

(Read and download) The Opportunity Makers

The Opportunity Makers

Charles Rutheiser

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Charles Rutheiser : The Opportunity Makers before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Opportunity Makers:

4 of 4 people found the following review helpful. Inspiring, Motivating, and ThoughtfulBy CustomerThe Opportunity Makers is a fascinating account of the founding and inner workings of a remarkable organization that has impacted so many lives over the course of its 50+ year history. What I like best about this book is that is shows real examples of how a little (or a lot!) extra support can go a long way. People often look at a situation and feel sympathetic, but not know what to do. SEO has the solution: through additional education, mentorship, and access, underprivileged young people can find opportunities they otherwise may not have. Hearing the individual stories of people who have come from disadvantaged beginnings, who then go on to reach impressive success is very inspiring, and provides further incentive to work with and support organizations like SEO!The Opportunity Makers0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. An Inspiring ReadBy Kurt JacobsonAn inspiring book about how Micheal Osheowitz, John Halpin and Gerald Noonan turned a dream of offering the American Dream to those who had little chance of realizing the good life into reality. They founded Sponsors for Educational Opportunity, an organization that has changed the lives of thousands of disadvantaged youth in several countries spanning five decades. The author, Charles Rutheiser tells the story exceptionally well in an engaging book that is hard to put down. I loved the way Charles details how early on this organization self-perpetuated the path of progress by bringing in alumni to mentor and guide the next generation. I hope this book helps Sponsors for Educational Opportunity grow their membership even more than the last fifty years. The world is a better place thanks to the work of dedicated staff and volunteer mentors of this special entity.1 of 1

people found the following review helpful. Inspiring and insightfulBy CustomerFor anyone who wants the behind-the-scenes look at how scalable non-profits are built, this is a must-read. This is the first time the SEO story is being told after such a rich 50+ year history, including the mission, the challenges, and the growth. And it's well told by Charles Rutheiser on the foundation of hundreds of interviews.

In *The Opportunity Makers*, Charles Rutheiser tells the story of an organization that is very effective in making those dreams come true. Sponsors for Educational Opportunity (SEO) was founded by Michael Osheowitz in 1963 as a small, all-volunteer mentoring program to assist students of color from low-income families in the South Bronx and Harlem to do well in high school, excel in college and succeed in careers. Since then, SEO has maintained its founding values while growing into a large, professional and highly effective organization that trains and supports high school students, college students and young professionals from underrepresented backgrounds. Over the course of its first 50 years, more than 11,000 young people have participated in SEO programs in the United States, the United Kingdom, China, Vietnam and Ghana, with a large number going on to establish careers of distinction. SEO's accomplishments merit much wider recognition at a time when inequality of opportunity is a matter of increasing concern. SEO has closed the academic achievement gap between students of color growing up in poverty and their more privileged national peers. SEO effectively trains young people from underrepresented backgrounds for positions in major financial institutions, corporate law firms, Fortune 500 companies, government service and the nonprofit sector. Drawing on archival research and hundreds of interviews, this book provides the first comprehensive account of how SEO evolved, what it has achieved and what many of its alumni have accomplished. The importance of SEO extends far beyond its ability to create highly effective programs or adapt to changing circumstances; the broader significance is the way SEO has transformed many thousands of lives beyond the direct reach of its programs. One of SEO's most important accomplishments has been to empower participants in its programs to lead, give back and create opportunity for others-in short, to be Opportunity Makers.