Compassionate Del Rey

WHEREAS, the Compassionate Los Angeles, a community organization inspired by the Charter for Compassion, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization launched on November 12, 2009 after being awarded the TED Prize award, to make the world a better place by establishing and sustaining cultures of compassion locally and globally through diverse initiatives; and

WHEREAS, cities and communities that sign on to become Compassionate Cities and Communities are able to identify the issues that are troubling the community and need to be addressed through compassion action; and

WHEREAS, the campaigns for Compassionate Cities and Communities has produced viable results with impacts on community services, anti-bullying, homelessness, healthcare, restorative justice and education efforts; and

WHEREAS, the Neighborhood Council declares Del Rey as a Compassionate Neighborhood; and

WHEREAS, by designating Del Rey as a Compassionate Neighborhood, we call on other neighborhoods and municipalities in Los Angeles to spread the principles of compassion and acts of compassion to others which permits people to respect and empathize with those around them; and

WHEREAS, as a Compassionate Neighborhood, we can create a diverse “network of networks”, people from every sector – nonprofit, labor, media, entertainment, technology, business, healthcare, education, government, faith and interfaith, peace and non-violence, the arts, and those working to preserve the environment to bring compassion to everything they do to care for each other; and

WHEREAS, compassion needs to be a priority in Del Rey for the current and future generation as it can unite the citizens of Del Rey and allow everyone to celebrate each other’s differences and similarities; and

WHEREAS, Del Rey is inhabited and surrounded by a number of diverse backgrounds and people who deserve to live in a community that celebrates peace, unity and compassion; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge our role and responsibility for igniting compassion to the general community to take care of each other and for the well-being of all members of the community;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Del Rey Neighborhood Council of the City of Los Angeles that Del Rey affirms the Charter for Compassion, and declares Del Rey as a Compassionate Neighborhood, and that Del Rey will be a participant in the Compassionate Neighborhood Campaign, and declare September 11th through the 21st to be “Compassionate Action Week” in Del Rey.

Adopted December 13, 2011. yeas 10, nays 0.

President of the Del Rey Neighborhood Council
CHARTER FOR COMPASSION

The principle of compassion lies at the heart of all communities calling us always to treat all others as we wish to be treated ourselves. Compassion impels us to work tirelessly to alleviate the suffering of our fellow creatures, to humble ourselves from the centre of our world and put another there, and to honour the inviolable sanctity of every single human being, treating everybody, without exception, with absolute justice, equity and respect.

It is also necessary in both public and private life to refrain consistently and empathically from inflicting pain. To act or speak violently out of spite, chauvinism, or self-interest, to impoverish, exploit or deny basic rights to anybody, and to incite hatred by denigrating others—even our enemies—is a denial of our common humanity. We acknowledge that we have struggled to live compassionately.

We therefore call upon all men and women to restore compassion to the center of focus ~ to ensure that youth are given accurate and respectful information about other traditions and cultures ~ to encourage a positive appreciation of cultural diversity ~ to cultivate an informed empathy with the suffering of all human beings—even those regarded as enemies.

We urgently need to make compassion a clear, essential and dynamic force in our polarized world. Rooted in a principled determination to transcend selfishness, compassion can break down boundaries. Born of our deep interdependence, compassion is essential to human relationships and to a fulfilled humanity. It is the path to enlightenment, and indispensable to the creation of a just economy and a peaceful global community.