



## **Community Visions, Community Solutions: Grantmaking for Comprehensive Impact**

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### **How funders can foster *real* community problem solving**

Fragmented problems and fractured resources. Power issues and turf protection. The appearance of collaboration without real substance. Small wonder so many funders get frustrated-and so many community problems go unsolved.

It doesn't have to be this way. *Community Visions, Community Solutions* describes a grantmaking process where funders focus on solutions – first by helping communities uncover their highest aspirations, and then by supporting and sustaining systematic efforts to reach community goals. In this way, funders can help create the lasting change they want to see.

### **Practical strategies based on years of research and hands-on experience**

Filled with fresh ideas, concrete strategies, wisdom from the field, compelling case studies, and contact information so you can find out more, this book provokes both thought and action, fosters new ideas, and leads to solutions.

- Chapter One frames the challenge and highlights issues that get in the way of success. The good news is: The time is ripe for foundations to fund successful community problem solving.
- Chapter Two outlines strategies for funding solutions. To foster community problem solving, funders must approach their grantmaking in fundamentally new ways
- Chapter Three explores ways to support and sustain problem solving efforts. Choices range from providing a place where community members can meet to investing in a community support organization (CSO) capable of serving multiple community efforts.
- Chapter Four shares lessons for getting from here to there based on the author's experience working with funders.

Get *Community Visions, Community Solutions* and help communities develop *real* solutions to social and economic problems.

*"A must-read for grantmakers, individual donors, or any philanthropic professionals who hope to see community change in their lifetime."*

Elwood Hopkins, Director,  
Los Angeles Urban  
Fundors, Los Angeles, CA

*"Any leader, whether in a foundation, a nonprofit organization, or a public agency, should read this book and ponder 'what might be' in more effective community problem solving."*

Eugene Wilson, Senior Vice  
President, Ewing Marion  
Kauffman Foundation,  
Kansas City, MO