



Impact Report

2022



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Note from Executive Director

It is my hope as you review the 2022 impact report, you will be inspired by the mission of Compassion House. At Compassion House, we appreciate your ongoing support for our pregnant teens and their babies. Our volunteers and board members support us with their time, skills, and passion. Our donors, sponsors, and community partners provide the financial means to fund our program. The success of Compassion House is due to the ongoing relationships with these partners. The community of Northwest Arkansas makes it possible for us to change the lives of young women every day!

I would love to share how your support helped the girls and their children in 2022. We established a new position, Director of Education and Career Development. This allowed us to further emphasize the importance of education with our residents as well as open new opportunities for them to learn a trade or gain certifications. We opened our Learning Center where the residents are able to study and participate in life skills classes. We expanded our garden project - Compassion Garden, which saved us money on food costs and taught our residents about nutrition and horticulture. We added chickens that are now producing fresh eggs daily to sell and consume. Our Baby Barn Boutique has officially opened. This is where the residents are able to acquire donated items as needed. The boutique is also available to other nonprofits, and groups that help teen mothers in the community.

Our staff and residents continue to work together to set goals, track progress, and move towards safe, healthy and independent living with our new aftercare program.

In 2022, four new babies joined our Compassion House family. Five moms graduated from high school or received their GED. Three moms received their CNA certifications. Three moms found professional employment. All of our moms graduated from Financial Peace University. Six moms received their Food Nutrition certification. Seven moms received their drivers permit/license. One mom purchased a new car!

It is a privilege to feel the true-life changes that have happened for these young moms. Their attitudes, healthy coping skills, ability to look people in the eye, use and teach their children manners. They now are able to show grace, forgiveness, and gratitude, take care of themselves and their children. These changes have reset the course of the future for them and their children. YOU helped make this happen by your investment in their lives and we cannot THANK YOU enough!

Blessings,



Jennifer Samuel-Haeg
Executive Director



Our Story

OUR MISSION

Compassionately offering pregnant teens a safe place to live. We empower each resident with life skills, education, and support — developing productive parents and contributors in the community.

At Compassion House we envision that all young mothers that graduate the Compassion House program will go on to live healthy stable lives by using the education, life skills, and the support systems they have built to provide a stable home environment for themselves and their child.



OUR PURPOSE

Our Dream Is To Break The Cycle Of Poverty, Abuse, And Neglect That Many Teen Moms Have Experienced.



Board of Directors

Melodieann Whiteley, **President**
Jennifer Hart, **Treasurer**
Tara Snyder, **Secretary**
Pastor Steve Dixon
Tiffany Womack

Our Past & Who We Serve

Compassion House is a Christ-centered ministry that has been serving pregnant teens with housing, prenatal care, and life skills for the last thirty year. Originally founded by Youth with a Mission (YWAM) they opened the New Beginnings Maternity Home in Elm Springs and a New Beginnings Crisis Pregnancy Center in Fayetteville, AR. YWAM decided to alter its ministry strategy in 1998 to focus on abstinence in the schools. Owen

Paris (YWAM president) approached Pastor Steve Dixon regarding Christian Life Cathedral taking over the New Beginnings Home and Pregnancy Center. Pastor Steve agreed with the intention of establishing it as a Body of Christ ministry in Northwest Arkansas rather than a CLC ministry.

The first board was formed with Pastor Ernie Conduff as president and Pastor Steve Dixon, Cyndi Bradt, Mary O'Mara, and Mark Greenway as the first board members. The non-profit organization of Compassion Ministries Ltd. was established. When YWAM decided to sell the New Beginnings Home, the board extended a fundraising challenge to the businesses, churches, and individuals in the Northwest Arkansas

community.

The result was the purchase of the existing home for pregnant teens, now called Compassion

House, in Elm Springs. In early 2000, the New Beginnings Crisis Pregnancy Center closed in Fayetteville and was replaced by Loving Choices.

In 2009, the community came together to build an expansion to Compassion House, doubling

its size. In 2011, a renovation of the kitchen was completed. In 2022, Compassion House gained new porches and a paint face-lift. In addition, we were able to add a playground on campus thanks to the support of Life Church in Rogers and Sam's Club.



Where We Serve



We are pleased to share that we have supported more than 192 young women since 1996. We currently have a wait list and a full house!

We are the ONLY facility of our kind in the state of Arkansas.



Our residents come from all over the state of Arkansas as well as surrounding states.

Alabama
Alma
Batesville
Beardon

Bentonville 6%

Berryville
Blytheville
Coal Hill
Dardanelle
Decatur
Eureka Springs
Farmington

Fayetteville 14%

Forrest City

Fort Smith 6%

Gravette
Hope
Hot Springs
Hoxie
Huntsville
Jonesboro



Little Rock
Midway
Missouri
Monticello
Mountain Home
Newport
North Little Rock
Oklahoma
Paragould

Rogers 10%

Searcy

Siloam Springs 5%

Springdale 11%

Southside
Texarkana
Tuckerman
Van Buren
Yellville

100%



**SAY NO TO POVERTY. YES
TO EDUCATION**

100% enrollment rate in
secondary/post secondary
education among residents

5 highschool/GED graduates, 4
college enrolled students, 2 CNA
certified.

2,600

**Volunteer Hours in
2022**

Thank you!



312

**Life Skills/Parenting
Classes in 2022**

Residents participated in classes
on the following topics (not
limited to) cooking, financial
literacy, sewing, canning, kitchen
safety, parenting, workforce
development, emotional healthy
and spiritual health.



100%

HEALTHY MOMS, HEALTHY BABIES

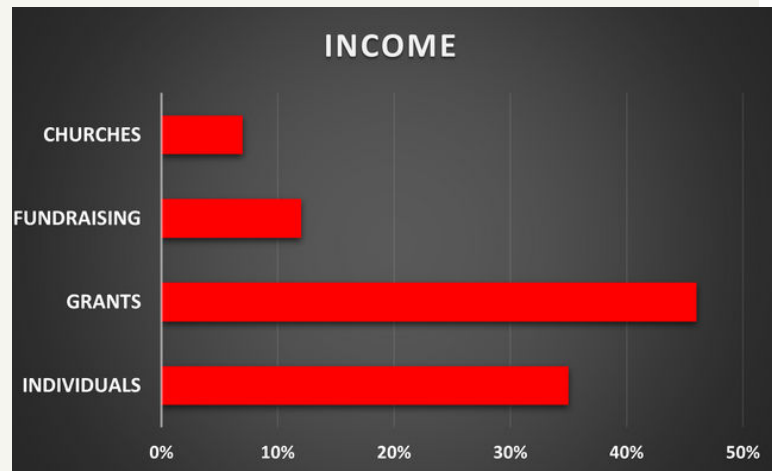
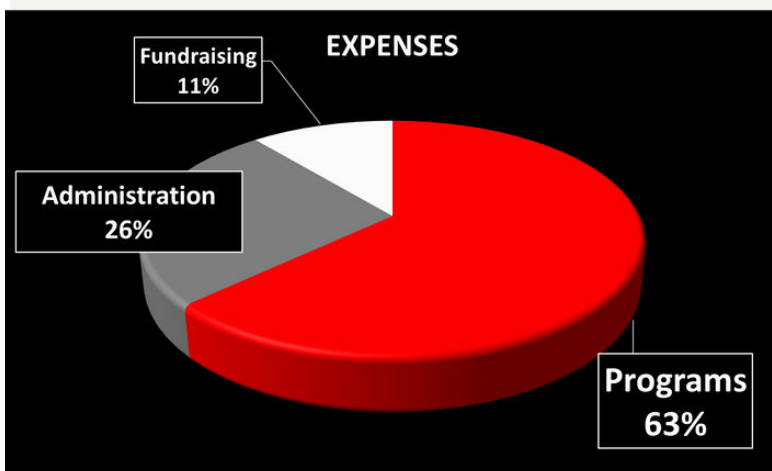
100% of moms had access to prenatal
care, labor coaching, birth planning,
and babies were born healthy.

Compassion House welcomed 4 new babies this year.
Statistically teen moms in Arkansas do not receive the
prenatal care until 2nd or 3rd trimester, and are 3-4
times more likely to have substance abuse issues
during pregnancy. Our moms received early care and
skill preparation to beat these stats.

Financials

Compassion House relies on the kindness of our community support each year. Individuals, churches, and businesses help us fulfill our mission. Event and program sponsors contribute to our fundraising efforts, and grant-making organizations support our on-going projects.

We **THANK YOU!**



GET INVOLVED!

The success of Compassion House is due to our committed volunteers. These individuals give of their time, talents, and resources. When you become involved in our mission you can provide love, hope and empower a young woman's life.

IN-KIND

TEACH A CLASS

BRING A MEAL

GARDEN HELP

MENTOR

HOLIDAY GIFTS

LABOR COACH

BABY CUDDLER



IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS ABOUT ANY OF THESE UNIQUE
OPPORTUNITIES, PLEASE GET IN TOUCH WITH CRYSTAL WIDGER,
EXECUTIVE COORDINATOR.
CRYSTAL.COMPASSIONHOUSE@GMAIL.COM
479-419-9100 EXT.

GROWING & EMPOWERING HEALTHY GENERATIONS



What: The Growing & Empowering Healthy Generations Project is a nutrition program based on Cognitive Behavior Theory and Treatment. Residents engaged in our nutrition program from seed to table. The needs of food consumption that they receive is the educational value of learning how to grow their own food, prepare it, preserve it, and create recipes with fresh foods. They are also taught about the many benefits of chickens. The project curriculum was developed specifically for this program; however, MyPlate is used as a tool guide for the nutrition education component. This allows the residents to gain skills in preparing a healthy diet, meal plan, grocery shopping, kitchen safety, and cooking skills. The goal of this program is to raise awareness on healthy eating habits, for themselves and their babies thus breaking generational cycles.

How: The residents are at-risk pregnant and parenting teens in Arkansas. We currently house 7 teenage moms and 5 babies with 2 more babies on the way. We have a waiting list now and will be looking to expand our facility in 2023. Compassion House created a 2,500 sq ft garden and enhanced it over the course of grant funding in 2021-2022. Chickens, bees, and greenhouse were purchased to allow residents the opportunity to learn sustainability skills. This program provides educational hands-on classes covering Nutrition/Culinary skills. The program also offers educational lecture style classes and group work covering the nutritional education component and how to apply the new skills to their everyday lives. For example, the classes included breastfeeding nutrients, hands on grocery shopping 1 time per month with education on reading labels as well as making list and meal planning. As a part of the program one resident is required to cook a meal to eat together as a family each night. Participants received written handouts; educational binders filled with community partners as well as national partners to obtain additional information. All classes are overseen by our Nutrition and Farm Coordinator along with volunteers. Staff administers baseline surveys upon entry into our program and follow-up prior to being released from Compassion House. In addition, the Case Manager on staff held weekly lessons in CBT (Cognitive Behavior Therapy) which highlighted three key areas: Mindfulness, Distress Tolerance, and Emotional Regulation. These lessons were in a group setting. The program is measured by the residents showing results of increased fruit and vegetable intake, decreasing the amount of fast food vs cooking at home, etc. Residents will have the opportunity to see direct results of health benefits to themselves and their infants from a wellness and nutrition benefit as they move from obesity levels to healthy weight ranges and increased positive activities and gain new healthy coping skills. Food production from the garden will reduce the annual costs to the organization of over 30% allowing for sustainable resources that are replicated annually and can be preserved and shared with additional shelters and feeding programs to make a larger impact in the event of surplus.

Who: Our program targets at-risk female teenagers as well as their babies. This population enters Compassion House and our program through various means such as but not limited to juvenile court placement for FINS or Truancy, Homeless Shelters, Churches and School Guidance Counselors. The majority of our residents come from a volatile, low income and low educational background. We serve residents from all counties in Arkansas.

Outcome: Our residents were able to see a direct result with increases of 75% in vegetables per day, 70% increase in servings of fruits per day, 83% increase in cooking meals at home, and 78% decrease in soft drink consumption per day! With all of this being said, we are still working on ways to entice the residents to eat wheat bread. This was a sticking point among the participants, and we are coming up with new ways moving forward to incorporate wheat bread into their diets vs. white breads. By following MyPlate curriculum, we were able to teach the residents the importance of a balanced diet and nutritional goals. Through this program we were able to provide 72 hours of educational classes and hands-on guidance to our residents in a 12 month period. Within the community we received over 1,012 hours of work from volunteers! We attended classes with the University of Arkansas Horticultural program, Washington County Extension Office, NWA Food Bank and Child Nutrition Program of Mississippi. These classes included "Backyard Poultry", "Growing Your Own Groceries", and "Seed to Supper". We worked with the Beekeeper's Association of Benton County and received a Bee Mentor to assist in honey production. Through our community partners we also received blueberry and blackberry bushes which we will see the fruits of those items in 2 years. In September, we held our first Farm to Table Dinner Fundraiser. During the intimate alfresco dining experience, we showcased our items grown right here in our garden!

Baby Barn Boutique

We officially opened our Baby Barn Boutique in 2022!

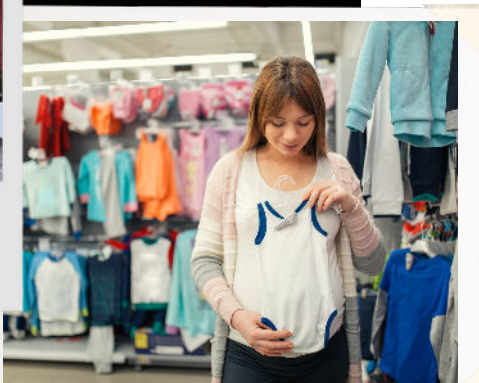
It is our privilege to help any teen mom and baby up to age 2 in Northwest Arkansas, with clothing, furniture, and other supplies needed, during and after pregnancy at no cost that is affiliated with one of our partnership programs..

You can find anything from the practical to the adorable. All of our items have been donated and are gently used.

This project was made possible by

The Short-Coan Foundation

Ken Eden
Rick & Belinda Carpenter
Eric Pool
Brinker Heating & Cooling
David Leiffer & the Core States Group
Foster Insulation
Element Roofing – Rob Ceola
Ryan Kelley – Lowe's Bentonville
Noe Avila
Eagle Redi-Mix
Latco Truss
Ridout
Encore
Jason Hurless
Craine's Electric
H & R Flooring
Pat Shinall
Joe Blanks
Brian Hoskins
Steven Rice
Reliable Drywall – Bob Malley
Coach Simpson



You can usually find:

- Maternity clothes
- Baby clothing Newborn to 3T
- Blankets
- Baby furniture
- Toys and books
- Diapers and Wipes
- Formula and Lactation Supplies

How can I donate items to the Boutique?

We accept new or gently used maternity clothes, baby clothes (up to 3T), and other mom and baby items.

Any furniture or baby items must be clean, in good working order, with no manufacturer recalls, and less than 5 years old:

Bring your clean, freshly laundered items to Compassion House during normal business hours.

A tax donation receipt will be provided upon request.

Community Partners-2022

**Ignite School
NWA Food Bank
Westwood Nursery
Tri Cycle Farms
Cobblestone Farm
Radiant Eye Care
Orcheln Farm & Home
Kimball & Thompson
Produce
Young Chef's Academy
Erin Rowe**

**Just Serve
Mindful Farmer
Smoki Meadows Farm
Tractor Supply
Walmart
Harp's
Sam's Furniture
Sam's Club
Premier Highschool
NWTI
Legacy National Bank**

**Marshellese Food Bank
Lincoln Community Garden
Sharums Nursery
Ducans Nursery
Arkansas Children's Hospital
Duke Family Foundation
Greene Family Foundation
Catholic Diocese of Little Rock
Junior League of NWA
Lundstrum Family Foundation
Life Strategies**

**Impact Ministry
Stroope Orthodontist
TASC
The DEB Project
Dress for Success NWA
Waters Edge Counseling
City of Springdale**

**New Life Rogers
KLRC
Childcare Aware
UAMS
Loving Choices
NWA Center for Sexual Assault
Children Safety Center**

**Mercy Hospital
Washington Regional
Young Lives
Willowcreek Women's Hospital
Children's Advocacy Center
Benton County
Life Church**

**Christian Life Cathedral
Fellowship of Rogers
St. Nicholas Orthodox
Pillmore Family Charitable
Trust
Rick & Belinda Carpenter
Foundation
Warren Harper Real Estate
Walmart Foundation
My HR Professionals
Herron Branch**

**ESUMC Methodist Women
Prairie Grove Christian Church
Schmieding Foundation
Medical Arts Pharmacy
Lightcatcher Foundation
Tyson
Judge Wood
Elm Springs Assembly of God
General Mills
Budget Blinds
Ninja Marketers**

**First National Bank
Grand Savings Bank
Clint Penzo for Senate
Short-Coan Family
Foundation
Arkansas Health & Wellness
Whitaker Family Foundation
University Baptist
Kilgore Family Foundation
Southern Personnel
Management**

Upcoming Events - 2023



BABY BALL

THE 3RD ANNUAL BABY BALL WILL BE HELD FRIDAY, APRIL 28, 2023.

The goal of this event is to bring awareness to Compassion House so we can continue serving the needs of at risk teen pregnancies here in our community, in the state of Arkansas, and surrounding areas.

We ask for your support to help us achieve our mission to care for all young moms and their babies.

This year's event will begin at 6 pm and will be held at the Fayetteville Town Center located downtown on the square.

Our charity gala's theme this year will be "Red, White & Black" with Cocktail Attire. Dinner and drinks will be served. There will be music, silent auction, live auction and inspirational speakers.

Please join us for a wonderful evening out supporting a fantastic cause in our community!

- Individual tickets \$90
- Couple \$175
- Sponsorship information to follow

Thank you for helping young women and babies in Arkansas!

For more information:

Compassion Ministries PO Box 1876, Springdale, AR 72765

or

jennifer.compassionhouse@gmail.com

Compassion House

6045 Elm Springs Road, Springdale, AR 72762
479-419-9100 ❤️ www.compassionhouse.us

A photograph of a woman with long dark hair, wearing a grey long-sleeved shirt and blue jeans, crouching down to hold the hands of a baby. The baby is wearing a light-colored zip-up jacket, blue jeans, and a pink headband with a large bow. The baby is looking forward with a determined expression. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with trees and a path.

**LIFE CHANGE HAPPENS
ONE STEP AT A TIME.**