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Title: Area woman makes impact

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SAN DIMAS - What started as a class project has been launched into a full-fledged career for Barbara Case. Case, the founder and president for the nonprofit organization Compassion In Action-USA in San Dimas has turned the project into a job after people began to ask for her help.

"It was obvious this was a huge need and it just evolved very fast, almost overnight," she said.

The organization started after Case, 57, formed a nonprofit group for her leadership course in 2002. She and her group hosted informative forums, which consisted of city representatives, community legislatures and staff from local government agencies.

After the project ended, Case began to receive calls from people explaining how they would like to speak to certain officials concerning Social Security and disability issues but were simply too ill to do it themselves.

They then asked Case for her help. Without hesitation, she agreed.

"It just became obvious that I had to do something," she said. "It's just insane how many people need help."

By June, Case and three other group members decided to continue with the organization and reach out to clients.

"Our mission is to provide advocates for those seriously ill and who are fighting medical crisis so they can live with dignity," she said.

For more information, call (909)599-2087, or visit www.compassioninaction.us

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