



## Systems Thinking for Social Change

A Practical Guide to Solving Complex Problems,  
Avoiding Unintended Consequences, and  
Achieving Lasting Results

David Peter Stroh

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“ **A highly readable, accessible, and effective guide to understanding systems and using that knowledge to get the results you want in support of what society needs.** ”

Do you wish that your efforts to create social change could have a more powerful impact?

In *Systems Thinking for Social Change*, noted author and consultant David Peter Stroh offers a clear path forward: applying systems thinking and tools enables you to achieve greater results with fewer resources in more lasting ways.

The book enables nonprofit executives, public sector leaders, corporate social responsibility managers, and social change agents to achieve sustainable breakthrough outcomes by:

- Asking powerful questions which naturally stimulate systems thinking, create catalytic conversations, and motivate continuous learning.
- Empowering people to identify where they can have the greatest impact on others—by first reflecting on, and then shifting their own intentions, thinking, and actions.
- Mobilizing diverse stakeholders to take actions that increase the effectiveness of the whole system over time instead of meeting immediate self-interests.
- Helping people avoid the unintended negative consequences of well-intentioned solutions.
- Identifying ways to best integrate and leverage limited resources for lasting, system-wide improvement.
- Harnessing the emotional, behavioral, spiritual, and cognitive power of systems thinking.

Stroh walks readers through the successful methods he has used over the past thirty-five-plus years to help nonprofit, business, and public organizations solve complex and chronic problems—from homelessness to issues plaguing public health, public education, affordable housing, criminal justice, and more.



**David Peter Stroh** is a founding partner of Bridgeway Partners ([www.bridgewaypartners.com](http://www.bridgewaypartners.com)) and a founding director of [www.appliedsystemsthinking.com](http://www.appliedsystemsthinking.com). He was also one of the founders of Innovation Associates, the consulting firm whose pioneering work in the area of organizational learning formed the basis for fellow cofounder Peter Senge's management classic *The Fifth Discipline*. David is internationally recognized for his work in enabling people to apply systems thinking to achieve breakthroughs around chronic, complex problems and to develop strategies that improve system-wide performance over time.

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