

Salt Lake County Compassionate Community Resolution

WHEREAS, compassion is a unifying value and ideal that guides and compels people of all backgrounds, perspectives, creeds, and cultures to treat all living beings with equity, civility, respect and justice; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge our responsibility to make compassion a clear and empowering force for children, families, neighborhoods and communities; and

WHEREAS, the Salt Lake County Council and Mayor recognize that compassionate actions and policies produce positive benefits in all sectors of civic and community life, including safety, education, faith, public health, business, politics and international relations; and

WHEREAS, Salt Lake County residents are a diverse spectrum of racial, ethnic, cultural, social, and faith groups of all ages who demonstrate compassion in their homes, schools, businesses and community; and

WHEREAS, Salt Lake County Mayor Ben McAdams co-chairs the Utah Civil and Compassionate Communities Initiative, which aims to inspire others to be more civil, welcoming, inclusive, caring and compassionate, and to act on those intentions; and

WHEREAS, Salt Lake County is committed to a collective approach to addressing issues and has demonstrated this through partnerships and initiatives such as Collective Impact, Criminal Justice and Welcoming Salt Lake, which have facilitated greater opportunity, deep connection and full belonging for members of challenged communities within Salt Lake County's population; and

WHEREAS, Salt Lake County has previously demonstrated its commitment to compassion through events such as the 2016 Citizen Summit, in which Salt Lake County partnered with Utah Civil and Compassionate Communities, interfaith communities and civic organizations to highlight and celebrate policy objectives that have been achieved through non-partisan collaborative approaches; and

WHEREAS, Salt Lake County has continued to demonstrate its commitment to compassion by co-hosting the 2018 Utah Citizen Summit along with compassionate community leader and philanthropist, Gail Miller, in which Salt Lake County, partnering with Utah Civil and Compassionate Communities, highlighted the benefits of civic expression through dialog and the arts; and

WHEREAS, the International Campaign for Compassionate Communities Initiative is a global network of 824 communities, including Washington, D.C., that challenges its partners to make the ethic of reciprocity (i.e., Golden Rule) the central moral principle in all sectors of public life including government, education, faith, business, law enforcement, healthcare and nonprofit organizations; and

WHEREAS, joining the Compassionate Communities Initiative deepens the quality and commitment of Salt Lake County in affirming and stimulating compassion in community services, projects, initiatives and policies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Salt Lake County Council and Mayor hereby affirm the Charter for Compassion and authorize Salt Lake County to be registered with the International Campaign for Compassionate Communities Initiative in which residents, government and institutions work together to embrace and apply compassionate solutions and encourage community service to meet the needs of individuals, families and communities throughout the world.