



February 2012 Newsletter

starkvillebridges.com

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Training Workshops

Middle Class

For those who missed the *Starkville Bridges out of Poverty* Community Training with Jodi Pfarr, you will have another chance. Tupelo will be hosting *Bridges out of Poverty* Community Training on March 1, 2012, and they too are bringing in Jodi as the trainer! She is exceptional! This program is for anyone interested in eradicating poverty!

Registration will start at 7:45 am, and the training will begin at 8:30 am and last until 3:30 pm. The training will be held at the Link Center in Tupelo. Registration information located at: tupelobridges.com

Certified Bridges Trainer

Want to become a certified *Bridges* trainer? A trainer certification seminar will be held in Salt Lake City, UT on April 2-4th. More information at: www.bridgesoutofpoverty.com/Training_Dates



Getting Ahead Graduation 2011

Starkville Bridges video online - featuring the Getting Ahead graduates.

How can I become Involved?

Volunteer to Work One-on-One

Part 2 of the *Getting Ahead in a Just Gettin'-By World (GA)* class has begun! This program is called *GA Master's Class* and is commonly referred to as *Circles Out of Poverty*. The initial organizational meeting was on January 22nd at Starkville First United Methodist Church (SFUMC). The allies are The Reverend Winter, John Breazeale, Barbara Setaro, Michael Valentine, June Carpenter, and Barbara Tucker. One graduate has already made the first step towards success by attending GED courses at Emerson Family Center! Become an ally today!

Facilitators Needed for Getting Ahead Class

Want to work directly with the *Getting Ahead* participants? Sign up to be trained as a facilitator for the next *GA* class this summer.

Grants and Funding

Starkville Bridges recently applied for a Healthy Starkville grant. Grants will be awarded on February 29th. We are also applying for grants through the CREATE Foundation and United Way. Do you know of grant opportunities or fundraisers that will help *Starkville Bridges* succeed?

Governing Board of Starkville Bridges

We are in the process of establishing *Starkville Bridges* as a non-profit organization. If you are interested in serving on the committee to draft the by-laws, please contact us.

Board Members, Non-Profit Status

We have secured *Starkville Bridges Out of Poverty* as the official name for the organization and in the process of completing the non-profit incorporation application. We are also looking for members to serve on *SBOP* Board of Directors.

Speakers Bureau

Talking to civic and church groups is an important part of our outreach. Tequilla Manning will speak at the Emerson Family Center advisory board meeting on March 29. Ms Manning spoke at a circle group for women at SFUMC on February 14. Lynn Phillips-Gaines spoke to Starkville Convention of Consumer Science at MSU on February 17. She also spoke at the Episcopal Diocese of MS 185th Annual Council on February 4 to an audience of 1,000 people and 7 communities establishing *Bridges* programs. Would you like to represent *Starkville Bridges* by speaking to others?



Update on Children's Activities

Let's give a huge thanks to Meggan Franks at the Mississippi Maroon Volunteer Center for creating a *Getting Ahead* Volunteer Mentor Program for the participants' children! Meggan Franks, Yolanda Boyd, Kathleen Olivieri, Lisa Long, and Daniel Smith serve on the kid's curriculum committee and are in the process of developing a structured workbook for the children. The name of the program is *Building Bridges 4 Kids*. If you would like to join this committee or want additional information, please contact Tequilla Manning or a committee member.