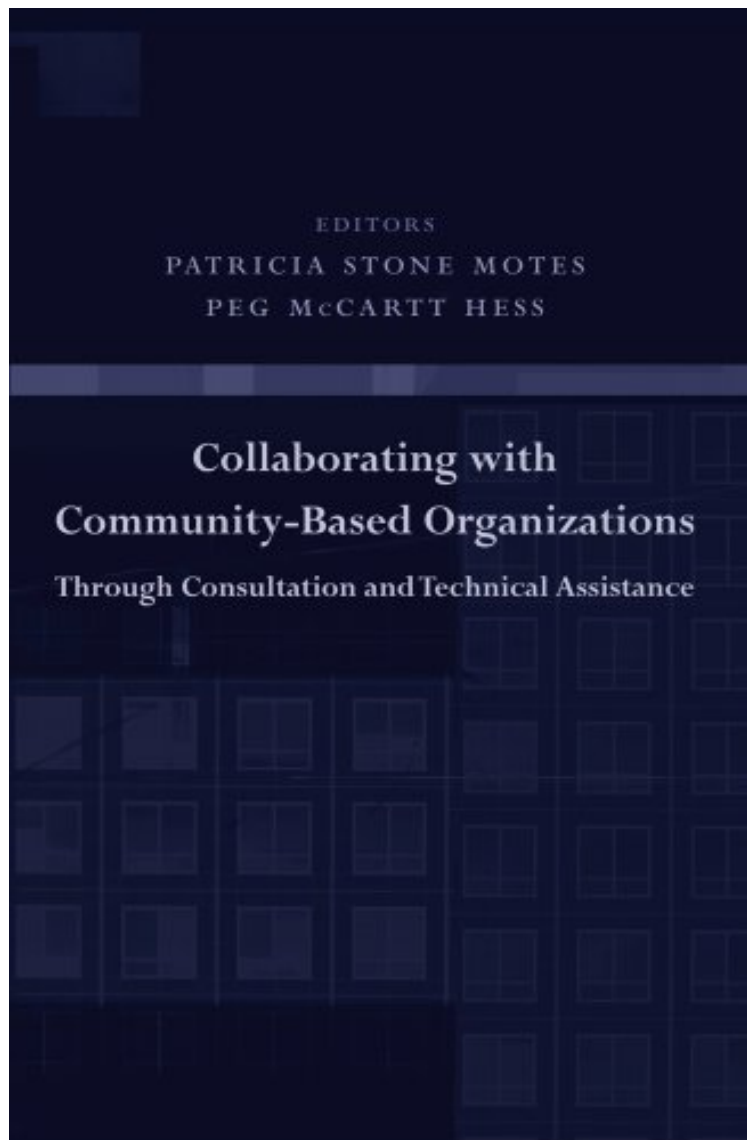


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Collaborating with Community-Based Organizations Through Consultation and Technical Assistance

From Columbia University Press

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From Columbia University Press : Collaborating with Community-Based Organizations Through Consultation and Technical Assistance before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Collaborating with Community-Based Organizations Through Consultation and Technical Assistance:

1 of 7 people found the following review helpful. We've Been At War Since 1941By John MatlockThis book is a

series of essays on the history of 'The Long War.' This war began in about 1941 and has continued with more or less shooting ever since. It has been marked, as have all wars, with instances of incompetence, poor judgment, a callow unwillingness to face the facts, ignorance, prejudice, and irrational hysteria. Each essay is independent and covers the personal interests/expertise of the writer. Through them all, however, a common theme emerges that the war making institutions, be they in the defense community, defense industries, or intelligence agencies have not performed to the standard that one would hope. This book is a history. The authors are primarily history professors at U.S. universities. Unfortunately being historians, the authors do not make many projections of the future. Perhaps though, this is impossible, and 'The Long War' will continue forever. It certainly seems that it's current incarnation of 'The War on Terror' seems to have no foreseeable end. Yesterday even the Democratic candidates were talking of bombing Pakistan and even threatening to use nuclear weapons.

Community groups and human service organizations are under a tremendous amount of pressure to strengthen their programs and measure the effectiveness of their work. These challenges have prompted many to seek consultation and technical assistance in order to better plan, develop, and evaluate their services and resources and be more responsive to the needs of funders and the community. In this volume, practitioners and researchers present methods and strategies for assisting and collaborating with groups and agencies serving families. Helping a community or organization involves many tasks (reaching out to the community, building leadership, developing and planning for action) and requires specialized knowledge and skills. Contributors combine a research-based, theoretical framework with practical guidance to explain this process and offer cross-cultural case studies in a wide range of settings. The book begins with a discussion of the role of the coach or capacity-building consultant and the related but distinct activities of consultation, technical assistance, and service. The value of empowerment theory, adult learning theory, and change theory, among other theories, are outlined. Special emphasis is placed on the importance of cultural competence—the need to balance diverse needs, ethical mandates, and dilemmas is crucial. The book concludes with a detailed, step-by-step guide for helping an agency or program perform a self-evaluation. Skilled consultation and assistance enable organizations to better support and strengthen families. While this book is grounded in research, it also reflects the lived experiences of each contributor and illuminates the complex yet vital role of the consultant.

This book offers useful insights into collaborating with community-based organizations. (Bryan Warde Families in Society) I read "Learn or Die" and found myself intrigued and frankly, a little uncomfortable. So I read it a second time and found that it made me rethink many aspects of my own management style and the guidance I provide our portfolio companies. What hit me like a ton of bricks from Ed's research was the realization that the current approach based on traditional management techniques and performance metrics was unlikely to be both effective and sustainable in the rapidly changing, Darwinian world of venture capital investing and technology innovation. His vision of the learning systems and cultural commitments that define a truly high performance organization is a must-read for any business that wants to prepare itself to meet the challenges and succeed in today's business environment before it's too late. (Frank H. Foster, Managing Partner, Draper Fisher Jurvetson Frontier and the Gideon Hixon Fund) From the Back Cover This volume includes information on: " Mediating change in family serving organizations and groups" Defining and distinguishing the provision of technical assistance " Encouraging cultural competence both within organizations and between organizations and the communities they serve" Finding avenues for building community capacity" Engaging in strategic planning" Helping community agencies and organizations self-evaluate, plus a sample outline for generating an evaluation report About the Author Patricia Stone Motes is associate director and research associate professor at the Institute for Families in Society (IFS), University of South Carolina. Peg McCartt Hess is an independent consultant and former associate director at the Institute for Families in Society (IFS) and former professor at the University of South Carolina College of Social Work and the Columbia University School of Social Work. Patricia Motes (Ph.D., South Carolina State University, Clinical-Community Psychology) is the Associate Director for Planning and Development at the Institute for Families in Society (IFS), University of South Carolina. Peg Hess (Ph.D., University of Illinois at Urbana - Champaign) is the IFS Associate Director for Research and Scholarship. She is the former Associate Dean of the School of Social Work, Columbia University and Professor of Social Work. Her books include *Nurturing the One, Supporting the Many* (Columbia, 2002) and *Child Welfare for the 21st Century* (Columbia, 2005).