

THE BOARD HISTORY OF COMPASSION 1956 - 1990

The Everett Swanson Evangelistic Association, 839 N. Central Avenue, Chicago 51, Illinois

Everett Swanson - President
Miriam Swanson - Vice President
Gustav Hemwall - Secretary/Treasurer

Everett Swanson was appointed Executive Director. Formal application was made to the Secretary of Illinois to submit articles of incorporation with the papers being signed on April 19, 1956.

May 5, 1956

Miriam Swanson was elected assistant secretary/treasurer because Dr. Hemwall's practice kept him from being able to perform all of the duties. It was decided to pay Rev. Swanson \$200 a month beginning June 1. It was also decided that Rev. Swanson's house payment be assumed by ESEA.

November 7, 1957

It was decided to make application to the IRS for tax exempt status. It was decided that ESEA would pay Rev. Swanson \$400 a month plus rent allowance, utilities, and pension fund.

February, 1959

It was reported that on January 13 the Treasury Department gave official recognition to ESEA as a tax exempt organization.

May 7, 1959

Rev. Swanson reported that the office must have more room. He decided to sell his house and buy another with full basement that could be used for office space. Financing was discussed. It was decided to give \$6,000 towards the cost plus pay the cost of remodeling and moving. It was decided that ESEA would pay all utilities and increase Rev. Swanson's salary to \$500 and give \$215 house allowance.

August 18, 1959

Meeting was held at the new offices at 4848 N. Leonard Drive.

February 3, 1960

February 14, 1961

It was noted that the income for 1960 had totaled \$455,144.85 compared to \$194,713.65 in 1959. The total number of sponsors as of January 1, 1961 was 4,567 compared to 2,278 in January 1, 1960. ESEA now has 71 homes.

In December, 1960 Everett Swanson was given the Gold Medal of Merit by the Korean government.

May 12, 1961

As of April 25, 98 homes were being supported with 8,8049 children. There were 5,931 children sponsored and 187 native evangelists and students.

January 13, 1962

Total income for 1961 was \$770,027.48. Approximately 90% of the sponsor's dollar is being sent to Korea. It was noted in 1961 ESEA's responsibility had grown from 71 homes to 113.

All Board Members were re-elected for another term. Officers stayed the same.

May 27, 1962

Contract was made on a new building located at 7774 West Irving Park Road. Rev. Robert Morgan was appointed Field Director to Korea. Mr. Walter Krusich was appointed Director of Stewardship and Development.

It was noted that there are now 149 homes with over 15,000 children. ESEA is also supporting approximately 250 evangelists and 32 students.

Sally Swanson was approved to go to Korea as a missionary nurse.

August 8, 1962

Rev. Swanson reported a total of 132 new sponsors during July, 201 inquiries, and 29 new evangelist sponsors. An open house for the new building will be held September 30.

September 12, 1962

The first resolution was passed for obtaining a mortgage on the new property.

November 4, 1962

Effective January 1, 1963 the Everett Swanson Evangelistic Association's name will be

February 13, 1963

There are now 157 homes being supported. The number of sponsors has increased to 12,040. 5,082 people requested information during 1962.

August 7, 1963

Elmer Olson was in attendance as a newly elected Board Member. Rev. Lawrence Swanson was welcomed as a guest, being a member a member of the Advisory Board.

Mr. Robert Swaney accepted the position of Assistant Director.

December 18, 1963

A group in Canada was formed called "Compassion of Canada, Ltd". It was approved to buy the building beside Compassion's offices.

January 23, 1964

Board Resolution for the purchase of the additional property beside Compassion's office.

February 12, 1964

The name Compassion was officially registered with the Secretary of State effective January 2, 1964.

March 19, 1965

All the Board members were elected with the following officers:

Everett Swanson - President
Miriam Swanson - Vice President
Elmer Olson - Secretary
Gustav Hemwall - Treasurer

Miriam Swanson was placed on a regular salary at Compassion.

October 13, 1965

Gustav Hemwall was elected Acting Director until Everett Swanson is again able to assume his previous activities.

December 3, 1965

A special meeting of the members of the association was called to officially report and record the home sales of Everett Swanson who passed away on November 15, 1965.

December 18, 1967

All funds for Canadian sponsors were transferred to Canada. During the next year all possible functions of the Korea office will be moved to Chicago. The sponsorship rate was increased to \$12.

Mr. Harvey presented orphanage opportunities from Indonesia, India, and Afghanistan. The Board approved for funds to be sent to these countries.

February 1, 1968

Officers:
Dr. Hemwall - Chairman
Miriam Swanson - Vice Chairman
Elmer Olson - Treasurer
David Swanson - Secretary

Wally Erickson and family will go to Korea for a period of two years.

April 21, 1968

The bylaws were amended. An executive committee of Gustav Hemwall, David Swanson, Elmer Olson, and Miriam Swanson was appointed.

February 5, 1969

Resignations from the Board were received from Robert Forsyth and David Swanson.

Officers:
Dr. Hemwall - Chairman
Miriam Swanson - Vice Chairman
Elmer Olson - Secretary-Treasurer
Miriam Swanson - Assistant Secretary

September 29, 1970??

Mr. Robert Kinney is listed as a present Board Member.

February 9, 1971

Officers:
Dr. Hemwall - Chairman
Henry Harvey - President
Miriam Swanson - Vice President, Vice Chairman, Asst. Secretary
Elmer Olson - Treasurer, Asst. Secretary

January 26, 1974

An Executive Vice President will be appointed.

Officers:

Gustav Hemwall - Chairman
Henry Harvey - President
Miriam Swanson - Vice Chairman, Asst. Secretary
Elmer Olson - Treasurer, Asst. Secretary
Robert Kinney - Secretary, Asst. Treasurer

The Board approved entry into Liberia for work there. Entry into Ethiopia, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, and Nicaragua is being investigated.

June 4, 1974

The Operations Endowment Fund and Child Care Endowment Funds were established.

The executive committee met on February 26, 1974 and the following were established:

The office of Executive vice President was established.

A policy was established that employees cannot be Board Members, thus 1) Henry Harvey's membership on the Board be terminated, 2) Miriam Swanson may continue as a member of the Board and not be an employee, or relinquish the Board membership and continue as an employee, a choice she must make.

Wallace Erickson be elected to fill the position of Executive Vice President.

Mel Sorenson and Don Smith resigned. The new film, "Pat Boone and the Little Ones" has been completed. The cost of the film was approximately \$40,000.

June 26, 1974

Miriam Swanson advised that she had decided to remain as a member of the Board, working for the Board on such assignments as the Board directs.

Wallace Erickson has accepted the position of Executive Vice President effective July 1, 1974.

Extensive interviews were done with Wallace Erickson, Ed Kimball, and Mr. & Mrs. Bill Adams. Job responsibilities and goals were discussed.

August 9, 1974

August 9, 1974 continued

Miriam Swanson visited with some of the Great Britain Board members. They expressed they were unhappy with John Nyquist. After some discussion, it was decided that John Nyquist be dropped as our Great Britain representative. Contact will be made with John and the Great Britain Board.

Field Director area coverage will be: Bill Adams - Korea, Philippines, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Macao; Ed Kimball - Indonesia, Singapore, Burma, Thailand, India, and Malaysia.

Ed Kimball has expressed an interest in the Stewardship program or the Central and South American field director.

Wally Erickson will look into taking over some CCF projects in the Caribbean area.

September 12, 1974

Lance Renault was approved as the Controller and Office Manager.

Henry Harvey reported that due to continued health problems, he finds it necessary to retire.

December 11, 1974

It was approved to increase the new sponsor rate to \$15 with current sponsorships to increase on a progressive basis, effective April 1, 1975.

Laurie McCowan was approved as the Asian Field Director.

Ed Kimball will become Central and South American Field Director and head of the Stewardship Dept. with his office in Chicago.

February 7, 1975

Officers:

Dr. G.A. Hemwall - Chairman

Wallace Erickson - Executive Vice President

Elmer Olson - Treasurer and Assistant Secretary

Robert Kinney - Secretary and Assistant Treasurer

Miriam Swanson - Vice Chairman and Assistant Secretary

Jim Floyde, Dave Olson, Lance Renault, and Wally Erickson presented their annual reports to the Board.

It was approved to start an association with FEAB, Fund of Great Britain

June 6, 1975 continued

Wallace Erickson was elected President of Compassion.

September 26, 1975

William Bodie, Compassion of Canada Chairman, will serve a 3 year term on the Board.

A new program was started so that every sponsored child is now receiving support whether the sponsor is current or not.

It was approved to start work in Bolivia, Brazil, and Paraguay.

February 14, 1976

It was approved that retirement from the Board be age seventy. But on mutual agreement of the Board and members, the member may continue on a year-to-year basis.

May 22, 1976

As of April, 1976 we had 23,426 sponsored children and 8,421 unsponsored children.

June 22, 1976

Special Meeting to hear field reports.

October 1, 1976

El Salvador was approved as a new country to work in. Paul Stubbs was hired as the Public Education Coordinator.

March 4, 1977

Wally Erickson presented a total income graph dating back to 1958. In 1958 the income was \$109,501 and in 1976 it was \$4,538,886. During that time the average program expense was approximately 79%; the administration expense, 12%; and the fund raising, 9.7%.

In Korea we now have 6,400 children in institutional care and 4,600 in family helper programs.

It was approved that the Singapore office be relocated to Australia.

Officers:

Curtis Hamwell Chairman

June 10, 1977

It was approved to have Mike Johnson, singer, give 30 concerts, financed by an outside party. During intermission, we can promote our work.

September 30, 1977

Special meeting held in Seoul, South Korea. The selling of the Swanson Memorial building in Korea to F.E.B.C. was discussed.

March 21, 1978

John Lundstrom was appointed as a member of the Board.

April 10, 1978

The Darts were approved as N. Asian Field Director.

June 9, 1978

As of June, 1978, we have 37,065 sponsored children.

Bill Adams was terminated. It was approved that we begin work in New Guinea.

September 30, 1978

The minutes of the August, 1978 International Council Meeting were reviewed.

It was approved that we work in Mexico.

December 15, 1978

Harry Madsen was approved as a new Board Member.

Paul Mitchell was hired as the Assistant Regional Director to cover Burma, India, Thailand, and some American areas.

Gwen Ingram started work in Haiti with Lynette Walters.

It was noted that Compassion needs to expand. The surrounding building are not willing to sell. A second floor is not recommended. A committee was formed.

It was approved that we change to a June 30 fiscal year basis.

It was approved that the annual meeting be changed to September and the By Laws changed

February 23, 1979

Officers:

Gustav Hemwall - Chairman
Miriam Swanson - Vice Chairman
Elmer Olson - Treasurer
Robert Kinney - Secretary & Assistant Treasurer
John Lundstrom - Assistant Secretary
Harry Madsen - General Counsel

The number of US sponsors in 1978 was 28,577.

It was approved to expand our work into Zaire, Burundi, and Rwanda.

June 5, 1979

There as been an 80% yes reply to the new increase to \$18.

Further relocation plans were discussed.

August 23, 1979

It is anticipated that Wess Stafford will be the Haitian Field Director in 1980.

(Page 2 of these minutes reads September 24, 1979???) That pages states the Board is considering Colorado Springs for the relocation of their headquarters.

September 25, 1979

Gustav Hemwall - Chairman
Miriam Swanson - Vice Chairman
Wally Erickson - President
Elmer Olson - Treasurer
Robert Kinney - Secretary & Assistant Treasurer
John Lundstrom - Assistant Secretary
Harry Madsen - General Counsel

It was approved that we purchase the Austin Bluffs site in Colorado Springs.

Two new senior staff were noted, LaReau Anderson and Dick Heeren.

It was approved to start work in Peru.

January 18, 1980

April 25, 1980

Discussions continued concerning the move to Colorado, the new building, and the termination of the Chicago employees.

The temporary address in Colorado will be: 221 N. Academy Boulevard. The permanent address will be 3955 Cragwood Drive, P.O. Box 7000, Colorado Springs, CO 80933.

Lynette Walters is now the field representative in the Continent of Africa. She is based in Kenya. Work will be considered in Kenya and Uganda.

Due to the move to Colorado, it was approved that the executive committee consist of the Chairman, Treasurer, and Secretary.

The Chicago building will be sold to The Evangelical Child and Family Service.(ECFS)

July 22, 1980

ECFS decided not to buy the Chicago building.

It was noted that effective June 5, 1980 the name change to Compassion International, Inc. has been approved.

October 4, 1980

From the President's report: We are now in 28 countries with 55,108 sponsored children.

It was approved that the Bylaws, Article IV have paragraph 4 added: The officers of the Board are to be Chairman, Vice Chairman, and Secretary. The Corporate officers are to be the President, Treasurer, Secretary, General counsel, Assistant Treasurer and Assistant Secretary."

Officers of the Board:

Gustav Hemwall - Chairman
Elmer Olson - Vice Chairman
Robert Kinney - Secretary

Officers of the Corporation:

Wally Erickson - President
Elmer Olson - Treasurer
Robert Kinney - Secretary
Harry Madsen - General Counsel
John Lundstrom - Assistant Treasurer
Miriam Westerberg - Assistant Secretary

November 3, 1980

Special meeting for the Executive Directors.

We recommend that the Relief and Development, Inc. operation be combined under International, Inc. with one chief executive officer. We approved that the Relief operation be directed by the Director of Relief, a new directorship functioning on the same line as the other directors. We approve that effective November 3, 1980 Donald Smith be made the Director of Relief and that Wally Erickson be the acting Executive Director of Compassion Relief and Development, Inc. until next Board meeting.

October 2, 1981

It was noted that the new building is functional and operational.

Officers of the Board:

Gustav Hemwall - Chairman
Elmer Olson - Vice Chairman
Robert Kinney - Secretary

Officers of the Corporation:

Wally Erickson - President
Elmer Olson - Treasurer
Robert Kinney - Secretary
Harry Madsen - General Counsel
John Lundstrom - Assistant Treasurer
Miriam Westerberg - Assistant Secretary
Executive Committee - Gustav Hemwall, Elmer Olson, Robert Kinney

It was approved that an Operation Endowment fund be established to hold gifts that are restricted as to their use by the donor and Board.

It was approved that the monthly sponsorship rate be increased to \$21.

It was approved that Wally Erickson arrange for a new car and that he take an immediate vacation.

May 21, 1982

From the President's Report: We have grown from 29,239 children four years ago to 47,000 for the United States. He predicts the need to find 20,000 new children in the next 12 months.

Ed Kimball's report shows a total of 67,474 sponsored children as of April 30, 1982.

February 5, 1983

It was approved that our approach be changed from Child Care to Child Development.

September 23, 1983

It was approved that Mel Sorenson be elected to the Board for a 3-year term.

Wess Stafford was hired for the new position of "Assistant to the President".

Officers for the Board:

Elmer Olson - Chairman

Robert Kinney - Vice Chairman

Robert Kinney - Secretary

Officers for the Corporation:

Wally Erickson - President

John Lundstrom - Treasurer

Robert Kinney - Secretary

Harry Madsen - General Counsel

Art Knudsen - Assistant Treasurer

Harry Madsen - Assistant Secretary

It was approved (per a recommendation from the Nominating Committee) that we establish an age limitation of 72 for officers.

As of August, 1983, we had 73,466 sponsored children.

The Board expressed appreciation to Dr. Hemwall for his years of service as Chairman.

February 24, 1984

It was approved that we proceed with preliminary engineering for a building addition at the corner and fees up to \$25,000.

May 18, 1984

It was approved to start Phase Two expansion program to be considered in further detail at the October meeting.

October 5, 1984

It was approved that Wally Erickson be elected to the Board for a 3-year term as a non-voting member.

October 5, 1984 continued

Officers for the Corporation:
Wally Erickson - President
Wess Stafford - Assistant to the President
John Lundstrom - Treasurer
Robert Kinney - Secretary
Art Knudsen - Assistant Treasurer
Mel Sorenson - Assistant Secretary
Harry Madsen - General Counsel

It was approved to extend an invitation to John (Jack) Robinson to be a Board member.

February 16, 1985

The minutes of the October, 1984 meeting were amended as follows:

Officers for the Corporation:
Elmer Olson - Chairman of the Board
Robert Kinney - Vice Chairman
Wally Erickson - President
John Lundstrom - Treasurer
Robert Kinney - Secretary
Art Knudsen - Assistant Treasurer
Mel Sorenson - Assistant Secretary

Wally Erickson stated that as of May, 1985 Laurie McCowan completes 10 years of service. Due to his health, his wife's health, and job pressures he will assume full-time employment with Compassion of Australia and relinquish his field position with us.

October 4, 1985

It was approved that Ethiopia be approved as a country where we will operate.

February 22, 1986

Wess Stafford has been appointed to be the Executive Director of Development.

TEAR Fund of New Zealand was approved as a cooperating country and funding base.

The present building is reaching capacity. It was approved to proceed with phase two construction, instructing the architect to include a partial basement if feasible. It was noted, based on past experience, we have moved or expanded every 6 years. If we continue to grow at our past rate, it is possible that in 20 years our present location may be too small for all operations.

June 6, 1986

The Program Disbursements by Countries show 93,192 sponsored children at the end of April, 1986.

It was approved that we proceed with the building addition with an expected completion of the Fall of 1987.

October 3, 1986

Officers:

Elmer Olson - Chairman
Robert Kinney - Vice Chairman and Secretary
Wallace Erickson - President
John Lundstrom - Treasurer
Art Knudsen - Assistant Treasurer
Mel Sorenson - Assistant Secretary
Harry Madsen - General Counsel

It was approved that the Bylaws, Article IV, Section 4.4 be changed to read as follows:
"...successive terms of one (1) year each until age seventy-five (75) at which time he/she will become a Director Emeritus.

October 9, 1987

The resignation of Harry Madsen was accepted with regrets

The Nominating Committee recommended that Don Peneycad be elected to the Board for a term of three years and Brent Cameron be invited to attend this October meeting.

Officers:

Elmer Olson - Chairman
Robert Kinney - Vice Chairman and Secretary
Wallace Erickson - President
John Lundstrom - Treasurer
Art Knudsen - Assistant Treasurer
Mel Sorenson - Assistant Secretary

The Program Committee recommended that we terminate our work in Jamaica effective December, 1987. New country offices are expected in Indonesia and Zaire.

During this Board weekend a 35th Anniversary celebration was held and the new building addition was dedicated.

February 12, 1988

October 7, 1988

Officers for the year stayed the same.

It was noted that a Board delegation visited Compassion of Canada to help celebrate their 25th anniversary.

February 11, 1989

Brent Cameron and Don Peneycad reported on their trip to Ecuador and Peru.

The Executive Committee traveled to Asia, Australia, and New Zealand.

June 10, 1989

It was approved that Service d'Entraide et de Liaison (SEL) of France become a cooperating country.

Compassion funded an airplane, "Spirit of Compassion", to be give to Mission Aviation Fellowship to be used in Ecuador.

September 22, 1989

Officers for the year stayed the same.

It was approved that Ronald A. Lehmann be elected to a two year term on the Board.

June 16, 1990

Effective September 21, 1990 Wesley Stafford will be appointed Vice President with responsibilities for Program and Development.

It was approved to proceed with a parking lot expansion and a Garden Level renovation.

Four Board members traveled to Kenya and Rwanda in March. (Olsons, Kinneys, Lundstroms, and Ericksons)

September 21, 1990

It was recommended that Miriam Westerberg and Gustav Hemwall be given the status of Director Emeritus.

Officers:

Elmer Olson - Chairman

Robert Kinney - Vice Chairman & Secretary

June 22, 1991

A resolution was passed to affirmatively address and create policies to implement the promotion, hiring, and development of women and visible minority persons to positions within its middle and upper management.

It was moved that we terminate program activity in Myanmar (Burma) effective June 30, 1992.

The Sorensens, Peneycads, Camerons, and Ericksons visited England, Kenya, and Uganda in May, 1991.

George Barna was elected to the Board of Directors for a three-year term beginning September, 1991.