



SAVE THE DATE:

Compassion House Annual Pie Auction



Saturday, Nov. 4, 2017

Vasa Park Resort Ballroom, Bellevue, WA

New to this year's event: You can register online at our website: www.compassion-house.org

A fun, fantastic, fundraising evening including a silent auction, pie auction, catered dinner and more! You won't want to miss it. Watch for your invite in the mail.

NEW VOLUNTEER PROFILE

Prayers were answered! Gloria Gauron has come to Compassion House as the new Volunteer Admin and has jumped in with both feet. She hails from Queens, NY where she worked for ThomasNet Inc. for 17 years. She met her husband, Jacques Gauron, who is from Washington, during a conference for her work. Lucky for us, Gloria ended up falling in love with Jacques and with the Evergreen State.

What was your introduction to Compassion House? I was invited by my mother-in-law, Joan Gauron, to attend the Compassion House fundraiser last fall. My mother-in-law attends the fundraiser every year and is a passionate supporter. She is a parishioner of Issaquah Christian Church.

What drew you to Compassion House and its mission? Hearing the story from Mark Miller, CH board president and founder, and the testimonial from a former resident. I guess, not that I have any memory of past exposure to [domestic violence], however, it *was* something that affected my family many, many years ago. I was in awe that this entire organization and all of its proceeds are from volunteers.

What is something that you have learned in your recent work with Compassion House that may have surprised you? I guess I knew the laws around domestic violence had come a long way, but I am shocked that we haven't combatted it completely. What I didn't know before, is how many people who are unaffected by domestic violence, care so much about CH, keep it standing through donations. I attended a training put on by CH about PTSD; I never correlated PTSD with domestic violence, I always associated it with people who serve in the military. It can affect anyone who is going through a traumatic event.

Welcome Gloria! We are so excited to have you on our team. ♥

Message from the Executive Director

"If any of your fellow Israelites become poor and are unable to support themselves among you, help them as you would a foreigner and stranger, so they can continue to live among you." Leviticus 25:35 NIV

This year I have been staying apprised of the various issues regarding our homeless population in King County. Compassion House is one of a few transitional housing programs in King County that specifically caters to women and their multiple children recovering from domestic violence and homelessness. Our mission, 'helping women and their children find hope and wholeness while recovering from abuse and hardships through the provision of transitional housing and support services', directly addresses this issue. This year alone, over 11,000 people were counted in the *2017 Count Us In*, which is the annual Point-in-Time Count of individuals, youth, and families experiencing homelessness in Seattle/King County, as being homeless in King County. According to this statistical count, 40% of these people reported that their homelessness was caused, or impacted, by domestic violence in some way.

This last year, I have been witness to the progress the families living at Compassion House have made financially, personally, educationally, socially and spiritually. They have learned to trust their "village" of volunteer team members, trust in their own strength, and trust in the power of prayer. A huge hurdle that we at Compassion House try to overcome is finding affordable, permanent housing for our families once the mandated transitional housing period of 24 months is up. Often, even after months of an exhaustive search by residents and volunteers, we are unable to place our families who must move on. According to the *2017 Count Us In* report and survey, there were several areas in which support was stated as having the biggest impact:

- 73% stated that more affordable housing or rental assistance would be key to ending their homelessness,
- 45% stated increased income to support their family would be key to ending their homelessness,
- 44% stated that help with moving costs and
- 42% stated easier housing process would also be essential to ending their homelessness.

Domestic violence and homelessness continue to be a community wide issue, one that impacts us all. Affordable housing is a part of the solution. Your prayers for safe, affordable housing and continued support of Compassion House are so important. Without you, we could not address this. Thank you for being a part of the CH village.

Brynnen Bailey-Lewis
Executive Director ♥

Another Successful Run with Faith



Another beautiful morning and a successful Run



with Faith.

There were about 70 participants and \$3,000 was raised for Compassion House. Douglas

Nast, and the Issaquah Christian Church continue to outdo themselves every year. The course was well laid out with people stationed along the course to guide the runners and walkers. Winners received medals of recognition and all registrants went home with commemorative t-shirts. Thank you Doug, ICC, Balanced Athlete and the running community for your continued support of Compassion House. RWF is held every year on the last Saturday of April. Whether you are a runner, walker or just want to cheer on your friends, please consider participating in Run with Faith 2018 at Issaquah Christian Church.

<http://www.runwithfaith.org/>. ♥

Seattle Foundation GiveBig Campaign

This year Compassion House participated in the Seattle 2017 GiveBig. It was a new, exciting experience for us and enabled us to branch out and share our mission with people from around the county. We were able to raise over



\$700 from individual donors and their employer matches. Thank you to our GiveBig donors, your support makes a Big difference. ♥

Thank you to all of the churches that continually support Compassion House:

Bellevue Presbyterian, Community Church of Issaquah, Covenant Presbyterian, Eastridge Christian Assembly, Foothills Baptist, Issaquah Christian Church, Mountain Creek Christian Fellowship, Our Savior Lutheran, and St. Joseph's.

How You Can Help

We have an urgent need for Volunteers.

We cannot support a family without team members. For more information, please visit our website at <http://www.compassion-house.org>.

We can also use your time and special skills for:

- building maintenance and repair
- car repairs
- medical/dental/legal help
- daycare
- tutoring

Pray. All that we do is guided by the good Lord above. 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 PayPal 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.

A percentage of your purchases on Amazon can go towards Compassion House. Visit our AmazonSmile page at <http://smile.amazon.com> and select Compassion House. ♥

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