



All...this may be a text you can use when you are inviting someone or some group to endorse Compassionate St. Louis. Always invite them to our local website to check us out, and to view our video and webinar!

Hello! I'm writing to invite you to endorse an international movement that has found its way to over a dozen US cities. It's called the Compassionate Cities Movement. Back in 2007, the famous British author Karen Armstrong sent out an innocent email with only one question: "Why are all the world religions so violent?"

She got such a response that she invited six other interfaith leaders to discuss this question. They admitted that the basic value of all their tradition was compassion. They wrote and signed four paragraphs that they called the Charter for Compassion. In 2008, Karen took the four-paragraph Charter to the TED Talks. This famous U-Tube program invites famous people to present ideas that might change the world.

In 2008, Karen won the TED prize, \$100,000 for the Charter for Compassion. In 2009, she presented the Charter to the Parliament of World Religions, about 8000 participants from around the world, in Melbourne, Australia. She announced that she would be using that prize money to travel from city to city, inviting the mayors and city councils to sign the Charter and posting it so that all would be accountable to its principles.

The last I checked she had over 450 cities on board, in several main centers of location: Australia/New Zealand, India/Nepal, Britain and the United States. Several of us from St. Louis were present at that 2009 Parliament, and we brought the Charter back to St. Louis to begin the process of becoming a Compassionate City. We visited Louisville, KY and asked them to mentor us.

Our immediate goal was to reach 500 endorsers/Partners. Our ten-year goal is to be on the Realtors' List of the 10 Most Compassionate Cities in the US where You Would Want to Live. Take a look at the national website (CharterForCompassion.org) where you can learn about what is happening in other US cities and internationally. Then look at our local St. Louis website (Compassionate-STL.org) where you will find a copy of the Charter, a video, and a July 28 webinar the central US Office in Seattle asked us to do. If the Charter speaks to your values, go to 'Join Us' on the local website.

Endorse us as a Partner.

Thanks for letting me share this with you....we are in touch with the new mayor's office to grow this movement for the entire St. Louis Region.

Gratefully

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