Record Nr. UNINA9910172214303321 Autore Le Grand Julian Titolo The other invisible hand: delivering public services through choice and competition / / Julian Le Grand Princeton,: Princeton University Press, 2007 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 1-282-15746-9 9786612157462 1-4008-2800-7 Edizione [Course Book] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (207 p.) Classificazione 88.10 PN 212 Disciplina 361.941 Soggetti Social service - Great Britain - Finance Municipal services - Great Britain - Finance Medical care - Great Britain - Finance Health services administration - Great Britain Education - Great Britain - Finance School choice - Great Britain School management and organization - Economic aspects - Great Privatization - Great Britain Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references (p. [183]-195). Nota di contenuto Frontmatter -- Contents -- Acknowledgements -- Introduction --Chapter 1. Ends and Means -- Chapter 2. Choice and Competition --Chapter 3. School Education -- Chapter 4. Health Care -- Chapter 5. New Ideas -- Chapter 6. The Politics of Choice -- Afterwords: An American Perspective / Enthoven, Alain -- Afterwords: A Sceptic's Perspective / Lipsey, David -- Further Reading -- Bibliography Sommario/riassunto How can we ensure high-quality public services such as health care and education? Governments spend huge amounts of public money on public services such as health, education, and social care, and yet the services that are actually delivered are often low quality, inefficiently

run, unresponsive to their users, and inequitable in their distribution. In

this book, Julian Le Grand argues that the best solution is to offer choice to users and to encourage competition among providers. Le Grand has just completed a period as policy advisor working within the British government at the highest levels, and from this he has gained evidence to support his earlier theoretical work and has experienced the political reality of putting public policy theory into practice. He examines four ways of delivering public services: trust; targets and performance management; "voice"; and choice and competition. He argues that, although all of these have their merits, in most situations policies that rely on extending choice and competition among providers have the most potential for delivering high-quality, efficient, responsive, and equitable services. But it is important that the relevant policies be appropriately designed, and this book provides a detailed discussion of the principal features that these policies should have in the context of health care and education. It concludes with a discussion of the politics of choice.