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Ignite!: Getting Your Community Coalition Fired Up for Change

Frances Dunn Butterfoss Ph.D

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**Getting Your Community
Coalition "Fired Up"
for Change**

Frances Dunn Butterfoss

Foreword by
Meredith Minkler

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Frances Dunn Butterfoss Ph.D : Ignite!: Getting Your Community Coalition Fired Up for Change before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ignite!: Getting Your Community Coalition Fired Up for Change:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great Resource for Coalition Building and SustainingBy Rob SimmonsIgnite! is an excellent resource for "igniting and sustaining the fire" (love the fire metaphors) for any kind of coalition or partnership building for the health, education or social services. It provides a large range of concepts and

highly practical tools in an easy to read style for community leaders at all levels. The numerous specific tools such as checklist for choosing coalition issues and an outline for sustainability are resources one can use immediately. Ignite! sits on my shelf within an easy "grab" to pull out and use immediately for community meetings. Expect it to be in my briefcase more often than on the shelf.

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. IgniteBy Sergey SinelnikovA got a copy of Ignite from a colleague because our team was gearing up for an evaluation project involving community safety coalitions and back then we knew very little about what coalition building was all about and even less about coalition evaluation. Essentially, the book is a step-by-step, easy-to-follow guide for someone who has had no or limited direct experience with community-based partnerships. If you are a coalition leader, or thinking about becoming one, the book is probably the fastest way to answer the how questions about coalition structure, membership, planning, resources, and, what I personally found relevant, coalition evaluation. It takes forever to find reliable, useful, and comprehensive information online or compile best practices from various sources, so from that perspective Ignite offers a "one-stop-shopping" experience and, most importantly, the guidance it offers is evidence-based. Another thing that I found helpful while reading this book was having the various tools, like charts and checklists, integrated with the text. You don't need to keep flipping the pages back and forth to find some table buried in the appendix. So it's definitely well organized. One thing I didn't find in this book is stock photos of uber-attractive people holding hands and smiling into the camera that you typically see in publications on health promotion. Who finds that inspirational? What I did find is a ton of tools and suggestions for further reading, so it helps that the author provides a list of references where additional information may be found. It certainly helped with our own evaluation. In my practice, I found it useful to supplement this book with the information provided online in the Community Tool Box. Overall, I think the book would make a great "coalition warming" gift for those who are trying to get things going within their community and inspire others to follow their lead.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. I enthusiastically recommend this book as a critical tool for anybody hoping ...By Timothy G. LaPierDisclaimer, these are my views not necessarily those of past or current employers. Just so you know, I've worked all my life in Public Health, starting with the American Lung Association, then with the New York State Department of Health, and finally with the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention. Throughout my career I have worked for organizations that depend on effective coalitions to help communities successfully implement important public health practices. In the past I had to extract information from the scholarly articles on the subject of community organization and coalition building, many of them written by Dr. Butterfoss. However, this is the first clearly written document I've seen that handles all aspects of the coalition development, implementation, evaluation, and maintenance process. This document provides real world, practical guidance to assist communities to make the most of partnership and community resources to accomplish their goals. It also provides tips for helping communities succeed in the long run, beyond any one funding source. This book contains many key strategies and steps to make this complex theme understandable for any community professional interested in making a real difference in their community. It also provides needed templates and tools to assist in the planning and organizational processes. I constantly refer to this document as a resource for inspiration and for guidance when developing training and technical assistance content for awardees. I enthusiastically recommend this book as a critical tool for anybody hoping to leverage partnerships and coalitions to successfully achieve community goals.

Frances Dunn Butterfoss, Ph.D., captured the attention of academics and practitioners everywhere with her landmark textbook, *Coalitions and Partnerships in Community Health*, which provided a comprehensive approach to coalitions. *Ignite! Getting Your Community Coalition Fired Up for Change* is a more concise, user-friendly book geared for community practitioners, leaders, and activists who want to build and sustain innovative organizations and coalitions to improve the health and well-being of their communities. Learn why sustaining and building a coalition is very much like planning, building, fueling, and sustaining a campfire, and get detailed guidance on how to: * determine if coalition building is the best way to achieve your goals; * pick the simplest structure to achieve your objective; * build and sustain innovative organizations and community coalitions with the power to change policies, systems, and environments. The book's four parts-Before You Build It, Build It, Make It Work, and Sustain It-provide practical strategies to build coalitions, as well as troops, clubs, neighborhood associations, and other organizations. Whether you're a volunteer or professional, you'll get tools that make it easier to accomplish meaningful and lasting change with Ignite!

About the AuthorFrances Dunn Butterfoss, Ph.D., is an expert with more than twenty-five years of experience training and consulting with organizations, coalitions, and communities. She is president of Coalitions Work and a professor at Eastern Virginia Medical School. She is also the author of *Coalitions and Partnerships in Community Health*. She lives in Virginia.