

Volume 18, Issue 4 December 2021

Strategic Guidance. Stronger Nonprofits.

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FROM THE PRESIDENT & CEO

FINDING INSPIRATION

I can understand if people are feeling weighed down as this year comes to a close. With almost two years of a pandemic, political divisions, and social unrest, we've been living through challenging times. But once again, I find myself inspired at the end of the year with the many holidays being celebrated. The end of the year just feels different to me. Challenges don't go away, but the activities around the holidays and new year distract and recharge me.

This year, I'm appreciating that watching the animated Grinch still makes me laugh out loud. I'm appreciating the holiday movies and enjoying the wonderful lights and candles, which make me feel calm and uplifted. And a new year on the horizon always brings the possibility of better times.

As we finish 2021, I think back to the story of the Christmas Truce in 1914 during World War I. One winter night on the Western Front, German troops and British Expeditionary Forces began singing songs. The next morning, on Christmas Day, the two sides left their trenches to meet in the middle to socialize and exchange gifts. During this unplanned, 24-hour truce, they interacted as people, connected by their humanity.

One thing I appreciate most about Compass is that we connect people. We bring together people whose lives wouldn't normally cross. Business professionals who volunteer with Compass come to know nonprofits and their leaders, the issues they address, and the people at the center of their work.

As we think about all the good being done in the world, year-end charitable giving ranks high on the list. There aren't a lot of ways to feel helpful during the pandemic, but we can give to those who are making a difference. Nonprofits have continued to support individuals, families, and communities during these past two years. End-of-year giving is a perfect way to show support for the nonprofits in our community that are doing hard work during these difficult times. I hope you'll consider giving to Compass, because we touch so many other nonprofits and as a result, so many lives. So far this year, 270 business professionals are volunteering their time on 54 Compass consulting projects for local nonprofits. In January, we will kick off another 39 projects with an additional 195 volunteers. Then we will launch our On Demand projects.

These numbers are in addition to the nonprofit boards and leaders that we serve through other Compass programs. All told, we expect to serve more than 200 nonprofits across Compass with almost 1,000 volunteers in 2021-22. Now that's inspiring!

This year, more than 100 years after that unplanned truce in 1914, maybe we once again need a truce, but this time for longer than one day. There is much work to be done. Here's hoping that 2022 surprises and inspires us all.

Happy holidays and best wishes for the new year!

Suzanne

SORKIN CENTER AT COMPASS HAPPENINGS

On Board Spring Cohort

On Board, our program that strengthens nonprofit boards by matching business professionals with nonprofits seeking qualified board members, is coming to Chicago this spring! Nonprofits and individuals interested in learning more can fill out an Interest Form or contact Melissa Lapica for more information.

Racial Equity Cohort

Our DEI six-month cohort for nonprofit CEOs/Executive Directors has reached the half-way point after doing individual and organizational assessments. Corporate Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion leaders are working with the cohort to guide them through the assessments and help them create actionable DEI plans for their organizations. Our next DEI cohort will convene in Spring 2022. For more information, contact Amy Cress.

Strategic Planning

Are you looking to create a new Strategic Plan or refresh your existing Plan? The Sorkin Center at Compass provides fee-based Strategic Planning consulting services. Our team brings a structured approach to guide a board and Executive Director through the process of jointly establishing measurable goals, setting priorities, aligning resources and staff, and creating action plans. The result is a clearly articulated strategy to enable a nonprofit to advance its mission more efficiently and effectively. Contact Wendy Gualtieri for more information or to schedule a call to discuss your organization's needs.

Board Training and Retreat Facilitation

The Sorkin Center team helps nonprofit boards become more effective through trainings and retreat facilitations. For Board Retreats, we work with a nonprofit's Executive Director and Board Chair on designing and planning the retreat, guiding and facilitating the event, and recording and summarizing discussions, decisions and next steps. Trainings on Governance, Nonprofit Finance, and Fundraising can be done as stand-alone events or as part of a board retreat. To learn more about our board training or retreat facilitation, contact <a href="https://executive.com/morest-ex

Compass Connect Conversations

Do you have an interest in cybersecurity for nonprofits and but missed our webinar? You can watch the recording featuring cybersecurity expert Erik Gaull, Sr., Account Manager, Samsung Electronics America. He reviews how to identify and protect vulnerable data and information for your organization.

COMPASS LAUNCHES PROJECTS IN MINNEAPOLIS-ST. PAUL

Compass is excited to announce our first nonprofit clients in the Twin Cities:

Code Savvy
Girls on the Run Minnesota
Latino Economic Development Center
The Cedar Cultural Center
YWCA Minneapolis

Looking for a way to give back to the local community? Know someone in the Twin Cities with business skills? Complete a <u>Volunteer Application</u> here or forward this opportunity to friends and colleagues in the Twin Cities who may be interested in volunteering with Compass.

A COMPASS GIFT GOES A LONG WAY

Help 22 nonprofits solve their most pressing issues with a gift to Compass.

Nonprofits are essential to the fabric of our community. They enrich our lives and many of our neighbors depend upon their services. Please, join Compass in keeping them as vibrant as they need to be, for all of us.

Right now, Compass Chicago is raising \$19,500 by December 31st to ensure 22 nonprofits solve their most pressing strategic issues, enabling them to do their very best work. We invite you to make a meaningful gift to Compass to support nonprofits who in turn strengthen our community. Donate securely on our website compassprobono/give or text CompassChicago to 41444.

Thank you!

P.S. Many Compass donors give appreciated stock or through their donor-advised fund because of the tax advantages. If this is right for you, our 501(c)3 registered name is **Friends of Compass**, **Inc.** and Tax ID# is **26-3724642**.

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Greater Philadelphia 2021-22 Micro Clients

Bestwork Industries for the Blind • Collective Success Network • The Colours

Organization • Gateway HorseWorks • Lil Filmmakers Inc.• Philadelphia Artists' Collective • Small

Things • Sow Good Now • The Unscripted Project • Why Not Prosper • Yes! And...Collaborative Arts

• Yoga 4 Philly • Zhang Sah Martial Arts Learning Center

To find out more about this year's clients, clickhere.

Greater Philadelphia 2021-22 Classic Clients

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, clickhere.

Greater Washington 2021-22 Micro Clients

ArtReach • BUILD Metro DC • City Kids Wilderness Project • College Tribe • Common Good City Farm • Dana Tai Soon Burgess Dance Company • Dance Institute of Washington • Dumbarton Arts & Education • The Family Place • Fihankra Akoma Ntoaso (FAN) • Horizons Greater Washington • Jubilee JumpStart • KEYS for the Homeless • Life Asset • Mikva Challenge DC • New Futures • RISE-

DC • Rock Creek Conservancy • Spooky Action Theater • Theatre Washington • Woodley House

To find out more about this year's clients, clickhere.

Greater Washington 2021-22 Classic Clients

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 this year's clients, clickhere.

ABOUT US

Compass believes nonprofits are at 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 teams 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 4,300 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.

Contact Us

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