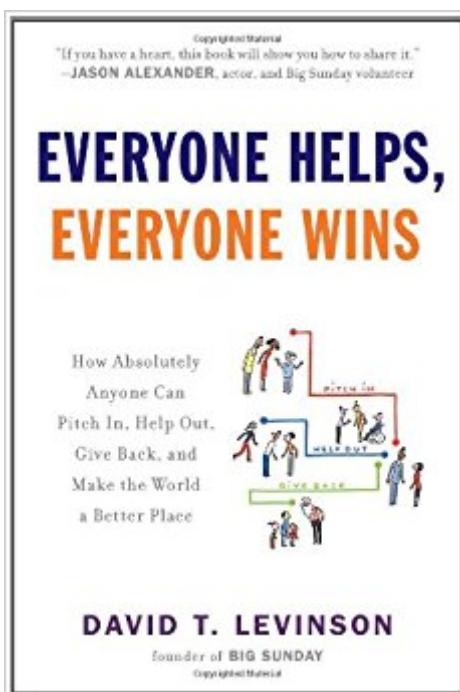


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# Everyone Helps, Everyone Wins: How Absolutely Anyone Can Pitch In, Help Out, Give Back, And Make The World A Better Place



## **Synopsis**

The director of one of the largest grassroots volunteer programs in the country shows how everyone can give back. Just in time for the season of giving, *Everyone Helps, Everyone Wins* will change how Americans give back to their communities. Once a self-proclaimed "reluctant volunteer"-too busy and unmotivated- David Levinson is now director of the largest regional volunteer network, Big Sunday, with an army of fifty thousand volunteers across California. Speaking to the reluctant volunteer in everyone, he boosts our "Volunteer IQ" with specific advice on how, where, and why we can help. He candidly addresses the benefits and pitfalls of volunteering. And he tackles situations and individuals across the spectrum-people with one free day a year, retirees, community organizers, and those who want to ensure their checks go to the right cause. With a list of "Fifty-two Ways to Give Back," David brainstorms ideas for traditional and offbeat ways to contribute to your community; each has the pros, the cons, and a how-to guide. Combined with a comprehensive appendix listing online and print resources, this book provides both the motivation and the action plan to get every community working. Sixty-one million Americans volunteered last year and many more made charitable donations. This will become the book they - and their community's organizers - all need to make sure their time and money are put to good use.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Levinson, director of the regional volunteer network Big Sunday, offers one-stop reading for the socially conscious looking to get involved in and substantively contribute to their communities. He

writes briskly and enthusiastically, sharing how to identify your skills and match them to a nonprofit or cause to make your support even more valuable, how to gauge your commitment level before getting involved, the characteristics of good and bad volunteers, and how those required to do volunteer work can make the most of it. He shares tips for those looking to volunteer as a family, school, faith group, or business, and provides advice for retirees, those between jobs, prospective fund raisers, and those looking to make the holidays brighter for those less fortunate. Thorough, engaging, and highly relevant, this do good, feel good book is an invaluable resource for those contemplating new forays into volunteerism. (Oct.) Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

David T. Levinson is the founder and executive director of Big Sunday, organizing 50,000-plus volunteers throughout California. Profiled by The Wall Street Journal, Los Angeles Times, and NBC Nightly News, he was named Best Nonprofit Leader in California by Governor Schwarzenegger and Maria Shriver. A writer for screen and print, he lives in Los Angeles with his wife and children. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I've done a great deal of volunteering over 4 decades, and it has always been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life--meeting new people, some of whom have become good friends, doing something I enjoy anyway, like hiking or singing, so then I lead hikes and sing-alongs, and participating in something that is meaningful for others. So initially, I would have guessed this book would not have told me much beyond the obvious. I was definitely wrong. Levinson's book is a very enjoyable, useful, and sometimes touching and funny account, written by a man who for many years has had a job matching people with the best volunteering opportunities--for them and for the people they might serve. My guess is that most people, when they think of volunteering, come up with only a handful of possibilities, maybe one or two of which appeal to them. But Levinson describes dozens of experiences that had never occurred to me. He describes the appeals and cautions for various activities. He also includes special chapters with practical advice for families, schools, faith groups, businesses, and retirees and also discusses issues of recruiting others and raising money. I can't imagine any volunteer who wouldn't learn from this book. And watch out, if you are not a volunteer now, this volume will change that!

Enjoyed this book and I am a professional in the field of volunteer management. Heard the author

speak at a book reading at the National Conference on Volunteering and Service in New Orleans, June 2011. Grass root organizations might find it of particular interest.

Levinson brings his savvy and down to earth perspective to the very real need that every community has to be able to give and give big. As a writer and dad and husband, David started this Mitzvah project small. Through his leadership, LA and Big Sunday grew and grew. Its values tap into essentials. .... everyone giving, everyone receiving. Bravo. The book details the mechanics and delivers the tools for an enormous gift. A very important part of every library.

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