

New Residents Moving In!



As we close out 2017, we are happy to announce that two new families have moved into our two vacant residences. This means that all three of our homes are occupied by women and children who are using Compassion House as a springboard to a new life of safety and independence.

Changing Board Members

We are excited to announce that two former Board members have agreed to serve again. Mike Birdsall, who has served for years in administrative capacities, has signed up for another board term. Clark McCann, who has distinguished himself by tutoring many of our Compassion House kids, has also agreed to lend us some more of his thoughtful leadership. Two other board members, Pete Peterson and Dan Sarlitto, have decided not to continue in that capacity. The Board benefitted greatly from their contributions and they will be missed. Thank you both!

Help Us Plan Fundraiser 2018

We had a great fall fundraiser in November and planning is already underway for the 2018 Fall Fundraiser. This event, which has featured a pie auction, silent auction, paddle raise, and, of course, a wonderful dinner, promises to be even better in 2018. We have assembled a wonderful team of planners whose goal is to make this year's event both successful and fun for everyone.

In order to achieve this goal, our planners would love to hear from you. What did you like about past events? What suggestions would you offer for future events? We truly want to make this (and other upcoming events) something that everyone looks forward to every year. If you would take the time to share your thoughts, your suggestions will help us make the 2018 fundraising event better than ever. Simply email your feedback to director@compassion-house.org. We promise you the leadership team will read each and every submission.

AmazonSmile 😊—A Way to Support Compassion House

Did you know that every time you buy something through Amazon.com, you can have them donate to Compassion House? Through Amazon's unique Smile program, you can ensure that a portion of every purchase you make through Amazon goes to support Compassion House. Just login to [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com). You'll see a typical Amazon.com home screen like the one you've come to expect with a few small twists. Once you designate Compassion House as the recipient of your SMILE support, that's all there is to it. Any time you wish to order through Amazon, just login to [smile.amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) and conduct your business as usual. Amazon.com will do the rest. What a simple way to stretch the money you've already decided to spend!

Message from the Executive Director

It is with a profound sense of sadness that we announce the departure of Brynнен Bailey-Lewis, our Executive Director for the past few years. Brynнен has brought a heart of compassion for those we serve as well as offering a wealth of professional experience as a social worker. One doesn't replace someone like Brynnen, they merely try to make her proud!

In order to fill this void as quickly as possible, the Board has brought me on to serve as Executive Director. As the founder of Compassion House, I always expected to be involved in the background. However, in God's unique economy, He has seen fit to throw me into the mix, front and center! I am both humbled by this opportunity and, if I'm honest, just a little bit anxious. However, I also realize that the God Who has sustained us for over 20 years is more than capable of working through whomever He chooses. I'm excited about all that He is going to do in this next chapter of our ministry!

Compassion house was founded upon the premise that we really serve two clients—the families who live in our houses, and the local churches from which we draw our volunteer casework support. Just as our families need a safe, nurturing environment within which they can heal and grow, our churches need opportunities to do more than just write a check. Christians need the experience of truly "getting their hands dirty" in serving the world around them. For over 20 years, this unique model has served us well. It is a core value of this organization—one that I am pledged to protect and to encourage.

Over the years, numerous other agencies and organizations have "gone to school" on Compassion House to learn why this model works so well. I remain convinced it is because of the simple premise that ordinary folks just "doing life" with others is the way God best communicates His love. We have many cherished professionals who stand at the periphery, ever ready to lend their invaluable assistance when and where it is needed. We are forever indebted to them.

However, at the end of the day, it is the "ordinary" men and women who model healthy lifestyles rooted in Christ who truly make the difference. These volunteers selflessly and relentlessly give of themselves during the two years our residents and their families are with us. Truly, they are what make Compassion House work.

As we come to the close of 2017, we invited you to join in this ongoing miracle through your tax deductible gift to Compassion House. That way, you, too, can be a part of changing lives.



Merry Christmas!

Rev. Dr. Mark C. Miller
Founder and Executive Director

Thank You to All the Churches That Support Compassion House

We see ourselves ministering to both our residents *and* our supporting churches.

Thank you to the following churches who have embraced our ministry as their own:

Community Church of Issaquah
Covenant Presbyterian Church
Foothills Baptist Church
Issaquah Christian Church
Mountain Creek Christian Fellowship
Our Savior Lutheran Church
Pine Lake Covenant Church
St. Joseph Catholic Church

Thanks to you, we are able to do what we do!

Many Thanks to Our Sponsors



Custom string quartets for special occasions



How Can I Help?

We're so glad you asked! For starters, you can...

Volunteer

We always have a need for volunteers. They are the life blood of our ministry and, without them, we cannot support the families who come to us for help.

In addition to serving on a resident team, we need people willing to help us in the following areas:

- building maintenance and repair
- yard maintenance
- administration
- newsletter publication
- car repairs
- medical/dental/legal help
- daycare
- tutoring

Pray

All that we do is directed by God's loving hand. Your prayer support for workers and for residents is priceless.

Donate

Compassion House is a federally recognized 501(c)3 charity. Your donations are tax deductible. Mail in your checks, or look for the Donate option on our website. Ask if your United Way contribution at work can be designated to Compassion House.

Nominate

Does your employer support community charities? Nominate us!

Shop

Link your Fred Meyer Rewards card to Compassion House at

<http://www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards>.

Search for us by name or by non-profit number 91674. The store donates to us AND you still get all your shopper benefits. You can also direct a percentage of your purchases on Amazon.com toward Compassion House. Visit the AmazonSmile page at <http://smile.amazon.com> and select Compassion House.



Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." If, at the end of the day, we can serve Christ by serving those who come to us for help, we will have accomplished our mission!