

Future Story Project // Overview

“The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.” Eleanor Roosevelt

The Future Story Project combines employment for people in poverty with both the Bridges Out of Poverty educational platform and critical resources from community agencies that assist participants in becoming stable and productive employees.

The Goal: self-sufficiency for the individual and their family,
a productive employee,
workplace improvements,
a business sector engaged in solving poverty,
and a savings to the community.

The Future Story Project is based on the proven approaches of Cascade Engineering and Cincinnati Works. Both have dramatically improved employee retention rate over industry averages. Over the next 18 to 24 months, Bridges will design and develop key components to a process for moving people out of poverty, with a strong emphasis on the employer component. Employers receive support from our Employment Specialist and training in the Bridges concepts. Getting Ahead graduates will receive layers of support to stabilize their environment and build resources. We are:

1. Identifying and involving 15 to 25 Getting Ahead graduates who are employment ready but have barriers.
2. Identifying and involving a “Core 10” group of businesses who will hire one or more GA graduates and participate in the Employer Education.
3. Partnering with Specialized Staffing to provide HR support for first six months.
4. Developing an evaluation component.
5. Sharing the stories and lessons.

Getting Ahead Graduates Agreement

1. Take ownership of your own Future Story.
2. Agree to refrain from addictive behaviors.
3. Communicate and meet regularly with the Employment Specialist.
4. Participate in Monthly Networking Meetings
5. Complete assessments every six months
6. Work towards completing a Personal Portfolio.

Employer Agreement

1. Provide support for the employee’s “future story”
2. Communicate and meet regularly with the Employment Specialist
3. Participate in Employer Education
4. Be willing to consider internal adaptation and change.
5. Commit to an 18-month process.

