

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# CompassPoint and Management Assistance Group Announce the Network Weaver Learning Lab

# Program offers unique learning environment to practice and experiment together on ways to advance the movement to end relationship-based violence in California

San Francisco, CA – CompassPoint and Management Assistance Group announced today the joint launch of the Network Weaver Learning Lab.

The Network Weaver Learning Lab (NWLL) is an 18-month program that creates a space for leaders to develop their thinking and practice and to explore and experiment together on ways to advance the movement to end relationship-based violence. The program is made possible with support from Blue Shield of California Foundation, as part of its longstanding commitment to building a strong network of domestic violence service providers across the state.

In today's political climate, it is even more imperative that we deepen our capacity to work collaboratively on the issues we care about most. NWLL is a place of challenging, collaborative, fearless, alive, open and loving exchanges that get to root causes while maintaining a radical systems-perspective - one that embraces the past without being constrained by it, one that deepens and amplifies all the transformational work already taking place. It will ultimately address some of the following questions:

- "What does it take to work in networked ways (mindsets, habits, practices)?
- How do these mindsets, habits, practices impact our relationships, leadership, and engagement of others in the broader ecosystem?
- How can we create a networked approach to ending partnership-based violence, one that works at the intersection of a number of interconnected social justice issues?"

"Through our close cooperation with the leaders of the Strong Field Project, we have learned that we need to build bridges, not silos, shared Lucia Corral Pena, Program Officer for Blue Shield Against Violence. That's why we collaborated with our forwardthinking partners, CompassPoint and Management Assistance Group, to develop the Network Weaver Learning Lab to amplify and deepen the abilities of network leaders who are committed to seeking out the best, most innovative solutions that advance well-being in communities across California." In the words of lab participant Melissa Powless Chacon, "The network is about the art of reciprocity in relationships".

Members of the Network Weaver Learning Lab include:

Paul Bancroft Sharon Bridgforth Aja Duncan Jennifer Chen Speckman Cristy Chung Cibonay Cordova María Domínguez Michelle Gislason Trina Greene Brown

- Laura Jimenez sujin lee Alison Lin Laurie Linn Vincent Marquez Mary Martinez Lyia Ong Jalao Ada Palotai Dia Penning
- Elissa Perry Lupe Poblano Melissa Powless Chacon Stephanie Reyes Fisher Maricela Rios-Faust Rachel Rosner Kad Smith Sharon Turner Monna Wong

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#### About the Network Weaver Learning Lab

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## Standing on the Shoulders Of

This program would not exist without the creativity and commitment of the NWLL planning grant and proposal process Design Team and Advisory Committee. NWLL Design Team Members: Cristy Chung, Monique Mehta, Mari Schimmer, Stephanie Medley (RYSE Center)

Advisory Council Members: Aiko Pandorf, Jacquie Marroquin (CPEDV), Jean King (One Safe Place), Jennifer Chen Speckman, Kad Smith (CompassPoint), Kalyne Foster (Monarch Services), Mary Martinez (WOMAN, Inc), Patty Bennett, Paul Bancroft (Tahoe SAFE Alliance), Surina Khan (The Women's Foundation), Tracy Lamb (NEWS), Matt Huckabay (The Center for Violence-Free Relationships), Jesenia Santa (Novo Foundation), Hahn Cao Yu

### About CompassPoint and Management Assistance Group



CompassPoint intensifies the impact of fellow nonprofit leaders, organizations, and networks as we achieve social

equity together. We believe that nonprofit organizations and leaders need relevant support that builds on their strengths, experiences, and achievements and that those individuals and organizations that invest in increasing their leadership and management capacities are better poised to achieve progress. CompassPoint Nonprofit Services provides the leadership development component of Blue Shield of California Foundation's Strong Field Project.



www.managementassistance.org

Management Assistance Group has over thirty-five years of experience working with thousands of social change organizations, networks, funders, and leaders. Management Assistance Group's Lab (MagLab) is an ongoing program of dialogue, analysis, partnership, co-

creation, and active learning to strengthen progressive movement networks. Developed by MAG along with social justice leaders, key thinkers, and funders, MagLab aims to grow the field's understanding and support of movement networks. MagLab stimulates innovative thinking and identifies ways to support people who operate at the intersection of organizations and networks. We share that work with the social change field through dialogue, partnerships, and online and print publications.

For more information about the Network Weaver Learning Lab, contact Michelle Gislason at <u>m.gislason@outlook.com</u> or Aja Duncan at <u>aduncan@magmail.org</u>. To learn more about the Network Weaver Learning Lab, visit <u>http://www.managementassistance.org/network-weaver-learning-lab/</u>.

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Blue Shield of California Foundation's mission is to Improve the lives of all Californians, particularly the underserved, by making health care accessible, effective, and affordable, and by ending domestic violence.