Deep in the Heart

The small sign on the diner in my neighborhood has been the same for the past week. It reads, "Our hearts are with Texas." I also noticed that the window of a small art gallery near my house held just one picture - a large painting of the state flag of Texas. The Lone Star State. I know that flag well. It hung on every public building where I lived for the first 18 years of my life. Being a Texan is an enormous part of my identity. Texans are tough, strong, independent, fiercely loyal, and protective of their own. So it caught me a little by surprise to see the outpouring of concern from my current hometown thousands of miles away.

In thinking about it, I shouldn't have been surprised. As a country we have lived through tragedies. We saw that a beautiful sunny day could turn on a dime when the inexplicable happened 16 years ago this month. We have lived through human violence and the rage of weather. It's hard to watch the photos of those living through the tragedy in Houston, and hard not to watch at the same time especially when many of the photos are of people helping other people. These are people helping those with whom they have no connection other than being caught in a terrible situation at the same time.

I've thought a lot about people helping other people this last week. That's not unusual, because that's actually my job. I'm in a position where I am constantly faced with the best in people. My friends say I have the best job around, and I couldn't agree more. At Compass, we work with amazing nonprofit leaders who spend their days helping others. And we work with incredible business professionals who volunteer their time to help those nonprofit leaders. At Compass, we get to know people every year who want to volunteer on pro bono consulting projects to strengthen their local nonprofits, and by extension, help the people in their local community. We know that people don't just step up in a crisis. People step up every day.

Right now, our Project Leader application is open, as is our Team Member application. We have an exciting list of nonprofit clients this year who are doing incredible work. If you are looking for a way to have an impact on your local community, volunteering on a Compass team lets you make a significant difference where you live. With any luck, the work we do to strengthen our local nonprofits will not only help our communities today, but will help us if something unforeseen happens in the future. I hope you'll consider giving back to the
place you call home by volunteering with Compass this year. Through Compass, you have the chance to step up right now.

I know that deep in all of our hearts is the desire to help others in need. We are human. That's what we know. And it's what we do.

Right now, this heart is back home in Texas.

Suzanne

**PROJECT LEADER APPLICATIONS - DUE SEPTEMBER 11**

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 manage a team of volunteer consultants to execute the work.

Project Leader applications are available here: [Project Leader Application - Greater Washington](#)

**TEAM MEMBER APPLICATION - NOW OPEN**

Compass is also seeking volunteers to serve on teams. Team members spend, on average, two to three hours per week on the Compass project.

Team Member applications are available here: [Team Member Application - Greater Washington](#)

**MEET THIS YEAR’S CLIENTS ON OCTOBER 5**

Join us for Compass’ annual Project Launch!

**Thursday, October 5**

6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

National Association of Home Builders

Prospective volunteers are invited to meet this year’s clients and Project Leaders. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP via Eventbrite [here](#).

**COMPASS WELCOMES THE 2017-18 CLIENTS**

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](#), and join us at Compass’ Project Launch on October 5 to meet the clients in person.

- **A-SPAN (Arlington Street People’s Assistance Network)**
A-SPAN's vision is to end homelessness in Arlington County through outreach, permanent housing, and life-sustaining services. *Funding Strategy*

**Beacon House**  
Washington, DC  
[www.beaconhousedc.org](http://www.beaconhousedc.org)  
Beacon House provides children with a safe, nurturing, life-expanding community to increase their academic achievement, discover their talents, and grow into healthy adults. *Board Development*

**Bright Beginnings**  
Washington, DC  
[www.brightbeginningsinc.org](http://www.brightbeginningsinc.org)  
Bright Beginnings gives homeless children a safe, nurturing, educational environment to prepare to enter kindergarten. *Funding Strategy*

**Carpenter's Shelter**  
Alexandria, VA  
[www.carpentersshelter.org](http://www.carpentersshelter.org)  
Carpenter's Shelter helps the homeless achieve independence through shelter, guidance, education and advocacy. *Strategic Alignment*

**DC Greens**  
Washington, DC  
[www.dcgreens.org](http://www.dcgreens.org)  
DC Greens advances food justice in the nation's capital by increasing access to fresh produce, training food access advocates, and working in DC public schools to increase the quality of meals. *Board Development*

**DC Jazz Festival**  
Washington, DC  
[www.dcjazzfest.org](http://www.dcjazzfest.org)  
DC Jazz Festival celebrates jazz through dynamic programs that advance music education, unify diverse communities, and enable connections between artists and audiences. *Strategic Alignment*

**Doorways for Women & Families**  
Arlington, VA  
[www.doorwaysva.org](http://www.doorwaysva.org)  
Doorways creates pathways out of homelessness, domestic violence and sexual assault, leading to safe, stable and empowered lives. *Strategic Planning (Year One)*

**Encore Stage & Studio**  
Arlington, VA  
[www.encorestage.org](http://www.encorestage.org)  
Encore's mission is to introduce young people to theatre to build teamwork, leadership, creativity, literacy, problem-solving skills and self-confidence. *Strategic Marketing*

**Friends of Guest House**  
Alexandria, VA  
[www.friendsofguesthouse.org](http://www.friendsofguesthouse.org)  
Friends of Guest House provides women the structure, guidance, support and assistance to transition from incarceration into self-sufficient, responsible members of the community. *Strategic Planning (Year One)*
Friends of the Library Montgomery County
Rockville, MD
www.folmc.org
FOLMC's mission is to strengthen, promote, and champion the public library system, as it responds to the changing needs of diverse communities. Strategic Alignment

Girls on the Run of Northern Virginia
Fairfax, VA
www.gotrnova.org
GOTR NOVA inspires girls to be joyful, healthy and confident by using an experience-based curriculum that creatively integrates running. Strategic Planning (Year Two)

Greater Prince William Community Health Center
Woodbridge, VA
www.gpwhealthcenter.org
GPWCHC promotes affordable access to high quality primary, dental and behavioral health care, as well as OB/GYN care. Strategic Marketing

Greater Washington Urban League
Washington, DC
www.gwul.org
Greater Washington Urban League’s mission is to ensure Black, Latino and other traditionally under-served populations share equally in the responsibilities and rewards of full citizenship. Strategic Marketing

Homeless Children’s Playtime Project
Washington, DC
www.playtimeproject.org
Homeless Children’s Playtime Project works to nurture healthy child development and reduce the effects of trauma among children living in temporary housing programs. Strategic Alignment

House of Ruth
Washington, DC
www.houseofruth.org
House of Ruth helps women, children and families suffering from traumatic abuse with resources to build safe, stable lives. Strategic Planning (Year One)

HumanitiesDC (Humanities Council of Washington, DC)
Washington, DC
www.wdchumanities.org
HumanitiesDC aims to foster cross-cultural understanding and appreciation of local history in neighborhoods through humanities programs and grants. Strategic Alignment

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
Washington, DC
www.olli-dc.org
OLLI at American University offers educational opportunities for individuals who want to remain intellectually active through a variety of university-level course offerings and activities. Strategic Alignment

Playworks DC
Washington, DC
www.playworks.org
Playworks improves the health and well-being of children by increasing opportunities for physical activity and safe, meaningful play. **Strategic Alignment**

**Rebuilding Together Alexandria**
Alexandria, VA  
[www.rebuildingtogetheralex.org](http://www.rebuildingtogetheralex.org)
Rebuilding Together Alexandria creates thriving neighborhoods by maintaining affordable housing, creating homeownership opportunities, and revitalizing community spaces. **Board Development**

**Sasha Bruce Youthwork**
Washington, DC  
[www.sashabruce.org](http://www.sashabruce.org)
The mission of Sasha Bruce Youthwork is to improve the lives of homeless, runaway and disconnected youth and their family members. **Funding Strategy**

**Studio Theatre**
Washington, DC  
[www.studiotheatre.org](http://www.studiotheatre.org)
Studio Theatre produces contemporary theatre in deliberately intimate spaces to foster a more thoughtful, empathetic, and connected community. **Strategic Alignment**

**The Washington Ballet**
Washington, DC  
[www.washingtonballet.org](http://www.washingtonballet.org)
The Washington Ballet brings the joy of dance to the nation's capital through ballet performances, dance training and community engagement. **Strategic Alignment**

**Two Rivers Public Charter School**
Washington, DC  
[www.tworiverspcs.org](http://www.tworiverspcs.org)
Two Rivers nurtures a diverse group of students to become lifelong, active participants in their own education and become responsible and compassionate members of society. **Board Development**

**VisArts (The Metropolitan Center for the Visual Arts)**
Rockville, MD  
[www.visartscenter.org](http://www.visartscenter.org)
VisArts' mission is to transform individuals and communities through the visual arts by bringing diverse individuals together through a shared creative experience. **Strategic Alignment**

**Wonders Early Learning + Extended Day**
Bethesda, MD  
[www.wonderslearning.org](http://www.wonderslearning.org)
Wonders' mission is to create high quality, diverse educational communities that teach children the foundations of lifelong learning and social responsibility. **Strategic Alignment**

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**NEW FACES AT COMPASS**

Compass welcomes two new staff members in Greater Washington:

**Wendy Gualtieri, Chief of Staff**

**Evelyn Laurencin, Associate Program Manager**
MANY THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS & SPONSORS

Thank you to our corporate sponsors:

Thank you to these corporate partners for assistance recruiting volunteers this year:

Abt Associates
Accenture
Advisory Board Company
A.T. Kearney
Boston Consulting Group
IBM
Jones Day
Kaiser Associates
KippsDeSanto
KPMG
Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP
Oliver Wyman
PwC
World Bank

WE COULDN'T DO IT WITHOUT

Compass' nonprofit clients benefit from the amazing volunteers who give their time, expertise and intellectual energy. We couldn't recruit these amazing volunteers without the support of the local business schools clubs. A huge thank you to the Partner MBA Clubs that help spread the word about Compass.

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
INCREASE YOUR IMPACT - DONATE TO COMPASS

Every $1 donated to Compass translates to $9 of consulting services to local nonprofits. Donations from individuals, companies, and foundations make it possible for Compass to bring over 500 business professionals into more than 80 nonprofits each year. You can donate to Compass to support and expand our impact - and yours - by clicking the Donate Now button below.

DONATE NOW

STAY IN TOUCH WITH COMPASS

Please join one or all of our online communities:

Facebook: "Like" us on Facebook.

Twitter: Follow us @Compassprobono.

LinkedIn: Join the Compass Volunteer Network