

SJC Bridges Five Year Goal: *Move 100 families out of poverty to self-sufficiency*

What is poverty?

- Extent to which a person does without resources
(which results in a chronically stressful, unstable and unpredictable environment)
- The experience of generational poverty is different than situational poverty

What is Self-Sufficiency?

1. Financial stability: goal of self-sufficiency wage
 - a. Job retention skills: 1 year, 1 job
 - b. Means to keep that job: training and education/ skills set
 - c. Secured stable housing outside of transitional living facility
 2. Stability through knowledge of the hidden rules and building resources: identify key resource & measure gains
 - a. More financial tools: credit, budget, bank accounts, microloans & IDAs
 3. More connectedness to the community: relationships across economic class
 4. Consciously working to break cycle of poverty for their children
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SJC Bridges Goals for 2010

- 1. Future Story Project (funded for 2010)**
 - a. Enroll 25 participants
 - b. Enroll 5 to 10 employers & supportive organizations (i.e. SHRM)
 - c. Launch Employer Education component (planned)
 - d. Put database and evaluation component in place (database researched and determined); evaluation piece in motion
- 2. Support Getting Ahead Graduates**
 - a. Monthly Networking Meetings
 - i. Connecting to Getting Ahead curriculum
 - b. Ally training and support
 - c. Financial Management Classes: 2 to 3 classes a year
 - i. *Future planning for financial stability/ financial mentors*
 - ii. *Developing financial tools: budget, banked, microloans and IDAs*
 - iii. *Developing new units on:*
 1. *Avoiding financial predators*
 2. *Understanding and using school loans effectively*
 - d. Pilot with Home Management Resources
 - e. Power Point Project: connecting to next step
 - i. *Sharing and using it effectively*
- 3. Consolidating and Expanding Getting Ahead**
 - a. Continued support and/or expansion for existing partners
 - i. *Implement new Getting Ahead College Edition with Ivy Tech*
 - ii. *Continue to explore, document & implement best practices*
 - b. Expand with New Partners
 - i. *Develop funds to bring new partners into process*

- c. Launch New Designs
 - i. *Worksite-based Getting Ahead classes*
 - ii. *Week long retreat format with Hope Ministries*
 - d. Integrate evaluation with new database
1. **Expanded education and outreach: Licensed Site**
 - a. More workshops and presentations
 - i. *Engage more of community*
 - ii. *Deepen practice and understanding of work*
 - iii. *Develop more internship opportunities*
 - b. Support to other communities interested in Getting Ahead, i.e. Cass County
 - c. Next steps in agencies/ employers working toward “multiclass” environments
 2. **Special Programs**
 - a. Implement special programs, including:
 - i. *Open House: Garden & Mural*
 - ii. *Photo Exhibit*
 - iii. *Citywide Celebration*
 - iv. *Leadership launch (?)*
 - v. *Unnatural Causes film series (?)*
 - b. Engage membership in volunteer opportunities to ensure quality programs
 6. **Research and evaluation**
 - a. Review data and data collection tools to determine what we are learning and what we are missing
 7. **National and statewide networks**
 - a. Continue to support the emerging statewide alliance
 - b. Participate in the National Employers and Licensed Site network
 - c. Participate in national Bridges Institute
 8. **Next steps in stabilizing the organization and building capacity**
 - a. Work with Board to identify key areas
 - b. Revitalize committees
 - c. Build membership and volunteer base and include Getting Ahead graduates
 - d. Develop communication and outreach to next level
 - i. *Next steps for brochure, website, videos, social networking*
 - ii. *Add newsletters:*
 1. *Quarterly e-newsletters to membership, employers, Monthly Networking Meetings*
 2. *Quarterly newsletter to Getting Ahead graduates*
 - iii. *Gather and share stories*
 - e. Launch individual donor campaign
 - i. *Consider using Michelle Singletary’s 21 Day Financial Fast*
 - f. Develop grants calendar and seek appropriate grants