

NEWS RELEASE

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‘Bridges Out of Poverty’ Workshop Scheduled for May 8

DUBUQUE, Iowa – The Dubuque Circles® Initiative will host its annual “Bridges Out of Poverty” workshop, designed to provide insight into both the challenges and strengths of those who live in or have lived in poverty, on Thursday, May 8, at the Holiday Inn Grand Ballroom, 450 Main St., in Dubuque.

The workshop will be offered to social, health, legal, educational, and business professionals, as well as the general public, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., with registration beginning at 8 a.m. The cost to participate in the workshop is \$60 per person. Social work continuing education units (CEUs) are available through Loras College for an additional \$5. Space is limited. The registration fee includes breakfast, lunch, beverages, and a book of your choice.

The workshop is based on the book, “Bridges Out of Poverty: Strategies for Professionals and Communities” by Dr. Ruby Payne, founder of aha! Process, Inc., a company that provides workshops, publications, and consulting services to help improve lives and build sustainable success in communities, schools, and higher education. Topics to be covered in the workshop include:

- the hidden rules of socio-economic classes,
- the social and political factors affecting poverty,
- understanding communication patterns,
- four causes of poverty/barriers to change,
- identifying resources and building strengths.

“Bridges Out of Poverty” will be facilitated by certified trainers, Jim Ott, a school psychologist with the Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency, and Ermina Soler, Circles Coach for the City of Dubuque, who brings real-life experience to the team.

Registration is available online at www.cityofdubuque.org/bridgesoutofpoverty, or by contacting Ermina Soler at 563-690-6109.