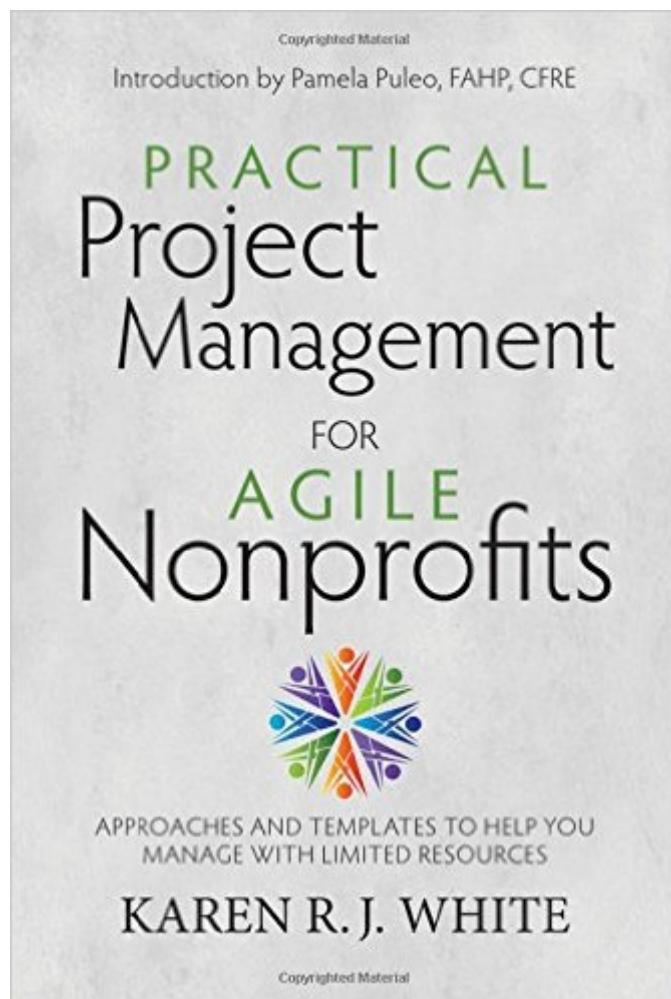


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Practical Project Management For Agile Nonprofits: Approaches And Templates To Help You Manage With Limited Resources



Synopsis

* Winner of the 2015 Axiom Business Book Awards Bronze Medal for Philanthropy/Nonprofits.

Practical Project Management for Agile Nonprofits introduces nonprofit managers to the basic concepts of project management and provides dozens of templates to help you quickly implement practices to effectively manage your limited resources, financial and volunteer. The book emphasizes using appropriate project management practices, those that are not burdensome but rather agile in their approach. In keeping with this theme, the book explores how you can use social media to assist in the management of time-sensitive projects. You will learn how to apply just enough project management to: Be an active leader and a superior project manager; Respond with agility to change and the unexpected; Focus efforts on what truly matters; Recruit and engage a new generation of volunteers; Build a framework that ensures project success; Keep all stakeholders involved with the project satisfied. The book also addresses nonprofit governance and shows you how project portfolio management can be used to assist in communicating with boards of directors and other governing entities when crucial resource decisions need to be made. Finally, real-world case studies on project planning, portfolio management, and volunteer-managed projects will show you how others have achieved project

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

I'm a certified project manager with the Project Management Institute and I bought the book to help

me adapt what I know to a non-profit that has volunteers on a lot of the projects I lead. I also teach courses in project management at the undergraduate level in a university. Terrible book. First, it's simply a rehash of traditional project management principles with no adaptation to the unique circumstances of non-profits. Most of it is not practical on projects that are staffed with volunteers who often lack skills or have varying degrees of commitment. Second, I give about 1/2 page to Agile project management, the latest and hottest thing in adaptive project management techniques -- sorely needed in non-profits where everyone is learning and requirements change as you do research or learn. I think the title of the book is very misleading. The author may be trying to increase sales by making it appear the book is on Agile project management principles, when in actuality, it's traditional project management. And the techniques described (in my experience) work best with smaller projects, with very stable requirements and a team who knows what they are doing. I turned around and sold this book instantly after scanning it. It was not a good use of funds to purchase it.

Highly recommended for project managers, sponsors, or other participants trying to understand project management in the nonprofit setting. I've been in project management for 30+ years, am a PMP, and have crossed private, public, and nonprofit sectors. Nonprofit is different, and I've struggled to find a book that speaks to that audience. This one does. It takes the reader through the project management framework, and offers lots of really good templates and examples to help the reader visualize the concepts. The narrative and examples are contextualized in the nonprofit setting, where normal challenges like human resources management are so different. It touches on a variety of project management and collaboration technologies that could be quite valuable in the nonprofit setting. White dedicates an entire section of her book to managing volunteers.

I can't say this is the most exhaustive book about PM, but it is a very good start for a non-profit which is not accustomed to PM language. It allowed me explain some sophisticated concepts in a non-profit language and simultaneously better understand non-profit challenges. All in all I highly recommend it to anyone who wants to improve PM practices in a non-profit organization.

Although I am fairly familiar with project management principles, I read this book to see if it could serve as a more friendly intro to project management ideas for potentially wary non-profit staff. I think the straightforward presentation and the emphasis on "why" works well to make this a good introduction for skeptical staff.

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