



Michelle Gislason is a senior project director for CompassPoint. In this role she supports nonprofits leaders and organizations to be more effective and adaptive. Michelle is responsible for the program development and management of several of CompassPoint's cohort leadership programs and also consults with a variety of organizations across the country. She is a certified leadership coach and launched peer coaching as a key element of CompassPoint's practice. She teaches and facilitates on a variety of topics including leading and managing change, self-care, organizational values, strengths and personal purpose, interpersonal skills, and coaching.

Michelle is passionate about using a strengths-based approach to working with individuals and teams, and celebrating and learning from failure together. Failure is key to resilience and she is thrilled to see that it is becoming more common and culturally acceptable to openly discuss failure in the nonprofit sector.

A California native, Michelle lives in Seattle with her partner, Keenan, their kiddo, Gus, and their cat, Lloyd. There, they enjoy access to wide open spaces and a close-knit community of friends. She is still very much connected to California and the San Francisco Bay Area, which she still considers home. In the Bay Area, Michelle was a founding board member for Young Women Social Entrepreneurs. Now in Seattle, she is a Teaching Associate at the University Of Washington Evans School Of Public Affairs.

Education:

Bachelor of Arts: English Literature, University of California, Los Angeles

Master of Arts: Organization Psychology, John F. Kennedy University

Certified Organizational Coach, John F. Kennedy University

Trained facilitator, Authenticity Circles© peer coaching model