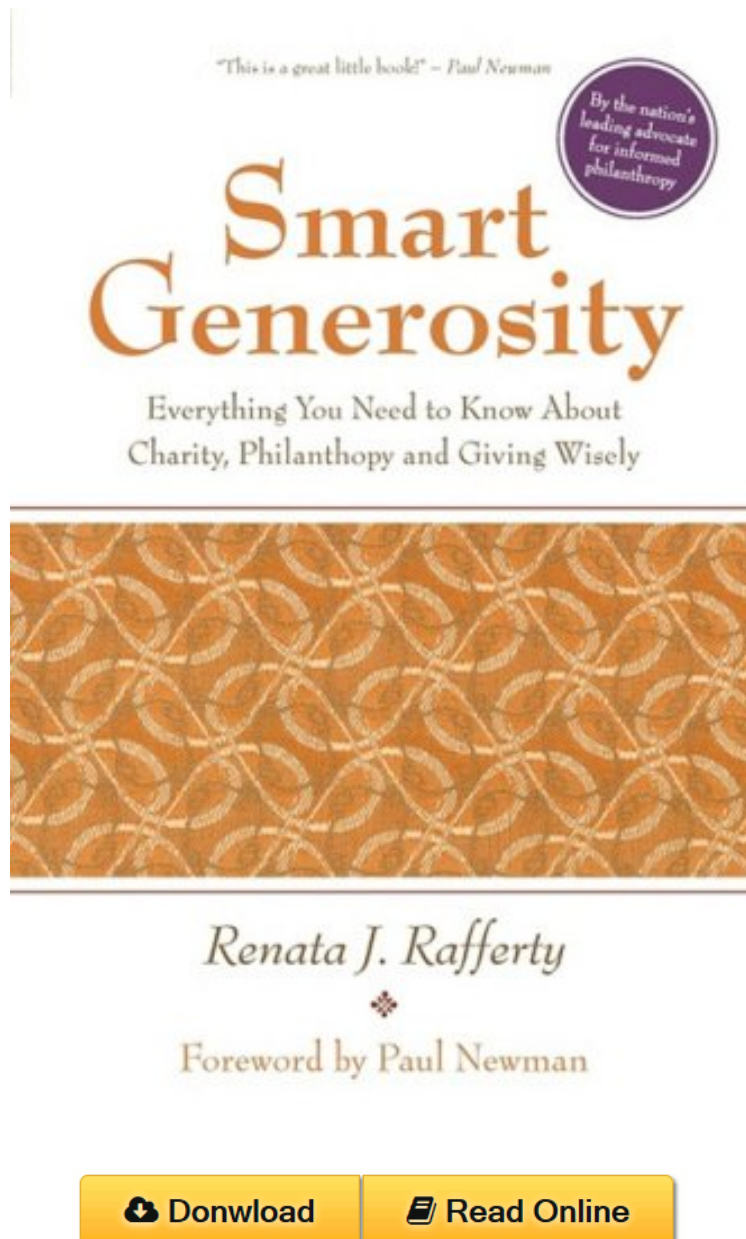


Smart Generosity: Everything You Need to Know about Charity, Philanthropy and Giving Wisely

Renata J. Rafferty

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#2301735 in Books Seven Word Press 2009-05-15Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.02 x .44 x 5.98l, .68
#File Name: 098217280X206 pages | File size: 70.Mb

Renata J. Rafferty : Smart Generosity: Everything You Need to Know about Charity, Philanthropy and Giving Wisely before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Smart Generosity: Everything You Need to Know about Charity, Philanthropy and Giving Wisely:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Ho HumBy R. HaecklerI was looking for a book that really told how to make an impact. This is not that book, at least not what I was looking for. This book is mostly directed at people

prepared to give \$100,000 - \$1,000,000 and up to non-profits, and not so much for social impact as "making yourself feel good" or to "express meaningful choice over the direction in which our society will progress". In other words, it could be a fine fit for letting shallow, self-absorbed people get tax write-offs but not feel like it has all gone to waste. If you want a wing of a hospital or a library named after you then this is the book for you. If you like paperwork, board meetings, and finance sheets, then this is the book for you. I've worked in charities and a lot of them got their funding from programs/donors like described in this book. Some did, as the author says, fudge their paperwork and spin their work to make it look more successful than it was. Some wasted huge amounts of money and never accomplished anything. Some were really amazing charities as well. To me the key to which donors made wise choices was that the donors of the good charities were actually involved in the issue - the best homeless shelters were funded by people who knew the people who ran them and had gone with them on outreach trips or had been to the shelter while it was operating. They were really involved. The worse ones were funded by people who rarely visited and when they did were happy to merely meet with the program director and did not talk to the actual clients about their experience. Some of the "red flags" the author brings up shouldn't be - I've worked in programs that were highly effective but were hopeless at accounting. Programs that had perfect books often were very good at going after the money but delivered a very poor quality product. She makes a few good points. Sometimes investing in infrastructure, like training some key people, will help a lot more than just throwing them money - but also sometimes some consultants come in and ruin what makes the program special by focusing too much on fiscal matters.

SMART GENEROSITY is the essential and indispensable resource for donors of all ages, interests, and capacities to give that will benefit any individual, family, foundation, or corporation engaged in philanthropy. Written by Renata Rafferty -- one of the nation's most engaging experts on charity -- SMART GENEROSITY is the only book that leapfrogs the technical and philosophical focus of current books on charitable giving to offer practical advice, real-life stories, and extensive resource recommendations guaranteed to uncomplicate even the largest philanthropic gift. SMART GENEROSITY is also an excellent resource for financial and wealth advisors, and belongs on the required reading list of every certified financial planner, estate and tax planning attorney, family office executive, foundation trustee, charity leader, giving officer, and any professional who advises clients with a philanthropic interest. Its premise is simple: we should approach our philanthropic giving as thoughtfully and insightfully - and personally - as we do our financial investing. Charity guru Renata Rafferty offers guidelines, tips and information you won't find anywhere else, including: five steps to defining your philanthropic focus; four ways to assess a charity; the one question to ask before making a gift; and the ten warning signs a donor should never ignore. SMART GENEROSITY also reveals how a donor advised fund works, simplifies socially responsible investing, and offers the secret to raising a charitable child, as well as answering donors' most frequently asked questions (FAQs). Here's what others have said ... "There is no better expert on this subject than Renata Rafferty. This book is a must." -- Bill O'Reilly "This is a great little book!" - Paul Newman "All donors should follow the advice in this book." - Charity Navigator Using Renata Rafferty's book - and it is a book to be used - guarantees two results ... your charitable giving will be more effective and the organizations you support will be better served!