



# Compassion House

An open door to families in need

December, 2018

## PIE AUCTION UPDATE

Our annual pie auction fundraiser held at the Hilton Garden Inn was a fantastic success! The pie bakers came through with absolutely delicious pies that were very actively bid upon. A big thank you to our donors who donated some very fun and seasonal items for our silent auction. We are also indebted to the record number of local sponsors who contributed to the fundraiser's success. It wouldn't be a success without the dedicated volunteers that went above and beyond to make it a wonderful evening for our guests. A heartfelt thank you to our guests and volunteers who enable Compassion House to continue blessing these families with a bright future. -Julie Pellegrini

## UNEXPECTED MERCIES

How we underestimate what God can do! Last year a resident was obliged to leave Compassion House because of major difficulties in her personal life. She despaired for her future. We despaired with her. (But wait, there's more...)

This fall another resident was obliged to leave, even though successful in the program, due to the hard legal limit of 24 months at Compassion House. In this housing market she could not find a place to move to at a price she could afford. You may have heard about this case before.

But God had a plan we couldn't see. All it took was the mouth of a child. Her young daughter was saying "farewell" to her school bus driver and related the perplexing details. This bus driver was friends with a realtor who just happened to have a real heart for women in need. Two phone calls later, our resident had an apartment lined up, near her workplace, at a below market rate!

The move was completed recently with the help of many friends. Including (here comes the truly unexpected part) that resident who left last year in despair! It turns out she has made a good turnaround, is living locally again, and is returning to the positive relationships formed while at Compassion House. Now that's a miracle! - Mike Birdsall

## NEW PLAYSET



This fall, we were unexpectedly blessed by a generous donation of a new playset for our residents. The local chapter of PEO (a women's philanthropic education organization), graciously donated a new playset to replace the one that

was in desperate need of replacement. Thank you, PEO sisters, for your amazing support of our women and their families.

## Message from the Executive Director

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ whose birth we celebrate during this advent season! These past months have been an exciting time in the life of Compassion House. Recently, we graduated a resident who has completed her time with us and is now living in a place of her own. She is gainfully employed and is even talking about volunteering with Compassion House so she can pass on to others what she has learned from her experience.

On November 10, we had our annual pie auction and fundraiser at the beautiful Hilton Gardens Hotel in Issaquah. Attendees were treated to a wonderful meal followed by a moving testimony from one of our former residents. Then, we enjoyed a live pie auction, a silent auction of various donated items, and a fundraising challenge wherein people pledged varying amounts to the ongoing ministry of Compassion House. I am both astounded and humbled to report that we cleared over \$42,000.00 in donations. We praise God for his overwhelming support expressed through your amazing generosity. Truly, because of you and your faithfulness in giving, we can continue to do what we do. I would also like to thank Julie Pellegrini and Diana Johnson, our amazing event coordinators, for their tireless efforts in orchestrating this event. Thanks to you, it was an incredible success!

As we close out this year, I am grateful, most of all, to our legion of volunteers who selflessly give of themselves in so many areas to help make our houses into homes. Whether it involves working on the physical properties to make them more appealing or walking alongside our women and their children as they get back on their feet, these volunteers are what make Compassion House so special. Thank you, volunteers, for your ministry to our families. I realize that mere words are insufficient recompense for all you do, but please accept them with my heartfelt gratitude.

Christmas blessings!

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



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## 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:

*Bellevue Presbyterian Church  
Community Church of Issaquah  
Covenant Presbyterian Church  
Eastridge Christian Assembly  
Foothills Baptist Church  
Issaquah Christian Church  
Mountain Creek Christian Fellowship  
Our Savior Lutheran Church  
St. Joseph's Catholic Church  
St. Michael's and All Angels Episcopal Church*

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

## MANY THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS



*Custom string quartets  
for special occasions*



***"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."***

***Isaiah 9:6.***

## 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 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.

As mentioned on the first page, you can direct a percentage of your purchases on Amazon.com toward Compassion House. Visit our AmazonSmile page at <http://smile.amazon.com> and select Compassion House.

### Refer

If you know someone recovering from domestic abuse who needs transitional housing, just refer them to our website. There, they will find everything they need to fill out an application. Applicants cannot be living in active abuse situations. They must also be clean and sober for at least one year. Finally, applicants must have at least two minor children in order to be eligible for housing with Compassion House.