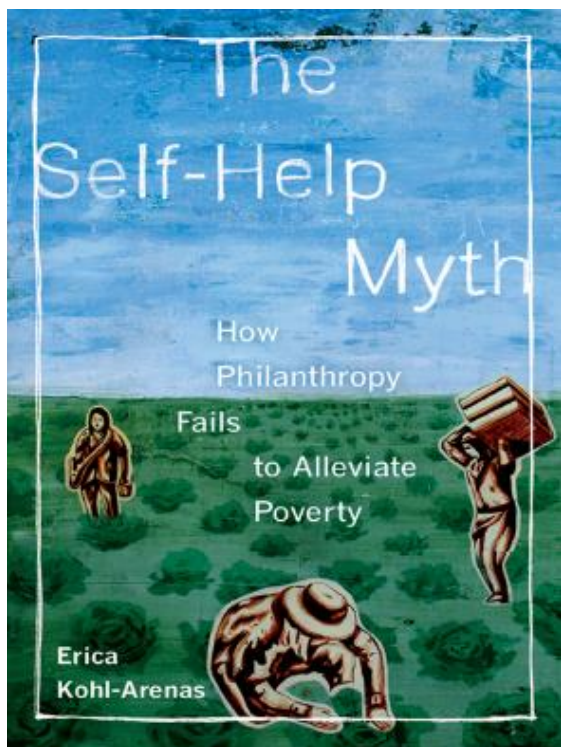


Wednesday - March 30, 2016  
Memorial Union Building – MU II, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
UC Davis Campus  
Book Talk 4:30 PM – 6:00 PM  
Reception & Book Signing to Follow

**UC DAVIS**  
CENTER FOR REGIONAL CHANGE



## Book Talk and Reception

# The Self-Help Myth: How Philanthropy Fails to Alleviate Poverty

University of California Press, 2016

Can philanthropy alleviate inequality? Do anti-poverty programs work on the ground? In *The Self-Help Myth* Erica Kohl-Arenas seeks to answer these questions in this eye-opening analysis. She reveals how philanthropy maintains systems of inequality by focusing on the “behavior” of poor people and ignoring the structural inequities that produce poverty.

These strategies rely on American ideals of individualism and hard work, but when used in partnership with limits around what foundations will fund, these ideals become ill-defined concepts that leave poverty and inequality untouched.

Kohl-Arenas bores deeply into how this plays out in California’s Central Valley, one of the wealthiest agricultural regions in the world and home to the poorest people in the United States.

*Erica Kohl-Arenas is a graduate of the UC Davis Community Development Master’s program. She is currently Assistant Professor at the Milano School of International Affairs, Management & Urban Policy at the New School.*

*This event is hosted by the UC Davis Center for Regional Change and co-sponsored by the Institute for Social Sciences and the Community Development Graduate Group.*

