

*“What if, instead of another cocktail party, companies offered their guests the opportunity to build a house for Habitat for Humanity? Or a bicycle for a deserving child?” - Hope Caldwell*

When Hope first spoke to me about Corporate Social Responsibility, or CSR, I had never heard of it. I was immediately intrigued, curious to find out more, and inspired to be part of the transformation taking place in the corporate world. I turned to the tried and true expert on all things — Google. Surprisingly, Google did not deliver the way that Hope did. Hope’s understanding of the inner-workings of CSR and its potential within the corporate world offered me an enlightened perspective, along with an infectious energy and openness to innovation that is absolutely one-of-a-kind.

*Daring to Dream with the KLH Group* invites us into the inspirational story of one woman’s decision to revolutionize her role in the event planning industry. This book helps us understand not just what CSR events can be like, but why Hope Caldwell is committed to their success. She outlines how these events can be planned at the highest caliber of quality, and why they stand to change the event planning industry, along with the very fabric of corporations and communities alike. Hope writes that “hands-on community service projects are an opportunity to give back to the community, not to mention inspire guests, bond them together, and give them something worth talking about when they return home.”

Having had the incredible opportunity to partner with Hope in the development of innovative CSR events, I not only benefitted from getting my own creative juices flowing, but also had the privilege of seeing the fruits of our labor benefit countless children, corporate clientele, and every person involved in executing these events. There is no question that the impact of these events is far-reaching, well beyond the timeframe of the event itself. I will never forget or stop telling the stories of the “Clubhouse Challenges” I have attended – being a part of transforming a child from “cancer patient” to “Creative SuperStar” leaves its mark. The children arrive curious and shy around the pallets of wood and other materials needed to build the “clubhouses,” and soon discover they truly are the focus of the day’s proceedings. As the kids watch the event’s guests build them a personalized clubhouse from scratch, they are treated as though *theirs* is the only opinion that counts. These children leave with heads held high, confident, eager, and enthused to imagine and play in their very own “mini-home.”

The KLH Group stands to be a leader in the socially conscious event industry. Its founder, Hope, is my dear friend and collaborative innovator. Her magnetic charm, paired with her confident, organized, and deliberate approach to any challenge, makes her undeniably one of the most awe-inspiring people I have ever met. She is a thinker, a visionary, and a person who doesn’t shy away from working through the nitty-gritty details to make something great happen. Her respect and authenticity toward everyone she meets and works with leaves people feeling better about themselves and eager to see her again. These strengths are part of her unique design, and there is no one I would rather be partnered with than her.

So join the KLH Group, and dare to dream along the way. You will come to understand the doors you can open for yourself and open for another person. You will be inspired by the ways that socially conscious corporate events can transform us all into difference makers.

- Carey Dunn