



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Max Hedgepeth

Phone: (301) 280-5744

Email: mocofoodsecuritycollaborative.com

Elite Team of MBA Graduates Join the County Fight Against Hunger

Food Security Collaborative to work with Compass team in vital, new partnership

BETHESDA, MD. – December 2, 2014 – The Montgomery County Food Security Collaborative is teaming up with a group of 10 accomplished business professionals to establish an unprecedented partnership in the County’s fight against hunger.

“The hunger movement in Montgomery County will be successful because of collaborative efforts, not individual ones,” says Andy Burness, chair of the Montgomery County Food Security Collaborative and president of Burness Communications, a Bethesda-based, mission-driven communications firm supporting non-profits and the people they serve around the world. “We must do something different than what is currently being done, and the talent that Compass has provided us with can help us do just that. This is the greatest infusion of management talent the County has ever had for tackling the challenge of reducing hunger.”

Compass is a Washington, D.C.- based organization that provides *pro bono* business consulting to non-profits whose work benefits the Greater Washington, DC and Philadelphia communities. Compass has donated \$130,000 in-kind hours to help combat the hunger problem in Montgomery County.

“I’ve had the experience of not knowing where my next meal was coming from,” says Compass team leader Kimberly Corbin, a Harvard MBA, referring to her personal struggles earlier in her life. “My story is not unique but it gives me the passion to join with the Collaborative and do what I can to fix this problem. I am honored to represent Compass with my other amazing team members.”

The Compass team comprises alumni from top universities including Harvard, Stanford, Yale, Michigan and Johns Hopkins. Among the team members are current Vice Presidents of Finance, Directors of Administration, Law Firm Partners and senior consultants for some of the leading financial firms. Their areas of expertise cover the broad range of skills required to manage a non-profit organization, from governance to strategic planning and financial management.

Teaming with Compass is precisely the type of partnership the Collaborative is looking to develop. Launched earlier this fall, the Montgomery County Food Security Collaborative aims to create synergy between business, non-profits, food-providers and families. By redistributing fresh, perishable food and increasing collaboration within the community, the Collaborative strives to significantly reduce hunger in Montgomery County by 2020.



“One or two people with this expertise would have been great for the Collaborative,” says Burness about the Compass team’s contribution. “I never imagined that ten proven professionals with this level of business savvy would be joining our effort. It’s incredible. It gives all of us involved a new dose of hope.”

###

Montgomery County Food Security Collaborative Compass Team

Alex Hymanson

Project Consultant, *The Advisory Board Company*

Barbara Phillips

VP Finance, *Saul Centers, Inc.*

Chris Sutton

Strategy and Operations Associate, *Booz Allen Hamilton*

Kevin McCrory

Senior Consultant, *Booz Allen Hamilton*

Kimberly Corbin

Executive & Strategy Consultant

Michelle Olenoski

Senior Manager of Product, *Capital One*

Roberta Horton

Partner, *Arnold & Porter LLP*

Thomas Johnson, Jr.

Project Manager/Business Analyst, *iDoxSolutions, Inc.*

Vassilena Ivanova

Senior Consultant, *Kaiser Associates*

William Upshur

Senior Consultant, *Booz Allen Hamilton*