



Strategic Guidance. Stronger Nonprofits.

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Enrich Chicago

Northwest Side Housing Center

Perspectives Charter Schools

The Renaissance Collaborative

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Youth Outreach Services

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Encore Stage & Studio

Friends of Guest House

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Finding Unexpected Joy

At dinner with my sons recently, I couldn't help but notice a table just a few feet away where an older couple sat. They must have been in their 80s, much older than anyone else in the restaurant. The restaurant was loud. The woman would say something to the man. He would shake his head. She would pick up her iPhone (the large one) and talk into it, then show him what she had dictated. He would laugh or smile or nod. And they continued this way through dinner, dessert and coffee. The most intriguing thing about this couple though was the way her face lit up every time she looked at him. You could tell that she enjoyed every interaction. I could see the delight on her face. You couldn't miss the affection. In fact, I noticed that others were also captivated by the sight. Waiters would pause as they walked by. Diners kept sneaking glances at the couple. There was something so wonderful, and at the same time unusual, in the pure joy we all were witnessing. We were fascinated by their connection to each other.

Interestingly, I had been talking to a friend earlier that day about a new nonprofit that consisted simply of a program designed to be run without people - a technology system connecting one group with another group. There's no staff to manage the program, no "overhead," so to speak. It's supposed to operate on its own. Will it work? I'm skeptical, because I think we still need people.

I believe those of us in the restaurant were so taken with this couple, because we sometimes forget the power of human connection. As the world around us simplifies and streamlines and gets people out of the way, we actually miss what we've pushed aside. It is human nature to want connection.

The success of Compass is that we run a personal program. We meet in person with each nonprofit that applies for a project. We personally interview all of our Project Leaders. We provide in-person trainings. Our volunteers meet their client and see their work first-hand. Our teams meet to do the work and brainstorming that happens best in person. We know that this human interaction is the key to successful Compass projects.

We also know that connections drive our clients. The nonprofits that work with Compass do the work they do, because of the people they serve. Their gift is supporting the individuals and families in their communities. Compass' gift is supporting nonprofits, and as a result, the people and communities they serve.

In this season of giving, I hope you will remember the nonprofits that are doing so much good in our local communities. And I hope you'll consider a gift to Compass as well, which is truly a gift to many nonprofits. We in turn will continue to give the gift of interaction, talent, skills, and caring, because there is no substitute for human connection.

As my dinner at the restaurant was ending, the couple finished as well. He stood up and reached for his cane. She stood up and reached for his

Friends of the Library
Montgomery County

Girls on the Run of
Northern Virginia

Greater Prince William
Community Health
Center

Greater Washington
Urban League

Homeless Children's
Playtime Project

House of Ruth

Osher Lifelong Learning
Institute (OLLI at AU)

Playworks DC

Rebuilding Together
Alexandria

Sasha Bruce Youthwork

Studio Theatre

Technology Use in the
Nonprofit Sector

Two Rivers Public
Charter School

VisArts

The Washington Ballet

Wonders Early Learning
+ Extended Day

Greater Philadelphia

ACHIEVEability

ArtWell

Bethesda Project

Center for Advocacy for
the Rights and Interests
of the Elderly (CARIE)

Chester County OIC

Community Learning
Center

Family Service
Association of Bucks
County

Interfaith Center of
Greater Philadelphia

Jounce Partners

Living Beyond Breast
Cancer (LBBC)

Lutheran Settlement
House

Montgomery Early
Learning Centers

arm. Together they walked out of the restaurant, leaving behind the unsuspecting people who had come out for dinner, but received much more. This couple unknowingly gave a remarkable gift to those of us who shared a meal that night.

During this holiday season and in 2018, I wish for you the chance encounters that will brighten your day, make you feel optimistic again, and remind you of the humanity in all of us. And I wish for you the personal connections that cause your face to light up with joy.

Happy holidays, and all the best for the new year!

Warmly,

Suzanne

COMPASS EXPANDS STAFF IN CHICAGO

We are thrilled to have Natalie Tessler join Compass as the Managing Director in Chicago. Prior to Compass, Natalie practiced tax and estate planning law, launched and managed a consumer-facing wellness business, and acted as an advisor to a variety of start-up businesses. She is a graduate of University of Wisconsin-Madison, American University's Washington College of Law, and New York University School of Law. Welcome Natalie!

PLEASED TO RECOGNIZE 2017-2018 PROJECT LEADERS

We're excited to have the following talented business professionals leading our Chicago pro bono consulting teams:

Dana Vielmetti (Fuqua), Center for Conflict Resolution
Bob Cohen (NYU Sloan), Enrich Chicago
Rahul Sharma (Michigan), Northwest Side Housing Center
Melissa Lapica (Wharton), Perspectives Charter Schools
Rev Murayi (Wharton), The Renaissance Collaborative
Romana Khan (Kellogg), St. Martin de Porress House of Hope
Kate Dempsey (Michigan), University of Chicago Crime Lab
Michael Gorman (Wharton), Volunteers of America of Illinois
William Landwehr (Booth), Youth Outreach Services

JOIN COMPASS VOLUNTEERS AND GIVE TO COMPASS

Over the past 3 weeks, **162** volunteers have come together to raise over \$16,000 for Compass. Funding for Compass goes directly to our unique pro bono consulting program, ensuring we have the infrastructure and staff to carefully select, train and support our clients and volunteers.

We appreciate our volunteers for ALL that they do for Compass, but we can't do our work with their support alone. Please join this year's volunteers by making a tax-deductible donation to Compass. You can make a secure donation here:

[DONATE NOW](#)

Thank you for supporting Compass, which allows us to support the many nonprofits that we serve and the many people with whom they work.

AMAZONSMILE

Philadelphia Higher Education Network for Neighborhood Development (PHENND)

Southeast Asian Mutual Assistance Associations Coalition (SEAMAAC)

Steppingstone Scholars

The Women's Center of Montgomery County

With holiday shopping on your mind, don't forget that you can send extra financial support to Compass using AmazonSmile. When you do your holiday shopping through AmazonSmile, Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price to Friends of Compass. Bookmark this [link](#) and support us every time you shop.

WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT

We couldn't put together our talented consulting teams without skilled volunteers. We couldn't recruit the amazing volunteers without the support of the local business school clubs. Thank you to the following clubs that help spread the word about Compass. We are grateful for their support.

Columbia Business School
Fuqua School of Business (Duke University)
[Haas School of Business](#) (University of California Berkeley)
Harvard Business School
Johnson Graduate School of Management (Cornell University)
Kellogg School of Management (Northwestern University)
McCombs School of Business (University of Texas at Austin)
MIT Sloan School of Management
Ross School of Business (University of Michigan)
Stanford Graduate School of Business
Stern School of Business (New York University)
Tuck School of Business (Dartmouth College)
UNC Kenan-Flagler Business School
University of Chicago Booth School of Business
University of Virginia Darden School of Business
The Wharton School (University of Pennsylvania)
Yale School of Management

Thank you to these Corporate Partners for assistance recruiting volunteers this year:

Accenture
A.T. Kearney
Boston Consulting Group
McKinsey & Company
Point B Consulting
PwC
ZS Associates

Thank you to our Foundation Supporters:

The Pritzker Traubert Family Foundation