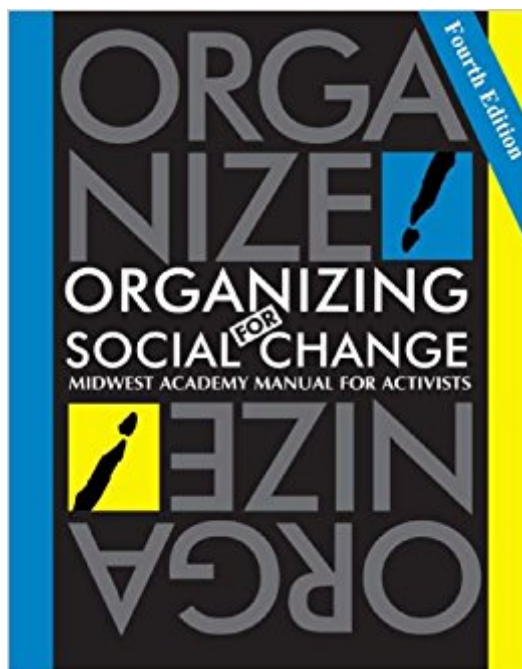


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Organizing For Social Change 4th Edition



Synopsis

Now in its fourth edition, here is the comprehensive manual for grassroots organizers working for social, racial, environmental and economic justice at the local, state and national levels. Since 1973 the Midwest Academy has trained more than 30,000 activists in progressive organizations, unions, and faith-based groups. This Midwest Academy Manual for Activists is central to its training programs and seminars, and it provides an invaluable reference source for organizers throughout their careers. Also included are anecdotes about a wide variety of real organizations working on issues concerning labor, the environment, health care, racism, immigration, peace, religion, energy, public campaign financing and more. Whatever the progressive cause, this is the manual that can help guide organizers and ensure that they continue to reach their goals with efficiency and dignity. USE IT AND ORGANIZE!

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Customer Reviews

In the hands of young organizers, this book has helped to build strategic campaigns, provide best practices and develop the next generation of leaders. --Gregory Cendana, President 2009-10 U.S. Student Association (USSA) People power can still trump the power of big money. This book will tell you how to organize that power. --Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky People power can still trump the power of big money. This book will tell you how to organize that power. ----Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky

KIM BOBO is the founder and director of Interfaith Worker Justice. She was a trainer with the Midwest Academy for ten years and is the author of Wage Theft in America. JACKIE KENDALL, Executive Director of the Midwest Academy, has worked extensively with senior citizen, student, and citizen action organizations and coalitions at the local, state and national levels. STEVE MAX has organized for over four decades in civil right, labor, community organizations and coalitions. He is a lead trainer and the designer of the Academy's Economic Education Program.

Organizing for Social Change is a fantastic primer to leading change in a community or organization. It is a rich resource with more helpful insights and instructions than most books of its type. However, having myself worked with groups seeking deep or systemic change, it is light on the leadership dynamics that make such change possible. It assumes a high level of competency and proficiency in a number of areas, and the simple fact is that people need time and guidance to become comfortable leading change. A fantastic companion volume to this book would be Donelson Forsyth's, Group Dynamics. Together, these two books cover the full scope of personnel and process issues required for effective social change.

The Midwest Academy has one of the most widely used and thoroughly developed methodological alternatives to Alinsky-style community organizing in the United States. This book uses plain language and straightforward presentation to explain the wisdom and core synthesis of over forty years' on-the-ground work in campaigns organizing for community power and hundreds of week-long trainings teaching these techniques to thousands of other organizations. If you can't attend the organization's week-long trainings, this book presents the bulk of the materials presented in those workshops alongside examples, tools, templates and practical advice in a manner that makes you feel like you have privileged access to the organization's curricular materials. If you are looking to organize for power in your community, your workplace, your school, or your organization, "Organizing for Social Change" is an invaluable guide to help you strategize and execute your plan while maximizing collaboration and collective empowerment. As a longtime organizer, I cannot recommend this book highly enough, especially as a operational supplement to more conceptual or narrative introductions to organizing like "Rules for Radicals," "Stir It Up," or "Roots to Power." If you're looking to bring about real, concrete changes in people's lives through collective action and community empowerment, this book is one of the best resources you can have.

Excellent helpful for organizing against water bottling plant in our town.

Great tool for anyone looking to organize and create change!

Step by step.

ok

This is a required book for my social work class. Its easy to understand and very well written, highly recommended

There is a lot of local organizing, labor, community, various issues. Most of the time the people involved are not particularly organized themselves or trained or up to the tasks. This book would be useful to almost anyone engaged in organizing. The main problem of the American Left is that it has no national organization, program or strategy. There have been a few attempts, including the Green Parties but nothing has amounted to much. There are over 2000 organizations and publications that call themselves progressive or leftist but no one is doing national organizing. A large number of these groups should join together and form a national organization. This book could be useful to a national organization. Midwest Independent Research, educational websites. Progressives, mwir-progressives.blogspot. There is a book list here.

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