

## **Compassion International Historic Timeline**

- 1952            Everett Swanson Evangelistic Association was established in Everett Swanson's home. The earliest addresses listed are 839 N. Central Avenue, Chicago, IL and 833 N. Lorel Avenue, Chicago, IL.
- Everett Swanson – President and Executive Director  
                  Miriam Swanson – Vice President  
                  Gustav Hemwall – Secretary/Treasurer
- The first \$1000 check came from Robert and Carrie Geary.  
                  (See September 1977 Compassion magazine center page)
- Apr 19, 1956    Everett Swanson Evangelistic Association was incorporated in the State of Illinois under the General Not-for-Profit Corporation Act.
- May 5, 1956    Miriam Swanson was elected Assistant Secretary/Treasurer to help Dr. Hemwall since his practice kept him too busy to perform all the duties. Decision was made to pay Rev. Swanson \$200 per month and also his house payment effective June 1.
- Nov 7, 1957    Application to IRS for tax exempt status.  
                  Decision was made to pay Rev. Swanson \$400 per month plus rent allowance, utilities and pension fund.
- Jan 1, 1959    ESEA was supporting 13 homes and 900 sponsors.
- Jan 13, 1959    Internal Revenue Ruling Exempt of Federal Tax
- May 7, 1959:    Everett Swanson reported that more room was needed so he decided to move to a house with a full basement to be used for offices. The Board elected to pay \$6,000 plus costs for remodeling and moving. Rev. Swanson's salary was increased to \$500 per month plus utilities and \$215 housing allowance.
- Aug 18, 1959    The Board Meeting was held at the new offices in 4848 N. Leonard Drive, Chicago, IL (it may now be listed as Norridge, IL)
- Jan 1960        Total income for 1959 totaled \$194,713.65
- Feb 3, 1960    ESEA was supporting 42 homes and 2, 278 sponsors.
- Mar 1960        Rev. & Mrs. Swanson went to tour all 42 homes.
- Dec 1960        Rev. Swanson was given the Gold Medal of Merit by the Korean Government.

Income for 1960 totaled \$455,144.85 with 71 homes and 2,278 sponsors.

- Apr 25, 1961 ESEA supported 98 homes with 8,049 children. 5,931 children were sponsored and 187 native evangelists and students.
- Dec 1961 Total income was \$770,027.48 and supported 113 homes. Approximately 90% of the sponsor's dollar was sent to Korea.
- May 27, 1962 Contract was made on a new building located at 7774 W. Irving Park Road, Chicago, IL (may now be listed as Norridge, IL)  
Rev. Robert Morgan was appointed Field Director to Korea.  
Mr. Walter Krusich was appointed Director of Stewardship & Development
- Aug 13, 1962 Dedication of Chicago office building.
- Dec 5, 1962 Rate Change: from \$8 to \$10 per month
- Jan 1, 1963 Name Change: ESEA becomes Compassion, Inc. (See letter USA1962.02.01.1004)  
Compassion Canada Ltd was incorporated
- Aug 7, 1963 Elmer Olson becomes newly elected board member.
- Jan 2, 1964 Compassion officially registered with Secretary of State.
- Nov 15, 1965 Everett Swanson passed away
- Dec 16, 1965 Gustav Hemwall elected as interim President and Board Chairman
- Jan 21, 1966 Edward Kimball was hired as the business manager in the Korean office
- Mar 1, 1966 Rev. Henry L. Harvey became President
- Mar 21, 1966 Arthur Knudsen's plans were approved for headquarters building in Seoul, Korea.

The unionization issue in the Korea office took place in 1966, some history of which can be found in Henry Harvey's report to the Board on September 26, 1966 (USA1966.09.01.07).

During this time Compassion learned a lot about cultural issues in conducting international business.

1966 and 1967 were big years in "cleaning up our act" in Korea. Henry Harvey met with each superintendent and visited each home and found many issues that needed to be solved.

- Dec 18, 1967 Compassion becomes international ministry by entering 3 new countries (India, Indonesia and Afghanistan)

Feb 1, 1968 Wally Erickson and family go to Korea for 2 years

May 10, 1971 Sponsorships for American Indians begin at \$36 per month.

1972 Compassion International was established as a sister organization for the purpose of providing relief and development.

Jan 26, 1974 Board approves entry into Liberia. Possible work in Ethiopia, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador and Nicaragua is being investigated.

Feb 26, 1974 Operations Endowment Fund and Child Care Endowment Funds are established. A policy is established that employees cannot

Sep 12, 1974 Rev. Henry Harvey announces his desire to retire

Dec 11, 1974 Rate Change to \$15 per month

Feb 7, 1975 TEARFund (Christian relief agency in Great Britain) becomes affiliated with Compassion. Rev. George Hoffman is Executive Director.

Jun 6, 1975 Rev. Wallace H. Erickson becomes new President

1978 Compassion Australia is incorporated. Laurie McCowan is President.

Feb 23, 1979 Approval to expand into Zaire, Burundi and Rwanda.

Jun 5, 1979 Rate Change to \$18 per month

Aug 23, 1979 The Board discusses the possibility of moving to Colorado Springs.

Apr 25, 1980 The Board decides to temporarily move to 221 N. Academy Blvd, Colorado Springs.

Jul 7, 1980 Name change: Compassion, Inc. becomes Compassion International, Inc.  
Name change: Compassion International becomes Compassion Relief & Development

Oct 4, 1980 Groundbreaking Ceremony at 3955 Cragwood Drive (Austin Bluffs Parkway & Union Blvd)

Oct 2, 1981 Rate Change to \$21 per month

Oct 3, 1981 Dedication of the new Headquarters at 3955 Cragwood Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80907.

1985 Expansion of additional building constructed at 3955 Cragwood Drive.

Jun 10, 1989 Decision to work with Service d'Entraide et de Liaison (SEL)

Feb 8, 1992 Rate Change to \$24 per month

Sep 1993      Expansion of additional building constructed at 3955 Cragwood Drive.

1999            Land acquired on Voyager Parkway - Site of new headquarters.

Jun 8, 2001    Dedication of New Building at 12290 Voyager Parkway, Colorado Springs, CO 80921.