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

ANNOUNCING OUR 2021-22 MICRO PROJECT CLIENTS

**Greater Washington**

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 our this year’s clients, click [here](#).

VOLUNTEER APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN

Our communities need you! Volunteer your professional skills and help our 2021-22 nonprofit Micro Project clients navigate their most pressing strategic challenges. Starting in late January, for only 2-5 hours per week, you can make a significant contribution to a local organization.

If you’re interested in volunteering, join our Volunteer Information session on **Wednesday, January 5, 6:30-7:15 p.m. ET**. To learn more, register [here](#). Apply [here](#) to volunteer.

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 [Volunteer Application](#) 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 100 nonprofits solve their most pressing strategic 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 Washington is raising $171,000 by December 31st to ensure 100 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 CompassDC 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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**SORKIN CENTER AT COMPASS HAPPENINGS**

**On Board Winter Cohort**

Nonprofit leaders, you’re invited to learn more about On Board, our program that strengthens nonprofit boards by matching business professionals with nonprofits seeking qualified board members. The next cohort starts in January. Nonprofits interested in learning more can sign up for the Information Session or complete an Interest Form to receive a link to the application when it opens January 3. Contact Wendy Gualtieri for more information. Register here to join our On Board Nonprofit Information Session, Thursday, January 6, 12:00-12:45 p.m.

**Racial Equity Cohort**

Our six-month DEI 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 Amy Cress.

**Compass Connect Conversations**

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

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We appreciate volunteer recruiting support from:

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Michigan Ross School of Management  
MIT Sloan School of Management  
Northwestern Kellogg School of Management  
NYU Stern School of Business  
Stanford Graduate School of Business  
UCLA Anderson School of Management
Chicago
2021-22 Classic Clients

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.

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, click here.

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, click here.

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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