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The Spark, April 17, 2025, Edition 42



A Pathway Forward:

Discovering Hope and Possibility at the Compassionate Action Conference

In a time when the world feels weary—when our personal and collective spirits are frayed by constant demands, crises, and heartbreak—what we need more than ever is not just rest, but renewal. On May 14–15, the Charter for Compassion invites you to step into a space of possibility: our Compassionate Action Conference.

This isn't just a conference. It's a gentle but persistent invitation to rethink how we live, how we connect, and how we respond to the challenges around us—not with resignation, but with compassion-fueled creativity.

Our theme is simple, yet profound: how can we act compassionately in a world so deeply in need of healing? And perhaps even more importantly, how can we stretch the boundaries of our own imaginations to see what's possible?

Throughout the two days, you'll meet extraordinary individuals whose work shines as a beacon of what's possible when compassion meets courage:

- **Elaine Miller-Karas**, LCSW, is a trauma therapist, author, lecturer, and co-founder of the <u>Trauma Resource Institute</u>. As the key developer of the Community Resiliency Model (CRM) and Trauma Resiliency Model (TRM), Elaine offers practical, hopeful tools that empower individuals and communities to reclaim calm and restore well-being after trauma. Her insights will ground us in healing strategies urgently needed in our stressed and overstimulated world.
- ▶ Dr. Izzeddin Hawamda, a scholar, educator, and storyteller born on the West Bank of Palestine, brings a deeply personal and global perspective on peace, justice, and the transformative power of storytelling. As founder of <u>Sadaa</u>, an initiative that lifts the voices of marginalized communities, and a PhD in Peace and Conflict Studies, Dr. Hawamda invites us into dialogue that crosses borders—geographical, cultural, and emotional.
- **Taya Pocock**, Founder of <u>Humanity360</u>, is pioneering the integration of immersive media, mindfulness, and compassion education in classrooms worldwide. Her work with VR, video storytelling, and social engagement practices opens new doorways for students and educators alike to engage deeply with empathy, global awareness, and inner resilience. Taya reminds us how compassion can be nurtured—and how powerful it is when it starts young.

These are just a few of the remarkable voices you'll encounter. Every session is designed to be more than a presentation; it's a portal. A spark. A seed of something new—whether that's a personal shift in perspective or a vision for collective transformation.

What makes this gathering unique is its spirit of exploration. Each presentation is crafted to be a catalyst—not only to inform, but to stir. We hope you'll leave not just with new knowledge, but with new questions. Questions that push you to consider: What more is possible for me? What

else can I contribute? How can I live my life in a way that makes room for more compassion, more imagination, more joy?

There is something here for everyone—whether you're longing for hope, curious about what comes next, or looking to be in community with others who believe, as you do, that love still matters. That action rooted in compassion can transform the world, starting with our own hearts.

Come with open eyes, an open heart, and maybe even a new question or two. Let's build what comes next—together.

Register for the May 14–15, 2025 Conference

News, Programs, and Webinars



Harmony of Humanity: Exploring Common Ground Through Music with Marilyn Turkovich

Every Wednesday
8am PDT / 9am MDT / 10am CDT / 11am
EDT / 4pm UTC / 5pm SAST / 8:30pm IST

Music has been an integral part of every culture throughout history, reflecting the unique characteristics and traditions of different societies. From the rhythmic beats of African drums to the intricate melodies of Indian ragas, music provides insight into the lives, histories, and identities of people around the world. By studying various musical traditions, we gain a deeper appreciation for the diversity and richness of global cultures.

Learn More and Register Here



Allies in Action: Community & Partner Chats

NEW ZEALAND & AUSTRALIA Tuesday, April 23 7 am AEDT / 9am NZDT / 2pm PDT (04/22)

USA Thursday, April 24 3pm PDT / 4pm MDT / 5pm CDT / 6pm EDT

FLORIDA, USA Wednesday, April 30 3pm PDT / 6pm EDT

UNITED KINGDOM (UK) Tuesday, April 29 5pm UTC / 9am PDT

At this gathering, we aim to foster meaningful conversations, exchange innovative ideas, and address any concerns that you may have.

If you belong to a Compassionate Community, are part of a partner organization, or signed the Charter for Compassion and live in any of the locations listed above, please register below.

Learn More and Register Here



Global Read: Becoming Wise: An Inquiry into the Mystery and Art of Living By Krista Tippett

Wednesday, April 23
9am PDT / 10am MDT / 11am CDT / 12pm EST / 5pm UTC / 6pm SAST / 9:30pm IST

In Becoming Wise, Krista Tippett has created a master class in living for a fractured world. Fracture, she says, is not the whole story of our time. The enduring question of what it means to be human has become inextricable from the challenge of who we are to one another.

She insists on the possibility of personal depth and common life for this century, nurtured by science and "spiritual technologies," with civility and love as muscular public practice. And, accompanied by a cross-disciplinary dream team of a teaching faculty, she shows us how.

The conversation will be moderated by our friend Parker J. Palmer.

Do not miss this Incredible Experience!



Compassion Circle: The Charter Sangha

Saturday, April 26 9am PDT / 10am MDT / 11am CDT / 12pm EDT / 5pm UTC / 6pm SAST / 9.30pm IST

On the last Saturday of every month, the Charter for Compassion offers a 90-minute practice of people coming together to be in a Circle, a Sangha.

Learn More and Register Here



[RESCHEDULED DUE TO ZOOM OUTAGE] Compassionate Ambassador Program Follow-Up Meeting

Wednesday, April 30 1pm PDT / 2pm MDT / 3pm CDT / 4pm EDT / 9pm UTC / 10pm SAST / (May 1) 6am AEDT / (May 1) 8am NZST

For those of you that registered to the launch of the Compassionate Cities Ambassador Program last February 28, 2025 we have a follow-up meeting!

This initiative is designed to strengthen the bridge between grassroots compassion teams and local government leaders, including mayors, city managers, council members, and municipal departments.

If you signed up for the original time on April 16, you don't need to sign up again.

Learn More and Register Here



Planting Seeds of Compassion: A Guide on ow to Start Your Compassionate Community Initiative

May 20 & 27 Morning for Pacific Time 8am PDT / 9am MDT / 10am CDT / 11am EDT / 4pm UTC / 5pm SAST / 8:30pm IST REGISTER HERE FOR AM SESSIONS

or

May 21 & 28 Afternoon for Pacific Time 4pm PDT / 5pm MDT / 6pm CDT / 7pm EDT / (May 22 & 29) 9am AEDT / 11am NZST REGISTER HERE FOR PM SESSIONS

You're ready to make a difference—and we're here to help you take that first step.

No matter where you live or what your community looks like, the principles of starting a compassionate community initiative are the same. It all begins with building a team, anchoring your effort in trust, shared values, and a collective vision.

Join us for this two-part global course, designed to meet the needs of changemakers in every time zone. Each session is 90 minutes and offered at two different times to ensure accessibility for participants around the world.



ICYMI: In Case You Missed It!

April 5

Golden Rule Day

April 9

Global Read: Changemakers with Marc Dullaert, Julius Dullaert, and Inge Ikink, founders of KidsRights and the International Children's Peace Prize.

From our Partners



Guns, Gangs, & Violence

Wednesday, April 23 10am PDT / 11am MDT / 12pm CDT / 1pm EDT / 6pm UTC / 7pm SAST / 10:30pm IST

From Canadian Multifaith Federation & Anti-Racism Initiative of the G20 Interfaith Forum Foundation. Our last Global Read Guest Author, Devon Clunis, will be part of an insightful panel on addressing guns, gangs, and violence within multi/interfaith spaces.

Register Here



GoldenRuleism Ambassadors

A GoldenRuleism Ambassador is anyone committed to positively impacting their community and the world. This role is not defined by status or position but by the willingness to practice empathy and kindness in everyday interactions. Whether you are a community leader, educator, student, or simply someone who believes in the power of GoldenRuleism, you can become an ambassador.

Learn More on How to Become a GoldenRuleism Ambassador

If you are a Partner organization, or belong to a registered Compassionate City/Community with us, and want to promote your events in The Spark, the Charter for Compassion's newsletter, email contact@charterforcompassion.org



If you'd like to be featured in the LIVE show, email felipe@charterforcompassion.org

Featured items on the Store





Baby Onesie

US\$22

Dress your baby to the nines with this 100% cotton one piece. It has three snap leg closure for easy changing, a comfortable envelope neckline, and a beautiful print that's bound to get the baby all happy and giggling.

Shop Baby Onesies

Stainless Steel Water Bottle

US\$25

This 17-ounce, double-walled stainless steel water bottle is perfect for your daily outings. It will keep your drink of choice hot or cold for hours. It also features an odor- and leak-proof cap.

Shop Water Bottles

















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