

## about micro-philanthropy

Blogging the peer-to-peer social change movement

**About Micro-Philanthropy** highlights the individuals, organizations, thought leaders, and social action platforms that are using social media to increase small scale giving and create social change.

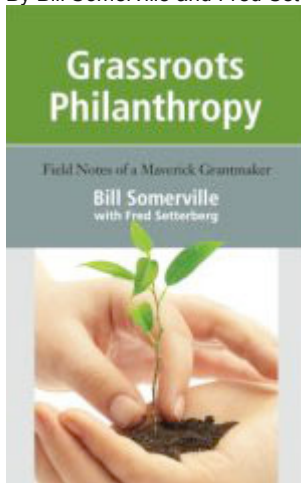
<http://www.socialactions.com/four-new-books-i-want-read>

# Four New Books I Want to Read

By [Peter Deitz](#) • Posted on February 21, 2008

[Grassroots Philanthropy: Field Notes of a Maverick Grantmaker](#)

By Bill Somerville and Fred Setterberg



A veteran philanthropist calls for decisive, hands-on grantmaking Bill Somerville believes that foundations can do a better job Grassroots Philanthropy explains how. Endless paperwork, bureaucracy, and beleaguered foundation heads bog down many bold new ventures. The cowboy approach advocated by Bill Somerville encourages philanthropists to actively engage with the community, meet people who are doing extraordinary things, and fund those in need quickly with a minimum of process and paperwork. Somerville s style is straightforward, urgent, emphatic, and persuasive. He encourages foundations to take calculated risks and to fund ideas for actual change, rather than for fact-finding reports that exhaustively sum up what s wrong with the world. This is an illuminating book for those in the foundation and nonprofit worlds alike. With an unprecedented transfer of generational wealth expected over the next half-century, it is also a call to the upcoming generation of philanthropists to step up and use their wealth to ensure that real change happens quickly and creatively.

[See this review on GiftHub](#)

## Contributors



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**Social Actions** helps individuals, nonprofits, and foundations use social media to plan, implement, and support peer-to-peer social change campaigns.