

For the 50th Anniversary Issue, *CD Practice* would like to highlight stellar books and publications by our CDS members, both new and classic! Thanks to all those who contributed.

Building Strong Communities: Guidelines on Empowering the Grassroots

Publisher: Red Globe
 Author: Steve Skinner
 Recommender: Alan Twelvetrees

This book contains useful tools, down-to-earth frameworks and practical methods, a valuable resource for working with communities.

Building Strong Communities looks at building skills, assets and local leadership, supporting community groups and networks, promoting equal opportunities and diversity, and introduces a new 'Wheel of Participation'. The author, Steve Skinner, MA, CIPD, CQSW, is an experienced community worker with an extensive track record of published writing.

Packed with examples, this book is a practical resource with a range of approaches to help plan and implement effective community support.

A key focus of the book is on 'empowering the grass-roots' – building people, groups, organizations and networks. It explores the meaning of 'strong communities', provides a useful new definition and a framework for working with communities.

I nominate this brilliant book because it contains a wealth of experience, ideas and examples, combining both theory and practice, while drawing on recent research and current literature. It gives a fresh and up to date comprehensive description of the art of building community strengths and empowerment, based in the current context. It will be an important new resource for both students and practitioners.

ISBN: 978-1352007855

Community Economic Analysis: A How to Manual. Rev. ed., 2005.

Publisher: NCRCRD
 Author(s): Hustedde, Ronald J., Ron Shaffer, and Glen Pulver.
 Recommender: Judith Stallman, University of Missouri

An easy to understand how-to manual of some basic community economic analysis. People hear words about the economic base or the trade area, but don't know what they mean and this provides definitions and ways to investigate what it is for your community. I have used this to teach undergraduates, graduates and also in extension.

Community Economics: Linking Theory and Practice, 2nd ed.

Publisher: Blackwell Publishing, 2004.
 Ron Shaffer, Steve Deller and Dave Marcouiller
 Recommender: Judith Stallman, University of Missouri

Basic text on local economic development theory, the role of government and analysis tools. This book (and the 1st edition) are widely in teaching rural and regional development policy, both as the text for a course or parts of it. It is used in interdisciplinary courses because it is accessible.

ISBN: 0-8138-1637-8

Amazing Grace: The Lives of Children and the Conscience of a Nation

Publisher: Broadway Books
 Author: Jonathan Kozol
 Recommender: Phylcia Manley, Community Development Specialist, Global Communities

The author of *Savage Inequalities*, a New York Times best-seller, and *Rachel and Her Children*, winner of the Robert F. Kennedy Book Award, tells the stories of a handful of children who have-

-through the love and support of their families and dedicated community leaders--not yet lost their battle with the perils of life in America's most hopeless, helpless, and dangerous neighborhoods. His powerfully understated report takes us inside rat-infested homes that are freezing in winter, overcrowded schools, dysfunctional clinics, soup kitchens. Rejecting what he calls the punitive, blame-the-poor ideology that has swept the nation, Kozol points to systemic discrimination, hopelessness, limited economic opportunities and New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani's cutbacks in social services as causes of this crisis. While his narrative offers no specific solutions, it forcefully drives home his conviction: a civilized nation cannot allow this situation to continue.

Kozol interviewed ministers, teachers, drug pushers, children who have not yet given up hope. In the array of the communities that we work and live in there are individuals that have not given up hope and are determined to generate change. Whether a rural town that has lost its gusto along with a bustling population or the inner city that has seen programs and services flee its area due to crime and violence, we must hold on to the hope and change that always awaits in working and striving for change together.

ISBN: 978-0770435660

Community and the Politics of Place

Publisher: University of Oklahoma Press
 Author: Daniel Kemmis
 Recommender: Dave Campbell, UC Davis

Drawing on his experience as a state legislator and mayor, Dan Kemmis's beautifully written book concisely summarizes how the Madisonian system has bred an adversarial political culture in America, while a common attachment and care for the actual places we live together can foster a more collaborative and constructive politics. The book concisely connects the big picture to the smallest details of local political life, offering a hopefully realistic picture of democracy. It contains a host of real world examples of efforts to build collaboration, offering lessons to

community development practitioners and everyday citizens.

No one I know has written a book about community politics that is as accessible, readable, theoretically rich, and practically oriented. I taught classes using his book for over 20 years, and students never failed to appreciate and benefit from Kemmis's wise and patient approach to making change happen.

ISBN: 978-0806124773

Practicing Community Development

Publisher: University of Missouri Extension
 Authors: Donald W Littrell & Doris P Littrell
 Recommender: Doris Littrell, University of Missouri

This book combines theory and practice in approachable language for community practitioners and for use as a beginning textbook. It is written for people working at the community level.

ISBN: 978-0933842304

Agricultural Landscapes: Seeing Rural through Design

Publisher: Routledge
 Author: Dewey Thorbeck
 Recommender: Dewey Thorbeck, FAIA, FAAR

Rural landscapes are part of everyone's heritage and rural areas around the world are often viewed as special places with cultural, historical, and natural significance for people. The book emphasizes the importance of these rural sites and their connections to urban area with particular emphasis on Globally Important Agricultural Heritage Systems (GIAHS) as identified by the UN Food and Agricultural Organization to document and explore personal experiences, lessons learned, and implications for the future. The authors sponsored research work is focused on bringing design and design thinking

as a problem-solving process to rural and urban land issues.

With increasing world population and critical global issues of food security, water resources, renewable energy and wellness - human, animal, and environmental it is essential that urban and rural issues be connected and the Community Design Organization can be very instrumental in nurturing connections between urban and rural communities.

ISBN: 978-1138308183

Experiential Education for Community Development

Publisher: Greenwood Press, Inc.
 Edited by Paul S. Denise and Ian M. Harris
 Recommender: Linda Sunde, CDS Past President

This book is the third in a series of volumes of curriculum essays on the concepts, issues, and strategies of community development education and training. The series was conceived in the mid-1970s by the Education Committee of the Community Development Society and was based initially on the findings of a 1973 survey by the late Dr. Harry Naylor, then a member of the faculty on the Department of Regional and Community Affairs at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

The majority of essay authors included in this book were members of the Community Development Society when they wrote their submissions. The community development experiences offered in this book are quite diverse. They encompass theory, practice, and research; are international in scope; include urban and rural experiences; are written by practitioners, academics and researchers. Many of the essays describe likely pre-cursors to current service-learning programs in communities and on campuses.

ISBN-0-313-26405-8

An Introduction to Community Development (2nd Edition)

Publisher: Routledge
 Edited by: Rhonda Phillips and Robert H. Pittman
 Recommender: Ronald J. Hustedde, University of Kentucky Dept. of Community & Leadership Development; Rhonda Phillips, Purdue University

This edited (2015) multidisciplinary book was authored by 20 prominent community development practitioners and scholars. They have addressed theoretical and practical basics of road-tested community development for practitioners and students in the field. It makes strong connections between academic study and practice from both private and public sector contexts.

The book is an essential for any undergraduate or graduate community development class. It covers a wide range of community development related basics including theory, economic development, the role of the arts in CD, social capital, neighborhood planning and development, measuring progress and the global economy. University of Kentucky students have given the book excellent reviews because of its breadth and easy to understand writing.

ISBN: 978-0415703550

Rural Communities: Legacy + Change

Publisher: Routledge
 Authors: Cornelia Flora, Jan Flora with Susan Fey
 Recommender: Cheryl Burkhart-Kriesel, University of Nebraska Extension

The book discusses the rural landscape and then look at it through the lens of the community capitals. At the end of the book it links and discusses the community capitals to the global economy, consumption in America, governments, and opportunities for community change.

For me it has been a critically important text in my work as an Extension Specialist over the years. It is foundational. The examples that are woven into the work really make the concepts pop.

ISBN: 978-0813349718

Rural Poverty in the United States

Publisher: Columbia University Press
 Edited by: Ann Tickamyer, Jennifer Sherman, Jennifer Warlick
 Recommender: Ann Tickamyer. Pennsylvania State University

America's rural areas have always held a disproportionate share of the nation's poorest populations. Rural Poverty in the United States examines why. What is it about the geography, demography, and history of rural communities that keeps them poor? In a comprehensive analysis that extends from the Civil War to the present, Rural Poverty in the United States looks at access to human and social capital; food security; healthcare and the environment; homelessness; gender roles and relations; racial inequalities; and immigration trends to isolate the underlying causes of persistent rural poverty.

Contributors to this volume incorporate approaches from multiple disciplines, including sociology, economics, demography, race and gender studies, public health, education, criminal justice, social welfare, and other social science fields. They take a hard look at current and past programs to alleviate rural poverty and use their failures to suggest alternatives that could improve the well-being of rural Americans for years to come. These essays work hard to define rural poverty's specific metrics and markers, a critical step for building better policy and practice. Considering gender, race, and immigration, the book appreciates the overlooked structural and institutional dimensions of ongoing rural poverty and its larger social consequences.

It provides a comprehensive overview of poverty and inequality in rural communities, their sources

and consequences as well as policy and practices to address these issues.

ISBN: 978-0231544719

A Disability History of the United States

Publisher: Beacon Press
 Author: Kim E. Nielsen
 Recommender: Anita Montgomery, CDS member

Beginning with the foundations of community development, *An Introduction to Community Development* offers a comprehensive and practical approach to planning for communities. Road-tested in the authors' own teaching, and through the training they provide for practicing planners, it enables students to begin making connections between academic study and practical know-how from both private and public sector contexts. *An Introduction to Community Development* shows how planners can utilize local economic interests and integrate finance and marketing considerations into their strategy. Most importantly, the book is strongly focused on outcomes, encouraging students to ask: what is best practice when it comes to planning for communities, and how do we accurately measure the results of planning practice?

This newly revised and updated edition includes: increased coverage of sustainability issues, discussion of localism and its relation to community development, quality of life, community well-being and public health considerations, and content on local food systems. Each chapter provides a range of reading materials for the student, supplemented with text boxes, a chapter outline, keywords, and reference lists, and new skills based exercises at the end of each chapter to help students turn their learning into action, making this the most user-friendly text for community development now available. It provides both foundations and applications, bringing together research and practice. The book includes many contributions from practitioners and scholars in community development, and provides a guide to successful implementation of

community development. It is a textbook that also has an instructor's guide and has been adopted widely both in the US and other countries. It was translated into Mandarin as well.

ASIN: B07DSJWR4B

both local to global and global to local issues). It is a brilliant book and I highly recommend it.

ISBN: 978-1853399992

Participatory Development Practice: Using Traditional and Contemporary Frameworks

Publisher: Practice Action

Anthony Kelly and Peter Westoby

Recommender: Tina Lathouras, University of the Sunshine Coast, Australia

Participatory Development Practice provides a theoretical and applied base for rethinking development practice that is deeply influenced by a 'community' development tradition having its roots in participation and dialogue, yet is broader than that. The book makes the link from the intra-personal to the community and beyond, into the inter-organizational and international domains now required of twenty-first century development work.

Kelly and Westoby draw on diverse traditions of thought and practice, including the written works of author-activists such as Gandhi, Freire, Fanon, and the unwritten oral traditions of female workers in Asia, and First Peoples. The result is a true and tested methodology using frameworks of good ideas born from practice wisdom, that have come from research and reflection on 70 years of combined experience.

I use this book at the set text for my community development practice courses at university, and also recommend it to practitioners in the field when I do professional development training. It provides an actual framework for practice that is really helpful to both beginning and experienced practitioners. That framework covers implicate method (starting with positioning self), micro method (developing purposeful and constructive relationships), mezzo method (forming small participatory action groups), macro method (structuring participatory work within formal organizations) and meta method (working with