



What participants say about Bridges Out Of Poverty – Strategies for Professionals & Communities

Bridges Out of Poverty has provided a new level of understanding for service providers in Bendigo who are working with clients who have experienced intergenerational poverty. I asked several of the disadvantaged people I work with to attend in order to assess the workshop from their perspective. They were all affirmed that Bridges was “spot on” in identifying their experiences and culture. One employment consultant commented after she attended the workshop “Now I understand why Sharron is not turning up to appointments”. A few months later, I asked her if the workshop had changed her work practices. She said that, because she had a better understanding of the differences in her and her client’s ways of thinking, they were communicating better and getting more positive results. I commend this training to anyone who is working with people from disadvantaged backgrounds.

**Fred Langenhorst, Employment & Learning Coordinator
Bendigo Access & Employment, Victoria**

The presentation by Nairn Walker was excellent. She managed to pack an enormous amount of information into an engaging presentation that used real life examples throughout. The workshop is incredibly helpful in the work we do, particularly with young people and their families, and I now regularly include what I learned that day in conversations, meetings, and training days to bring it to the attention of others so they too can share in this key information. I can highly recommend learning about this framework as the foundation for communicating with people on all number of levels.

**Mary Tresize-Brown, Manager Youth Transitions,
Brotherhood of St Laurence, Victoria**

"I found the training very useful. It explained not only why some of my clients behave as they do, but also why I have such difficulty in accepting some of their behaviours. It taught me as much about myself as about them and I think that I will be able to use that information for a long time."

**Fiona Ryan, Parent Resource Co-ordinator
Parentzone, Victoria**

" The hidden rules training really reinforced for me what I had suspected for some time about how differently we all operate and raised a number of questions for me about how we can be most effective in our work with parents"

" The training was enlightening about the different sections of our community and helped me understand where people were coming from. My expectations have changed and I found the information about language registers quite important."

Parentzone staff, Victoria