

# Our Mission

Companis connects professional volunteer and community workers with nonprofit agencies that need staffing assistance. Our worker support program creates an engaged community service corps and expands the capacity of Seattle area nonprofits.

[www.companis.org](http://www.companis.org)



Find us on Facebook and discover more about our work in the community!

## Companis honors Kathleen Southwick, advocate for our neighbors in crisis



Her bio lists accomplishments that would make any three people proud. But Kathleen Southwick says she's simply fortunate to be able to serve her community. "I believe we all have a responsibility to give of our time and talents," says Southwick, describing an ethic that has created an impressive track record of advances in life-saving service delivery to thousands of our neighbors.

They include lead roles in creating Washington State's 211 phone-information

system, King County's referral service for homeless families and individuals in crisis, the Washington Recovery Help Line, and a national youth Crisis Text Line.

Southwick's leadership skills have grown the service outreach offered by the Crisis Clinic, where she has been executive director since 1998, and which answers 250,000 calls every year from people in King County facing a life crisis.

Vital to Companis history, Southwick was a founding board member, and later served three years as Board President.

For these great gifts, the Companis Board of Directors honored Southwick with the 2014 Janet G Newell Award for Community Service. In addition, Sept. 14, 2014, was declared "Kathleen Southwick Day" by Mayor Ed Murray and the Seattle City Council.

"As Crisis Clinic celebrates its 50th year, and Companis enters its third decade, we're delighted to shine a spotlight on Kathleen's dynamic leadership and its legacy in our community," says Companis Board President Sterling Morris.



Deborah Person

## Executive matchmaking, Companis style

Our nonprofit partners often turn to Companis when needs arise for affordable executive-level leadership and consultation services. Recently, we've been proud to partner with four agencies for which we provided a great match: Deborah Person at Flying House Productions (FHP) – the Seattle Men's Chorus & Seattle Women's Chorus, K.C. Young at Freedom Project, Peter Wick at Changes Parent Support Network (CPSN), and Carol Mastenbrook at The Goodtimes Project.

Deborah served seven years as Managing Director at Seattle International Film Festival, having led SIFF through major growth and expansion. She brings her keen insights in directing a dynamic performing arts agency to her placement as interim Executive Director at Flying House.

Freedom Project offers returning prisoners valuable non-violent communication skills to help with their transition from incarceration. KC is helping rebuild the important program after the recession left the agency without a director.

Similarly, following a period without a director, Peter brings his executive skills to CPSN, a vital mutual aid parenting program for families with teens facing self-destructive behaviors.

Carol became founding director for The Goodtimes Project to ensure this successful summer camp for kids with cancer and their siblings continues strong, after leaving the support umbrella of the American Cancer Society.

## It's all about people helping people

When the world works best, we help each other in times of need. That's what Companis is all about, and it's also the philosophy of our new partner agency, Personal Safety Nets.

Companis Workers Nona Clifton and Rob Hatch, professionals with experience in curriculum writing and online learning, are working to make the organization's materials more widely accessible online. The goal is to help people prepare for

life's changes and challenges by building support networks.

"It highlights the best of how humans collaborate," Nona says. "People of all ages and ethnicities could benefit from taking just a bit of time to establish something simple and yet so fundamental."

PSN founder and author Judy Pigott is delighted to partner with Companis. "Rob & Nona bring insight and skills, along with dedication and vision," she says.

## Companis Staff & Board

### Administration

Gary Davis, *Executive Director*  
Rita Hibbard, *Associate Executive Director*  
Phil Mervin, *Office Manager*

### President Emeritus

Craig Darling

### Board of Directors

Sterling Morris, *President*  
Shawn Aronow, *Vice President*  
John Eric Rolfstad, *Treasurer*  
Stan Kehl, *Secretary*  
Astrid Berg  
Gary Davis  
Kristen Hart  
Mitzi Johanknecht

Stephen Roselius  
Sarah Speck, MD  
Tom Stanfield

# Companis

professionals  
serving the  
nonprofit  
community

Companis Worker Eamon Doyle and former Companis Worker Alyson Moon are part of a team that opened a new shelter for homeless families.



## Companis Opens Doors

### Finding solutions to help shelter our neighbors

One woman cared for her aging parents for 10 years. When they died, she had nothing.

Another woman fled domestic violence in another state, given a one-way ticket to any town, any state, on an “angel flight” staffed by volunteer pilots and crew.

Another simply got behind in her bills.

All found themselves homeless.

“There really isn’t a typical story,” says Companis Worker **Janet Hasselblad**, who works with homeless women at the **Elizabeth Gregory Home** in the University District. “That might surprise some people.”

Companis Worker **Carole Tovar**, who does outreach to older women at **Mary’s Place**, sees clients who are clean, wearing fresh clothes “and go to church on

Sunday.” Yet they are without a most basic need – shelter.

“They are people who need a hand, and when you treat them with respect, they blossom and find their self-esteem,” says Companis Worker **Alanna Gunne**, placed with **Elizabeth Gregory Home**.

Companis Worker **Eamon Doyle** has been instrumental in opening **Bianca’s Place**, a South Lake Union shelter for single and two-parent families operated by Mary’s Place. He was drawn by the enormity and immediacy of the challenges facing the families, finding most need access to resources, stability and help with a long-term plan.

Carole has developed a thick manual of

resources for homeless older women who need help with housing, health care, jobs and more. She has shared her invaluable work with Companis Workers and staff at other organizations.

That’s community too, the kind of collaborative resource building that makes the Companis difference in human services delivery.

“Companis is about expanding the capability of local nonprofits,” says Alanna, who has been placed at five agencies as a Companis Worker. “I like the idea that Companis is like a local Peace Corps, because it’s about sharing – sharing your compassion, skills, time and energy in a respectful and loving way.”

## Your Investment = Companis Impact

Through your financial support, **58** Companis Workers have been in service to **39** nonprofit agencies in **69** placements in 2013-2014. Companis Workers delivered community services with a market value of **\$1.6 million**.



### Companis speaks fluent health care

When you’re sick and can’t afford medical care, having someone pick up the phone who can speak your language is a really big deal.

For **Project Access Northwest**, having a fluent Spanish speaker on staff saves thousands of dollars annually in interpreter fees.

For Companis Worker **Juan Orr Saiz**, it was an opportunity to gain experience in a challenging position, and to become a part of the solution.

“I gained experience while still feeling like I was making a difference within my community,” says Juan, a recent college graduate who completed a year of service placed as a case manager with Project Access Northwest.

Established in 2006, Project Access recruits health care providers who provide pro bono care. The agency handles all aspects of case management, including arranging for interpreters, transportation, reminder calls, and making sure necessary tests are done and the results sent to the provider before the appointment.

Companis has been invested in the agency’s success since the beginning, with Juan

being the 23rd Companis Worker placed at Project Access. He was the agency’s second bilingual case manager, with Companis Worker **Alice Bauman** signing on as the first Spanish speaking case manager the previous year.

Juan enthusiastically recommends Companis to others. He welcomed the unique worker support program that provides retreats, training and networking opportunities.

“You feel camaraderie and a shared understanding that will stay with you long after you may have left.

“Companis is a connection for life.”

**33** Companis Workers delivered services to our homeless neighbors

**17** Companis Workers connected patients to medical care and prescriptions

**12** COMPANIS WORKERS PROVIDED executive leadership and strategic counsel

**9** Companis Workers focused on creating economic opportunity

**15** Companis Workers served youth in our community

**7** Companis Workers expanded educational opportunities

Most Companis Workers SERVE FOR **1** YEAR

AGE RANGE of Companis Workers **22-87** YEARS OLD

‘We’re providing a community, a family, a place where they can belong. Here they can be a part of something that values them.’



Companis Worker Patrick Green (r) works with LGBTQ teens at Diverse Harmony, a gay-straight youth alliance chorus.



‘I ask, “What can we do today?”’

Companis Worker Marti Spicer is in her second placement helping homeless women. She and Companis Worker Jocelyn Skillman have launched a job training program at Mary’s Place.

‘I really value the outreach to low income children and children of military families.’



Companis Worker Josh Terlouw became our first Kitsap County placement when he began an outreach project at Kids Discovery Museum on Bainbridge Island.



“Companis connects!”

We hear it from our partner agencies and from our Companis Workers. It’s music to our ears.

Connecting skilled professionals to

### From the Executive Director’s desk

community service opportunities is what we’ve done now for 20 years. Volunteer and low-cost staff often make the difference between meeting a mission and struggling to survive. That’s where we come in. Take a look at our placement numbers on these pages and you’ll see the impact Companis Workers are making every day.

Our 21st year marks a new chapter for Companis. It is my honor to carry on the work begun in 1994 by Founding Director and President Emeritus Craig Darling. Ten

years ago, Craig offered me the opportunity to serve as a Companis Worker, and my passion for the Companis mission only continues to grow. Craig now brings his leadership to a special legacy giving initiative in support of Companis’ long-term future.

Companis Workers providing community service are the heart and soul of our mission.

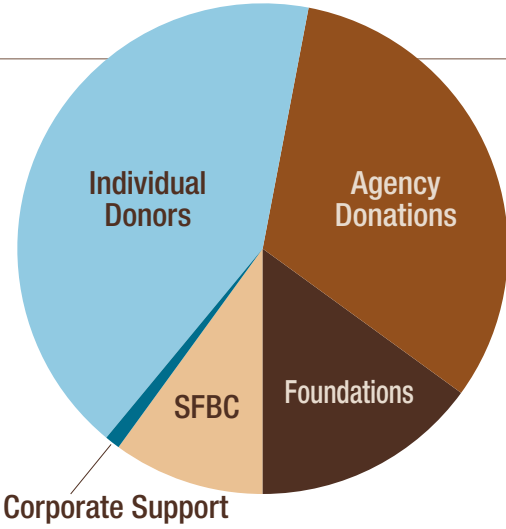
Thanks to your support and encouragement, our third decade finds us stronger than ever, and ready for the challenges ahead.

In gratitude, *Gary Davis*

# Financial Highlights

COMPANIS REVENUE SOURCES	2014
Individual Donors	42%
Agency Donations	32%
Foundations	15%
Seattle First Baptist Church	10%
Corporate Support	1%
<b>2014 budget is \$385,000</b>	<b>100%</b>

Your individual contributions are our largest single source of support.



COMPANIS has placed **256** WORKERS IN NEARLY **21** YEARS MANY FOR MULTIPLE placements

WE HAVE partnered WITH **112** NONPROFIT AGENCIES



**'A national treasure'**  
That's how the Executive Director of the Coalition for Refugees from Burma describes Companis Worker Lee Campbell, who turns her accounting skills into a huge assist in the agency's work in refugee education.

**'It is a joy to discover the hidden skills and abilities in people. Everybody benefits when everybody feels useful and needed and a contributing part of the community.'**



Companis Worker Amber Joy is placed with Provail, where she is a job coach to four clients with disabilities.



**'This is my way to stay connected with a lot of people who helped me.'**  
Companis Worker Kim Nonen is day center volunteer coordinator at Elizabeth Gregory Home, where she was once a client.

## Donor Profiles



**'Companis provides the leadership needed by non-profits at critical times in their organizational development. By supporting Companis we know our contribution goes where the need is greatest.'**  
- Brian Hawksford & Steven Crandall



**'I know Companis is going to make my money work harder than I ever could make it work, even if I could give to an unlimited number of organizations. I also value the amount of diligence and care that Companis puts into finding the right person for the right job.'** - Joshua Westfall



**'As former Companis Workers, we know Companis does the things that need to be done. It's fine to talk about them, but it's much better to do them.'** - Ann & Lyle Bjork