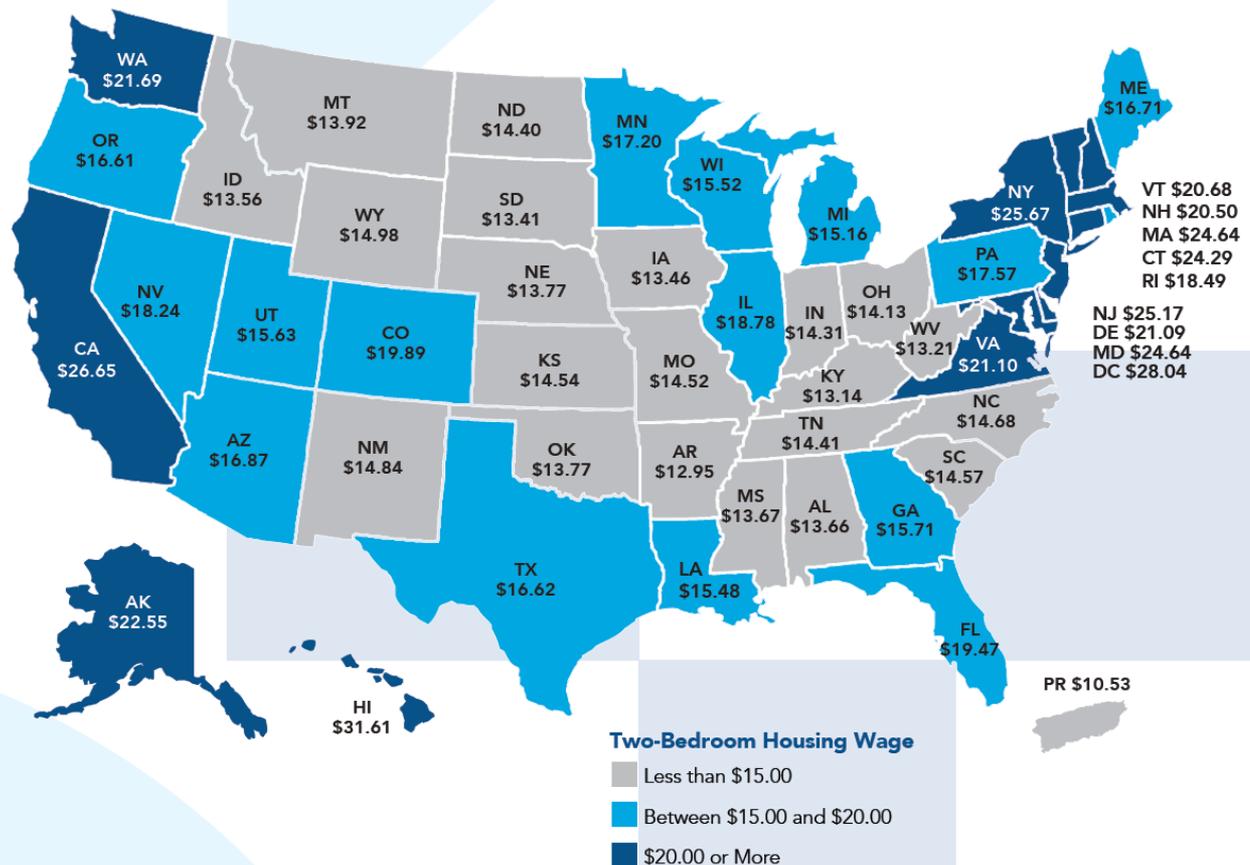
OUT OF REACH 2015

FACTS OVERVIEW



THERE IS A FUNDAMENTAL MISMATCH BETWEEN THE WAGES PEOPLE EARN AND THE PRICE OF DECENT HOUSING

WAGES NEEDED TO AFFORD RENT ACROSS THE U.S.



IN 2015,
THE
2-BEDROOM
NATIONAL
HOUSING WAGE IS



\$19.35

An American household must earn at least **\$19.35** an hour to afford a modest, two-bedroom apartment without spending **more than 30% of income on rent**. This wage varies from state to state.

People in poverty are
problem solvers.

People in poverty are very resourceful

TYPES OF RESOURCES

FINANCIAL

Being able to purchase the goods and services of that class and sustain it.

EMOTIONAL

Being able to choose and control emotional responses, particularly to negative situations, without engaging in self-destructive behavior. Shows itself through choices.

MENTAL (Cognition and Learning)

Having the mental abilities and acquired skills (reading, writing, computing) to deal with daily life.

SPIRITUAL (Belief)

Believing in (divine) purpose and guidance.

TYPES OF RESOURCES Cont'd

PHYSICAL

Having physical health and mobility.

SUPPORT SYSTEMS (Bonding Social Capital)

Having friends, family, and backup resources available to access in times of need. These are external resources.

RELATIONSHIPS/ROLE MODELS (Bridging Capital)

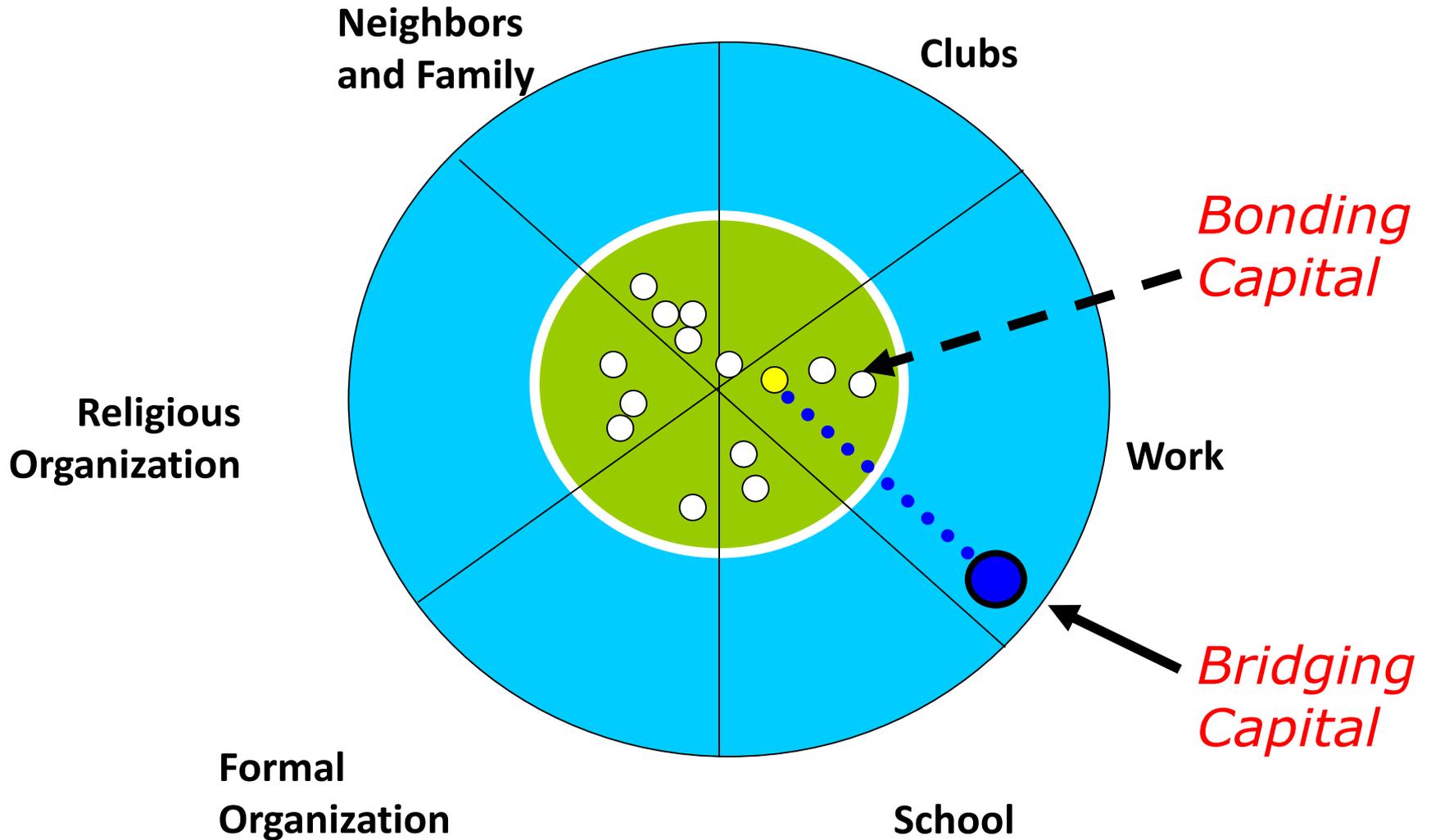
Having frequent access to adult(s) who are appropriate, nurturing, and who do not engage in destructive behavior.

KNOWLEDGE OF HIDDEN RULES

Knowing the unspoken cues and habits of a group.

Social capital are the connections, social networks, and norms of reciprocity and trustworthiness.

Social Capital



On page 52 in the Bridges Out of Poverty Workbook

U n d e r s t a n d i n g

MENTAL MODELS

A Mental Model is an internal picture of how the world works.

**Mental
model of
WEALTH**



We expect people in poverty to make “good choices” but the worst choices are available.

Schools

Police

Social
Services

Religious
Organizations

Family & Friends

Transportation

Health

Agency Time

Food

Clothing

Safety

Housing

Debt

Jobs

Relationships

Criminal

Justice

System

Child Care
Children

Entertainment

Mental Health
Chemical Dependency

Businesses

- Pawn shop
- Liquor store
- Corner store
- Rent-to-own
- Laundromat
- Fast food
- Check cashing
- Temp services
- Used car lots
- Dollar store

On page 5 in the Bridges
Out of Poverty Workbook

Tyranny of the Moment

1. First, there is an unplanned event.
2. It can become an unrelenting and unending crisis.
3. The crisis forces people in poverty into the tyranny of the moment. This is where the future is lost.



When the future is lost, people get stuck solving the same problems over and over, and where proactive planning is difficult to do.

“The need to act overwhelms any willingness people have to learn.”

We all experience the
tyranny of the moment
but our access to resources
determines our ability
to recover from it.

The more we understand how economic class affects us and are open to hear how it affects others, the more effective we can be.

Understanding
HIDDEN RULES

Hidden rules are the unspoken cues and habits of a group.

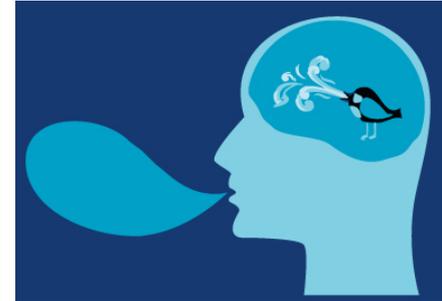
Hidden Rules

	Poverty	Middle Class	Wealth
Driving Forces	Survival, Relationships, entertainment	Work, achievement, material security	Financial, political, social connections
Time	Present most important Decisions are made based on feelings or survival	Future most important Decisions made based on future ramifications	Traditions and history most important Decisions made based on tradition/decorum
Power	Power linked to personal respect Ability to fight Can't stop bad things from happening	Power/respect separated Responds to position Power in information and institutions	Power in expertise and connections Power in stability Power in policy and direction
Money	To be used, spent	To be managed	To be conserved, invested

LANGUAGE

POVERTY

- » Casual register
- » Language is about survival



MIDDLE CLASS

- » Formal register
- » Language is about negotiation

WEALTH

- » Formal register
- » Language is about networking

In other words, language can be a barrier when people from different economic classes try to communicate.

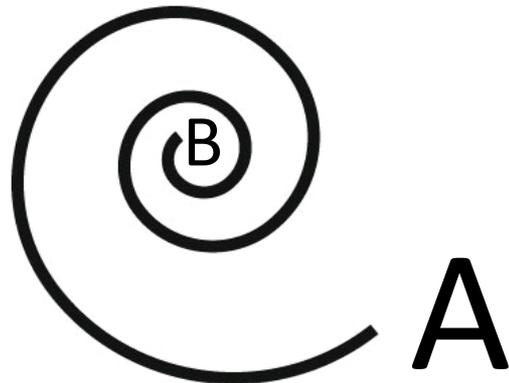
REGISTERS OF LANGUAGE

REGISTER	EXPLANATION
FROZEN	Language that is always the same. For example: Lord's Prayer, wedding vows, etc.
FORMAL	The standard sentence syntax and word choice of work and school. Has complete sentences and specific word choices.
CONSULTATIVE	Formal register when used in conversation. Discourse pattern not quite as direct as formal register.
CASUAL	Language between friends and is characterized by a 400- to 800-word vocabulary. Word choice general and not specific. Conversation dependent upon nonverbal assists. Sentence syntax often incomplete.
INTIMATE	Language between lovers or twins. Language of sexual harassment.

Formal Register Pattern



Casual Register Pattern



Identifying
STRATEGIES



DISCUSSION:

Discuss the ways your organizations can use the Bridges framework and mental models to work with people in poverty.

Chose two areas of the systemic approach in the next slide.

Write them down on a sheet of paper.



Collaboration

- The intentional creation of a continuum or wraparound services between agencies
- Sharing information (with customers' approval), staff and facilities.
- Referrals and partnerships are NOT collaboration

No significant learning
occurs without a
significant relationship.

–Dr. James Comer

Bridging the gap requires a
commitment from the
individual.