"How a Tribal TANF Staff's Understanding of Poverty Helps Them Support their Clients to Self-Sufficiency"

Presented by

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Presentation Will Consist of 4 Sections:

1. Describing Poverty

2. What Causes Poverty

3. The Experts

4. Suggestions to Help Tribal TANF Programs

Section # 1

Describing Poverty

Google "Poverty"

...and you get

161,000,000 results (0.11 seconds)

Poverty is found in all cultures and all countries!

World Population

As of September 22, 2011

6,963,759,317

http://www.census.gov/main/www/popclock.html

World Population

Number of children in the world - 2.2 billion

Number of children in poverty - 1 billion (every second child)

Source: State of the Worlds Children Report
http://www.unicef.org

World Population

Almost half the world — over three billion people — live on less than $2.50 a day.

At least 80% of humanity lives on less than $10 a day.

Source: World Bank
http://www.globalissues.org/article/26/poverty-facts-and-stats

Global Rural Poverty

800,000,000

This (800 million) represents the largest portion of the world's poorest. They are women, children, and men who live in rural areas.

Most of these remote areas that are great distances from the nearest markets, educational opportunities, economic bases, basic social services, and clean drinking water.

USA Population

As of September 22, 2011

312,273,018

http://www.census.gov/main/www/popclock.html

USA - Current Poverty Figures

46.2 million (16%) of Americans are living below the poverty level.

For a family of 4 is $22,350 according to the 2011 - HHS poverty guideline .

Source: Bloomberg Businessweek (Associated Press) September 13, 2011 article states according to the Census Bureau's report just released….

Social Classes

Social classes are cultural or economic arrangements of groups in a society. In class societies a person's class status is a type of group membership. The experts disagree about the elements that determine membership, but there are some common features such as:

- Relationships of production
- Ownership and consumption
- Legal status
- Ceremonial, occupational, marital and reproductive rights.
- Family, kinship or tribal group structures or membership
- Education

Social Classes

There are several models that have divided modern societies into classes and typical characteristics. A few examples are:

The Super Rich Class
The Ruling Class
Upper - Upper Class
The Rich Class
Upper Middle Class
Lower Middle Class
The Working Class
The Poor Class
The Working Poor

Modern USA Social Economic Classes

Upper Class
Middle Class
Lower Class

Definition of Poverty

United Nations defines poverty as…

"Fundamentally, poverty is a denial of choices and opportunities, a violation of human dignity. It means lack of basic capacity to participate effectively in society. It means not having enough to feed and clothe a family, not having a school or clinic to go to, not having the land on which to grow one's food or a job to earn one's living, not having access to credit. It means insecurity, powerlessness and exclusion of individuals, households and communities. It means susceptibility to violence, and it often implies living in marginal or fragile environments, without access to clean water or sanitation."

Globally Poverty is Defined as:

Absolute Poverty: A standard which is consistent over time and between countries. It simply means unable to afford "basic human needs". Those being clean and fresh water, nutrition, clothing, health care, food and shelter. Also known as destitution.

Globally Poverty is Defined as:

Relative Poverty: Is lacking a certain level of acceptable resources and/or income within a society or country. Throughout history it has been assumed that a portion of the population will live below a comfortable standard of living.

Globally Poverty is Defined as:

The World Bank defines **"extreme poverty"** as living on less than US $1.25 (purchasing power) per day, and **"moderate poverty"** as less than $2 a day.

Michael Lipton, author and Research Professor of Economics @ Sussex University, United Kingdom coined the term **"ultra-poverty"** to describe the poorest of the poor in low-income countries that live on less than 54 cents per day.

Two Groups of Poverty
Generational & Situational

Generational Poverty

Generational poverty occurs in families where two or more generations are born into poverty.

These individuals <u>are not equipped</u> with the tools needed to move out of poverty.

Their needs and social challenges are very different from the situational group.

Situational Poverty

Situational poverty occurs when individuals experience some type of loss. Defined as a lack of resources due to a particular event (i.e., a death, chronic illness, divorce, crisis, loss of job, home or living arrangement, etc.)

Often an attitude of pride and refusal to accept charity.

The Children

Children who live in extreme poverty or who live below the poverty line for multiple years appear, suffer the worst outcomes in health, achievement and behavior.

Source: Center for Young Children and Families, Teachers College, Columbia University, USA,

Language

In linguistics, a register is a variety of a language used for a particular purpose or in a particular social setting. **Every language in the world has 5 registers.**

1. <u>Frozen</u> - (never changes)
2. <u>Formal</u> - (complete sentences and specific word choice)
3. <u>Consultative</u> - (formal)
4. <u>Casual</u> - (between friends – lots of non verbal action)
5. <u>Intimate</u> - (between lovers or twins)

Source: one prominent model by Martin Joos (1961) describes five styles in spoken English.

In Poverty You Have Three Primary Aspects of Language

1. <u>Registers of language</u> (use mostly casual)
2. <u>Discourse patterns</u> (use two languages)
3. <u>Story structure</u> (start a story from the end)

"Tyranny of the Moment"

Just trying to survive…. Not being able to see beyond the current crisis to make good long term decisions.
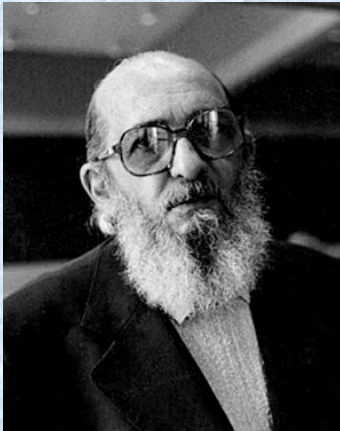
Paulo Freire , a Brazilian Educator who grew up in poverty and later became world renowned as a expert in the psychology of language. He also coined "the Culture of Silence". Born 1921 – died 1997

Indian County

American Indian/Alaska Natives Current Poverty Figures

Nationally: 4.3 MILLION (1.5% of US population)

(Source: 2011 National Indian Child Welfare Association)

Nationally: 35% or 1,715,000 are living below the poverty level.

(Source: Bloomberg Businessweek - Associated Press,

September 13, 2011 article states Census Bureau.)

Native Children

29% of American Indian children live in **poor families**

(SOURCE: National Center for Children in Poverty)

STATES - Current AI/AN Living Below the Poverty Level

- **<u>Washington</u>**: 36,182 (22.9%)

- **<u>Oregon</u>**: 48,199 (23.1%)

- **<u>Idaho</u>**: 20,909 (32.4%)

- **<u>Alaska</u>**: 100,154 (21.8%)

(Source: US Census American Community Survey 2010)

Section # 2

What Causes Poverty?

The causes are numerous….

- Exploitation by people and businesses with power and influence
- Lack of individual responsibility
- Bad government policy
- Corruption
- Debt
- Loan Conditions
- Brain Drain
- War
- Natural Disasters

Section # 3

The Experts

Abraham Maslow

Maslow founded a new discipline to the study of human behavior called "Humanistic Psychology."

(April 1, 1908 – June 8, 1970)

Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs

SURVIVAL

Self-Actualization
Pursue Inner Talent
Creativity   Fulfillment

Self-Esteem
Achievement   Mastery
Recognition   Respect

Belonging – Love
Friends   Family   Spouse   Lover

Safety
Security   Stability   Freedom from Fear

Physiological
Food   Water   Shelter   Warmth

Jane Elliott

Considered to be the "foremother" of diversity training.

She is an internationally known teacher, lecturer, diversity trainer, and recipient of the National Mental Health Association Award for Excellence in Education.

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On April 4, 1968, in her living room, after watching the TV the coverage of Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination, she decided to combine a lesson she had planned about Native Americans with a lesson done about Martin Luther King.

She decided to tie the two subjects together by using the saying "Oh Great Spirit, keep me from ever judging a man until I have walked a mile in his moccasins." When she presented her experiment to her third grade class the next day, she changed history.

"Blue Eyes, Brown Eyes" is a sensitizing exercise, in which participants are labeled inferior or superior based on the color of their eyes, began in a third-grade classroom in all-white, all-Christian Riceville, Iowa.

It has been repeated with dramatic results with children and adults throughout the country. Those who have been through this exercise have said it is an emotionally significant and life-changing experience. This ground breaking exercise is the pinnacle of all other diversity programming in the country today.

http://www.allamericanspeakers.com/celebritytalentbios/Jane-Elliott
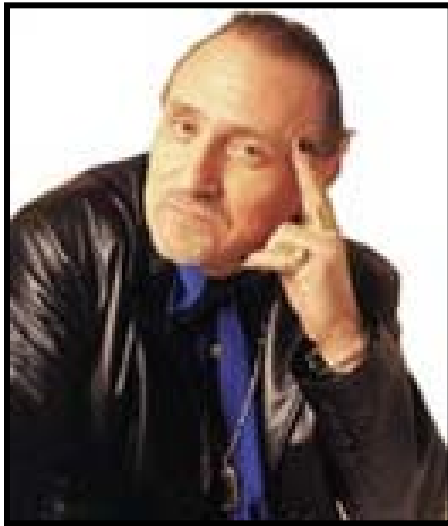
Dr. Richard Bandler
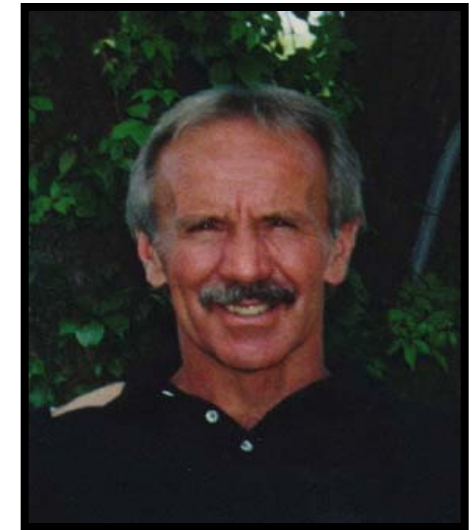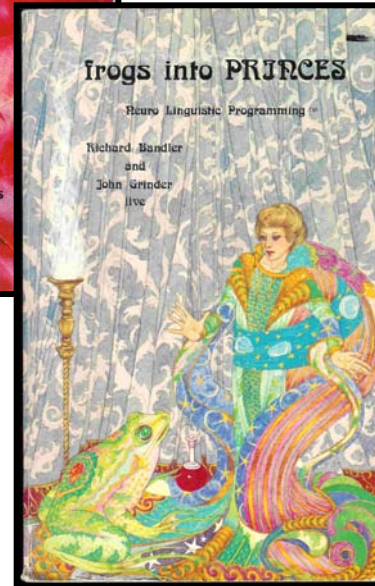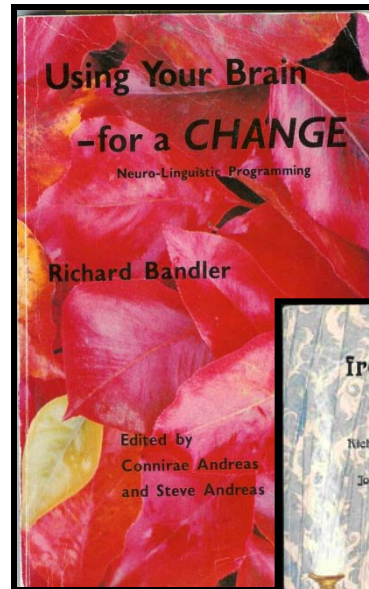
Dr. John Grinder

NLP is about redesigning the way you connect with yourself physically, mentally and to some extent spiritually. It deals with points of view.

NLP consists of 4 major modalities:

- **Visual (pictures/images)**

- **Auditory (words/sounds)**

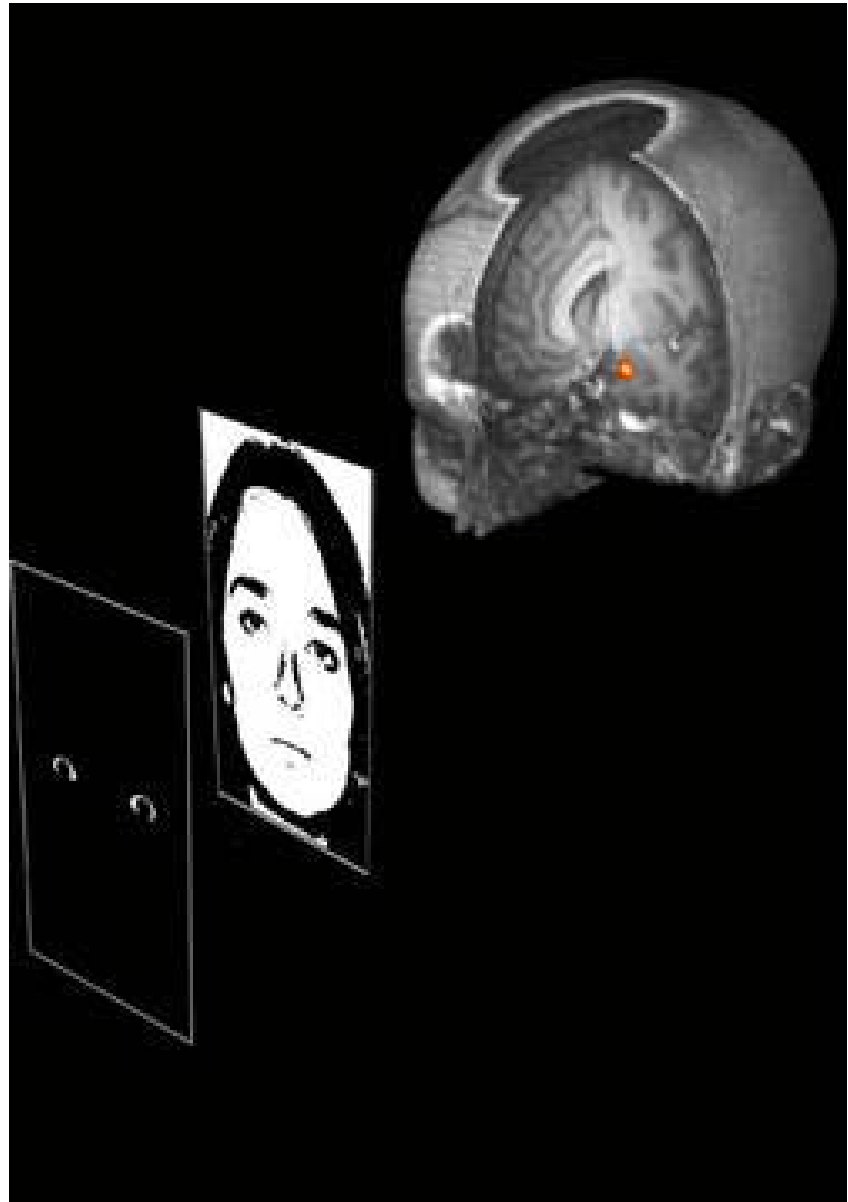- **Kinesthetic (feelings/emotions)**

- **Intuitive ("Omni-presence")**

There are several NLP sub-modalities:

- **Brightness & dimness (light –dark)**

- **Focus (clarity or lack of focus)**

- **Perception (1st person, with, observer, in-others shoes)**

- **Distance (close up – far away)**

- **Color (vivid color or black & white)**

NLP deals with perspective

Re - Frame An Event

(This technique is called Disassociation)

Stephen Covey

In Chapter 5, the Principles of Empathic Communication, he talks about the important appropriate communication is to building relationships . He describes an Emotional Bank Account where you make deposits and withdrawals.

Relationships are highly valued by people in poverty.
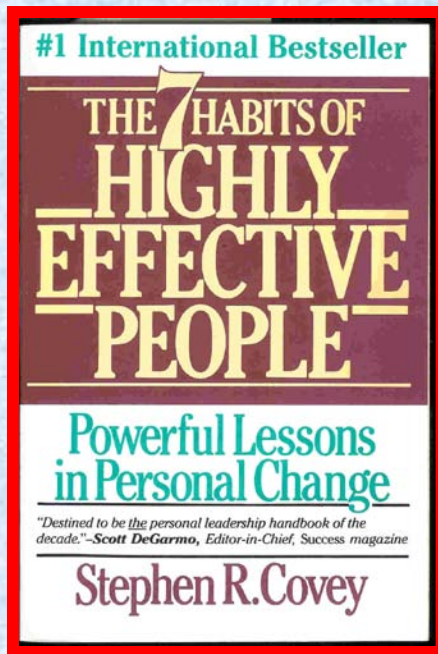
Covey's - Deposits & Withdrawals

DEPOISTS	WITHDRAWALS
Seek first to understand	Seek first to <u>be</u> understood
Keeping promises	Breaking promises
Kindness, courtesies	Unkindnesses, discourtesies
Clarifying expectations	Violating expectations
Loyalty to the absent	Disloyalty
Apologies	Pride, conceit, arrogance
Open to feedback	Rejecting feedback

Martin E.P. Seligman, Ph.D.

He is currently Zellerbach Family Professor of Psychology and Director of the Positive Psychology Center at the University of Pennsylvania.
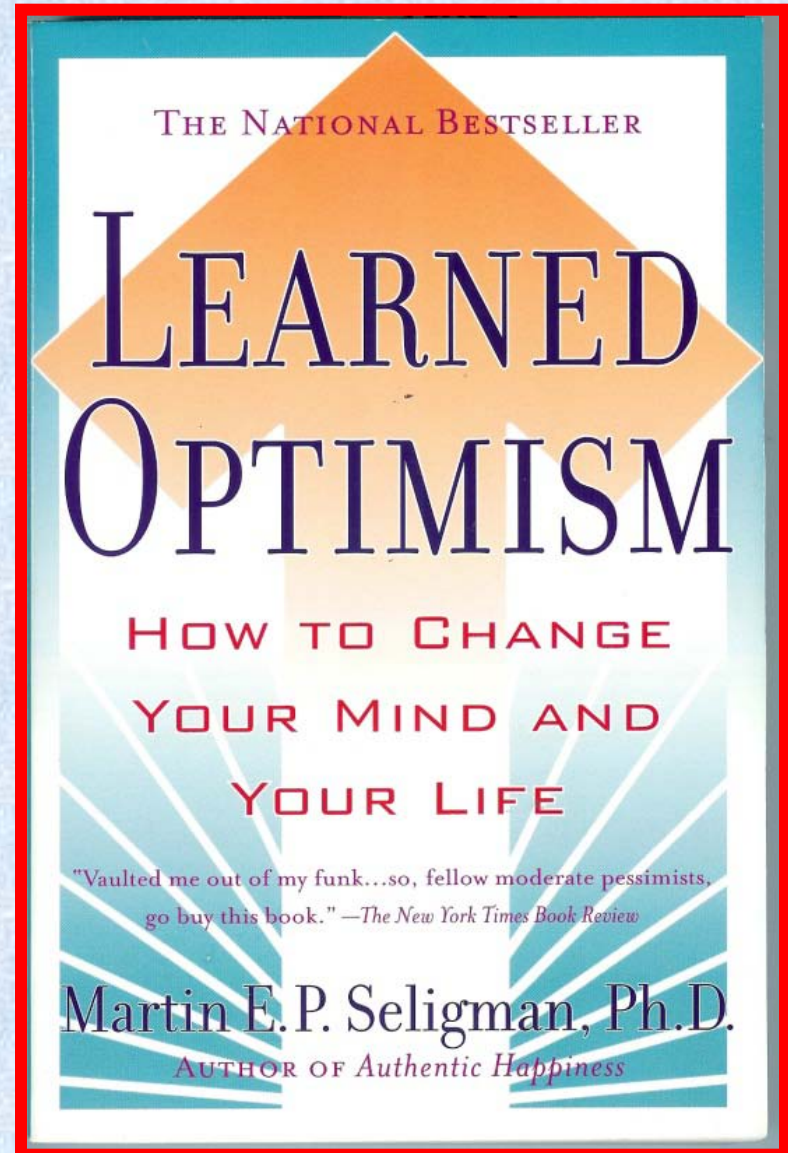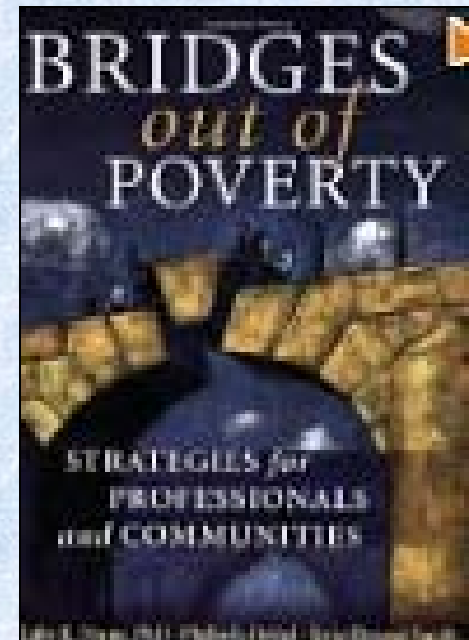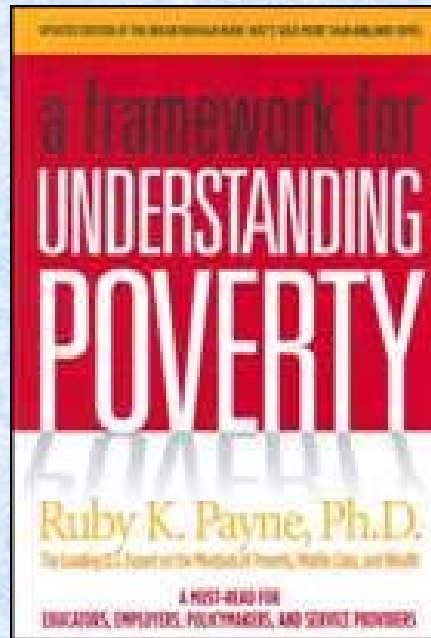
Ruby K. Payne, PhD

A career educator and has served in many roles, including teacher, principal, and administrator.

As the founder of **aha! Process,** is dedicated to positively impacting the education and lives of individuals in poverty.

www.ahaprocess.com

"To the extent an individual does without resources"

1. Financial

2. Emotional

3. Mental

4. Spiritual

5. Physical

6. Support Systems

7. Relationships/Role Models

8. Hidden Rules

"A Framework for Understanding Poverty"

- Generational poverty and situational poverty are very different.

- Generational Poverty has its own culture, hidden rules, language and belief systems.

- Schools operate using the hidden rules of the middle class.

- Educators must understand hidden rules of each class and teach them the hidden rules of the other classes, for students to experience success.

- Relationships must be given up to move from one class to another.

- ** Two things that can help people move out of poverty to middle class are relationships and education.

Section # 4

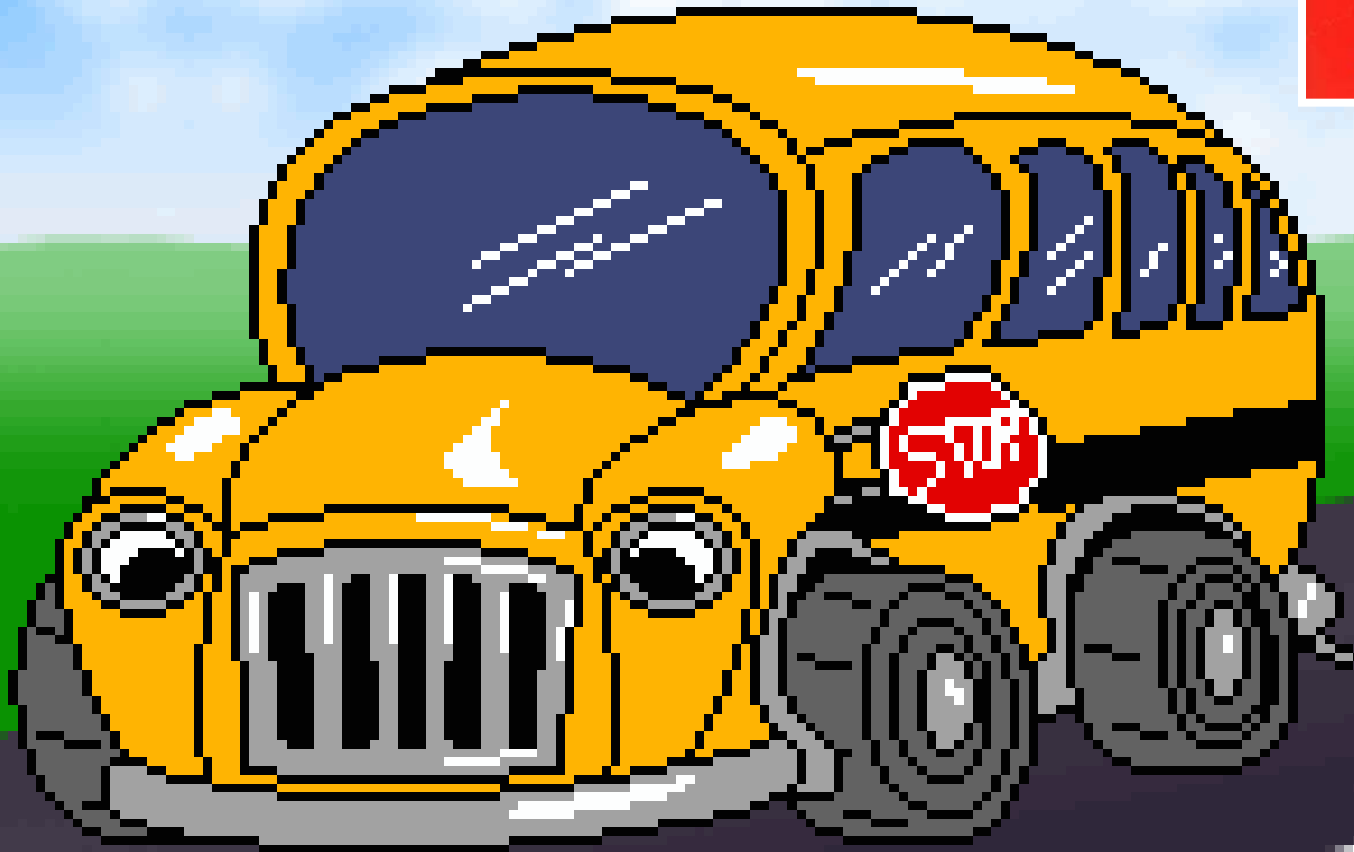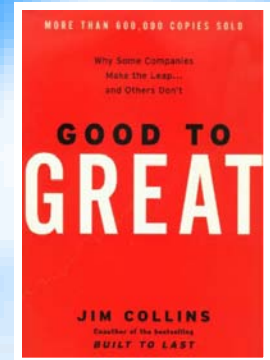## Suggestions to Help Tribal TANF Programs

Suggestion # 1

Hire and Train the Core Competencies & Skills Needed

Get the right people on the bus.

Get the wrong people off the bus.

Get the right people in the right seats.

Suggestion # 2

Build Relationships with Your Clients By Speaking To Them On Their Level With Appropriate Communication

- Mentoring

- Support Groups

- Hidden Rules

- NLP (Re-framing)

- Learned Optimism

- Human Potential Development (Esteem)

- Coping & Managing Life Skills & Techniques

- Workability Skills

Suggestion # 3

- Create systems & processes that are client friendly.

- Collaborate with your community stakeholders and support organizations to create a seamless service.

- Develop relationships with area employers.

Suggestion # 4

THINK BIG

"A single idea can transform a life, a family, a business, a nation, a world." Dan Zadra

The End