The Compassion Coalition and Bridges

The Compassion Coalition was our May Non-Profit of the Month. Bridges-certified trainer Jessica Bocangel wrote about how Compassion Coalition is using the Bridges constructs:

Three staff members from Compassion Coalition attended the Trainer Certification Conference in June 2011 in Denver, CO. Beginning in December 2011, we began offering monthly 2-hour Overviews to our community partners, and there has been great interest and attendance. In total, 152 people have attended one of these 2-hour Overviews where we briefly discuss the following modules: Mental Models, Key Points, Language, Hidden Rules, and Resources. At the end of each Overview, we collect evaluations and offer the class an opportunity to sign up for the in-depth series. Here are a couple comments by class participants:

• “This is new information for me and was all very helpful. Thank you!”
• “I had some new thoughts during this training that expanded my horizon.”

Through the entire month of April and the first part of May, we offered 5-week In-Depth Bridges training to our community partners. Each week we taught the same materials from 1 to 3 p.m. and then again from 6 to 8 p.m. in an effort to accommodate as many people and their schedules as possible. Forty-eight people completed the course.

During the 5 weeks we covered the following modules: Mental Models, Research Continuum, Key Points & Bridges Constructs, Hidden Rules, Language, Family Structure, Resources, and Applications. Additionally, we offered an optional Week 6 session on Mentoring and Practical Applications. For the next in-depth series that we have scheduled for the fall, we will include the last session and clarify that this is a 6-week course. Here are a couple comments by class participants:

• “It is a lot of information, but I believe it was covered very well. It helped me understand the material on a personal basis.”
• “I read the book over a year ago and, after the first class, I thought I already knew this material. Out of obligation I kept coming, and I have to say that by the 5th week I realized how much I had actually learned. It all came together in an incredible way.”