FROM THE PRESIDENT

THANKING THOSE IN THE ARENA

Although it’s been a while since I’ve heard Theodore Roosevelt’s “Man in the Arena” speech, I found it on my mind as I watched individuals and nonprofits step up during the pandemic. During the most challenging year and a half in my memory, I’ve seen the best in people through Compass’ work with community-based nonprofits. These organizations turned on a dime to address increased needs last year, with many reinventing the way they deliver services. Nonprofit agility showed up again when I saw one of Compass’ newly selected clients mentioned on my neighborhood list serve. Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area is organizing support for Afghan Allies arriving in the DC area who need food, housing, and more. How fortunate that Compass can support this organization and its work right now.

Compass is no stranger to rising in the face of crises. Having launched 20 years ago right after the devastating attacks on 9/11, we’ve worked with over 725 nonprofits across our three Compass cities since that time. Over 4,300 unique volunteers have engaged with Compass to thank nonprofits and to invest in their work. For 20 years, we’ve helped nonprofits thrive, and together have changed communities.

We’ve just announced 22 wonderful Greater Washington nonprofits selected to receive pro bono consulting services this year (see list below). Now we’re seeking skilled business professionals to volunteer their expertise, time, and passion. By volunteering with Compass, you can help an organization with its strategy, sustainability, and operations. You can help nonprofits plan for the most efficient use of resources and evaluate the path for greatest impact.

The world is constantly changing around us. Compass is incredibly grateful to the nonprofits working and adapting on the front lines every day. In his famous speech of the day and ringing ever true today, Teddy Roosevelt said, “It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena...who strives valiantly; who err, who comes short again and again...but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms...who spends himself in a worthy cause...who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly...”

I hope you’ll consider volunteering to say thank you to nonprofits doing valiant work in our community during the most challenging of times. Join us and our amazing nonprofit clients in the arena. You’ll love the difference you make.

Happy fall!

Suzanne
ANNOUNCING OUR 2021-22 CLASSIC PROJECT CLIENTS

Greater Washington
Arlington Thrive • Center for Alexandria’s Children • Community Advocates for Family & Youth (CAFY) • DC School for Law Foundation • Encore Stage & Studio • Equal Rights Center • Kid Power • Latin American Montessori Bilingual Public Charter School (LAMB PCS) • Latin American Youth Center • Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area (LSSNCA) • National Building Museum • National Theatre Foundation • New Endeavors By Women (NEW) • NOVA ScriptsCentral • PEN/Faulkner Foundation • Rebuilding Together Montgomery County • Samaritan Inns • SCAN of Northern Virginia • Special Olympics of District of Columbia • Tzedek DC • US Capitol Historical Society • Washington Performing Arts

To find out more about our this year’s clients, click here.

Greater Philadelphia
Achieve Now • Bebashi – Transition to Hope • Clery Center • Community Partnership School • Feast of Justice • Friends Association for Care and Protection of Children • Jounce Partners • Judith Creed Horizons for Achieving Independence (JCHAI) • Maternal and Child Health Consortium of Chester County • Musicopia and Dancing Classrooms Philly • Orion Communities, Inc. • Philadelphia City Rowing • Philadelphia Interfaith Hospitality Network • The Rock School for Dance Education • SOWN • Uplift Solutions • Wonderspring

To find out more about this year’s clients, click here.

Chicago
Chicago Foundation for Women • Chicago Scholars • Farmworker and Landscaper Advocacy Project (FLAP) • Girls in the Game • High Jump • Horizons for Youth • Housing Forward • Injustice Watch • Kids Above All • Lawrence Hall • North Suburban Aid Clinic (NSLAC) • The Josselyn Center • Willow House

To find out more about this year’s clients, click here.

VOLUNTEER APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN

Our communities need you. Volunteer your professional skills and help our 2021-22 nonprofit clients navigate today’s most pressing strategic challenges.

Project Leaders
- Preferred MBA, or similar advanced degree, and/or significant management consulting experience
- Available 3-5 hours a week, from late September to May 2022, leading a team of volunteer consultants

Team Members
- MBAs, consultants, attorneys, and business professionals with expertise in finance, marketing, HR, digital strategy, data analytics and more
- Available 2-3 hours a week from October to May 2022

Deadline:
Tuesday, September 14, at 5:00 pm

Deadline:
Monday, October 4, at 5:00 pm
RESETTING YOUR BOARD

Many nonprofit boards are looking to reset and refresh after 18 months of crisis management and change. If your organization is looking to realign board and staff around your mission and strategy, and/or revisit governance policies and procedures to move forward, the Sorkin Center at Compass can help. Reach out to us to discuss our customized, fee-based Mini Retreat planning and facilitation services. Contact Amy Cress, Executive Director, or Wendy Gualtieri, Managing Director, at the Sorkin Center.

SORKIN CENTER HAPPENINGS

On Board Fall Cohort – Seeking interested Nonprofits

The next cohort of Compass' On Board is kicking off October 25. Our On Board program focuses on strengthening nonprofit boards by matching business professionals with nonprofits seeking qualified board members, and providing training for board candidates.

The application opens October 25. Please fill out a Nonprofit Interest Form or email Wendy Gualtieri to receive a link to the application. For additional information, join us for an Information Session on Wednesday, October 27, 12:00 - 12:45 pm. Register here to receive a Zoom link.

Compass Connect Conversations – Cybersecurity for Nonprofits

Join us on Wednesday, November 10, 12:00 - 1:00 pm, for an overview of cybersecurity for nonprofits featuring cybersecurity expert Erik Gaull, Sr. Account Manager, Samsung Electronics America. This webinar will help you learn to identify and protect vulnerable data and information. Register here.

Racial Equity Cohort for Executive Directors Launching This Fall

The Sorkin Center is pleased to announce a Racial Equity Cohort for Executive Directors. With the support of DEI experts from companies including AmerisourceBergen, Booz Allen Hamilton, Capital One, Cigna, McDonalds, TEGNA Inc., West Monroe Partners and more, EDs will do a DEI assessment of their organizations, set goals, create a strategy, and develop a DEI plan for implementation. Applications have closed for this cohort, but contact Amy Cress for information about future opportunities.

NONPROFIT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Access to iRelaunch Job Board

As a benefit of your engagement with Compass, any current or prior Compass nonprofit clients will receive three months of complimentary access to the iRelaunch Job Board (a $1,500 value) to search for resumes and post unlimited job openings for your nonprofit. This access lets you review, recruit and promote your open roles to the iRelaunch talent pool, a highly educated, experienced and high-caliber group of individuals seeking to resume their careers after a break. Compass clients can redeem this offer as long as the open role(s) are for paid staff roles and the nonprofit’s leadership are open to hiring relauncher candidates who have had an extended career break.

Please email nonprofits@irelaunch.com prior to December 31, 2021 with your organization’s name, city and year of Compass project, to receive a code to register for the iRelaunch Job Board.

The Praxis Partnership

The Praxis Partnership at Fair Chance DC is a free, one-year capacity building program for
nonprofits who serve children, youth, and families experiencing poverty and are ready to take their organizations to the next level. The ideal applicant for Praxis is an organization with an annual budget somewhere between $350-750K (although there’s no specific budget floor or ceiling), are trying to build their board and infrastructure and improve upon their program and outcomes. The Praxis Partnership is specially tailored for nonprofits looking to strengthen their leadership, systems, and procedures to foster sustainability and growth.

Applications are due Friday, October 1, 2021. Learn more about the program by visiting the Fair Chance website or contacting applications@fairchancedc.org.

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**COMPASS & AMAZON SMILE**

We'll be smiling from the donations you'll generate for Compass when you sign up and shop on AmazonSmile! Each time you shop at smile.amazon.com, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases to Friends of Compass - with no additional cost to you.

Tip: Be sure to shop from the AmazonSmile home page for your order to count. When first visiting, you will need to select Friends of Compass, Inc. for Compass to receive the contribution.

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ABOUT US

Compass believes nonprofits are the backbone of strong and vibrant communities and knows many are overstretched and under-resourced. Few can afford top-tier consulting firms. Compass has dedicated employees in Chicago, Greater Philadelphia, and Greater Washington, and has been providing pro bono professional consulting services to nonprofit organizations since 2001. We have connected more than 4,341 business professionals with nonprofits to complete 1,077 projects, providing over $106+ million in pro bono consulting services. To date, Compass has also placed 200 professionals onto 129 nonprofit boards. For more information, visit us at compassprobono.org.