Record Nr. UNINA9910973903103321 Autore Brecher Jeremy Titolo Banded together: economic democratization in the Brass Valley // Jeremy Brecher Urbana, : University of Illinois Press, c2011 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 9786613070142 9781283070140 1283070146 9780252093111 0252093119 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (281 p.) The working class in American history Collana Disciplina 330.9746/1 Soggetti Social action - Connecticut - Naugatuck River Valley Deindustrialization - Connecticut - Naugatuck River Valley - History Naugatuck River Valley (Conn.) Social conditions Naugatuck River Valley (Conn.) Economic conditions Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Roots of powerlessness in the Brass Valley -- Banded together --Buyout -- Organizing -- Century brass -- The life and death of Seymour Specialty Wire -- Founding ValleyCare Cooperative -- Taking care of business -- The demise of ValleyCare -- Brookside Housing Cooperative -- Economic democratization from below -- Afterstories. Sommario/riassunto Providing incisive commentary on the historical and contemporary American working class experience, Banded Together: Economic Democratization in the Brass Valley documents a community's efforts to rebuild and revitalize itself in the aftermath of deindustrialization. Through powerful oral histories and other primary sources, Jeremy Brecher tells the story of a group of average Americans--factory workers, housewives, parishioners, and organizers--who tried to create a democratic alternative to the economic powerlessness caused by the closing of factories in the Connecticut Naugatuck Valley region during

the 1970s and 1980s. This volume focuses on grassroots organization, democratically controlled enterprises, and supportive public policies,

providing examples from the Naugatuck Valley Project communityalliance that remain relevant to the economic problems of today and tomorrow. Drawing on more than a hundred interviews with Project leaders, staff, and other knowledgeable members of the local community, Brecher illustrates how the Naugatuck Valley Project served as a vehicle for community members to establish greater control over their economic lives.