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**For Immediate Release****May 21, 2002****NONPROFIT E-LEARNING COLLABORATION RELEASES EVALUATION REPORT***Users highly value the flexibility and convenience that online learning provides*

**San Francisco, CA** –CompassPoint Nonprofit Services and SmarterOrg (SmarterOrg is now part of Isoph) announced the completion of the initial evaluation study of their nonprofit online learning initiative. The study reports that learners value the accessibility and convenience of the partners' online course, "Budgeting For Programs and Proposals". A large majority of users rated the online experience as "very good" or "excellent" and would like to take additional nonprofit-related courses online.

"Given the rapid pace of change in the online world, we've produced an initial evaluation report to provide the sector with immediate feedback on this innovative online learning initiative," said Nelson Layag, Director of Technology at CompassPoint. "This report is the first product of an ongoing effort to evaluate both this course and the overall application of online learning in the nonprofit sector."

Budgeting for Programs and Proposals is a collaboration between CompassPoint Nonprofit Services, a nonprofit management support organization and SmarterOrg, an online learning application service provider. The course is designed to provide nonprofit-focused financial management training to nonprofit organizations and grantmakers across the country.

**Evaluation Study Highlights**

- A vast majority of users (85%) rated the course as good or better; 71% of users rated the course as very good or excellent.
- Users highly value the flexibility and convenience that online learning provides.
- Many users felt that online learning provides a complementary, if not better, experience to classroom learning.
- The majority of users would be willing to use online learning again, and this willingness increases with online familiarity.
- Users who did not complete the course cited lack of time or competing priorities as the reason.

Independent consultants Elliot Grant and Heather McLeod Grant conducted the study. The online learning initiative is supported by both The James Irvine Foundation and The Atlantic Philanthropies.

The complete study can be downloaded at [www.compasspoint.org/elearning](http://www.compasspoint.org/elearning).