

# MARDIE OAKES




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Hello Housing

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2006 Global Fellow

## BIG BOLD IDEA

House Californians in need by bringing together real estate financing tools with innovative design options to create cutting-edge housing solutions.

## PERSONAL BIO

Architecture has inspired Mardie Oakes since she was a child. Believing that innovative design could create stronger communities and healthier lives, she attended Rice University School of Architecture. Mardie spent five years as a nonprofit housing developer in the Fifth Ward, Houston's lowest income community. There, she co-created an exhibition and demonstration project, "16 Houses: Owning a House in the City" in partnership with the Rice School of Architecture and Diverse Works Artspace. As a result, Mardie recognized the need for creative financing and for building bridges across disciplines to help make cutting-edge projects a reality. After earning an MBA from Harvard Business School, she moved to San Francisco to serve as Director of Lending for a nonprofit bank, where she invested \$20 million of private capital into affordable housing projects in the Bay Area.

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### Organization/Fellow Location

San Francisco, United States

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### Impact Location

North America

United States

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### Organization Structure

Nonprofit

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