

COMPASS is a non-profit organization that assists the disadvantaged and unemployed in gaining direction and control over their lives through employment or other appropriate means. The goal of COMPASS is to help clients become secure, employed or otherwise independent individuals who no longer need our help.

A Celebration Benefiting COMPASS



YEARS *of* HEART

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2012 • 7:00 PM

The Great Hall, Christ Church Cathedral
1117 Texas Avenue at San Jacinto

WINE • MUSIC • DINNER

GUEST SPEAKER:

J. PITTMAN MCGEHEE

*(Episcopal Priest, Jungian Analyst, Lecturer, Poet,
Essayist and Former Dean, Christ Church Cathedral)*

For ticket information, visit the Events Page at
www.houstoncompass.org



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CLIENT TO CASEWORKER:

*"You gave me a lot of
positive stuff in
my heart"*

CLIENT TO CASEWORKER:

*"Thank you for letting
me air out my soul."*

CLIENT LETTER:

*"By the grace of
God I landed in the
mist of a few angels."
A letter from a newly
employed client that
names Cynthia as
one of those angels.*

SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION:

COMPASS clients strive for better lives, against many odds. They do so with perseverance, resilience, gratitude, and yes, heart.

Your sponsorship will help change lives, and will match the heart we see in our clients every day, as we help them move toward employment & independence.

I wish to support COMPASS at the following level:

- Hearts of Gold \$ 5,000
- Whole Hearts \$ 3,500
- Brave Hearts \$ 2,500
- Pure Hearts \$ 1,500

- Yes, I plan to attend as a sponsor, and would like to reserve a table of 10.
- I am unable to attend, but I wish to be a sponsor at the level indicated above.
- I am unable to attend, but please accept my tax deductible donation of \$_____ to support COMPASS.

(Please make check payable to COMPASS, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. COMPASS will forward an acknowledgement letter with the appropriate charitable contribution receipt for tax purposes.)

Please list your information as you wish it to appear in printed materials:

NAME: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

DAYTIME PHONE: _____ FAX: _____

EMAIL: _____

Please return this form by Dec. 1, 2011 to:
COMPASS
Attn: Cynthia Brannon
1117 Texas Avenue
Houston, Texas 77002



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CLIENT CARDS:

"You have taken a mother's place in my life and this is just to say, a card from me your son to you on this Valentine's Day!"

"God sure is good. He knew I was helpless and he sent me you. I can see his blessing. I know that people are out of jobs. It's a shame, so many people walking the streets...we all want you to remember us in your prayers. If it wouldn't be a disgrace, ask the Church to pray for us please ... a lot of us is lost and have no place to go."

ABOUT OUR SPEAKER:

James Pittman McGehee, D.D.

Ordained a priest in the Episcopal Church in 1969, The Very Reverend J. Pittman McGehee served, for 11 years, as Dean of Christ Church cathedral, located in the center of downtown Houston. Since moving to Houston in 1980, Mr. McGehee has been in demand as a lecturer and speaker in the fields of psychology and religion. He lectures regularly at the C. G. Jung Center and has published two papers through that Center: "Water as a Symbol of Transformation" (1985), and "The Healing Wound and the Wounded Healer" (1986). He is a regular book reviewer for The Living Church.

Dr. McGehee has held many distinguished lectureships, including the 1987 Harvey Lecture at the Episcopal Seminary of the Southwest in Austin, where he received an honorary Doctorate of Divinity; the 1988 Perkins Lecture in Wichita Falls; the 1990 Woodhull Lectures in Dayton, Ohio, and the 1991 St. Luke's Lectures in Birmingham. He was the 1994 Rockwell visiting Theologian at the University of Houston and 1996 Carolyn Fay Lecturer in Analytical Psychology also at the University of Houston. He is an Adjunct Lecturer at the University of Texas, an Adjunct Instructor at Saybrook University, and a Faculty Member of the C. G. Jung Institute in Zurich, Switzerland. His books are: *The Invisible Church: Finding Spirituality Where You Are*, Praeger Press, 2008; *Raising Lazarus: The Science of Healing the Soul*, 2009; *Words Made Flesh: Selected Sermons by The Very Reverend J. Pittman McGehee, D.D.*, 2011; *The Paradox of Love*, (available 10/1/2011); and *Slender Threads: An Interview with Robert Johnson* (DVD).

In addition to his teaching and prose writing, Mr. McGehee is known for his poetry. His work has been chosen for the juried Houston Poetry Fest (1985, 1987, 1988), and his poems "Ash Wednesday," "Pegasus," and "Semination" were published in the Poetry Fest Anthology. His poems also have appeared in the Cimarron Review, the Anglican Theological Review, the St. Luke's Journal, In Art magazine, Cite magazine, Windhover, and New Texas magazine.

In 1991, Mr. McGehee resigned from Christ Church Cathedral to become the director of The Institute for the Advancement of Psychology and Spirituality. The Institute joins the disciplines of psychology and religion by exploring the concept that mental health comes with the integration of the biological, psychological, and spiritual elements of the human condition. In 1996, the C. G. Jung Institute of Dallas awarded him a diploma in Analytical Psychology. In addition, he is currently in private practice as a priest/psychoanalyst and teacher/lecturer.

Books: *The Invisible Church: Finding Spirituality Where You Are*; *Raising Lazarus: The Science of Healing the Soul*; *Words Made Flesh: Selected Sermons by The Very Reverend J. Pittman McGehee, D.D.*; and *The Paradox of Love*, available 10/1/2011.



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COMPASS: OUR HISTORY, WORK AND MISSION

HISTORY | Houston COMPASS, Inc. (COMPASS) is a privately funded social service agency, which was incorporated in 1982. The program began in 1981 in response to the growing homeless population seeking assistance at Christ Church Cathedral in downtown Houston. The Cathedral's Dean at the time, J. Pittman McGehee, and Canon John A. Logan, Jr. saw the need for something more than the Clergy could offer. They enlisted Cathedral member Kay White to address the problem. Mrs. White had years of experience in guidance counseling, and willingly took on the challenge. COMPASS was eventually created as an independent agency, with Mrs. White as its founding Director.

In its early years, COMPASS operated out of a trailer that sat on a downtown parking lot. Eventually, its own building was erected at 1225 Texas Avenue. At this location, we had well over 100,000 client visits, gave out at least 200,000 bus tokens, and helped roughly 9000 people get their Texas ID cards. COMPASS caseworkers have historically given guidance and compassionate direction, coupled with respect and professionalism, to people living on the margins of society.

In January 2007 we opened to clients in the Dunn Outreach Center, on the expanded campus of Christ Church Cathedral in downtown Houston. Although the Cathedral generously provides office space and utilities at no cost, COMPASS is an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

In the early years, COMPASS and Kay White received a Jefferson Award, given for distinguished public service. In 1991, President George Bush named COMPASS one of his "1000 Points of Light". After nearly thirty years of service, COMPASS has given countless people compassionate direction and help in their efforts to achieve independent living through employment.

OUR WORK | COMPASS assists the unemployed, disadvantaged and homeless people of Houston. We serve our clients through one-on-one visits with caseworkers; our staff of 5 (aided by 5 volunteers) conducts up to 7000 client visits annually. A caseworker's role is to assess a client's needs, and then provide information and referrals, vocational guidance, and appropriate and meaningful direct assistance. The assistance given, whether directly or through referrals, includes: food, housing, clothing, hygiene supplies, haircuts, voice mail, transportation ("METRO Money"), ID, birth certificates, budgeting, medical care, mental health care, legal assistance, and chemical dependency treatment, much of which is given as a prelude to job search and the ultimate goal of employment. The core of our program has three elements: 1.) Information and referrals (including vocational counseling), 2.) Bus fare (which we purchase from METRO), and 3.) Help with the cost of the State identification necessary for employment. Additionally, homeless clients can apply for a "GOLD CARD" at COMPASS, giving them access to Harris County medical, psychiatric, and dental care. This is critical for someone whose only obstacle to employment is obtaining medical care (obtaining medication for diabetes, for example). For clients who simply have no hope of becoming gainfully employed because of physical or mental health problems, the path we encourage is to seek another form of independence through disability benefits. Our work is accomplished on a relatively modest annual budget of \$250,800.

MISSION & PURPOSE | COMPASS assists the disadvantaged and unemployed in gaining direction and control over their lives through employment or other appropriate means. Our goal is to help clients become secure, employed, or otherwise independent individuals who no longer need our help.



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FROM 2010

CLIENT SURVEY:

*"You're like a heart
that pumps blood into
the system."*

"You go to the heart."

*"My counselor sent me
away with something
to think about –
like a mother."*

*"You have a great
attitude here.
People can feel
the compassion."*

*"You light up
my hopes inside."*

COMPASS: A CURRENT PERSPECTIVE

Houston COMPASS, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) Corporation serving Houston's homeless and disadvantaged community since 1981; offering compassionate direction toward employment and independence.

LOCATION:

The John S. Dunn Outreach Center
1212 Prairie Street
Hours: Monday - Friday, 9am-2pm

ASSISTANCE:

- Vocational counseling
- Transportation (METRO Money)
- ID fee assistance
- Harris County Hospital District "Gold Cards" for the homeless
- Clothing referrals and hair-cut vouchers
- Personal hygiene items
- Reading glasses
- Information and referrals for food, housing, job search, medical, mental health, dental and vision care, legal assistance, chemical dependency resources, and countless other matters
- Telephone use; Houston Community Voice-Mail
- Mail and message privileges
- Ticketing site for the "Project Access" Bus

CLIENTS AT WORK:

COMPASS clients have recently been hired by a variety of employers, including MD Anderson Cancer Center, Goode Co. Seafood, Schneider International, Panda Express, Uribe Steel, Oak Farms Dairy, Louis Shanks Furniture, Aramark, Central Parking, Wyatt's Cafeteria, and The Lancaster Hotel. With help, the homeless and unemployed can secure jobs as cooks, truck drivers, importers' assistants, yard drivers, welders, and servers, just as these clients did.

CONTACT:

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