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Partners in Public Services: Government-Nonprofit Relations in the Modern Welfare State. Lester M. Salamon.

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Although some will question the validity of Kelso's own analytical contribution, this book provides a helpful overview of the subject of poverty and should be widely read not only in academic but policy circles as well.

Lester M. Salamon, *Partners in Public Service: Government-Nonprofit Relations in the Modern Welfare State*. Baltimore, MD: Johns Hopkins University Press, 1995. \$55.00 hardcover, \$16.95 papercover.

The nonprofit sector has not received as much attention in social policy research as it deserves. Despite its importance, social policy analysts are still primarily concerned with public provision and the role of the state in promoting human welfare. The neglect of the so-called 'Third Sector' by academic investigators is, as Salamon points out, one of the reasons that popular beliefs about voluntary action remain inaccurate. For example, it is widely assumed that with the expansion of the modern welfare state, voluntary social services have shrunk in size and importance. However, as Salamon demonstrates, the growth of the public sector has been matched by a proportionate increase in the size and importance of the nonprofit sector. The reason for this is the close integration of the two. The public sector makes extensive use of the nonprofit sector to deliver services, and it finances a great deal of voluntary effort.

Salamon argues persuasively for a better understanding of the way the nonprofit and public social services sectors are integrated and how they cooperate to enhance people's welfare. His book makes a major contribution to this task. It documents the nature and size of the nonprofit sector in the United States, reviews the extent of the services it provides, and examines its relationship with public provision in considerable depth. Despite the fact that much of the material has been published previously in the form of separate articles, the book is well structured, coherent and comprehensive. In addition, the book contains an informative chapter dealing with international developments. This is one of the best books on voluntary social welfare. It may become the definitive work on the subject and should be widely consulted.