

Winter 2011
Volume 2, Issue 2



Recognizing the *dignity* of *EVERY* person

COMPASSION IN ACTION—USA

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Finding Value!

Robin Lines worked as a nurse for many years in area clinics and hospitals. She loved nursing and the one-on-one contact she had with her patients. Over time she incurred injuries while assisting her patients and from repetitive activities. These injuries decreased Robin's ability to be effective on her job.

was unsuccessful after numerous attempts. It was at this time that Robin turned to **Compassion** for help. In June of 2011, she was approved for Social Security disability.

Because of Robin's history of community service, she is the perfect fit for the position of Client Representative on the **Compassion** Board of Directors. Robin feels it is very important to bring the client's perspective to Board planning, decision-making and event planning. Because of her disabilities, physical limitations often interfere with full participation, but involvement on the Board has given her the feeling of being able to give back and, despite her illness, still contribute to the community. Once again, restoring *dignity* puts the focus on *ability*, not disability.

Robin's mother, Mary Pat Crippen, was a nursing director for Los Angeles County and in her free time volunteered with many community organizations, including **Compassion In Action (Compassion)**. Robin learned about the work of **Compassion** when she accompanied her mother to our events.

Robin applied for SSI when she could no longer work.. Initially she was denied. She tried to return to work but



Our Mission

*Compassion In Action—USA is committed to providing personal advocacy services to our community members who are struggling with a health-related crisis. We will provide assistance to each person until they have received the medical services and disability benefits they are eligible for, so they may live in *dignity*.*

What We Do

We provide advocates to assist those in our communities who are seriously ill through the process of acquiring Social Security, SSI Disability, and other needed services.

We Can Help!

(626) 967-6800



COMPASSION IN ACTION—USA

Igniting Hearts! Restoring Lives!

Fundraising and Recognition Luncheon

February 4, 2012

San Dimas Senior Center

201 E Bonita Ave, San Dimas, California 91773

1:00-3:00 PM

*Join us for lunch, dessert, raffles, recognition, and lots of fun!
Stay tuned for more details!*



Letter From Our President

Dear Friends,

As we move closer to the end of 2011 and look forward to 2012, reflection over the past year fills our minds. As **Compassion** has grown back into full-time operation, the number of calls for our services has greatly increased, and with our presence at numerous community events, requests for collaborations and assistance for the clients of many area agencies have grown.

Just this week we received a desperate call from a friend of **Compassion's** requesting assistance for a life-long friend who is terminally ill with cancer. The family and friends of our new client spent two months going from agency to agency with the only results being piles of applications and frustration. After the call was made to **Compassion**, an SSI application was rapidly processed and hospice was contacted. Within two days, our client had hospice care and an SSI case that was filed and approved the next business day giving him both income and Medi-Cal. This is what should happen at such a difficult time – help and solutions – not more frustration and heartache.

This past Summer, I was honored with an induction into the Hall of Honor of my alma mater, Van Horn High School, in Independence, Missouri. This honor came because of the success of **Compassion**. In the words of the President of the alumni association: "We are very impressed with how you have used your creativity and dogged determination to accomplish what you have for your clients. Since I worked previously in the financial services industry (about 10 years) as a financial planner, I have personally witnessed the chaos that can happen to a family's finances—and to its *dignity*—when disability strikes. The resulting devastation is truly heart-wrenching! Thank goodness there is a not-for-profit organization restoring a measure of *dignity* to those whose health issues have sapped them of the energy needed to go up against government bureaucracies." None of our success at **Compassion** would ever have happened without our friends – community agencies, donors and volunteers – who helped us take a desire to fill a need in the community and grow it into a successful agency! We truly do thank you for your friendship and support.

At this time we would also like to remind you that **Compassion** is a 501c3 non-profit and all donations are tax deductible. We encourage you to remember **Compassion** and the difference we are making in our communities when you make your end of the year donations. Please make a special note of our upcoming fundraising luncheon on February 4, 2012 at 1:00 PM at the San Dimas Senior Center as seen on page 1, and stay tuned for more specifics about the event that will be sent after the holidays.

Wishing you, your staff, clients, and families a joyful holiday season and wonderfully successful 2012!

Sincerely,

Barbara

Barbara Case



Van Horn Hall of Honor
Inaugural Class 2011



"This past Summer I was honored with an induction into the Hall of Honor of my alma mater, Van Horn High School, in Independence, Missouri."

*"Thank goodness there is a not-for-profit organization restoring a measure of **dignity** to those whose health issues have sapped them of the energy needed to go up against government bureaucracies."*

YOUR SUPPORT IS VITAL TO OUR SUCCESS

Please send donations to:



COMPASSION IN ACTION
PO Box 383
San Dimas, CA 91773

PayPal & Credit Card donations
can be made on our website:

www.compassioninaction.us

We are a 501(c)3 Non-Profit
E#61-1422369

All donations are tax deductible!

UPDATE: ADULT DAY HEALTH CARE CENTERS

On November 17th, a settlement was reached in a federal lawsuit between Adult Day Health Care (ADHC) participants and the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), which will delay the elimination of ADHC funding until February 29th. As part of the 2011-2012 state budget, ADHC services were scheduled to be eliminated as a Medi-Cal benefit beginning December 1st. This would have impacted services for nearly 34,000 seniors and persons with disabilities throughout the state who rely on ADHC centers for skilled health and nursing services, personal care services, therapy, social services, transportation, meals and case management.

The settlement also creates a new program called Community-Based Adult Services (CBAS) that will provide ADHC-type services for qualified individuals. Although full details have not yet been released, DHCS intends for CBAS to be provided through centers contracted with managed care plans, and for the new program to be in place by March 1st.

Possibly the biggest unknown concerns the number of patients who will be eligible for CBAS benefits, according to Elissa Gershon, attorney for Disability Rights California, which brought the lawsuit. According to Gershon, of the approximately 35,000 frail and elderly patients who have been getting ADHC care, about 9,300 will be presumptively or categorically eligible for CBAS care.

The rest of the people currently in the state's ADHC program -- about 25,700 -- will need a face-to-face evaluation to determine whether or not they qualify for CBAS.

ADHC participants will begin receiving notices regarding this change in mid-December, and will be assessed for the new program sometime between then and February. It is believed that approximately half of current ADHC participants will be eligible for the new program. Participants who are not eligible will receive "enhanced case management" services through their managed care plan to help them transition into other services in the community.

Although this change will impact thousands of seniors and persons with disabilities, the announced settlement and creation of the CBAS program could keep many of these individuals from being placed in an institution or nursing home. The settlement is seen as a major victory by advocates throughout the state.

UPDATE: IHSS SERVICE HOURS CUT

Breaking News: December 1, 2011: Judge Claudia Wilken issued a Temporary Restraining Order effective immediately that stops the state from proceeding with the IHSS cuts we have itemized below. The Courts are scheduled to hear the case at 2:00 PM December 15, 2011 in Oakland

According to the latest CA state budget, IHSS service hours

must be cut by 20% if CA State revenues do not meet projections. These cuts will take place as of January 1, 2012. The state will send IHSS consumers a notice about the cuts by December 15, 2011. The notice will include the consumer's total authorized IHSS service hours now and total IHSS service hours after the 20% cut. The state will also add a message on providers' time sheets, telling them about the 20% cut. The IHSS 20% cut in service hours will be based on the most recent IHSS assessment of need. The 20% cut in services notice will also tell IHSS consumers how to apply for an IHSS Care Supplement. If consumers mail or bring to the county office an application for the IHSS Care Supplement by January 3, 2012, their IHSS hours will be restored until the county takes action on their application. Consumers should ask for a receipt when they hand in their application.

Approval of the IHSS Care Supplement, will give some or all of their IHSS hours back. State law says that consumers are eligible for the IHSS Care Supplement if the 20% cut in IHSS service hours will put them at serious risk of out-of-home placement. "Out-of-home placement" means that consumers would have to leave their current home and live somewhere else such as a board and care home or a nursing home. Current IHSS recipients should contact their IHSS social worker for further information.



Californians Have Unmet Mental Health Care Needs

According to a report from the UCLA Center for Health Policy Research, (*United Press International*, 12/1), about 8% of California adults reported having symptoms that aligned with major psychological distress and that caused difficulty functioning at home or work (Roan, "[Booster Shots](#)," *Los Angeles Times*, 12/1).

The report found disparities in mental health status and treatment among different demographic, economic and social factors. For example, 17% of single adults with children had unmet mental health care needs, while 12% of

U.S.-born Hispanics had unmet mental health needs ("*State of Health*," KQED, 12/1). The study also found that:

- 87% of uninsured adults had unmet mental health care needs;
- 77% of adults with private insurance had unmet needs, and;
- 65% of adults with public insurance had unmet needs (*United Press International*, 12/1).

The researchers concluded that mental health care should be integrated into general health care. The researchers added that primary care physicians should screen patients for mental health problems and provide referrals to mental health specialists ("[Booster Shots](#)," *Los Angeles Times*, 12/1).

WE AGREE: Many individuals requesting assistance from Compassion report that they have had the same difficulties finding regular mental health care. Compassion advocates have experienced increasing difficulty in finding openings at area mental health agencies for our clients who are in need of mental health services.

Our Scrapbook of Recent Events!

Covina Assembly of God Church Back to School Fair
Covina, California, August 17, 2011

Van Horn Hall of Honor Induction Ceremony
Independence, Missouri, August 26, 2011

Hope Center Connections/Pacific Clinics Wellness Fair
Irwindale, California, September 7, 2011

El Monte Adult School Resource Fair
El Monte, September 21, 2011

Heart & Soul Back to School Event
La Puente, California, October 1, 2011

Passageways Homeless Connect Day
Pasadena, California, October 18, 2011

Homeless Veterans Stand-Down
El Monte, California, October 20, 2011

Covina VSP Vision Event
Covina, California, October 28, 2011

San Gabriel Valley Consortium on Homelessness
San Dimas, California, November 9, 2011

Tzu Chi Thanksgiving for the Needy
Covina, California, November 25, 2011

Project Connect Homeless Event
Pomona, California, December 8, 2011



Barbara Case at the Heart & Soul Back to School Event, La Puente, California.



Board Member, Khryste Langlais, at the Homeless Veterans Stand-Down, El Monte, Calif.



Advocating for the disabled at the VSP Vision Event, Covina, California.



Compassion in Action: Exhibitor & panelist at the San Gabriel Valley Consortium on Homelessness, San Dimas, California.



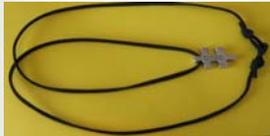
Volunteer, Kassidee Williamsen, representing Compassion at the Tzu Chi Thanksgiving for the Needy, Covina, California.

**"I AM COMPASSION IN ACTION"
Key Ring and Necklace!**

Display your compassion with our Compassion Puzzle Piece. Compassion assists in the restoration of our clients' lives one piece at a time. By purchasing our puzzle pieces, you help us in this process!



"I AM COMPASSION IN ACTION" Key Ring
\$10.00 each tax included



"I AM COMPASSION IN ACTION" Necklace
\$10.00 each tax included

PLACING AN ORDER IS AS EASY AS 1, 2 OR 3!

1. Call (626) 967-6800, or
2. Email us at puzzle@compassioninaction.us, or
3. Cut this out and mail to
PO Box 383, San Dimas, CA 91773

_____ "I AM COMPASSION IN ACTION" **KEY RING**
Number of key rings

_____ "I AM COMPASSION IN ACTION" **NECKLACE**
Number of necklaces

Credit card, check or money order accepted.

Shipping Costs
1-4 pieces \$2.00
5-10 pieces \$4.00
11+ pieces \$8.00

YOUR PURCHASE IS TAX DEDUCTIBLE!

Thank You!

To those of you who financially support **Compassion In Action**, and take the opportunity to walk with us hand-in-hand. As a donor partner, your financial donation provides the dollars needed to accomplish our mission of making a difference. Your donations allow us to successfully win approval of the cases we represent and to acquire and provide medical services, food, and other essential needs of our clients during the application process. We are committed to acknowledging the difference your partnership and compassionate giving is making. Together we provide Compassion and Action!

Our Valued Donor Partners!

Victor DeRobles
Gabriel Galdos
Glenkirk Presbyterian Church
Candace Goennier
Arthur Herrera
Catherine Lotus
Helen Marshall
Dana Navarro
Kathy and Gabe Sanchez

Take the opportunity to walk with us hand-in-hand by donating today!



<http://www.compassioninaction.us/donation.html>



Our Board of Directors

Newly elected July 16, 2011

PRESIDENT

Barbara Case, *Disability Advocate*

DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

Dana Navarro, *Vice President Human Resources*

SECRETARY & VOLUNTEER REPRESENTATIVE

Rowena Marquez, *Advocate*

CLIENT REPRESENTATIVE

Robin Lines

TREASURER

Colleen Good, *Accountant*

BOARD MEMBER

Khryste Langlais, *Business Owner*

BOARD MEMBER

Helen Marshall, *Retired Teacher*

COMPASSION IN ACTION—USA
PO BOX 383, San Dimas, CA 91773

Have you ever needed help for yourself and you didn't know who to call AND no one seemed to care? WE DO!

Phone: (626) 967-6800
Fax: (626) 967-6833
Email: info@compassioninaction.us

We're on the Web!

www.compassioninaction.us

Recognizing the **dignity** of EVERY person!