About the Challenge:

Compass, the epic late night puzzle hunt in the streets of New York City is back! Our City and all of us have been through so much since we last gathered to compete across Brooklyn in September 2019. There is no better way to celebrate NYC beginning to return to normal than stepping up with friends and colleagues to form a team and compete in the most elite night of puzzle solving anywhere! To make it even better, your team sponsorship will support Good Shepherd Services, the NYC nonprofit committed to connecting over 30,000+ young people and families in NYC to opportunities for success in over 90 different programs. If you’ve competed in Compass before, you know you won’t want to miss the adrenaline rush of solving each puzzle and racing to the next destination in the middle of the New York night. If you’ve never competed before, don’t miss this chance to become a veteran of the best Compass event ever!

The event will begin on Saturday afternoon and end well after midnight by crowning the victors at an all-teams celebration located at a destination that will remain secret until teams can solve every puzzle and discover it.

COVID-19: We will follow all health and safety guidelines and protocols outlined at the time of the event.

Saturday, October 16, 2021

SIGN UP NOW!

Team Sponsor: $30,000
Individual: $5,000

Thanks to our presenting sponsor, Element Capital, 100% of all donations support Good Shepherd programs.
It’s impossible to predict which team will win. Will your team be the victor this year?

As in past years, the finance, consulting, and tech worlds come together to compete in this late night puzzle hunt. The most successful teams are intense, collaborative, creative, and bring just the right mix of book smarts and street smarts. Puzzles unfold in layers, as teams make a series of leaps, relying on all five senses and any resource they can marshal that doesn’t violate the rules - and there aren’t many rules. Each team is assigned a dedicated game controller who will guide them through the adventure, ensuring that every team is able to both test their limits and ultimately cross the finish line.

Master the imponderable

Elite teams will battle for pride and honor, but also to bring new hope to 30,000+ of NYC’s most underserved youth and families. In 2017, Snow Crash (named for the classic Neal Stephenson novel) was the winning team, cracking the code on a real enigma machine in the bowels of the Intrepid aircraft carrier. In 2019, Vantablack (aptly named after one of the darkest known substances) opened a safety deposit box filled with cash and delivered the loot to the crime boss waiting for them at “speakeasy” in Gowanus. Along the way teams mixed cocktails made from dangerous chemicals, identified counterfeit artworks and played chess in the Beaux Art Court at the Brooklyn Museum, blind-tasted flavored cotton candy, and ordered moo shu beef at the Fortune House Chinese restaurant.
On October 16th, 2021, New York City will once again morph from world renowned metropolis into the ultimate puzzle solving arena. Good Shepherd Services Executive Director Michelle Yanche, Good Shepherds Director of External Relations Tricia Blanchard, Board Member Colin Teichholtz, and the Compass creative team will challenge lack of opportunity, fatigue, and linear thinking.

Think back to the last vexing puzzle you figured out the solution to, whether at work, at home, or just for fun. Now imagine facing a much more confusing puzzle, working together with your teammates and game control to figure it out, and then racing at full speed to the next amazing location, confronting a completely different but equally complex challenge, and overcoming that one too. You realize the sun has gone down, it’s dark now, and you are in yet another location...and you’re only just getting going.

**Which skills do you bring to your team?**

The best teams have a few members with strong quant skills, but they also have teammates who know popular culture, have a refined pallet, a good ear, a knack for figuring out whether it’s best to travel between two locations by foot, subway, taxi, Uber, Citibike, or boat.

**Are you in?**

The city’s brightest minds raising money for the future’s brightest minds.
**The Game:**

The game is a series of meticulously designed, diabolically difficult, cleverly camouflaged puzzles - the answers to which often indicate the location of the next puzzle, and so on, until the finish line. This year’s teams will compete well into the night. They will be hunting for, unraveling, and solving puzzles embedded in the urban landscape of New York City.

**The Funders & The Players:**

The Funders are generous philanthropists, like you, who feel that all kids in New York City deserve a chance. The Players are finance, tech, and consulting professionals who are not only incredibly smart, but passionate about pushing themselves to the intellectual limit for a good cause, and for the chance to prove that they are the best! While youth can be a benefit for some Players, others benefit from long years of experience. Our experience shows that some of our most generous Funders are also among the most talented Players.

**Game Control:**

Compass is made possible by the tireless volunteer efforts of our friends, family, and fans of Compass who do whatever it takes to make Compass an amazing unique experience for all participants. Thank you Compass volunteers, we couldn’t do this without you!!!

**The Creators:**

Colin Teichholtz, Ben Hoffstein, and Josh Stabiner are back after creating Compass 2017 and Compass 2019 (and yes, they were on the team that won Midnight Madness in 2015!). They are joined this year by the clue creation team from The Great Gotham Challenge, to make sure that the puzzles continue to delight and amaze!

**The Rules:**

1. Do not tamper with the clues.
2. No private motorized transport.
3. Follow instructions from Game Control, which may be issued occasionally for safety or game flow reasons.
**2021 Game**

**Date:** October 16, 2021  
**Starting Time:** TBR (To Be Revealed)  
**Location:** TBR (To Be Revealed)  
**Players:** Each team will have 6 players  
**Winning Time:** Up to you! Good luck.  
*But we expect the game to run for approximately 12 hours.*  

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**PLAY with US:**

**PRESENTING Sponsor**

**STARTING LINE Sponsor**
- $100,000  
- Official starting line sponsor, 2 teams of 6 people to play the game, player access to after celebration, logo and prominent recognition in all press materials and event listings. Limited to 1 exclusive sponsor.

**AFTER-CELEBRATION Sponsor**
- $75,000  
- Official sponsor of after celebration, 1 team of 6 to play the game, player access to the after celebration, logo and prominent recognition in all press materials and event listings. Limited to 3 exclusive sponsors.

**TEAM Sponsor**
- $30,000  
- 1 team of 6 people to play the game, player access to after-celebration, recognition in all press materials and event listings.

**INDIVIDUAL**
- $5,000  
- (limited quantity)  
- 1 person to play the game, player access to after-celebration.  
*Individuals will be placed in a team with other Individual donors*

**Please Contact:**

**Tricia Blanchard**, Director, External Relations  
✉️ Tricia_Blanchard@goodshepherds.org  
📞 212-381-0228

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2019 Winning Team
Good Shepherd has given me more confidence and now I know the sky’s the limit and I can be whoever I want if I try hard!

– Krystal, Good Shepherd Participant.

We see what can be

Good Shepherd Services is different—our confidence in NYC’s youth and families, combined with our track record of success, shows us that with the right approach, real change is possible even in the most neglected environments.

Our Vision

We envision a New York City where children grow up in thriving neighborhoods, and all individuals and families can build on their strengths to realize their fullest potential.

Our Mission

Guided by social and racial justice, Good Shepherd Services partners and grows with communities so that all NYC children, youth, and families succeed and thrive.