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**WHAT IS ADVENTIST COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**ACS is a community outreach ministry of the Seventh-day Adventist Church that umbrellas at least seven main services.**

1. **Emotional and Spiritual Care**
2. **Young Adult Emergency Services Corps (YES**)
3. **Older Adult Ministry**
4. **Community Development/Urban Ministry**
5. **Tutoring and Mentoring**
6. **Hope for Humanity**
7. **Disaster Response**

**CORE VALUES**

**SHARING -** We proclaim the good news of salvation by actively demonstrating the love of God.

**CONNECTING -** We build relationships by connecting people with their community family and to God.

**MINISTERING -** We minister to the communities we serve by focusing on their physical, mental, social, and spiritual well-being.

**DISCIPLESHIP -** We empower and engage members to serve their communities by teaching, mentoring, and equipping in holistic ministry.

**MISSION**

Serving communities in Christ’s name.

**VISION**

* Expand the scope of community services
* Build collaborative partnerships
* Integrate education in leadership development

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WHAT IS COMPASSION MINISTRIES

Compassion alludes to kindness and sympathy, but there is something deeper, even more profoundly powerful, in its meaning.

The origin of the word helps us grasp the true breadth and significance of compassion. In Latin, 'compati' means "suffer with." Compassion means someone else's heartbreak becomes your heartbreak. Another's suffering becomes your suffering. To truly understand compassion is to change the way we live.

***Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as Christ God***

***forgave you. — Ephesians 4:32***

**CORE VALUES**

**MISSION**

To follow Jesus’ example in expressing compassion to those in need

**VISION**

* Develop the scope of compassion ministries
* Building collaborative partnerships within the communities of physically and mentally challenged through church initiatives
* Integrating education in leadership development

***We must learn to regard people less in the light of what they do or omit to do, and more in the light of what they suffer." — Dietrich Bonhoeffer***

**THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN COMPASSION AND COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Compassion and Service are two words often associated with each other yet upon closer review of their inner meaning and applicability, there are differences between them. Simply put they are two different approaches of the human mind. Often the superiority of service, as defined by “the act of helping or doing work for another or the community”, dominates over compassion within the minds and actions of churches.

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| --- | --- |
| **COMMUNITY SERVICE**  Exists in the actions of working for the downtrodden and needy in society | **COMPASSION**  Deep awareness of the suffering of another coupled with the emotion and desire to relieve it. |
| * Performing a set of duties or deeds as an act of assistance for the downtrodden and needy in society * Productive **actions** that uplift society * Development of solutions for the needy * Opportunity for humans to serve mankind * Partnerships built between communities with a level of commitment | * Involves the sharing of **emotions** of pity, concern, empathy for one’s hardships * Inclination to help or be merciful, to understand the emotional state of another person and their suffering * To show mercy on a person affected by poverty, disease or bereavement * Emotionally affects the heart of the person * Emotionally drives a person to take action to resolve an issue |
| God has given the opportunity for humans not to feel compassion but to serve others. | God alone can show compassion |
| Service is considered primary | Compassion is secondary as humans should not feel compassion as they are not superior to other humans |

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