

Compassion's Volunteer Network

WELCOME GUIDE





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Compassion Canada's Volunteer Network is passionate about equipping you to share your Compassion story with others so together we can see more children's lives transformed in Jesus' name.

Our desire in Compassion Canada's ministry is to see Canadians embrace God's invitation to serve in His mission on the earth. He has equipped each one uniquely to express God's love and redemptive grace to the world around us. I believe a very tangible and practical way to do this is through **volunteering with your gifts and talents** in Compassion's Volunteer Network.

Whether you help at events, fundraise, share your Compassion story with others or assist in other ways, there is a place for you to serve. You are becoming a part of seeing more children's lives transformed in Jesus' name by volunteering with us. And we know your life will be transformed along the way as you follow His call.



TERESA STRACUZZI

Compassion Canada's Volunteer Network



You Are Part of a Bigger Picture...

The ministry that became known as Compassion Canada began as a volunteer venture when Bob and Janet Forsyth invited Canadians to support Compassion's work around the world. From 1963 to 1972, they ran the ministry from their basement. They gathered friends and people from their church who gave their time and energy to process letters and assemble child packs because they knew that even though they were a world away, they could bring vital care to children living in poverty.

As Compassion grew, so did the Volunteer Network, across Canada. From just a handful of people putting child packs together in a basement to hundreds serving at events, making presentations, fundraising and sharing Compassion's work with their friends and family.

Volunteers support our staff and programs in more than 8,000 Compassion centres in 27 countries around the world. Thousands of loving people are giving their time and energy to care for children from their own communities. These volunteers are so vital to Compassion's global work. **They help children receive the physical and emotional care they need.** They share the love of Christ with children and help them develop in every area of their lives.

As a volunteer, you're playing a part in Compassion's work around the world. And for that, we are grateful.

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"I count it a privilege to be able to volunteer for Compassion. I am happy to be able to help others and share and show the love of Jesus." — GRACE STREVETT



Let's Get Started!

START TODAY

Regardless of what you've signed up to do, here are three simple actions you can take to begin your impact on children living in poverty.

1. **FIND A NEW SPONSOR.** We'll send you a profile on a child waiting for sponsorship. Use everyday opportunities to share your Compassion story with others and make a connection between a child and a new sponsor.
2. **RAISE MONEY FOR CHILDREN IN POVERTY.** It's easy to raise money through our online platform or just the old fashioned "bake-sale" way. We have plenty of resources to get you started.
3. **INVITE A FRIEND TO VOLUNTEER.** Do you have someone in your life who is as passionate as you are about changing the world around them? Introduce them to volunteering with Compassion.

Serve with Your Passion and Gifts

Whether you signed up to help us at events or in another area, being a volunteer with Compassion can become a significant part of your story and a unique way to share with others. **It's about sharing your passion and your life.**

HERE ARE SOME QUESTIONS TO HELP FOCUS YOUR PASSION:

- What are my specific skills and gifts? How can I use them to share about Compassion?
- What is my story or journey? How did God lead me to volunteer with Compassion and what is the burden He placed on my heart?
- Who would be most open to hearing my story and learning more about Compassion's ministry and why I volunteer?
- How will I share my Compassion story with them?
- When will I share my Compassion story with them?
- What goals do I want to set as a volunteer?

FOLLOW. SHARE. ENGAGE.



Visit compassion.ca/volunteer to learn more about volunteering with Compassion. If you have any questions or want to share your ideas with us, email volunteer@compassion.ca.



"I love volunteering because I can spread the love of Jesus and see children get hope for their future."

— BRIAN MONTGOMERY



Equip and Empower

Networking with fellow volunteers and reaching out to our staff team can be one of your most helpful resources. Through others you can glean ideas and receive encouragement, coaching and assistance!

HERE ARE SOME OF OUR FAVOURITE AND MOST HELPFUL TOOLS AS YOU SHARE WITH OTHERS:

- **Child packs**, which feature information about a child awaiting sponsorship and our sponsorship sign-up form. We can also send you a child pack from a specific country or of a certain age or gender.
- **Fundraising and presentation aids**, provided on our online resource page: compassion.ca/resources.
- **Videos**, in our video library at vimeo.com/compassionca
- **True Story**, a curriculum helping teens discover how God wants them to help those in need.
- **Step into My Shoes**, a devotional for families and small groups.
- **Eyes to See**, a small group or personal devotional book that leads you to live with your hands, eyes and heart wide open.

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“I love being part of the Volunteer Network. Everyone should know of these wonderful opportunities.” — PATRICIA FORTE



Our Unchanging Values

Together we create a community, a strong network of volunteers across the country who have a like-minded passion and purpose. **These are our values:**

WE LOVE JESUS. We want all people to experience the love of Jesus firsthand and to have the chance to be freed from poverty in every sense: having their practical needs met and hearing the good news about Jesus!

WE LOVE CHILDREN. Everything we do is designed to meet the specific needs of individual children. We help them identify their passions and talents while gaining skills and resources to overcome poverty.

WE LOVE THE CHURCH. We want the Church to shine brightly as it displays the love of Christ for all to see. That's why we partner solely with local churches around the world to help children escape poverty.

WE VALUE TEAMWORK. The Volunteer Network is committed to working together with you, encouraging and assisting you wherever possible.

WE VALUE INTEGRITY. We are committed to upholding all of the necessary requirements to protect the data and privacy of new sponsors and donors, honouring God and each other as we give our time.

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"I love the community of volunteers and how we have a shared sense of purpose and goals that unite us."

— SARAH RICHARDSON



WHAT IS COMPASSION?

As one of the world's leading child development organizations, Compassion partners with the local church in 27 countries to end poverty in the lives of children and their families. Today, more than two million children and their families are discovering lives full of promise and purpose as they develop in all aspects of their lives—minds, bodies and relationships—while discovering God's love for them in the gospel of Jesus Christ.



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