

#### Welcome

If you're part of a local church and love connecting with people, your passion could help transform lives. Become a Compassion Church Champion and bring hope to children living in poverty, right within your church community.

#### Who we are

We've been releasing children from poverty since 1952. Our approach is all about Jesus. For over 70 years, we've followed his example of seeing injustice and moving with compassion. Today, we care for more than 2.3 million children, the most vulnerable to the devastating effects of poverty. We do this exclusively in partnership with 8,900 local churches in 29 countries. These trusted church partners bring deep cultural understanding, local knowledge of community needs, and strong relationships.

#### How you can help

Passionate individuals like you can play a vital role in raising awareness of the challenges children living in poverty face. As a Compassion Church Champion, you can inspire your church to take action and help release children from poverty in Jesus' name.



## The Church Champion role

As a Compassion Church Champion, you'll play a valuable part in connecting your local church community with Compassion's mission. In this voluntary role, you're invited to inspire and encourage current sponsors, share the heart of Compassion's mission with your wider congregation, and invite others to join the movement by sponsoring a child.

The Church Champion role is crucial for keeping Compassion's message alive and supporters engaged. We understand that every church is unique, so we encourage Church Champions to tailor their activities to fit their church's culture and rhythm throughout the year.





We've partnered with Compassion for nearly 20 years, witnessing children grow into incredible young adults. Now, as Church Champions, we're excited to help even more families, led by Jesus and supported through prayer, resources, and monthly activities. We've seen the impact firsthand and encourage anyone with a heart for children to consider this role in their church.



Matthew & Rebecca Compassion Church Champions



## **Key activities**and opportunities

Here are some activities you might enjoy as a Compassion Church Champion. These are flexible opportunities to help you stay connected with Compassion's ministry and inspire your church community in ways that suit you.

- **Join the Church Champion online training journey,** created to help you feel equipped and confident in your role.
- **Be a friendly point of contact** for sponsors in your church, encouraging letter writing to sponsored children and signposting to Compassion's team when needed.
- Share Compassion updates with your church community a few times a year through prayer points, videos, stories, or church newsletters. Quarterly is a helpful rhythm, but you can choose what works best for your church. This keeps Compassion's ministry visible and engagement strong between speaker visits.
- Host or organise one Compassion-focused event or activity per year, such as a Compassion Sunday, a graduate speaker lunch, a fundraising event, or a letter-writing workshop. This could take place during a service, in a small group, or an informal setting.
- Share Compassion content through your church's social media channels to keep your community informed and inspired.
- **Encourage child sponsorship** and help new sponsors connect with Compassion's work through the sign-up process.
- Invite supporters to stay connected and engaged by signing up for our Prayer and Stories email.

- Look for opportunities to share
   Compassion's mission within local church networks that your church is part of.
- Signpost supporters to relevant
   Compassion teams based on their interests (e.g. <u>Legacy giving</u>, <u>Gifts of Compassion</u>).
- Take part in gatherings and training (online or in person) to stay connected.
   Once a year would be a helpful starting point, but it's entirely flexible.
- Stay in touch with the Compassion
   Advocacy Team by sharing occasional
   updates (ideally every three months)
   on how your church engages with
   Compassion.
- Be part of a network of Church Champions across the UK and participate in optional bi-monthly Zoom sessions for shared learning and encouragement.

Important note: This is a voluntary role.

Nothing in this document is intended to create a contract of employment or worker status. There is no obligation on Compassion UK to provide work, nor on you to accept or perform any tasks. Your involvement is voluntary and can be paused or ended at any time.



### Your skills and attributes

We welcome people who are passionate, committed and want to see children released from poverty in Jesus' name. Here are some of the qualities that may help you thrive in this voluntary role:

- A personal and active Christian faith, with a desire to see your church engaged in God's mission.
- A passion for Compassion's ministry and a commitment to our values and mission.
- An active supporter who is open to learning more about Compassion UK.
- **Relational and approachable,** with a heart for people and strong interpersonal skills.
- A proactive approach and willingness to share with groups and individuals about Compassion's work.
- **Organised and motivated.** Able to take the initiative and follow through with plans.
- Ability to help coordinate Compassion-related events or activities in your local church, with support from church staff or volunteers.
- Ability to work collaboratively with the church leadership team, and, where relevant, a Compassion Partnership Manager, while respecting the culture and rhythms of your local church.

Remember, you won't be doing this alone. Compassion will provide you with training, resources, and a dedicated support network to help you lead confidently.

## Training and support

As a Church Champion, you'll be supported by a Church Champion Specialist at Compassion. They'll provide helpful training, encouragement and resources (both digital and physical) to help you feel confident in your role.

When you join us, you'll be invited to participate in an online Church Champion training journey to help you get started. You'll also be asked to review and agree to Compassion's Code of Conduct, Statement of Faith, and Confidentiality Agreement, which help guide our shared values and responsibilities.

Here are some of the ways we'll invest in your training journey:

- Access to our **online learning journey** and one-to-one support from your Church Champion Specialist.
- A Welcome pack with digital and physical resources to help you share stories, give updates, run events, inspire and raise awareness in your church.
- Access to the Church Champion Hub, which is full of tools such as letter writing resources, fundraising ideas and 'how-to' resources.
- A 12-month Church Champion Journey Planner to inspire and guide your church engagement throughout the year.
- **Bi-monthly Zoom gatherings and training sessions** for shared learning and encouragement (optional).
- **Opportunities for personal development** include public speaking training, relationship building and leading Bible studies.
- Invitations to supporter events and online sessions, to learn more about Compassion's work and meet team members.
- A bi-monthly newsletter from Compassion's Advocacy Team, keeping you up-to-date with the latest news, stories, and resources.

- Early access to Compassion updates and invitations to Advocacy events, including our annual Advocacy Conference, all designed to keep you informed, inspired, encouraged and connected with the wider Compassion community.
- Connection with a network of Church Champions across the UK to build friendships and share ideas and resources via forums, Facebook groups, meetups, and special events.
- An exclusive Compassion t-shirt and lanyard will help identify you as an authorised Compassion Advocate when representing Compassion UK in your church or community.

#### **Next steps**

If you're interested in becoming a Church Champion, here's what the process looks like:

- 1. Complete a simple online application form.
- 2. An informal phone interview with a member of our team.
- **3.** Review and agree to our Code of Conduct, Statement of Faith and Confidentiality Agreement.
- **4.** Provide a reference from a leader in your church.
- 5. Begin your online learning and training journey. Receive access to our online Church Champion Hub and your digital welcome pack and physical resources. Stay connected with your Church Champion Specialist for ongoing support.

We'd love you to join this community of passionate Church Champions who want to see the lives of children transformed and local churches empowered to meet the needs of their communities.

For more information, please call 01932 836490 or email volunteers@compassionuk.org

# Whoever welcomes one such child

in my name welcomes me."

MATTHEW 18:5

