



Annual Summary

2017–2018

Compassion House Foundation is committed to the vision of striving to ease the distress of the cancer journey for women. Three strategic goals anchored our work in 2017–18.

GOAL ONE:

Compassion House Foundation is self sustaining

The slower economy impacted both the Foundation and the house guests.

The establishment of the Compassion Fund reduced financial barriers to treatment for guests. Support for **437** nights was accessed from the Compassion Fund. Thank you to Syncrude for establishing this fund.

Syncrude presents Fashion with Compassion celebrated 21 years in October with a new format. The event remains the most important fundraiser to support the operation of Sorrentino’s Compassion House.

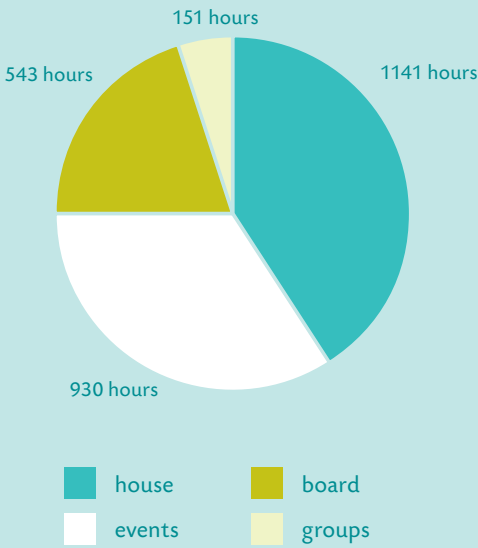
The Foundation enjoys a strong relationship with many businesses, organization and individuals. Third party fundraising events, donations and community awareness activities are integral to the operation of the Foundation.

Volunteers

Volunteers are at the heart of the Foundation.

In the past year alone, volunteers gave **2,765** hours of their time to Compassion House Foundation. They offered programs and activities for guests, supported our events, and served on the board of directors.

Volunteer Hours (2765 Total)



Sorrentino’s Compassion House is consistently operating at capacity.

- **58** women needing accommodation were turned away
- **18** guests were accommodated with a partial stay because we couldn’t accommodate them for their full treatment cycle
- As Sorrentino’s Compassion House only accommodates women, **14** males requesting accommodation were turned away

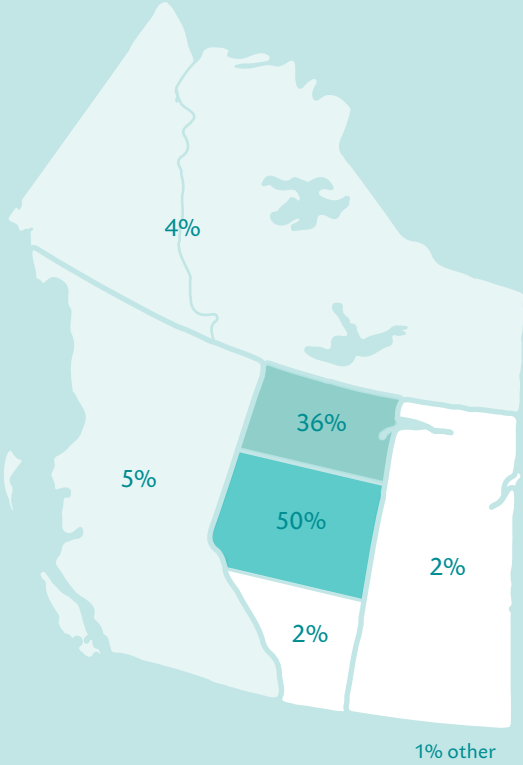
Programs at Sorrentino’s Compassion House

Programming is offered to encourage interaction between guests, build new skills, increase mental and physical health and to reduce isolation. Programs facilitated by volunteers include yoga, personal training, nutritious snacks, crafts and self-care.

The cancer journey does not end when treatment is over. Needs assessment and preliminary planning to support guests post treatment was a focus area. Programming will continue to focus on communication strategies, workshops and one to one follow up support.

Sorrentino’s Compassion House welcomes women with all cancers. The majority of women, **60%**, are staying at Sorrentino’s Compassion House for breast cancer treatment. Other cancers are identified on the pie chart.

Guests from



GOAL TWO:

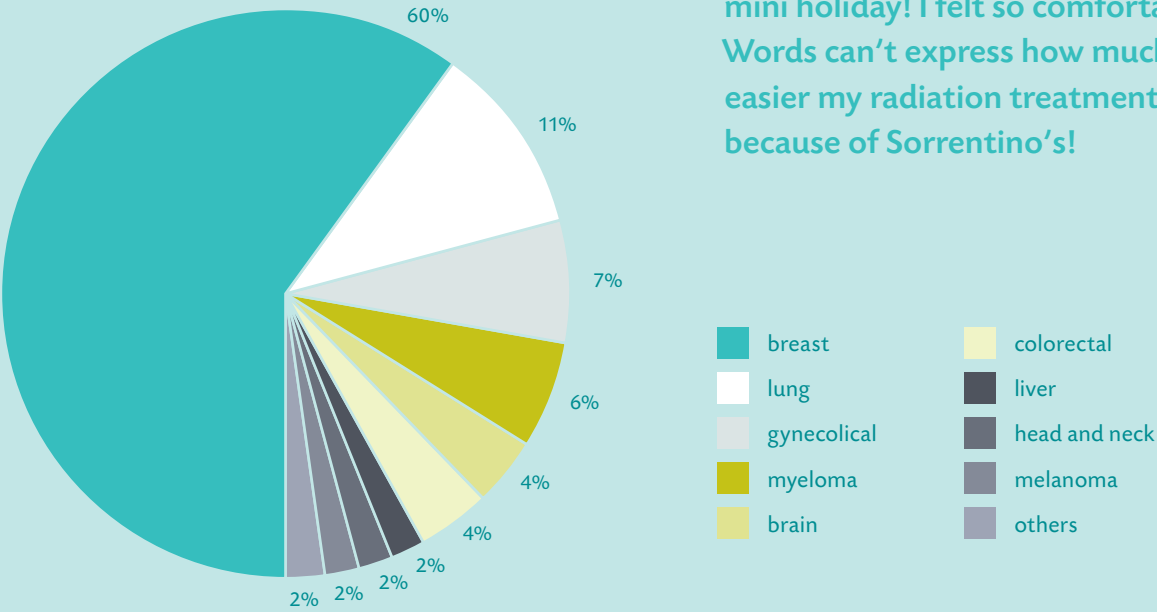
Compassion House Foundation eases the distress of the cancer journey

Exploring ways to support more women both during treatment and post treatment was a key area of focus.

For risk management and quality assurance, 24-7 coverage of Sorrentino’s Compassion House was implemented. This has been a very positive change and house guests report feeling safe and supported. The change also allows staff to better accommodate guest arrival schedules.

- In 2017–18 the house accommodated
- **343** women—this is **142** new guests (first time stays) and **201** women who returned to the house for follow up appointments or additional treatment
 - **82** companions stayed at the house over the year
 - The overflow suite was used **123** nights in 2017/18

Cancer Types

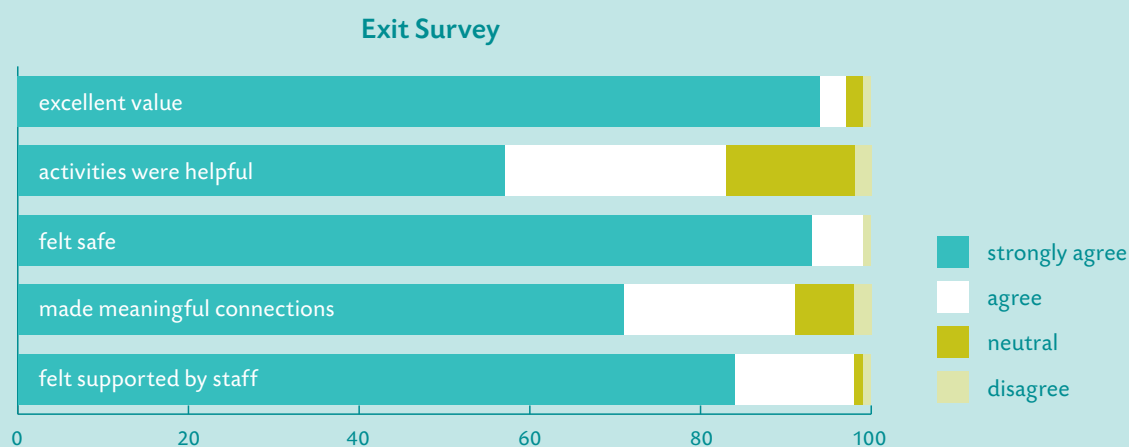


The idea of being away from my family & friends would make me cry. Coming to Sorrentino’s Compassion House made me feel like a little mini holiday! I felt so comfortable. Words can’t express how much easier my radiation treatment was because of Sorrentino’s!

GOAL THREE:

Compassion House Foundation is accountable and partners meaningful

Feedback received from the guest exit survey remains very positive.



Compassion House Foundation has identified gaps in services to people journeying through cancer.

The Foundation is working toward decreasing the barriers to treatment by assessing needs and developing appropriate programs and/or partnerships in the community.

We are incredibly grateful to all our donors, volunteers, community partners, board and staff for their support in ensuring we provide excellence in everything we do.

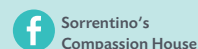
“A magical place. It made my stay away from home so much easier. Was bittersweet the day I left, I was happy to go home but sad to leave.”

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2017/18

Curtis Palichuk (*Chair*)
Debra Wooding (*Past Chair*)
Bill Hnydyk (*Vice Chair*)
Carly Rigler (*Treasurer*)
Brenda Kissel (*Secretary*)
Sterling Derk
Jackie Fox
Laura Freeman
Sandra Huculak
Sharon Mallon
Judy Neves-Saccomanno
Zahra Somani
Mark Ward (*retired in Dec. 2017*)
Mellissa Kraft (*Executive Director*)

LIFE MEMBERS

Joanne Berger
Betty Carlson
Debra Kerr
Barry Lazoruk
Gisele MacMillan
Elexis Schloss
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Barb Walker



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