

PRESS RELEASE

WASHINGTON STATE COALITION
WSCADV
AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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NoVo Foundation Commits \$80 Million over 10 Years towards Ending Violence Against Women and Girls

Local leader selected to participate with 15 other visionaries from across the country

The NoVo Foundation of New York kicked off its *Move to End Violence* initiative last month, after selecting sixteen individuals—and the organizations they represent—from across the country to participate in its first cohort. This groundbreaking, 10-year, \$80 million initiative is designed as a series of five cohorts, each with a two-year cycle. By the end of 10 years, *Move to End Violence* will have engaged over 100 individuals and as many organizations to lead a national effort to end violence against women and girls.

Nan Stoops, Executive Director of the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence, was selected to participate and recently returned from the cohort's first convening. "I am deeply honored to represent the staff, board, and membership of our coalition in this initiative," said Stoops. "I have always been moved by the strength of our collective advocacy here in Washington, and I'm glad to be joining it with such an innovative project."

Move to End Violence's pilot cohort includes 16 visionaries selected from a pool of over 140 applicants. Over the next two years, these leaders and the organizations they represent will engage in movement building work, transformative leadership development, social

change skills trainings, and organizational development. Additionally, each organization receives a significant grant from the NoVo Foundation.

Rather than funding organizations in isolation, the goal of *Move to End Violence* is to build capacity in the field by connecting innovative leaders and organizations working for social change. The Initiative provides the opportunity to step back from the pressing needs of day-to-day work to envision a world free of violence against girls and women, and strengthen the movement's ability to take strategic steps towards that goal.

“For too long, this movement lacked the funding necessary to commit sufficient time and energy to addressing root causes,” said Jackie Payne, a consultant to NoVo and Director of the Initiative. “Because of NoVo’s extraordinary commitment, *Move to End Violence* will fill that void by strategically investing in a movement’s capacity to end violence against women and girls.”

About the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Founded in 1990 by survivors of domestic violence and their allies, the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence is a non-profit network of over 65 domestic violence advocacy programs across the state of Washington. We improve how communities respond to domestic violence and work to create a social intolerance for abuse. Our work includes research, training and technical assistance, producing educational tools, promoting domestic violence awareness, and public policy advocacy. To learn more, please visit our website at www.wscadv.org.

About the NoVo Foundation

The 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. To accomplish this, they unlock the potential of girls and women to be powerful agents of change and help children grow into caring adults skilled at working cooperatively with one other.

Jennifer and Peter Buffett are the NoVo Foundation’s Co-Chairs, and Jennifer also serves as President. In 2006 Peter’s father – Warren Buffett – pledged shares valued at one billion dollars to the foundation. 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. NoVo’s initiatives include: Ending Violence Against Girls and Women; Empowering Adolescent Girls; and Advancing Social and Emotional Learning - an education approach which helps all children grow into caring adults who are skilled at working cooperatively and are comfortable across lines of difference. For more information, please visit www.novofoundation.org.

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