

About Chris Soderquist

Chris Soderquist helps people and teams approach their most pressing challenges with more focus and force. He does this in three ways: *diagnosis*, *intervention*, and *capacity building*.

- **Diagnosis:** by helping clients accurately diagnose and frame their problems in a more actionable way.
- **Intervention:** by helping clients design innovative solutions for addressing their problems in the most efficient and effective way.
- **Capacity building:** by focusing on skill transfer. He not only helps clients solve their most pressing problems, he helps them build their *capacity* for solving their future problems.



Chris has developed the field of *systemic intelligence* – SysQ – the capacity to apply tools and concepts of systems thinking to design high leverage interventions for addressing real-world problems. His unique work elevates traditional "systems thinking" into a discipline that is easier to learn, easier to apply, and more impactful. This discipline helps clients build high performing teams and projects that deliver on their objectives in a more focused, effective, and efficient way by showing them how to

- Extract the best thinking about an issue by drawing on multiple perspectives, disciplines, data, and areas of expertise.
- Organize that information in a way that helps clients understand their world in creative, new ways.
- Use that more rigorous and expansive thinking to generate innovative, and often non-obvious, counterintuitive solutions.

Chris has applied his SysQ work on a wide range of projects with clients such as MIT, Pfizer, The United Nations, Boeing, the Gates Foundation, The World Bank, Northwestern Mutual, Fannie Mae, The World Economic Forum, the Department of Health and Human Services, The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Georgia Health Policy Center at Georgia State University, PepsiCo, The Darden School of Business at the University of Virginia, Colorado Health Foundation, Hewlett-Packard, and Fairbanks School of Public Health at Indiana University.

He has collaborated with leading scholars and practitioners in the field of system dynamics and systems thinking, including Donella Meadows, Barry Richmond, John Sterman, Michael Goodman, David Peter Stroh, and Peter Senge. But his work in system dynamics is also complemented by the adaptive leadership work of Ron Heifetz and Dean Williams, and his ongoing and in-depth collaboration with Frank Barrett, author of *Yes to the Mess* and a leading thought-leader on the intersection of jazz and leadership, and Craig Weber, author of *Conversational Capacity*, which outlines a way to help people and teams improve their performance by treating dialogue as a discipline.

Chris is a contributing author to *The Change Handbook* (Berrett-Koehler, 1999) and his video *Finding Leverage* — created for the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors — won the *Communicator Award of Excellence for Cause Marketing*. His video series on building systemic intelligence is available on the CDC-TV channel.

To learn more visit findinghighleverage.com.