Record Nr. UNINA9910789803103321 Autore Foege William H. <1936-> Titolo House on fire [[electronic resource]]: the fight to eradicate smallpox / / William H. Foege Pubbl/distr/stampa Berkeley [Calif.], : University of California Press New York, : Milbank Memorial Fund, c2011 **ISBN** 1-283-27796-4 9786613277961 0-520-94889-0 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (241 p.) Collana California/Milbank books on health and the public; ; 21 614.5/21 Disciplina Soggetti **Smallpox** Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese Materiale a stampa **Formato** Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto A loathsome disease -- A succession of mentors -- Practicing public health in Nigeria -- Fire line around a virus -- Extinguishing smallpox in a time of war -- Under the rule of variola -- Unwarranted optimism -- A gorgeous coalition -- Rising numbers, refining strategy -- Water on a burning house -- Smallpox zero. Sommario/riassunto A story of courage and risk-taking, House on Fire tells how smallpox, a disease that killed, blinded, and scarred millions over centuries of human history, was completely eradicated in a spectacular triumph of medicine and public health. Part autobiography, part mystery, the story is told by a man who was one of the architects of a radical vaccination scheme that became a key strategy in ending the horrible disease when it was finally contained in India. In House on Fire, William H. Foege describes his own experiences in public health and details the remarkable program that involved people from countries around the world in pursuit of a single objective-eliminating smallpox forever. Rich with the details of everyday life, as well as a few adventures, House on Fire gives an intimate sense of what it is like to work on the ground in some of the world's most impoverished countries-and tells what it is

like to contribute to programs that really do change the world.