



2017 *Uniting to Serve* ANNUAL REPORT

COMPASSION CONNECT



At Compassion Connect, we provide opportunities for passionate people of faith to make a difference by serving together in their own backyard. Our VISION is a world where churches and individuals everywhere are choosing unity over division and compassion over complacency.

WHO WE ARE



IN 2017, THOUSANDS OF YOU HELPED BRING
THAT VISION TO LIFE

REFLECTING ON TEN YEARS

The stories, numbers, and pictures you observe throughout this Annual Report are much more than ink and paper. I'm trying to comprehend that reality as we walk into our 10th year of unity and compassion. The essential work of recalling, honoring, and glorifying can often get lost in the labor of forward movement, but in slowing down one finds the joy and hope of reflection. Some of my reflections:

The scriptures speak of being **"surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses..."** I've looked around and seen a great cloud of witnesses: I've seen a great group of people live out their faith in radical ways...

A doctor who took a risk and volunteered at the first Compassion Rockwood event, a businessman who saw an article and blindly sent a check, a 70 year old nurse who stepped out in faith, a pastor who apologized to another pastor because he had never taken an interest in getting to know him despite having churches across the street. I see a team of people who have sacrificed so much with so little to help churches choose unity instead of division and compassion instead of complacency, and thousands of volunteers who have taken their faith outside the four walls of a church building.



There is a wonderful thread of compassion that connects us all across denominational, economic, and even national borders.

You make up this tapestry that is 10 years in the process and there is much more beauty to be added.

The passage from Hebrews quoted above goes on to conclude: **"let us run with endurance the race set before us, looking to Jesus."** This is an audacious invitation to you and I.

Let's grab hold of that invitation with all that we are as we step out upon the precipice of faith and display the oneness and compassion of Jesus in the next 10 years!

A handwritten signature in black ink.

Milan Homola
Co-Founder & Executive Director





THE PROBLEM

Poverty. Human Trafficking. Spiritual and physical brokenness. Compassionate people of faith who want to make a difference but become frustrated or guilty because they don't know what they have to offer or where to start. Churches that won't--or don't know how--to work together.

We believe neighborhoods suffer when churches compete and passionate people don't have an outlet to serve, so we've created tools, or models, that provide outlets for people to put their faith into action and unite churches to address their neighborhood's issues together. Against the power of the united Church and empowered people of faith, all those giant problems begin to crumble.

THE PROBLEMS FACING
OUR NEIGHBORHOODS
ARE OVERWHELMING.
THEY ARE BIGGER THAN
ANY ONE PERSON OR
CHURCH.

4 out of 10 adults believe
that the church contributes
not much at all to solving the
social problems of the
community.*



*Pew Research

OUR APPROACH: THE MODELS



Over the past ten years we have been blessed to help local churches unite to serve their neighbors in 26 communities in 4 states and 3 countries. We provide each community with the essential guidance and tools that it takes to start a collaborative project, but at the end of the day each one is locally owned, adapted for its own unique context, and brought to fruition by passionate people of faith who have set aside their differences to serve together in Jesus' name.

OUR SERVICE MODELS



Community Health:
COMPASSION CLINICS
COMPASSION CARE CENTER



Human Trafficking:
ADORNED
IN GRACE



Other Innovative Models:
Apartment Complex Initiative,
Foster Care Office Makeovers

YOUR IMPACT 2017



4,907
people served



4,128
volunteers serving



238
churches uniting

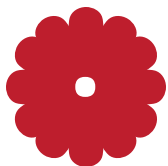
A FEW 2017 HIGHLIGHTS



8 more Compassion Clinics were held in 2017 than in 2016, and an estimated 13 additional Clinics are in the works for 2018!



Adorned In Grace Design Studio attendees can now earn an income and learn entrepreneurship skills by making gold and silver jewelry that will be sold at our Bridal Shops. Come visit one of the shops to see their gorgeous work!



6 churches in Clackamas, OR collaborated to launch a brand new Adorned In Grace Design Studio location in their neighborhood, and 10 local young women are already attending regularly!



In 2017 we launched a brand new website and video! The website features downloadable pdfs that give tips on how to lead a Compassion Clinic model in your neighborhood, an interactive forum for Compassion Clinic volunteer leaders, and many other fun new updates! Visit us at compassionconnect.com to explore what's new!

"We have seen volunteers stretching their faith to witness to guests and other volunteers. Volunteers feeling empowered to pray for other people for the first time... Late one night last week I got a text message from one of our guests turned volunteer that said "I sincerely thank you for letting me be a part of Compassion. It's the most positive thing in my life for a long, long time."

-Jennelle Esquivel, Compassion Arizona Regional Director-

THE MODELS: COMPASSION CLINICS

Millions of people live without access to affordable health care—especially dental care. We believe everyone deserves access to health services and that churches are in a unique position to offer compassionate care that addresses body, mind, and spirit. So we help churches collaborate to host Compassion Clinics: free community health events that typically offer medical and dental and a variety of other health services. In 2017, we were able to help communities launch 8 more clinic events than in 2016, and an estimated 13 more will be added in 2018. Compassion Clinics are a powerful example of the impact everyday people of faith can make when they work together to meet a neighborhood need.



148

Churches Uniting



3,424

Volunteers Serving



26

Number of Clinics



49%

Clinic Guests Without
Health Insurance



3,766

of Guests Served



\$1,577,748

Total Impact of
Clinics

"Our church vision is to be known in the community. We are truly here to love and look out for each other. We are here to open our doors, not to serve ourselves but to serve others. And that's what we get to do at the Clinics."

-Josue Gonzalez, Luz del
Pueblo Church-

"The Compassion Clinics are an amazing opportunity for those of us that really need their services. You all are a true Godsend and very much appreciated. Without your services we really didn't have options for my husband. Many blessings to you all. You do our communities a great service."

-Rose Ford, Clinic Guest-



"I loved the idea that our church was working with other local churches in our neighborhood for our neighbors. Originally, though, I was reluctant to volunteer with Compassion Clinic SW. When I first heard about it I thought I wouldn't be able to volunteer because I didn't have any medical or dental experience, and I'm more of a behind the scene person. I thought that there wasn't a need for me. Then I went to the info meeting,

and I found out how wrong I was. There were so many spots for me to serve. I have seen people come into the Clinics with shoulders hunched and head down and they leave with their shoulders back, head up and a smile on their face. I was able to be a small part of that transformation. It's what makes me want to come back each year. I have also enjoyed the friendships I have made with those at the other churches. Such a blessing to me!"

-Kristin Lockaby, Compassion SW Clinic Volunteer-

THE MODELS: ADORNED IN GRACE

It is estimated that hundreds of thousands of people in the United States are sexually exploited each year. Worldwide, 26% of victims are children.* These statistics are sobering, but they are not the end of the story: passionate people like you are rewriting the ending.

Our Adorned In Grace model gives people opportunities to unite to fight human trafficking in their neighborhood in 3 key areas: Awareness, Prevention, and Restoration. We spread awareness through our Bridal Shops, presentations, events, and our website; we seek prevention by providing mentoring and skills training for vulnerable populations of girls at our Design Studio; and we support restoration efforts by providing resources for survivors and supporting local anti-trafficking organizations.

*Polaris Project



254

Volunteers Fighting
Human Trafficking



73

Churches
Uniting

\$193,205

Total Dollars Raised by the Bridal Shops



109

Girls Served at Events
& the Design Studio

\$513,276

Total Value of Services
Provided

2017 HIGHLIGHTS

The Design Studio has expanded to 4 days a week and added a Jewelry Design Entrepreneurship class, self defense course, and Veterinary Assistant Training course.

In 2017 we provided transportation and shelter for 6 survivors to escape dangerous living conditions in collaboration with 3 other organizations.

In 2017 we were able to build a computer lab at the Design Studio for advanced learning plus many hours of tutoring and homework help.

During the Christmas season we were able to encourage 50 sexually exploited children in the Portland area with gifts and essential needs.

Six churches in Clackamas, OR collaborated to launch a new Design Studio to prevent trafficking in their neighborhood!

We were also able to help a 24 year old survivor and mother of 4 to keep her apartment.



STORIES

"On the ride home from an outing, one girl mentioned she was inspired by MLKJ and wanted to change the world. She said that her family often goes without enough food and she wanted to make sure every homeless person has food. She suggested making food bags for the homeless, so the next week the girls lovingly put these resource bags together!"

"After a mentor talked to the girls about bullying, *Diana, whose family moved here from Iraq when she was in 3rd grade, broke down and said she gets bullied really badly. We were able to minister to her, giving her ideas for how she might deal with it and reassuring her that she is beautiful, smart, and worthy of love."

"I am being invited into the girls' lives... I hope they can grow in confidence in themselves, and know they are each a special person deserving of respect and love. I hope they can also someday fully understand how much God loves them. Being a mentor is a lot of time, planning, organization, and a bit of stress. The rewards of having a group of girls wanting to spend time with you, and trust you, makes up for all that."

-Amber Limb, Design Studio Volunteer Mentor-

TAKE ACTION



VOLUNTEER

We love our volunteers! No matter your talent, background, or time to give, you have a place here. Check out all your options at compassionconnect.com/volunteer



GIVE

We rely on the incredible power of local volunteers to keep overhead spending minimal so your gifts make the biggest impact. We invite you to explore different ways to give at compassionconnect.com/donate



LEAD

Want to start a Compassion Clinic, a Design Studio, or a Compassion Care Center in your own neighborhood? We want to help. Learn more about this opportunity at compassionconnect.com/lead



PRAY

The prayers of our champions sustain us as we work together to overcome the brokenness and division in the world. Email us at serve@compassionconnect.com to join the team!



SHOP

Your purchases at our Adorned In Grace Bridal & Formalwear Shops in Portland, Gresham, and Tacoma (WA) help fund our fight against human trafficking. Come visit us, or learn more by visiting www.adornedingrace.org

"Volunteers across the Christian spectrum have volunteered at our Clinic. Our differences seem very small when we're working together in joint service. I can think of many times when guests have shed tears of joy after receiving dental services. These guests would have had to live with the pain and discomfort of chronic dental issues otherwise."

-John McGee, Compassion Caldwell, ID Volunteer leader-



WHAT'S COMING IN 2018?

We believe that churches and individuals anywhere in the world can make a difference by uniting to serve. Therefore, in 2018 our vision is to give even more communities access to our compassionate service models and create a network where leaders can build and share ways of doing unity & compassion in their own backyards. Simply put, we're striving toward this future: more churches unified, more volunteers empowered, and more of our neighbors experiencing healing of the body, mind and spirit. As we walk into 2018, we are excited for this season of growth and praying for the new communities, churches, and individuals who will rise up to join this growing movement of unity and compassion!

COMPASSION IN ARIZONA

In 2011 a small team of volunteers held Arizona's first Compassion Clinic in a small town called Queen Creek. Exit interviews proved that the area had a huge lack of social services and community resources, so volunteers responded to this need by creating a brand new model to unite churches to serve: a community resource center they named the Compassion Care Center. A small building in an impoverished community now provides a place where those in need can come and receive a wide variety of services ranging from parenting classes and pregnancy counseling to English as a second language classes, job services, rent and utility assistance, food, clothes, and much more.



530

Guests Seen At AZ
Compassion Clinics



450

Volunteers Serving at
AZ Clinics



17

Churches Uniting
in Arizona



302

Families Served by the
Compassion Care Center

\$68,930

Total Value of Care
Provided in AZ

STORIES

"*Marie came to the Compassion Care Center shortly after getting custody of her 3 great grandchildren. She had no furniture, very little clothing and no resources for help. We got them set up with furniture, kitchenware, and lots of clothes for the kids. Two days before Christmas her granddaughter (the children's mother) passed away from complications of drug abuse. Marie has come in several times just to say thank you for loving on them during one of the most difficult times of their lives."

"*John came into the Compassion Care Center looking for a job. He was very anxious and discouraged because he had been looking for awhile and was insecure about his poor English. One of our volunteers helped him register for Goodwill career services and post some applications, signed him up for ESL classes and got him a food box and some diapers. A week later he came back in very excited to tell us that he had been hired for one of the jobs he applied for. He was so proud."

* A few awesome
clinic volunteers
serving at
Compassion
Queen Creek,
AZ



OUR WORK ABROAD IN 2017

We are convinced that churches anywhere in the world can tackle the serious issues facing their neighborhoods when they set aside their differences and serve together. Although the African Church faces significant barriers to unity, we were able to plant seeds at two conferences in the fall of 2017 that challenged them to seek a different way. We look forward to seeing what God continues to do in Africa!



2 Countries:
Kenya & Tanzania



2 Conferences



360 Local Pastors and
Leaders Reached



46 Denominations
Represented

"Thank you for obeying the Holy Spirit to come to Kenya...We've not had such a big representation of churches. We've begun in a small way meeting to share and slowly we are beginning to open up to each other. We've agreed to begin dealing with each other honestly and do away with any suspicions in our midst. This is hard but we are going to work on it and towards it."

Bishop Moses Wanyonyi, Kenya

OUR CHAMPIONS

We extend our deep thanks to all the champions we are blessed to partner with, who are too numerous to completely list here! These amazing partners provide essential volunteers and donations for the work that we do, and together we are doing so much more than we could on our own. Email us at serve@compassionconnect.com to learn how you too can become a champion of unity and compassion!





CHURCHES & ORGANIZATIONS:

Luis Palau Association
 Medical Teams International
 Willamette Christian Church
 Portland Christian Center
 Southwest Hills Baptist Church
 Gethsemane Lutheran Church
 City Bible Church
 Clear Creek Church
 Imago Dei Community
 Colossae Church
 Greater Portland Bible Church
 Epic Christian Church
 Rahab's Sisters
 City of Tigard
 City of Tualatin
 Safety Compass

Hands of Favor
 University of Western States
 Riversgate Church
 New Hope Church
 Horizon Community Church
 Gateway Church
 Columbia Presbyterian Church
 Good Shepherd Community Church
 First Baptist Church
 (Downtown Pdx)
 East County Church of Christ
 A Jesus Church Family
 Mercy Multiplied
 Innovations HTC
 A Village For One

Oregon City Church of the Nazarene
 Reformation Covenant Church
 Canyon Hill Church of the Nazarene
 Rebecca Bender Initiative
 Eastside Free Methodist Church
 Savage Memorial Church
 Luz del Pueblo Iglesia
 Oaks Parish
 As Is Church
 Pathway Church
 Crossroads Church
 Mending the Soul
 The Reality Project
 Love Caldwell

BUSINESSES:

Adventist Health
 Chick-fil-A
 Fred Meyer
 The Portland Clinic
 Cambia Health Solutions
 Speed's Towing
 Uptown Lights & Painting
 Northwest Technologies, Inc.

The Rueck Company
 Legend Legacy
 7-11 - Greater Portland
 Kaiser Permanente Financial Services
 Investment Development Management
 Olive Gardens- Greater Portland

FOUNDATIONS:

Mission Increase Foundation
 M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust
 Joseph E Weston Public Foundation
 Juan Young Trust

*Many thanks to Parker Knight for the wonderful photography featured in this report and on our website!

2017 FINANCIALS



\$1.00 = \$9.95

For every dollar contributed by an individual donor, \$9.95 in community impact was produced through the multiplication power of volunteerism and other goodwill contributions. This number reflects direct services provided as well as key volunteer hours required to provide those services.



50,344

Total Volunteer
Hours



\$2,159,954

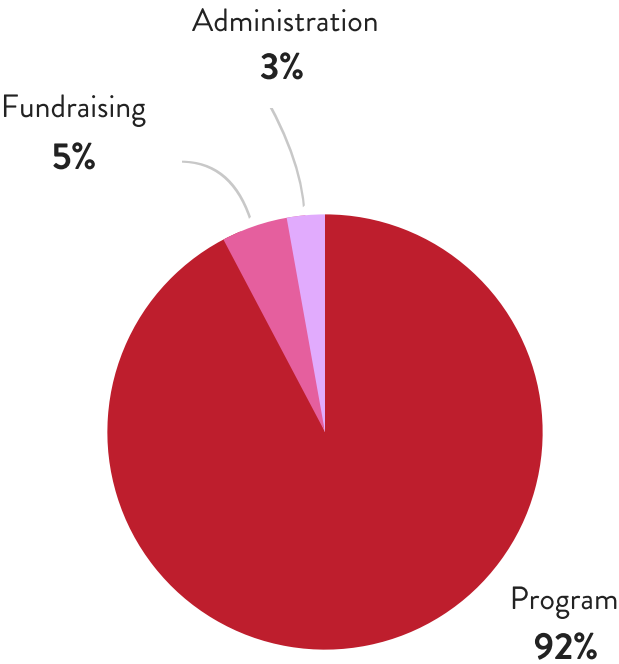
Total Value of
Services Provided

*See "Your Impact 2017" page for more 2017 totals

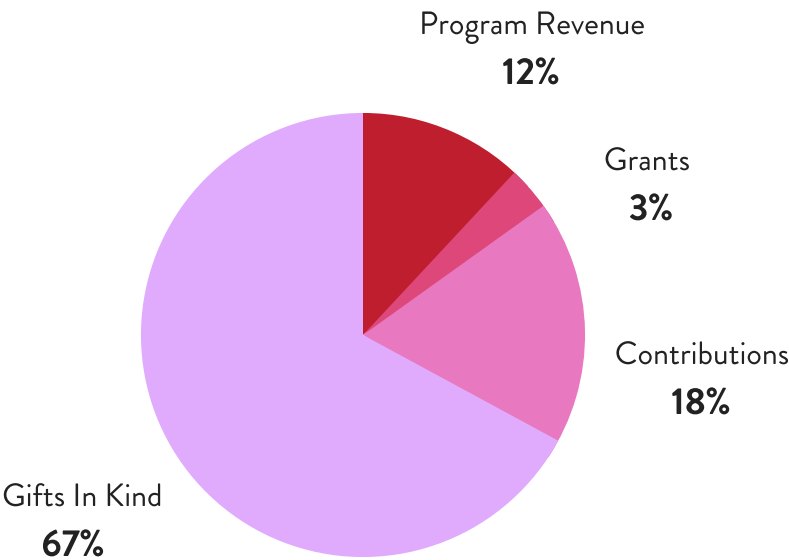
"I was able to connect with a sweet older lady and help her throughout the clinic during the day. She at first was not very happy but she began sharing her life stories with me while we waited for her dental care and by the end, she was so appreciative of her experience at the Clinic, she cried and gave me a kiss on the cheek afterwards. God is so good; he touched this lady through people who volunteered and I was able to see it."

-Compassion Clinic Volunteer-

2017 EXPENSE RATIOS



2017 INCOME SOURCES





Compassion Connect
12135 SE Lincoln St.
Portland, OR 97216

www.compassionconnect.com | serve@compassionconnect.com



CompassionPDX |



@compassionconnect |



@CompassionPDX