

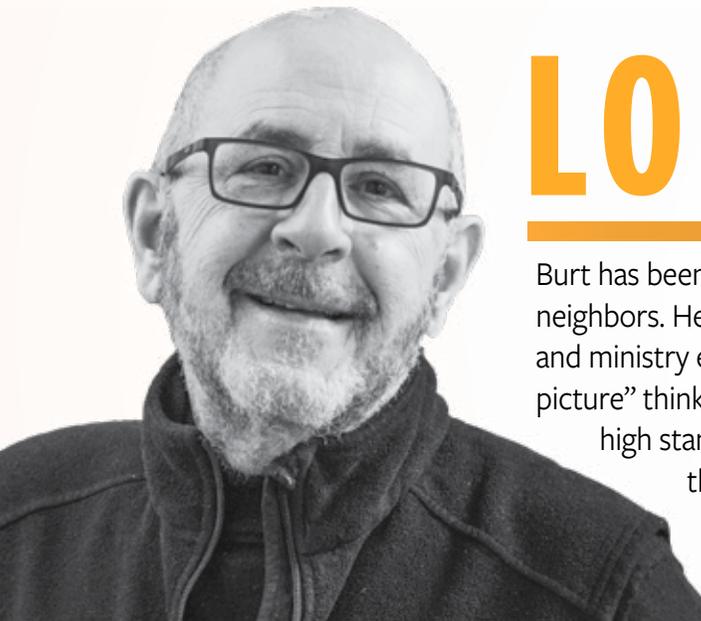
## A LEGACY OF LOVE:

*Celebrating the Legacy of  
Burt and Carolyn Rosen*



As Burt steps down from his role as CEO here at KARM, we wish him and Carolyn all God's blessings, and look back fondly on their 19 years of ministry...

*"My prayer and dream for the future is that KARM will continue to spend itself on behalf of the needy. That it will continue to do the innovative things I've been fortunate enough to do all these years... so we're always on the cutting edge of responding to people's ever-changing needs without ever compromising who we are and what we do." — Burt*



# LOOKING BACK

Burt has been a great leader and a faithful, fearless advocate for our homeless neighbors. He championed an innovative vision for KARM – resulting in our mission and ministry expanding to restore even more lives in Jesus’ name. Beyond his “big picture” thinking, Burt has keen insight about the critical details needed to attain high standards of excellence, as KARM continuously innovates and improves the way we operate.

God’s faithfulness and Burt’s visionary leadership have accomplished great things in our community during his 19 years at KARM...



## OFFERING ONE STOP ACCESS TO COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Years ago, we realized the hurdles our guests face when trying to access community resources – lack of

transportation, physical and mental health issues, etc. So, Burt set out to bring community resources onsite at our Crossroads Resources Center to give guests rapid access to services that would help them move forward in their journeys from homelessness to “homeless no more.” Since then, thousands of men and women have benefited from services they have received at Crossroads.

## EXPANDING & IMPROVING SERENITY MINISTRIES

Our Serenity recovery program for women has flourished – focusing on excellence and best-practices-based services and undertaking a \$1.7 million renovation that provided critically needed space. Several times a week, Carolyn can be found at Serenity leading a women’s devotional and sharing love with the women and children who call Serenity home.

## LAUNCHPOINT

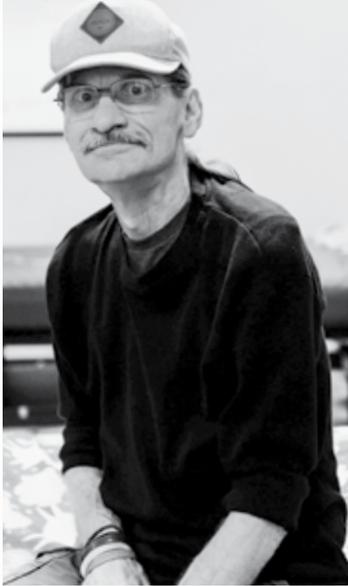
LaunchPoint is a four-week program where students discover God’s good plan and purpose for their lives. From there, they’re able to develop their own

life plan – to set realistic goals and take manageable steps to accomplish their plan. They also receive life planning, job skills and vital community resources. Since it began, nearly 1,200 men and women have graduated from LaunchPoint and moved forward in their journey to a restored life.



*Thank you, Burt and Carolyn, for being faithful stewards of the gifts God has given you*

# OVER 19 YEARS



**A PLACE FOR HOPE & HEALING** Burt was deeply moved by the plight of our guests who would be dropped off at KARM after being discharged from local hospitals... often wearing only a hospital gown. He worked to build a partnership with Covenant Hospital to provide a “Respite Center” at KARM, where men who are homeless

can receive medical care. In Respite, Covenant Home Care staff see KARM as “home” to the patients they care for, assisted by dedicated KARM staff and volunteers.

**HONORING THEIR SON THROUGH NANEW'S COURTYARD** KARM's Outreach efforts have been greatly enriched by Burt and Carolyn's vision and efforts to create NaNew's

Courtyard, a safe, outdoor space for guests when they aren't inside KARM's building. It's named after their son, Matthew (whose nickname was NaNew), who disappeared into homelessness more than 20 years ago. NaNew's Courtyard has become a safe outdoor extension of KARM for those living on the streets, providing water, restrooms, bag storage and shaded seating areas. A few nights each week, NaNew's Courtyard is the site of City Nights – a time of worship, communion and community where our courtyard is open to everyone and hot coffee and food are served with unconditional grace and love.

**INSPIRED BY A TRIP TO BEREA, KY**

On a trip with Carolyn to Berea, Kentucky, Burt saw Berea College students with strong potential but few resources

earn their degree by working at the college or in college-owned businesses. This ignited a flame in Burt to create a similar program. KARM's 9-12 month Berea program is built on the values of WORKING, LEARNING, SERVING and learning to LIVE in healthy community. Upon completion, students have developed realistic short- and long-term goals and biblically-based plans for their future – supported by training and skills for employment – to help them break the cycle of homelessness and live an abundant life. How like God to use a fun weekend trip to Kentucky to inspire a vision that has already changed dozens of lives!



*you and for serving others with love, humility and compassion. Don't be a stranger!*



# Meet our new President & CEO

## DANITA MCCARTNEY

Danita McCartney first joined our team at KARM back in 2006, when she came on board as part of our Development department. Over the years, she has had a variety of roles and responsibilities within our organization – acting as a faithful steward and servant leader wherever God placed her.

Her current position is President, and she will also assume the role of CEO as Burt steps down to pursue other ministries. We're excited for Danita to serve as our next leader.

Our new President & CEO, Danita McCartney

*Look for our next newsletter, where Danita will share her heart and story with you!*

## PRAYER MINISTRY

Prayer is powerful. It changes hearts and lives, and opens the doors for God to move in individuals and families... in Knox area neighborhoods... around our nation... and across the world!

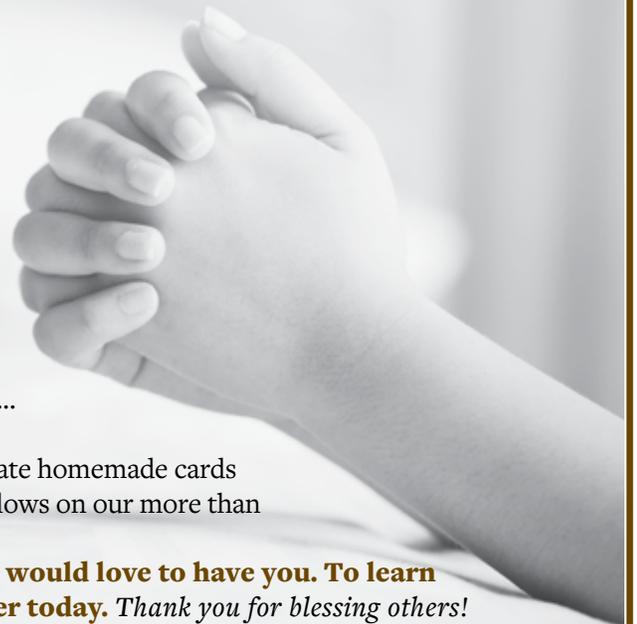
As Oswald Chambers says, "Prayer is not FOR the work, prayer IS the work."

Today, you're invited to join our Prayer Ministry to petition our Heavenly Father and lift up our hurting neighbors, the guests we serve, our hard-working staff and volunteers and our community.

When you sign up to serve as part of this ministry, we'll send you weekly prayer requests and praises so you can pray for specific needs... and see how God responds to the prayers of His children.

You can also be part of our Every Bed, Every Day program and create homemade cards with a Bible verse or other encouragement to place on each of the pillows on our more than 300 beds here at KARM.

**If the Lord is calling you to join us as a prayer warrior, we would love to have you. To learn more or sign up for our Prayer Ministry, visit [karm.org/prayer](http://karm.org/prayer) today. Thank you for blessing others!**



*You can be part of the legacy...*

Is the Lord leading you to make a gift to help keep God's amazing work at KARM moving forward? *You can make an impact in the lives of our neighbors who are experiencing homelessness – both now and in the future!*

**To continue the work of all those who have led KARM so faithfully over the last 62 years, simply visit [karm.org](http://karm.org). Thank you!**



**We're saving a seat for you at Hope Rising!  
Thursday, October 13, 2022**

Be our guest at this special evening that will feature delicious food, heart-filling entertainment, a silent auction and fun fellowship with your KARM family. Proceeds from Hope Rising will help KARM continue providing food, shelter and life-changing programs.

**For more information, visit [karm.org/events](http://karm.org/events).**

# IN THEIR OWN WORDS



**Burt and Carolyn Rosen have served at KARM since 2003. As they step out in faith to their next chapter, they share how God led them to KARM and a few memories of their years here.**

## WOULD YOU SHARE A BIT ABOUT YOUR SON, MATTHEW?

**Carolyn:** Matthew is the oldest of our four children, and his siblings love him. He's caring and friendly and, in school, excelled in both academics and athletics.

**Burt:** But in his third year of college, Matthew changed. We knew something was wrong. We tried to help him, but over the next several months, his behavior became more difficult to live with. A counselor friend said we had given up control of our home to Matthew and that if he was unwilling to get help, we would need to ask him to leave. He refused help and we made that painful decision. Mathew would eventually end up homeless on the streets of New York City.

**Carolyn:** Matthew would come home one more time at Thanksgiving after learning I had

been in a near fatal auto accident. I was initially glad to see him, but that did not last long as his behavior had not changed. In fact, it had become more bizarre.

**Burt:** Once again, we would ask Matthew to leave. Little could we fathom that it might be the last time we would see him. It has now been more than 21 years since we have seen or heard from him.

## HOW DID MATTHEW'S DISAPPEARANCE AFFECT YOUR COMING TO KARM?

**Burt:** A year into Matthew's disappearance, I got a call asking if I was interested in being KARM's next CEO. I said, "*Absolutely not! I can't work with homeless people.*" But I agreed to pray about it and eventually agreed to interview with the Board.

**Carolyn:** That call came during a time when we were so broken-hearted over Matthew's disappearance, but even before then I had been asking God, "Please allow me to do something that matters to your heart." And, Burt and I had been seeking God as to what He might have in store for us

“ ... I had been asking God, “Please allow me to do something that matters to your heart.” ”  
– Carolyn

after Prison Fellowship. Could it be possible that God was going to use Matthew's disappearance to bring

us to KARM? Could it be that while unable to help our own son, God would somehow allow us to help others just like him? Not only them but their families as well.

**Burt:** God moved our hearts in a way we could not have expected. And, like the Israelites who followed a cloud by day and a fire by night—in obedience to Him—God brought us to KARM after 17 years with Prison Fellowship.

“We are so thankful for every single person who has faithfully supported KARM over the years.”  
— Burt

**Carolyn:** When we first got to KARM, I walked in and was just filled with joy. God’s Spirit moved me. He gave me a deep love for the KARM guests and unleashed compassion in my heart for them.

**Burt:** My journey was different. At first, I couldn’t even go downstairs with the guests because every face morphed into Matthew. I thought I had made a huge mistake coming to KARM. In fact, I wondered if both KARM and I had made a mistake. Carolyn knew better. We began

walking the streets of Knoxville and praying—for God to help us see with His eyes, hear with His ears and feel with His heart.

At one point, I remember asking God, “*Why am I here?*” In an almost audible voice, I heard him say, “*Burt, I created you with gifts and skills you had nothing to do with. I put you at Riverside House (a halfway house in Miami for 10 years) and at Prison Fellowship (for 17 years). I need your gifts and skills at KARM, but more than that I need someone with a broken heart.*”

Matthew’s disappearance broke our hearts, and God has used our deep pain and the gifts and skills He has given us to help lead KARM. It’s an incredible place, and we’re just grateful to have been a part of what Jesus does here every day. Leaving is certainly bittersweet, but KARM will always be part of our hearts.

## WHAT HAS BEEN THE BIGGEST BLESSING OF YOUR YEARS AT KARM?

**Carolyn:** Seeing lives that have been ravaged by drugs, pain and abuse healed and set free. I love the staff and volunteers and the work we get to do together.

**Burt:** The biggest joy of the work here is watching the light bulb come on in someone’s life—where they

come to know Jesus and experience the abundant life He promises.

## WHAT IS YOUR BIGGEST HOPE FOR KARM'S FUTURE?

**Burt:** I’m excited to see what God has in store for KARM. My prayer is that KARM, under Danita’s leadership, will continue to put Jesus first while serving our neediest neighbors. Being faithful to Him and innovative in meeting needs has been one of our hallmarks. I look forward to that continuing as Danita leads KARM into the future. (You’ll learn more about Danita’s vision in our October newsletter.)

## IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU WANT TO SHARE?

**Burt:** I speak for Carolyn as well here. We are so thankful for every single person who has faithfully supported KARM over the years. Your fervent prayers—for us and for Matthew—your sacrificial giving, volunteer hours and other loving service has made such an impact in our community and in our lives. We pray God’s richest blessings over you, your families and homes.

**Carolyn:** We’re excited to see what’s next in our ministry together. Our cloud is moving again, and we know our faithful God will lead us.