Big Impact: Insights & Stories from America’s Non-Profit Leaders
By Vivien Hoexter and Linda C. Hartley

I. Book Overview

Linda C. Hartley and Vivien Hoexter, co-founders and principals of H2Growth Strategies LLC, have written a book about nonprofit leaders who have found solutions to some of our greatest, most vexing societal problems, and how they are implementing solutions in their communities, across the U.S., and around the world. The authors explore the qualities these leaders possess, their profound insights on lessons learned, and the solutions they are implementing.

We interviewed nearly 50 leaders of foundations such as Rockefeller Bros. Fund, Annie E. Casey, Ford, B. Altman, Skoll, San Francisco Community, Robin Hood, Jim Joseph, William & Flora Hewlett, Newman’s Own, United Nations, and the Ms. Foundation for Women. We have also talked with leaders of organizations such as PBS, WNET, WNYC, the Chronicle of Philanthropy, Independent Sector, Goodwill Industries International, YMCA of the USA, Girl Scouts, United Way Worldwide, Share Our Strength, Brady Center to Prevent Gun Violence, NYU, Bard College, Nature Conservancy, NYC Opera, Freedom to Marry, KaBoom! and DoSomething.org.

The book combines our findings and recommendations on what drives social change with 21 in-depth interviews portraying the most compelling, successful social change leaders.

We see this book as a way to amplify the leading voices of the nonprofit sector, to share the secrets of successful social change and to inspire readers to make change in their own communities.

II. Advance Praise for Big Impact

“A deep and nuanced look at top leaders of foundations and nonprofits in an era when civil society is more influential than ever. If you want to know how the grand masters of the social change sector think—and how they’re attacking the biggest problems in America and the world—read this book.”

- David Callahan, Founder and Editor, Inside Philanthropy

“As a business and large nonprofit CEO, as well as a major foundation president and consultant, I sought to help both organizations and individuals discover new ways to create a more just and peaceful world. I am delighted to endorse this book about the good news in social change. There is progress and we should celebrate it.”

-Alex Plinio, Former President, AFS Intercultural Programs/USA

“Vivien Hoexter’s important new work with Linda Hartley provides a gateway into answering the two questions that keep nonprofit leaders up at night: How can we serve more? How can we serve better? You’ll find many of the answers in this book.”

-Ken Inadomi, Founder, Yale Alumni Nonprofit Alliance