

## strong field project leadership program graduates cohort I and welcomes cohort II

**Tiburon, December 6, 2011** - Blue Shield of California Foundation (the Foundation) graduated Cohort I and welcomed Cohort II of its Leadership Development Program of the Strong Field Project at a convening this week in Tiburon, CA. The Strong Field Project is a four-year effort started by the Foundation in 2010 and is aimed at building a strong, coordinated network of domestic violence service providers in California. Foundation President and CEO, Dr. Peter Long, addressed the graduating and incoming leaders at a celebratory dinner on December 5 and remarked, "This is an important moment in history for the domestic violence field. As a graduate or new participant to the Leadership Development Program, you have the opportunity to shape the future of your organization, your communities, and the domestic violence field in California."

Twenty diverse domestic violence leaders from across California participate in each Cohort of this unique eighteen-month program that combines individual leadership and peer coaching, intensive in-person convenings, networking, and stipends to support cohort members in achieving their fullest leadership potential. The curriculum – designed by the faculty team of Michelle Gislason and Marissa Tirona of CompassPoint Nonprofit Services and Beckie Masaki of the Asian Pacific Islander Institute on Domestic Violence – explores nonprofit business models, individual and team strengths, movement networks, adaptive leadership, strategic decision-making, managing change and transition and multicultural leadership frameworks.

A project of Blue Shield of California Foundation, in collaboration with:

California Partnership to  
End Domestic Violence

CompassPoint  
Nonprofit Services

Jemmott Rollins  
Group

Women's Foundation  
of California

CompassPoint Nonprofit Services receives funding from the Foundation to offer this customized program for leaders from California-based domestic violence organizations. Focused on leadership and management, the program is helping to produce a critical mass of individuals equipped to inspire others, make smart business decisions, and consider new ways of service delivery in the domestic violence field.

Members of Cohort I (July 2010 to December 2011) are:

- **Jennifer Adams**, North County Women's Resource Center, Atascadero
- **Jodi Appel**, Rural Human Services, Crescent City
- **Kimberly Barnett**, Domestic Violence Solutions for Santa Barbara County, Santa Barbara
- **Kimberly Crawford**, 1736 Family Crisis Center, Los Angeles
- **Lisa Fronsman**, Lake Family Resource Center, Lakeport
- **Beth Hassett**, WEAVE, Inc., Sacramento
- **Matt Huckabay**, The Center for Violence-Free Relationships, Placerville
- **Sarah Khan**, Maitri, San Jose
- **Ann King**, Tri-Valley Haven, Livermore
- **Marsha Krouse-Taylor**, Casa de Esperanza, Inc., Yuba City
- **Jennifer Lake**, YWCA of Sonoma County, Santa Rosa
- **Janine Limas**, Interval House, Long Beach
- **Yvette Lozano**, Peace Over Violence, Los Angeles
- **Melissa Lukin**, Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse, Burlingame
- **Aiko Pandorf**, Asian Women's Shelter, San Francisco
- **Maricela Rios-Faust**, Human Options, Irvine
- **Belinda Rolichek**, Haven Women's Center of Stanislaus, Modesto
- **Laura Sunday**, Mountain Women's Resource Center, Sonora
- **Nilda Valmores**, My Sister's House, Sacramento
- **Dawn Watkins**, Humboldt Domestic Violence Services, Eureka

Members of Cohort II (December 2011 through June 2013) are:

- **Encarny Aguado-Amsems**, Center for Domestic Peace, San Rafael
- **Patty Bennett**, Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence, San Jose
- **Adriana Caldera**, YWCA of Silicon Valley, San Jose
- **Michelle Coleman**, Placer Women's Center dba PEACE for Families, Auburn
- **Olga Diaz**, YWCA of San Diego County, San Diego
- **June Earley**, SAFE Alternatives for Everyone, Temecula
- **Elizabeth Eastlund**, Rainbow Services, San Pedro
- **Liliana Herrera**, Peace Over Violence, Los Angeles
- **Linda Hodges**, Casa de Esperanza, Yuba City
- **Claudia Humphrey**, LIFT3 Support Group, Vallejo
- **Adrienne Lamar**, Jenesse Center, Inc., Los Angeles
- **Jennifer Lee**, Women's Center of San Joaquin County, Tracy
- **Danielle Lingle**, Center for Community Solutions, San Diego
- **Emma Owens**, The Center for Violence-Free Relationships, Placerville
- **Goretty Ramos**, Women's Shelter of Long Beach, Long Beach
- **May Rico**, Haven Women's Center of Stanislaus, Modesto
- **Erin Scott**, Family Violence Law Center, Oakland
- **Dave Toler**, Human Response Network, Weaverville
- **Teresa Yu**, Asian Americans for Community Involvement, San Jose
- **Jill Zawisza**, WOMAN Inc., San Francisco

For more information about the Leadership Development Program, contact Marissa Tirona, Senior Project Director, at [marissat@compasspoint.org](mailto:marissat@compasspoint.org). To learn more about the Strong Field Project, visit [www.strongfieldproject.org](http://www.strongfieldproject.org).