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## The Power of a Promise

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## The Author

Dr. Michelle Miller-Adams has been a visiting scholar at the W.E. Upjohn Institute since January 2006. She is an expert on asset-building strategies and the author of *Owning Up: Poverty, Assets, and the American Dream* (Brookings Institution Press, 2002). She received a PhD in political science and a master's degree in international affairs from Columbia University, and a bachelor's degree in history (Phi Beta Kappa) from the University of California, Santa Barbara. Miller-Adams's professional career has spanned the fields of nonprofit management, finance, research, and academia; positions have included strategic planning consultant at the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, vice president of programs at the Twentieth Century Fund (now the Century Foundation), and vice president of research at Salomon Brothers. She was the principal investigator for a Ford Foundation–sponsored research project concerning asset-based strategies for fighting poverty, and is currently an assistant professor of political science at Grand Valley State University.

