



30 years of mentoring may be giving birth to something new August 2016



Dear Friend,

At Bridge of Hope, we spend a lot of time thinking about the dynamics of friendship – because of our core mission focus of mentoring as a ministry of friendship. This [video clip](#) and [diagram](#) from *The Big Bang Theory* – of a friendship algorithm – make me laugh! Maybe you too have felt that it would be nice to narrow down friendship to a simple formula.

For [almost 30 years](#), Bridge of Hope has recruited mentoring groups from local churches to engage in a ministry of friendship with homeless women and children. But across our Bridge of Hope network ([21 locations](#) in 12 states and Canada) over the past 8 years, we’ve had honest conversations to discern if the word mentor is truly reflective of the spirit and the role we want individuals from local Christian faith communities to have as they interact with the families we serve. Each time the conclusion is that the word mentor might not quite capture this part of the [three-way partnership](#).

Additionally, research has shown that the millennial generation does not respond well to the word “mentoring” – clearly an obstacle for the future. Both mentors and alumna families of Bridge of Hope seem to enthusiastically support movement toward new language.

Is there a word that better reflects the mutuality, reciprocity, and friendship that we seek to nurture across barriers of housed and homeless, cultural and socio-economic differences, and more?

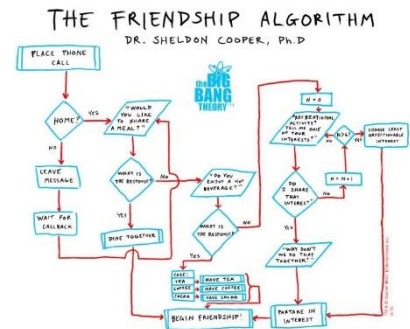
In 2016, our Innovation Team is exploring how to position Bridge of Hope for the coming decades, as we continue to focus on our mission of engaging Christian faith communities in [transformative relationships](#) with homeless families.

Quick Links

- [Our Website](#)
- [Start a Bridge of Hope](#)
- [Find A Bridge of Hope](#)
- [Our Facebook Page](#)



Check out this Friendship Algorithm [video](#) from *The Big Bang Theory*.



I hope you'll give this some thought and [email me](#) your suggestions. I would value hearing from you by August 31.

Think creatively! We aren't planning a rapid change, but would value your input as we seek God's leading in this important discernment process. Assuming the right word/phrase emerges, we will move toward change in 2017-2018, which will coincide with Bridge of Hope's 30th anniversary.

Let's keep talking and dreaming together of a world where family homelessness ends because Christian faith communities engage in [supportive friendships for lasting impact!](#)

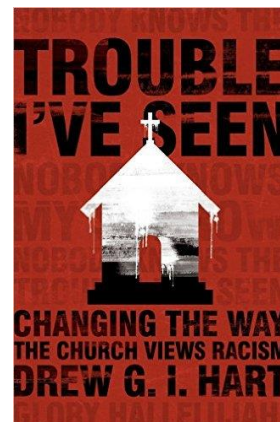
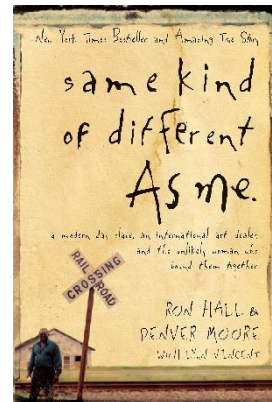
What's New?

- Our thanks to author [Christy Brunke](#) for writing an [article about Bridge of Hope](#) for the *Pregnancy Help News*. Our Outreach Director, Anne, met Christy at the [Heartbeat International](#) conference.
- [Federal Government announces 47% decrease in veteran homelessness since 2010](#)
- [Bassuk Center Report on Putting an End to Child & Family Homelessness in Canada](#)
- Join me in thanking the [sponsors](#) of our Oct. 6-8 Bridge of Hope conference, including [Harman Construction](#) - our Presenting Sponsor.

Blessings,



We are reading these 2 books for our Oct. 6-8 [Bridge of Hope Conference](#).



866-670-HOPE
WWW.BRIDGEOFHOPEINC.ORG



Would you like to forward this email to a friend? [Click here.](#)

Share This Email: 

[Remove my name from all future email correspondence](#)

Address postal inquiries to:
Bridge of Hope
311 National Road
Exton, PA 19341
Powered By

Blackbaud eTapestry™ Delivra