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## Linking Adult Literacy to Poverty Reduction Follow Up Project (part of a Western Region Labour Market Partnership Project)

Tri-County Literacy Network is pleased to invite you to professional development and networking opportunities.

These opportunities are for Windsor-Essex managers and frontline staff of programs funded by the Ministry of Training Colleges and Universities, Ministry of Community and Social Services, Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health and Ministry of the Attorney General such as Literacy and Basic Skills, Employment Services, Apprenticeship, Employment & Social Services/Ontario Works, ODSP, ESL, LINC, adult credit programs, GED, CMHA, mental health and addictions programs, women's services, programs for youth, Pathway To Potential, Workforce WindsorEssex and interested Ministry staff.

### What, when and where?

**Bridges Out of Poverty: Strategies for Professionals & Communities workshop** that provides a frontline Ontario perspective with Circles stories and information

([www.lambtoncountycircles.com](http://www.lambtoncountycircles.com))

**Thursday October 23, 2014, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., registration at 8:00 a.m. at WFCU Centre, Windsor (\$30 per person to June 27, 2014)**

**Understanding Poverty Workshop** that includes local information, a Windsor-Essex presenter with lived experience and discussion on things that can be done

**Friday, October 24, 2014, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., registration at 9:00 a.m. at Downtown Windsor Public Library (\$10 per person to June 27, 2014)**

Please see attached for further details

Register by Friday, June 27, 2014 for the early bird rates using the form at the end and include payment by cheque.

### Questions or Comments?

If you have any questions about the workshop please contact Andrea Dickinson at 519-355-1771 or [a.dickinson@cogeco.net](mailto:a.dickinson@cogeco.net) .

Sincerely Yours,  
**Andrea Dickinson**, Executive Director, TCLN

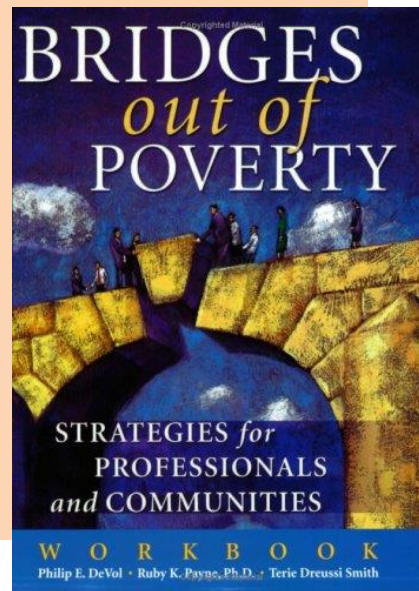
# ***Bridges out of Poverty***

## Strategies for Professionals & Communities

Gain a deeper understanding of the challenges - and strengths - of people living in poverty. This one day workshop, based on the work of

Dr. Ruby Payne, PhD. will help you partner with individuals to create opportunities for success. You will:

- Examine the impact of poverty on families;
- Explore the hidden rules of economic class;
- Identify ways to improve relationships;
- Develop new tools to better address individuals' needs.



*"This is truly transforming information and I've had many members of my staff tell me it was the best PD that they've had." (Secondary School Principal)*

*"I have been to many workshops and have never come away from a day with as much information and desire to make changes in our system as I do now. In those few hours that you spent with us today, you've made a huge impact on how I plan to help my clients and I am grateful." (Social Worker)*

**This one day workshop is delivered by  
Gayle Montgomery, Certified Bridges Trainer.**

**WHEN:** Thursday, October 23, 2014, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., registration at 8:00 a.m.

**WHERE:** WFCU Centre, Collavino Hall, 8787 McHugh Street, Windsor, ON, N8S 0A1

**Gayle Montgomery**, Circles Coordinator

**Mary Lou Robb**, Circles Coach



**SOCIAL PLANNING & PROGRAM SUPPORT DEPARTMENT**

*Bridges Out of Poverty: Strategies for Professionals and Communities*  
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## Bridges Out of Poverty Presenter: Gayle Montgomery, BA

- Gayle Montgomery is the Circles® Coordinator for the County of Lambton Social Services Division. Gayle holds a BA from the University of Windsor.
- She has been employed by the County of Lambton for 21 years. During the last 7 years, she has concentrated her efforts on the implementation of staff training and client programming based on the philosophy of Dr. Ruby Payne, PhD A Framework for Understanding Poverty and is a certified trainer for Bridges Out of Poverty.
- Gayle currently co-ordinates the Circles® initiative in Lambton, delivers full day Bridges Out of Poverty sessions and travels throughout the Province sharing Lambton's journey with other Municipalities.
- Gayle has recently been designated the National Recruiter for the Canadian Circles ® campaign.

[www.lambtoncircles.com](http://www.lambtoncircles.com)

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# Understanding Poverty Workshop (Half Day)



**PATHWAY TO POTENTIAL**  
Windsor Essex County's  
Poverty Reduction Strategy

YOU'RE INVITED  
to our upcoming workshop

## UNDERSTANDING POVERTY



**WHEN:** OCTOBER 24, 2014 - from 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM, registration at 9 AM

**WHERE:** Downtown Windsor Public Library - 850 Ouellette Avenue

**PRESENTERS:** Adam Vasey and Linda Coltman  
director of P2P co-chair of P2P's collaborative leadership team

This workshop is designed to increase service providers' knowledge and understanding of the measures and types of poverty, key poverty frameworks, factors and barriers that contribute to poverty, and practical applications and tools that help build empathy and awareness.

## **Understanding Poverty workshop presenters:**

### **Adam Vasey – Biography**

Adam received a B.A., LL.B., and M.S.W. from the University of Windsor, and a Master of Laws from Osgoode Hall Law School at York University. As Director of Pathway to Potential since 2009, Adam has been responsible for the development of a collaborative, multi-sector strategy for the prevention and reduction of poverty in Windsor-Essex County. This position, which draws on his training in law and social work, has allowed Adam to fulfil a long-time commitment to social justice. Through this work, he sits on numerous local, provincial and national poverty-related committees. He was appointed to the provincial Minimum Wage Advisory Panel, which presented its final report to the Ministry of Labour in January 2014. In 2013 Adam received the “Distinguished Social Worker of the Year” award through the Ontario Association of Social Workers – Southwestern Branch.

### **Linda Coltman- Biography**

Linda is the co-chair of Pathway to Potential’s (P2P’s) Collaborative Leadership Team and a member of P2P’s Voices Against Poverty group as well as a person with lived experience to poverty and invisible disabilities.

Linda is a long-term kidney transplant recipient who experienced homeless and clinical depression while she was a teenager undergoing acute renal failure. After receiving stable housing in an affordable housing community and the aforementioned lifesaving organ transplant, Linda went on to experience over two decades of living in poverty/on ODSP income supports as a person with chronic disabilities.

Throughout this time however, Linda remained active as an advocate within the housing and health sectors and has extensive experience in working with a variety of stakeholder groups and organizations. She has also worked closely with political and social service groups to improve conditions for persons with disabilities, seniors, and low-income individuals and families.

As a person with lived experience to poverty and disability, Linda’s leadership example as an advocate centers around her belief that is essential for those with lived experience to marginalization to try to find the courage, dignity and hope to stand up and make their voices heard in order to be catalysts of change rather than victims of circumstances.

In addition to her association with Pathway to Potential, Linda is also a member at large of Voices From the Street (VFTS) speakers’ bureau and a former Steering Committee member of the 25in5 Network for Poverty Reduction and the Housing Network of Ontario and is a graduate of the Maytree Foundation’s Leaders For Change and School 4 Civics Leadership Programs and also a graduate/certified peer recovery educator of the Peer Recovery Education for Employment and Resilience (PREFER) program.



**Understanding Poverty workshop on Friday October 24, 2014  
(\$10 per person includes morning refreshments with registration by June 27, 2014  
OR \$15 per person after June 27, 2014 and by September 5, 2014)**

Name	Position/Title	Email