

NEW BOOK CALLS FOR "A DECADE OF REBUILDERS" AMID EVIDENCE, INSIGHT ON CRITICAL LEADERSHIP NEEDS IN THE 2020s

(Seattle, WA) When social impact thought leader Paul Shoemaker was researching effective civic change, he discovered something important: What matters most today in driving real change in our businesses and communities is less about a certain set of programs or strategies and more about a different kind of leadership. The 2020s call for leaders poised to meet what are radically different challenges than even a generation ago—including near-critical levels of inequity, silos, division, and resource scarcity. While innovation is always good, more than *invention* and *innovation* what is needed most now is *re-invention* and *renovation*, explains Shoemaker.

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RADICALLY DIFFERENT THAN THOSE WE FACED EVEN ONE
GENERATION AGO." — PAUL SHOEMAKER, AUTHOR**

"As I studied this question of what drives the most successful social impact, I began noticing that the stellar cases were led by people with a unique approach to leadership. And they happen to possess some strikingly similar traits. Five key traits, in fact," said Shoemaker.

Using the analogy of deteriorating bridges in the United States, Shoemaker shows us in his new book, *Taking Charge of Change: How Rebuilders Solve Hard Problems* (HarperCollins Leadership; release date Mar 16, 2021), that the structures and foundations of American communities and companies are in deep need of rethinking and rebuilding. "With limited capital and increasing urgency, we can't afford NOT to do more with what we have," said Shoemaker. "Simply put, the most valuable leaders today are those with the traits to be what I call '**Rebuilders.**'"

Writing for socially conscious and civically active leaders who seek greater impact—in private, public, and nonprofit sectors—Shoemaker profiles in his book thirty-eight rock star change agents who he dubs Rebuilders. He distills what makes them so effective. Featured leaders include Peter

Drucker Award winner Rosanne Haggerty, whose goal is to end chronic homelessness; Trish Millines, who has changed lives for kids of color pursuing high tech; David Risher, whose cross-sector approach is addressing global illiteracy; and more.

In *Taking Charge of Change*, readers learn the five vital traits top change agents use to solve big problems—such as “24-7 Authenticity” and “Complexity Capacity”—and how these traits work together to be greater than the sum of their parts. Readers also gain perspective from relevant research, data, leadership lessons from Rebuilders, and three cases studies that illuminate the path ahead. All shared in Shoemaker’s signature storytelling style.

“It’s critical that we get this right if we want to come out of this decade better than we came in,” said Shoemaker. “With this book, you have an inside look at the ‘secret sauce’ of leadership that activates the most successful transformations today and for the decade ahead.”

About the Author

If you’re out to change the world, PAUL SHOEMAKER is there to connect you to the people, ideas, and organizations that matter. Shoemaker is the Founding President of Social Venture Partners International—the world’s largest philanthropic network of its kind with offices in 40 cities and 8 countries that connects social innovators, entrepreneurs, philanthropists, and business and community leaders. With insights from over 17 years of this unique vantage point, as well as a decade prior at Microsoft and Nestlé, he is today a global thought leader and consultant on activating social change agents and increasing impact. This is his second book; his first is *Can’t Not Do: The Compelling Social Drive that Changes the World* (Wiley, 2015). Shoemaker recently launched a podcast, **Rebuilders: Leaders We Need for Decade Ahead** (paulshoemaker.org/podcast).

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