



CONTACT:
Ermina Soler
Dubuque Circles Initiative
563-690-6109
esoler@cityofdubuque.org

NEWS RELEASE

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Upper Mississippi Regional Bridges Out of Poverty Conference, June 9-10

DUBUQUE, Iowa – aha! Process, Inc. and regional event sponsors, The Greater Dubuque Development Corporation, the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque, Project Hope, and City of Dubuque Circles Initiative will host the Upper Mississippi Regional Bridges Out of Poverty Conference on June 9-10 at the Grand River Center. The event is aimed at groups from across the tri-states working to reduce poverty in their communities and to create opportunities for all.

The conference is based on the Bridges Out of Poverty constructs that help employers, community organizations, social service agencies, law enforcement, schools, and individuals understand poverty and reduce poverty in a comprehensive way. Bridges brings people from all sectors and economic classes together to understand the mindsets of economic class and engage with each other to improve job retention rates, build resources, and improve lives.

The event begins at 5 p.m. on Monday, June 9, with dinner and keynote reception by Dr. Ruby Payne, founder and CEO of aha! Process, Inc. and co-author of the book, Bridges Out of Poverty. On Tuesday, June 10, Mike Saccocio, Executive Director of City Mission in Schenectady, N.Y., will share details on how Schenectady has achieved amazing results with its cross-sector Bridges initiative. Tuesday sessions will begin with an overview of the aha! Process Resource Builder approach to community development followed by sector-specific breakout sessions and facilitated group workshops.

To register for the Upper Mississippi Bridges Out of Poverty Conference, visit www.ahaprocess.com/event/upper-mississippi-bridges-poverty-conference or call 832-514-3042. Registration cost is \$189 for the two-day event; \$50 for Monday, June 9; or \$159 for Tuesday, June 10. Attendee sponsorship is available for \$250 and includes one ticket to the keynote reception and dinner, a meet-and-greet with Dr. Payne, and funding for one low-income individual to attend the conference.

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