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July 23, 2015

Michael Jacoby Brown
training & coaching

*Helping organizations achieve their goals
through recruiting and motivating others*

Organizer's Edge ▶

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From Michael Jacoby Brown

Organizers often ask hard-headed questions about the possibility of winning a specific objective. Movements bring out the passion, voice and power of people who may not be primarily involved in established organizations. Here, Scott Reed challenges us to combine forces.



Scott Reed, Executive Director, PICO National Network, San Diego, CA.

Scott Reed is the Executive Director of the PICO National Network, comprised of multi-racial and multi-faith organizations working to advance racial and economic justice domestically and internationally. Scott has been a community organizer since the early 70's, working with leaders, clergy and staff to build organizations

throughout the country that are able to build sustainable power to create and transform the systems that impact the daily lives of working families. Scott and Eileen have been married for over thirty years and have two children who also share a passion for justice

Movements and Building Organizations

Over these past twelve months our country seems to be waking up. More and more of us are recognizing structural racism and our own complicity.

Black Live Matter, and the movement that this language expresses, is important to those of us building organizations. I believe we have an

opportunity to connect the strengths of this movement with the strengths of organizing in this moment. Such ambition requires us to toggle between organizing and movement sensibilities. Such ambition requires those of us in organizing to recognize leaders who are leading our organizations also are involved with and leading movements. Binary thinking-- either you organize or you are part of a movement-- do not serve us in these moments.

Movements can challenge and re-define narratives. Black Lives Matter; the Fight for 15 --converge in a narrative expressing who matters. This fall we will have Pope Francis, arguably the most significant religious leader in the world, express to Congress that our idolatry of the marketplace, our indifference to those most excluded-- is flat out wrong.

Black Lives Matter, Fight for 15, Pope Francis: these three movements and moments connect. Organizing can help further translates this opportunity into political capital that can forever change our country.

We want to hear from you, your reactions, ideas, what is at the edge YOUR "envelope." Just go to...

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Michael Jacoby Brown Story

Who else you will hear from.....

We are just starting, but so far you can expect to hear what the following people are thinking:

Jessica Tang: Boston Teachers Union, AFT

George Luse of the Mass Teachers Assn,

Scott Reed with the PICO Network, ,

Cathy Howell, in Oregon and El Salvador, formerly with the AFL-CIO,

Caesar McDowell of the Interaction Institute for Social Justice,

Diana Bell of Community and Labor United,

David Hernandez of the California Education Assn,

Linda Honold, of Wisconsin Voices

Attica Scott, now an elected official in Louisville, KY,formerly with Jobs with Justice,

Quinn Rallings in Alabama with the PICO Network,
Bob Van Meter with the Local Initiative Support Corporation in Boston,
Walter Davis, in Tennessee, of the National Organizers Alliance,
Deb Askenase, of Community Organizing 2.0,
Deb Fastino, of the Coalition for Social Justice in New Bedford, MA,
Rebecca Gutman, with SEIU-1199,
Tim Dean, of SEIU-1199,
Claudia Horwitz, of Stone Circles in North Carolina,
Mary Ochs, long time organizer in Los Angeles
and others, hopefully, including YOU

Other Useful Links

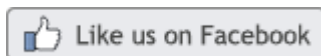
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[National Organizers Alliance](#)

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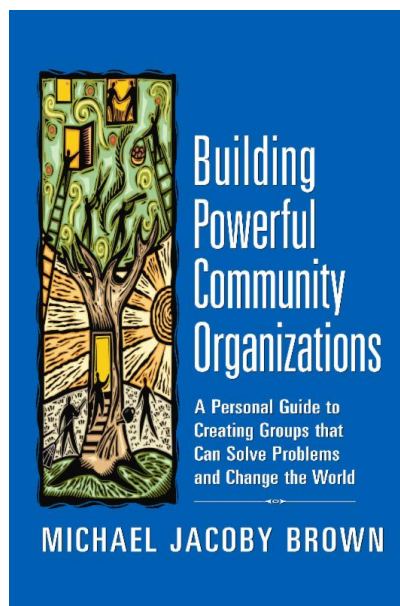
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Michael Jacoby Brown Training and Coaching | mjbrown246@gmail.com | <http://www.michaeljacobybrown.com>
10 Brattle Terrace | Arlington, MA 02474