

**NORTH TEXAS REGION POVERTY AWARENESS TRAINING:
BREAKING BARRIERS TO HIGHER EDUCATION**

Tuesday, October 29, 2019 from 9am to 4pm

Location: Hurst Conference Center

AGENDA

- 9:00am.....Welcome
- 9:05am.....Breaking the Iron Cage of Poverty
- 11:00am.....The Opportunity College: A Proven Model for Breaking Poverty Barriers to Higher Education
- 12:00pm.....Lunch & Learn Session “What Are We Doing?” -A Discussion
- 1:00pm..... Communicating and Relating More Effectively Across Poverty Barriers
- 3:00pm.....Next Steps and Closing

Breaking the Iron Cage of Poverty

In this session, Dr. Beegle will provide educators with a poverty knowledge base necessary for improving educational success. Participants will gain tools for understanding how the many different life experiences of poverty impact educational success and what they can do to improve outcomes. Dr. Beegle will also share examples of educational institutions that are implementing her strategies and having success in removing poverty related obstacles.

The Opportunity College: A Proven Model for Breaking Poverty Barriers to Higher Education

In this session, Dr. Donna M. Beegle shares a case study of Amarillo College (who implemented the model) and how they were able to double retention and education success for students receiving Pell Grants. Participants will take away tools that can be applied right away to make a difference for their students who live in poverty. During this session, Dr. Beegle will provide insights into what faculty and staff can do to improve educational outcomes for all students. She will also build a foundation for the systemic changes needed to ensure that students from poverty succeed.

Communicating and Relating More Effectively Across Poverty Barriers

Research has shown that people who live in the crisis of poverty, much like Donna, communicate differently than their middle-class peers, helping professionals, and educators. Income, educational opportunities, and life experiences shape communication and how we relate to others. In this session, participants will learn about the differences in communication across social class and obtain concrete tools for building stronger relationships and communicating more effectively with those who live in the crisis of poverty—along with concrete strategies for reducing misunderstandings.

**FACILITATOR
INFORMATION**



**DR. DONNA
BEEGLE**

Presenter, Dr. Donna Beegle has spent her career of over 27 years, spreading the word to all 50 states and six countries regarding the issue of poverty. She works with communities to 'fight poverty, not those who live in it.' She is dedicated to building poverty-informed communities that are armed with tools to break down the barriers. Dr. Beegle works directly with children and adults currently in poverty, educators, justice professionals, health care providers, social service agencies, faith-based communities, business leaders, elected officials and all who want to make a difference in the lives of those living in the crisis of poverty.