I was looking forward to my middle son's college graduation in May, which was truly a great moment for him. However, I received more than I expected from the occasion. The graduation speaker for the Music Department was a young woman who runs a nonprofit. She told a remarkable story of growing up as a musician, destined to perform with major orchestras her whole life. She and her family sacrificed a lot to make her dream a reality. In her twenties as a professional musician, she came to know an organization in Latin America that gives children the opportunity to learn a musical instrument, children who would never have the chance to do so otherwise. The program changes these children's lives and their futures.

The graduation speaker was so impacted by this program, that she decided to start the program in the United States, instead of continuing her career as a professional musician. She told of calling a former teacher in tears, realizing that she had spent her whole life preparing for one outcome, but now wanted a different one. Her teacher told her that, in fact, her whole life had been preparing her for this outcome - to bring her love of music to children who needed it. She went back to Latin America for guidance on starting the program. She expected to find processes and advice and manuals to follow. Instead, she received the following instruction. "Just begin. Begin now, from here, today. Just begin."

I haven't been able to get this story out of my mind in the four months that have passed. First, it is perhaps the best story to tell college graduates that I can imagine. But more than that, what an amazing directive. Just begin. How many times do we put off something, because it's not the right time? Or we're not ready. Or for another perfectly good reason. But in the end, what are we waiting for?

At Compass, this is the beginning. We selected our nonprofit clients three weeks ago. Our Project Leader and team member applications are open. We are moving ahead with orientations, trainings, info sessions, and all the activities that propel us so quickly through the fall.

Now we just need you. We need people to step up to lead these incredible projects that have been so carefully selected, and to
work with the amazing 14 nonprofits doing so much good in our community. We need volunteers to staff the teams, to bring their time and talent to these causes. I know that re-entry is hard after summer. However, this is also the best time to think about how you want to spend the next few months. Helping a nonprofit that needs your skills and experience is a pretty good option. So while you may see the Compass recruiting email and think "maybe some time...maybe next year," my advice to you is to just begin. Read the project descriptions and find the ones that stir something in you.

There is so much need in our community right now, and you have so much to offer. You can make a difference. Whether music, healthcare, education or something else that speaks to you, Compass is here. This is your year. Just begin.

Suzanne

PROJECT LEADER APPLICATIONS DUE SEPTEMBER 9 at 5:00 p.m.

Compass is seeking MBA graduates from our Partner Business Schools to lead pro bono consulting projects for the amazing nonprofits listed below. If you want to have a personal impact on the broader community, Compass offers a substantive, intellectual experience addressing the unique challenges facing a particular nonprofit.

Project Leaders spend, on average, three to five hours per week on the Compass project. Project Leaders work closely with the nonprofit Executive Director and Board Chair, and a team of volunteer consultants.

The Project Leader application is available here:

Project Leader Application - Greater Philadelphia

TEAM MEMBER APPLICATION - NOW OPEN

Compass is also seeking volunteers to serve as Team Members. Team Members spend, on average, two to three hours per week on their projects.

The Team Member application is available here:

Team Member Application - Greater Philadelphia

MEET THIS YEAR’S CLIENTS ON OCTOBER 3

Join us for Compass' annual Project Launch!

Wednesday, October 3
6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.
Broad Street Ministry

Prospective volunteers are invited to meet this year's clients and Project Leaders. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP here.
The short descriptions that follow hardly do justice to the work of these amazing nonprofits. For more details about each client and the specific project they have requested, click here: [Client Roster](#). We also invite you to join us at Compass' Project Launch on October 3 to meet the clients in-person.

**African-American Chamber of Commerce (AACC)**
Philadelphia, PA
[www.aachamber.org](http://www.aachamber.org)
AACC serves businesses in the public, private, and independent sector who are committed to supporting African-American businesses in the region. *Board Development*

**Art-Reach**
Philadelphia, PA
[www.art-reach.org](http://www.art-reach.org)
Art-Reach is a connector, leader, and advocate for accessible cultural opportunities for people with disabilities and communities facing economic adversity. *Funding Strategy*

**After School Activities Partnerships (ASAP)**
Philadelphia, PA
[www.phillyasap.org](http://www.phillyasap.org)
ASAP develops high-quality after school activities and resources to empower youth and strengthen communities. *Strategic Marketing*

**Campus Philly**
Philadelphia, PA
[www.campusphilly.org](http://www.campusphilly.org)
Campus Philly fuels economic growth in Greater Philadelphia by encouraging college students to explore, live, and work in the region. *Strategic Alignment*

**Commonwealth Youthchoirs**
Philadelphia, PA
[www.cychoirs.org](http://www.cychoirs.org)
Commonwealth Youthchoirs transforms the lives of young people through the power of making music together, one song at a time. *Funding Strategy*

**Congreso de Latinos Unidos**
Philadelphia, PA
[www.congreso.net](http://www.congreso.net)
Serving predominantly Latino neighborhoods, Congreso enables individuals and families to achieve economic self-sufficiency and well-being. *Funding Strategy*

**Council of Spanish Speaking Organizations (Concilio)**
Philadelphia, PA
[www.elconcilio.net](http://www.elconcilio.net)
As a leader for Latino family services, Concilio cultivates the strength and resilience of children and families, improves quality of life, and maintains the Latino community's history and culture. *Strategic Alignment*

**Face to Face**
Face to Face meets basic human needs and reduces suffering, providing a safe environment and practical tools to struggling families, individuals, and the homeless in Germantown. **Board Development**

**Families Forward Philadelphia**  
Philadelphia, PA  
[www.familiesforwardphilly.org](http://www.familiesforwardphilly.org)  
Families Forward helps homeless families become healthy, productive, and self-reliant. **Board Development**

**Fred's Footsteps**  
Ardmore, PA  
[www.fredsfootsteps.org](http://www.fredsfootsteps.org)  
Fred's Footsteps provides support for working families who find themselves in crisis due to the costs associated with caring for a seriously ill, injured, or disabled child. **Board Development**

**Hopeworks 'N Camden**  
Camden, NJ  
[www.hopeworks.org](http://www.hopeworks.org)  
Hopeworks 'N Camden utilizes education, technology, and entrepreneurship to help young adults identify and earn a sustainable future, finding the opportunity to thrive in the midst of violence and poverty. **Strategic Marketing**

**Philadelphia Education Fund**  
Philadelphia, PA  
[www.philaedfund.org](http://www.philaedfund.org)  
Philadelphia Education Fund drives exceptional outcomes for all students by developing great teachers and building paths to college and career success. **Board Development**

**Philadelphia VIP**  
Philadelphia, PA  
[www.phillyvip.org](http://www.phillyvip.org)  
Philadelphia VIP leverages the powerful resources of the community to provide volunteer legal services and ensure access to justice for low-income Philadelphians. **Funding Strategy**

**Senior Adult Activities Center of Montgomery County (Montco SAAC)**  
Norristown, PA  
[www.montcosaac.com](http://www.montcosaac.com)  
Through recreational, educational, and social activities, Montco SAAC involves, enriches, and empowers adults 50 years of age or better to live as independently as possible in all phases of life. **Strategic Alignment**

---

**VISIT THE NEW COMPASS WEBSITE**

We're excited to re-launch our website. Visit our new site at [compassprobono.org](http://compassprobono.org).

For specific Compass Philadelphia information, go to: [compassprobono.org/philadelphia](http://compassprobono.org/philadelphia)
INVEST IN YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY

Like our clients, Compass is a nonprofit that relies on contributions to ensure we can continue bringing talented business professionals to the nonprofit sector to help individual nonprofits.

Every $1 donated to Compass provides $9 of consulting services back to local nonprofits. Donations from individuals, companies, and foundations make it possible for Compass to bring business professionals into the local nonprofit sector each year. You can donate to Compass to support and expand our impact - and yours - by clicking the Donate Now button below.

DONATE NOW

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:

Haas School of Business at UC Berkeley
The University of Chicago Booth School of Business
Columbia Business School
Johnson Graduate School of Management at Cornell
Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth
Fuqua School of Business at Duke
Georgetown University McDonough School of Business
Harvard Business School
Michigan Ross School of Business
MIT Sloan School of Management
Northwestern Kellogg School of Management
NYU Stern School of Business
The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania
Stanford Graduate School of Business
UNC Kenan-Flagler Business School
University of Texas McCombs School of Business
University of Virginia Darden School of Business
Yale School of Management

Thank you to our Corporate Supporters:

accenture
High performance. Delivered.

BLANK ROME LLP
COUNSELORS AT LAW

TMA
Philadelphia
Thank you to our 5th Anniversary Sponsors:

[Logos of various sponsors]

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

- Accenture
- Blank Rome
- Comcast
- Firsttrust Bank
- Goldman Sachs
- Haverford Trust Company
- J.P. Morgan
- Mercer
- Morgan, Lewis & Bockius
- Navigate
- NewSpring Capital
- PwC
- SEI
- Slalom Consulting
- Spencer Stuart
- Turnaround Management Association
- UGI Corporation
- Vynamic
- ZS Associates

Thank you to our Foundation Supporters:

- Connelly Foundation
- Dolfinity-McMahon Foundation
- The Alfred and Mary Douty Foundation
Please join one or all of these online communities and share your reflections and experiences.

Facebook Please "like" us on Facebook and watch for fun announcements, pictures and videos on our page.

Twitter Follow us on Twitter, where we tweet messages about our clients and their programs, trends in the nonprofit sector, and other relevant news. Follow us at @CompassPHL.

LinkedIn Join the Compass Volunteer Network on LinkedIn called "Compass Pro Bono."