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Contact:
Michelle Lambert
(202) 549-3710
mlambert@rabengroup.com

20 ‘Movement Makers’ Join $80 Million NoVo Foundation Program

U.S. Leaders Selected to Create a World Where Girls and Women are free from Epidemic of Violence

New York City—Today NoVo Foundation named 20 new leaders from 10 states to participate in its groundbreaking Move to End Violence program. Move to End Violence is a 10-year, $80 million program designed to strengthen key leaders and organizations and build a breakthrough movement to end violence against girls and women in the United States.

“These leaders have shown incredible vision and courage in their day-to-day work, confronting and addressing violence, abuse, rape and trafficking of girls and women in their communities,” said Jennifer Buffett, President and Co-Chair of NoVo Foundation. “The Move to End Violence program is an effort to honor their bold leadership and harness their potential to create the change needed so that girls and women can live free of violence.”

Over ten years, the Move to End Violence program will connect and strengthen hundreds of advocates and organizations, investing in a national network of committed leaders with the vision, skills and renewed energy necessary to reinvigorate efforts to end violence against girls and women. NoVo Foundation will also potentially fund a select number of collaborative campaigns designed by program participants, chosen for their potential to create meaningful change.

Violence against girls and women is an epidemic in this country. Forty percent of teenage girls ages 14 to 17 say they know someone their age who has been hit or beaten by a boyfriend. An average of three women are killed each day by their partners or ex-partners. One in four girls and one in six boys are victims of child sexual abuse. The average age of entry into the commercial sex industry is 12 – 14 years old. To turn the tide, urgent, lifesaving services must continue to help those in immediate crisis, while at the same time we must invest more in efforts to mobilize individuals and communities to address the root causes of violence.
Leaders selected for the Move to End Violence program participate in an intensive, two-year experience that includes time for essential, big-picture conversations about their vision for ending violence; the opportunity to sharpen their vision and develop a strategy to get there; skill-building sessions to advance social change and advocacy skills; and a strong emphasis on physical practice and experiential learning. The program also includes a focus on self-care in recognition of the secondary trauma that these leaders face every day in their work.

“As the ‘Movement Makers’ engage their peers and fresh allies, we expect to see ripple effects beyond those who participate directly in program,” said Jackie Payne, Move to End Violence director. “At the end of the day, we hope to see renewed energy, greater collaboration and the launch of breakthrough strategies that will mobilize individuals and communities to create lasting change on behalf of women and girls.”

The 20 new ‘Movement Makers’ are the second round of activists chosen for Move to End Violence, joining 15 others who helped to pilot the first round of the program.

The new ‘Movement Makers’ come from diverse backgrounds. The work of their organizations includes: working to end sexual violence in the U.S. military, strengthening advocates to confront violence in Asian-American communities, and engaging men to redefine masculinity so it includes respect for women. Among the leaders chosen for the 2013-2014 program are:

- Kelly Miller, Executive Director, Idaho Coalition Against Sexual & Domestic Violence
- Jodeen Olguín-Tayler, Field Director, Caring Across Generations
- Marcia Olivo, Gender Justice Coordinator, Miami Workers Center
- Archana Pyaati, Deputy Director, Immigration Intervention Project, Sanctuary for Families
- Scheherazade Tillet, Co-Founder and Executive Director of A Long Walk Home, Inc.

A complete list of the new Movement Makers can be found online.

Activists who were selected for the first round will complete their own two-year experience with the Move to End Violence program at the end of 2012. They report seeing a transformative impact of the experience on their leadership and on their work.

“The program has encouraged all of us to reflect on our vision for a better world and how we can get close to that world by building effective leadership, honing our strategies, and carrying out campaigns to address root causes of violence against girls and women,” said Tamar Kraft-Stolar, director of the Women in Prison Project at the Correctional Association of New York.

Ted Bunch, founder of A Call to Men, said: “As I reflect on my participation in Move to End Violence, I am eternally grateful for my time with the visionary leaders I have met. It
has helped me to gain insight into my work, social justice, and even manhood. I have seen my own growth and evolution as an activist and a leader.”

Tamar and Ted will join the rest of the NoVo program’s ‘Movement Makers’ December 4-5 in Tarrytown, New York to share their experiences with the program and engage other leaders working to end violence in their collective vision for creating lasting change. The results of their discussions will be shared through blogs and other reports through the Move to End Violence website, at www.movetoendviolence.org.

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NoVo Foundation
NoVo Foundation’s mission is to foster a transformation in global society from a culture of domination and exploitation to one of equality and partnership. Co-Chaired by Jennifer and Peter Buffett, the foundation was started with a generous one billion dollar pledge by Peter’s father, Warren Buffett. As they determined where NoVo would focus these resources, Jennifer and Peter felt strongly about entering a field that was both under-resourced and had significant potential for impact. They saw that girls and women in particular are undervalued and mistreated – but hold untapped potential for creating positive, lasting change in the world. Today, the NoVo Foundation initiatives include: Ending Violence Against Girls and Women; Empowering Adolescent Girls; Advancing Social and Emotional Learning; and Promoting Local Living Economies.

Learn more at www.novofoundation.org.