Who we are

The Charter for Compassion International (CCI) is a worldwide network that works to connect and nurture the heart of the global compassion movement. CCI fosters a peaceful world where all are treated with dignity, equity and respect and recognizes that everyone is born with the capacity for compassion.

Our origins

In February 2008, comparative religions scholar Karen Armstrong, OBE RSL, accepted the first annual TED Prize, sharing her wish to see the creation of a Charter for Compassion focused on restoring the Golden Rule to the center of human morality. After the document was ratified in 2009 and launched at the United Nations millions of people have affirmed the Charter and the movement has attracted supporters worldwide.

What we do

The Charter works directly with cities and communities to help them develop local action plans to meaningfully put compassion at the center of their organization. Projects range from helping house the homeless, responding to medical emergencies, and fighting Islamophobia—many are responses to needs close to home but with an eye to share resources globally. We also engage partners across 11 sectors—from business, education and interfaith to health care, peace and women and girls—to develop compassionate action in their work and offer support to communities.

Where we are active

In over 350 cities and communities in 50 countries across all continents have launched compassion initiatives. The Charter works with compassionate hubs in Pakistan, Indonesia, Mexico and Botswana and has a growing number of Task Forces in operation in countries such as Australia, United Kingdom and the United States. More than 2,000
businesses, education, environment and healthcare organizations and institutions have declared themselves Charter Partners — committing to strive to make compassion a luminous force in our polarized world. In addition, the Charter along with the International Research Centre for Communication in Healthcare operates a hub for Asia and the Pacific at the University of Hong Kong.

**Our leadership**

In addition to the continued participation of founder Karen Armstrong (UK), the Charter has as its chief executive officer Dr. Joan Brown Campbell (US), an author, activist for peace and social justice; past director of U.S. office of World Council of Churches; past Director of Religion at Chautauqua. The board includes representatives from Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Mideast. Director Marilyn Turkovich (US), is the former director of Urban Education Program for the Associated Colleges of the Midwest and of the Voices Education Project.

**Theory of Change**

We believe that sustainable change emerges from communities; at the Charter we facilitate connections between resources, individuals, and organizations with the intent of supporting (not controlling) outcomes of increasing compassion. As a network of networks we connect organizers and partners from around the world. We provide educational resources, organizing tools, and avenues of communication for sharing lessons, stories, and inspiration. We serve as the umbrella for the Charter for Compassion, supporting conferences, events, collaborations, conversations, and initiatives to create and connect compassionate communities and institutions across the globe.

**Contact**

[www.charterforcompassion.org](http://www.charterforcompassion.org)