

# Catalysts for Change: 21st Century Philanthropy and Community Development (Community Development Research and Practice Series)

Maria Martinez-Cosio, Mirle Rabinowitz Bussell

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Winner of the Community Development Society's 2014 Current Research Award!

21st Century Philanthropy and Community fills a gap in the literature on philanthropic organizations and how they intertwine with community development. Drawing first on the history of philanthropic funding, Maria Martinez-Cosio and Mirle Bussell look at developments in the last twenty years in detail, focussing on five key case studies from across America. The authors use their own first hand experiences and research to forge a new path for academic research in an area where it has been lacking.

With the current economic climate forcing shrewd spending, foundations need all the guidance they can find on how to appropriately channel their funds in the best way. But how can these sorts of community projects be analyzed for effectiveness? Is there a quantitative rather than qualitative element which can be studied to give real feedback to those investing in projects? Arguing against a one-size-fits-all model, the authors illustrate the importance of context and relationships in the success of these projects.



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