

About the Author

William S. Hettinger, Ph.D. is President of Prosperous Communities, a consulting organization dedicated to helping communities design and implement housing and community development strategies and evaluate the effectiveness of community development programs. His clients include Fortune 500 companies, national non-profit organizations, and small, community based not-for-profits. Prosperous Communities is an industry leader in developing new and innovative approaches to address community issues.

Bill has over 20 years experience in housing, real estate, and community development. Over the years he has been an affordable housing developer, housing director, mortgage broker, asset manager, portfolio manager, and consultant to corporations and non-profits engaged in real estate, community development and performance evaluation.

Bill earned a Ph.D. in International Development from the University of Southern Mississippi where his research focused on housing and tourism. He also earned an MBA from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, a bachelor's degree from the University of Buffalo and is a graduate of the Economic Development Institute at the University of Oklahoma.

If you have questions or comments about the contents of this book, are seeking a speaker for your conference, or want to learn more about housing strategies and program evaluation, Bill can be contacted through Prosperous Communities:

Prosperous Communities, Inc.

Phone: (860) 456-4477

Fax: (860) 456-1323

Email: billh@prosperouscommunities

Website: www.prosperouscommunities.com

Acknowledgements

Writing a book is often a long and tedious process, with much time spent alone analyzing data, organizing thoughts, and then putting these thoughts on paper. The author must have passion for the subject matter and must be committed to publishing his thoughts and ideas. At times, a bit of stubbornness and a refusal to quit are necessary ingredients.

But creating and publishing a book, particularly one which requires significant research, is far from a solitary task. Many people are involved along the way and their assistance and guidance has proved invaluable to me throughout the process. As some the research presented here was originally collected and published as part of the dissertation research for my Ph.D., I will start by thanking the members of my dissertation committee for their input and guidance during this process. Thanks to Dr. David Butler, head of the International Development Program at the University of Southern Mississippi and chair of my dissertation committee, and thanks to Dr.'s Mark Miller and Clifton "Skeeter" Dixon of the University of Southern Mississippi, to Dr. Jackie Haley, and to Dr. Jack Phillips, who in addition to serving on my committee, convinced me that this work needed wider distribution in the form of a book.

In addition, I want to thank all those individuals in Aspen, Martha's Vineyard, Provincetown, and Whistler who answered my phone calls and emails and who graciously allowed me to interview them as part of this research. While I have agreed not to identify anyone by name, know that I am greatly in your debt.

I also want to thank my editor Lisa Smith for her efforts on this project and to thank Pete Masterson, who in addition to providing design and layout for the book, provided invaluable guidance during the publishing process.

Finally, I want to thank my family for their support during this project. Thanks to my wife Ann-Marie for her efforts in proofreading the manuscript and to proving another set of eyes for the document, and a special thanks to Ann-Marie and by children Laura and Jessica for putting up with me during this process.