



Deeply rooted in community, Compass applies its vast understanding of homelessness to the challenges at hand. Compass Family Services not only helps meet needs for immediate assistance, but also moves clients toward self-sufficiency. By maintaining high, yet realistic, expectations, Compass instills a sense of pride and partnership in the families it serves.

Comprehensive programs and services provide the safety net that homeless and at-risk families need to rebound from financial setbacks and achieve long-term stability.



### Counseling

The creation of strong relationships is at the center of Compass' work with families. Through one-on-one, family and group work with skilled counselors and therapists, Compass helps families tap their inner strength in order to reach their full potential.



### Housing and shelter

By providing shelter, transitional housing and quick access to permanent housing, Compass gives families the stability necessary to rebuild lives. Compass' shelter and housing programs include intensive case management and access to the full spectrum of Compass' family of support services.



### Early childhood education

At Compass, children get the best possible start in life with specialized, enriched programs for infants, toddlers and preschoolers. Compass also provides support, advocacy, after school programming and enrichment activities for children of all ages who participate in our six programs for families.



### Adult education and homelessness prevention

Compass helps parents acquire the tools and develop the skills they need to find housing stability and fulfilling employment. Parents have access to a wide range of services that support their education and employment goals and promote self-sufficiency. Resources are also available to help families in crisis maintain stable housing while they build skills for future success.

Compass' six programs for families are:

Compass Connecting Point | Compass Family Shelter  
Compass SF HOME | Compass Clara House  
Compass Family Resource Center | Compass Children's Center

Detailed information about our programs is available at  
[www.compass-sf.org](http://www.compass-sf.org)



FAMILY SERVICES

## Our Story

Compass Family Services is proud to have served the San Francisco community for more than ninety years. Known until 1995 as Travelers' Aid San Francisco, Compass was established in 1914 to provide assistance to newcomers to the city, particularly young women and girls drawn by the 1915 World's Fair held in San Francisco.

Over these ninety years Compass has transitioned to meet the changing needs of our community, providing services to refugees, military personnel during wars, and transient single adults. Beginning in the 1980s the agency began to focus on the problem of family homelessness as more and more families struggled to maintain stability in San Francisco.

Compass opened **Compass Children's Center** in 1976, and in 1990 it became the first licensed childcare program in San Francisco to reserve slots for children from homeless families. Also in 1990, the agency opened **Compass Family Shelter**, for homeless families. Our transitional housing program, **Compass Clara House**, opened in 1994. **Compass Connecting Point**, the citywide entry point into San Francisco's family shelter system, was established in 1995. In 2009 **Compass Family Resource Center** and **Compass SF HOME**, both previously sub-programs of Compass Family Shelter, became the agency's fifth and sixth formal programs.

Today Compass is a leader in our field, recognized citywide for our expertise in helping families surmount homelessness and extreme poverty. By providing intensive, personalized and long-term services, we not only stabilize families in crisis and meet their immediate needs, but we give clients the tools and resources to obtain permanent housing, earn a living wage, and maintain lasting stability and self-sufficiency.

We also work closely with the Mayor's office, city officials and other agencies to identify the barriers families face in obtaining housing and employment, and to facilitate access to the services that are most critical to families' success.



## Our Programs

Compass Family Services creates a strong safety net for homeless and at-risk families by providing a broad continuum of services that help our clients find and maintain stable housing and build strong families.

Compass' six programs for families are:

**Compass Connecting Point** – The citywide access center for all families seeking shelter in San Francisco. Compass Connecting Point also manages the Rental Assistance Project (RAP), which provides families with move-in assistance in the form of no-interest loans.

**Compass Family Shelter** – A homeless shelter for families with private rooms and baths, plus intensive on-site case management, prevention and aftercare services.

**Compass SF HOME** - Compass' homelessness prevention program that provides qualifying families with short term rental subsidies and support. Compass SF HOME also manages the Housing Access Project (HAP), which provides short-term rental subsidies and support specifically to families currently living in shelter.

**Compass Family Resource Center** - A family resource center providing counseling and education to support healthy parent-child relationships.

**Compass Clara House** – A two-year transitional housing program with individual family apartments, plus intensive support services and on site childcare.

**Compass Children's Center** – Compass' model child development and education center for children from homeless and very low-income families.