

Dear Friend:

When I became an executive director, I didn't appreciate how hard it would be to lead a nonprofit organization. But soon enough, I understood that I needed more than vision and passion to realize our full potential.

Luckily, I found LeaderSpring. In their leadership development program, I engaged in high-quality skills trainings, coaching, and peer learning with fourteen other leaders. With LeaderSpring's help, my organization doubled our budget and replicated our signature program in eight other communities, helping low income immigrant families increase their financial security.

LeaderSpring provides community leaders like me with access to resources that would otherwise be unattainable. In such a difficult economy, it can be hard for nonprofits to justify investing in leadership development. But frankly, it is precisely when organizations are at their most precarious that strengthening leaders is so critical.



Let me share with you some of the many ways LeaderSpring is fostering high-impact nonprofits that are making our neighborhoods healthier and more vibrant.

In 2011, LeaderSpring:

- More than tripled its reach by **strengthening the leadership and management skills of almost 250 current and emerging nonprofit leaders.** By the end of this year, LeaderSpring will have launched two new statewide leadership programs through partnerships with The California Endowment and the California School-Age Consortium.
- **Increased the capacity of LeaderSpring agencies to serve 673,000 low-income clients** with crucial services such as job training, housing, and after-school programming. Sixty-nine percent of organizations in LeaderSpring's fellowship created a new project or program, and 62 percent increased the number of clients served!
- Convened 15 leaders in a six-month dialogue series to explore challenging issues facing the nonprofit sector. This dialogue series was so meaningful that **LeaderSpring is now crafting a bold new direction for its future**, one that will not only help nonprofit leaders and organizations increase their effectiveness, but also improve the systems in which they work.

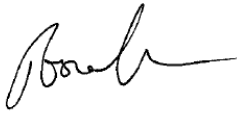
Your support will help LeaderSpring partner with others to transform the sector so that nonprofits can achieve exponential impact in the communities they serve, both in the San Francisco Bay Area and beyond.

I invite you to partner with LeaderSpring by sending a generous, tax-deductible contribution today.

To donate to LeaderSpring, a project of the Tides Center, visit their secure website at: www.leaderspring.org/donate.htm, or you can mail a check to LeaderSpring, located at 1212 Preservation Park Way, Suite 300, Oakland, CA 94612.

With your support, LeaderSpring will continue to strengthen committed, hard-working leaders and their organizations so that they can foster healthy, thriving communities for us all.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'José Quiñonez', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

José Quiñonez
Executive Director, Mission Asset Fund
LeaderSpring Class of 2011 Alumnus

p.s. Keep an eye out for LeaderSpring's new strategic plan in early 2012!