

EVOLVING LEADERSHIP FOR COLLECTIVE WELLBEING

EVOLVING LEADERSHIP FOR COLLECTIVE WELLBEING

Lessons for Implementing the
United Nations Sustainable
Development Goals

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

In loving memory of Seana Lowe Steffen who is still lighting the way.

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Jamie Rezmovits
Co-Editor

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ABOUT THE EDITORS

Seana Lowe Steffen, PhD, deceased, was the founder and CEO of the Restorative Leadership Institute (RLI), which cultivates leadership and enterprise that fulfills humanity's potential to thrive in balance with all life. As a certified B Corp, RLI received "Best for the World" recognition among all certified B Corps globally in 2017, 2016, and 2013. Seana brought nearly 25 years of experience in strategic consulting, capacity building, and leadership and organizational development. Her client community spanned sectors and continents including Tostan, The Sustainability Consortium, National Civilian Community Corps, Hewlett Packard, Denver Water, and the Carter Center. For her positive impact, Seana was invited to be a delegate at the prestigious Skoll World Forum.

Jamie Rezmovits, JD, as the Chair of the Restorative Leadership Institute, supports purpose-driven organizations and planet-minded leadership to increase their positive impact. With specialties in environmental conflict transformation, education, and community development, her heart-centered work spans from university classrooms in the United States to rural communities abroad. As an educator at the University of Colorado, she worked as a faculty member for the INVST Community Studies Department where she trained community leaders to work for the benefit of humanity and the environment. Jamie is a practicing attorney at Scheitler & Rezmovits, PC in Denver, Colorado.

Shanah Trevenna has been leading and guiding leaders of companies and non-profit organizations in the impact space for over 15 years. Shanah's unique style as an executive and leadership coach bridges her broad academic and professional experience with a honed intuition that helps leaders connect with their true nature and create their most fulfilling life and business. Her PhD focused on evolving business and the global economy, so she speaks and consults globally on diverse topics such as B Corps, women's

empowerment, blockchain for good, and conscious entrepreneurship. Shanah currently works with 100 global coaching clients.

Shana Rappaport has worked actively for over a decade as a cross-industry convener to advance sustainability solutions. Over the last five years, as director of strategic programs for GreenBiz Group, Shana has helped build and scale the VERGE global event series, focusing on how technology accelerates the clean economy. Shana previously served as Director of Education for Bioneers, and as a nationally recognized community leader during her time as an undergraduate and graduate student at USC.

PREFACE

Seana Lowe Steffen was the creative and strategic visionary behind this book and a beautiful soul. Tragically, she was killed in car accident near Longmont, Colorado, on September 16, 2017, before it could be published, but her light has shined bright as a guide through my completion of this project on her behalf.

I remember Seana calling me in the fall of 2016 with the news of her book proposal having been selected for publication. She was giddy with excitement and pride – enough so that just the tone of her voice made me giggle, too. She had a way of doing that – of sharing in such an authentic and embodied way that I couldn’t help but want to get involved. That was one of Seana’s most powerful gifts – the ability to inspire those around her to work with her in service to the possibility of a better world.

Before she died, Seana was on a mission to answer the guiding question, “*How do we bring out the best of our diverse humanity to ensure a sustainable future?*” She believed in humanity’s potential to meet the environmental and social challenges facing our planet in a way that would result in wondrous outcomes. This book and the process for its creation are a reflection of all that Seana held good and true, from the collaborative nature of the writing process to what she believed in the core of her being would be the impact of having this resource exist in the world. She was very proud of it.

Seana intended that this book empower individuals, organizations, and communities with practical tools and actionable insights to manifest the vision of a future where all life can thrive. Specifically, she hoped to:

- *Awaken the world* to the potential of this pregnant moment in global history – inspiring recognition that our generation is the first, and possibly last, with the ability to meaningfully address these pressing global challenges.

- *Inspire belief in what's possible* in and for our world – bridging the divide between urgency and agency.

Seana celebrated her 50th year of life just a couple of weeks before her untimely passing. She spent the week of her birthday in the same way she lived her life every single day, expressing delight and profound gratitude. The last words of her birthday reflection convey the very essence of her being:

Infinite blessings to name and celebrate [...] I am so grateful for the gift of my life every moment of every day, and wish the deep contentment of a fulfilled heart to all. Onward.

I hope you will find this book as meaningful and relevant as Seana knew it could be.

Jamie Rezmovits
Co-Editor