

September 27, 2016

Neighborhoods Embracing Transformation brings CincySHIFT to Greater Cincinnati

Contributed By: [Melinda Zemper](#) | Oak Tree Communications, LLC

Neighborhoods Embracing Transformation, known locally as NET, sponsored a conference on systemic poverty at Cincinnati Christian University. Using an innovative simulation to highlight the systems that perpetuate poverty, NET engaged the audience in awareness and action to address it.

Guest speakers included Roger Howell of City Gospel Mission, who spoke at length about the deep challenges in uprooting generational poverty, when young people are born into it, and know nothing different from it.

Chuck Proudfit, founder of At Work on Purpose, spoke about the potential of the marketplace – business, education and government – working more synergistically to tackle systemic poverty. Said Proudfit, “when a committed group of people come around an impoverished individual, or family, it is possible to break the cycle of poverty.”

Kirk Lithander, from Fairhaven Church in Dayton, spoke about this type of program in their local church. With its “Circles” model, Fairhaven is sustainably lifting people out of poverty. Says Lithander, “this is hard work, and it often takes years, but the end result is a brighter future where poverty is eradicated.”