Change Philanthropy
Candid Stories of Foundations Maximizing Results Through Social Justice
Alicia Epstein Korten

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With the ongoing economic downturn there has been a dramatic increase in medical uninsured rates, homelessness, and small-business bankruptcies, as well as a crisis in education and diminishing job opportunities. To better address these burgeoning challenges, foundations and nonprofits are questioning their usual strategies and seeking new and more effective approaches for tackling much-needed, widespread social change.

The book is filled with stories and illustrative interviews with successful grantmakers and foundation executives that clearly show how funds are distributed and secured for organizations that work for systemic change. In addition, Change Philanthropy includes useful tips, proven strategies, and practical ideas that can be put into place immediately to support a social justice agenda.

“It is ever more urgent, in this period of global economic stress, that foundations and the organizations they fund put their power and money behind strategies that promote lasting change, not temporary charity. Change Philanthropy fills an important gap in the field by providing examples and stories from the real experiences – successes and setbacks – of pioneers in this vital, transformative work. Funders and activists alike will find it an indispensable roadmap.”—Gara LaMarche, President, The Atlantic Philanthropies

“Read Change Philanthropy and learn from the invaluable experience of a diverse group of grantmakers who moved closer to the root causes of social inequities by making the crucial connections – across race, class and gender – that lead to broad, transformational, and lasting change.”—Sara K. Gould, President & CEO, Ms. Foundation for Women

“Transparency and truth telling are not always apparent in what funders do and say, but this book is a wonderful exception. Issues of race and class, community building, financial investment, education and economic development are all reflected in these nine stories, which advance a frame of grantmaking designed to help foundation staff and boards do their best work. This is an excellent and timely resource.”—Emmett D. Carson, Ph.D; CEO and President, Silicon Valley Community Foundation

Alicia Korten is CEO of ReNual, a consulting firm that helps foundations and socially responsible businesses increase impact and ensure the wise use of their resources through evaluation, strategic planning and publications. As a philanthropic advisor and leader in the organizational storytelling movement, Alicia Korten has written two books and many publications, often as client projects. A former Fulbright scholar and graduate of Brown University, over the last decade Alicia has consulted for a range of institutions including the Ford Foundation, Inter-American Foundation, United Nations, Levi Strauss & Co. and many others. Learn more about ReNual at www.renual.com or contact Alicia at change@renual.com.

The Center for Community Change, founded in 1968, strengthens, connects and mobilizes grassroots groups to enhance their leadership, voice and power. One of the longest-standing champions for low-income people and communities of color, the Center has incubated such national organizations as the Coalition on Human Needs, the Workforce Alliance, the Environmental Support Center, the Rural Coalition, the National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy and the National Campaign for Jobs and Income Support.