



**Your love
helps
Shawnmarie
know she is
not alone...**

LOVE  YOUR
NEIGHBOR
SUMMER CAMPAIGN





“I AM A STRONG, RESILIENT WOMAN.”

Shawnmarie witnessed abuse at a young age that left her traumatized. She struggled socially, which led to an eating disorder. Then, she turned to substance abuse. “The only time I felt ‘normal’ was when I got high,” she explains. **“I just wanted an escape from reality.”**

Her strict parents did little to help Shawnmarie feel safe and accepted at home. After a particularly heated disagreement with her mother, Shawnmarie was asked to leave. She had nowhere to go.

“I slept outside that first night. I’d never fathomed ever being in this predicament... being homeless,” she says. “I’d always had money. I’d earned money. **I was the one who gave to those who were struggling. It was a very humbling experience.**”

The next day she came to Knox Area Rescue Ministries, where she was treated with compassion and dignity.

“They complimented me

and showed an interest in my thoughts and opinions. I was made to feel like an equal... regardless of my situation.”

In our Women’s Ministry program, Shawnmarie found a community of women she could trust. **For the first time, she felt safe to open up about her struggles.** She never felt judged for her past. As she attended classes, received counseling and heard God’s Word, her relationship with the Lord began to grow.

“When I arrived, my faith was hanging on by a thread. Now I know Christ died for me and my sins,” she says.

Today, Shawnmarie’s life continues to be restored. She is growing in self confidence and making plans for her future. “My social anxiety has lessened as I interact with people here. It’s been very healing for me,” she says.

Thank you for loving neighbors like Shawnmarie “as you’ve loved yourself.”



Your kindness has reminded her that she is not alone and that a better life is possible! “I felt so lost and broken and ‘less than’ when I arrived. KARM took all that away. Now I see myself as a strong, resilient woman.”

“Now I know Christ died for me and my sins.”



A night of safe shelter for a neighbor who is homeless...
just \$21.38!

A Message from DANITA MCCARTNEY, PRESIDENT & CEO



Love and a Lemonade Stand

The HVAC unit in my home stopped working earlier this year. So naturally, we had it fixed... and continued to enjoy warmth over winter, and cool in summer.

Our neighbors experiencing homelessness don't have that choice. **This summer, they can't turn a knob and cool down. But they can come inside KARM to escape the heat.**

Often you will see children escape the heat with a cold glass of lemonade. Did you have a lemonade stand as a kid? Maybe it was a community effort: one person brought lemonade, another cups, another ice and a table. You'd all chip in. It was one way to love your neighbors.

KARM is kind of like a childhood lemonade stand. We provide the location, and generous

friends like you chip in. Together, we offer refuge and refreshment for our neighbors who are homeless.

This month we're kickstarting our **3-month Love Your Neighbor campaign** to meet the needs of our guests this summer season – like shelter from the heat, nourishing meals and clean water. Your support will help people who are struggling like Shawnmarie. Read her story on page 3 of this newsletter – then consider how you can best respond to help more people like her this summer. We'll be so grateful.

Danita McCartney
President & CEO

“Love your neighbor as yourself...”

- Matthew 22:39



Their lives are restored...

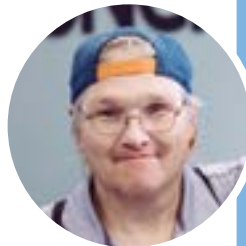
THANKS TO YOU!

Join us in **celebrating 158 new graduates from KARM's LaunchPoint program!**

Four weeks of Christ-centered counseling, classes and life planning have brought them here. Your support and God's grace have restored their lives and helped them find hope and stability.

Please pray for our graduates as they work to reach their goals and accomplish their life plan. And thank you for your continued support to help new residents start their own journeys of relationships and restoration.

Learn more about our recovery services for men and women at karm.org.



We are also blessed to celebrate 71 professions of faith! As these residents dedicate or recommit their lives to God, we join them in praising His redeeming work in their lives!

YOU CAN SHOW A NEIGHBOR WHO IS HURTING THAT THEY'RE NOT ALONE!



It starts with shelter and care



and ends with a life renewed!

Your gift of \$21.38 provides a night of safe shelter and nourishing meals – and can lead to community and other life-restoring services like shelter, Christ-centered counsel and recovery.

Give to our Love Your Neighbor summer campaign... and show local people who are homeless and hurting that you care.



**Give now!
karm.org**

LOVE YOUR
NEIGHBOR
SUMMER CAMPAIGN

Give women and children shelter and safety... 24/7

The fear and uncertainty of homelessness weighs heavily on mothers and their children. Studies show that **90% of mothers who are homeless have experienced abuse**, and escaping domestic violence leads many to become homeless along with their children.

That's why Knox Area Rescue Ministries opened The Wing, a facility dedicated solely to providing women and children with 24/7 access to shelter and essential resources like food, showers, laundry and case management.



Mental Health and Homelessness:

A Root Cause We Can't Ignore

Did you know that 19% of people experiencing homelessness in the Knoxville area self-report having a mental illness? At Knox Area Rescue Ministries, we believe that addressing guests' mental health is as important as providing physical and spiritual renewal.

Some guests need only a warm meal and safe shelter, yet others require more specialized care for mental illness and trauma from their past. This care is critical for helping them overcome homelessness permanently and embrace community and restoration.

Your faithful support makes Christ-centered counseling, treatment referrals and other recovery resources possible for our community. Thank you!

Want to learn about other life-changing services you help provide?

Read about our programs at karm.org.



A Day at The Wing for a Mom and Child



MORNING

Mom and child wake up in their safe beds and eat a nourishing meal before doing laundry and other appointments.



AFTERNOON

Mom benefits from case management and life-skills classes, while her kids safely play in our activity area.



NIGHT

Mom and child enjoy a healthy meal at our table. They say their bedtime prayers together and give thanks for caring neighbors like you.

Find out more about how you can support mothers and children at KARM by visiting karm.org.

JOIN US!

TEE IT UP FOR **Re SUEDE** **KARM** **GOLF TOURNAMENT**



Monday, September 15 Avalon Golf & Country Club

Mark your calendar for our annual "TEE IT UP FOR **Re SUEDE**" KARM Golf Tournament. We want YOU to be part of it! When you register for this event, you help fund recovery and restoration services for men, women and children in our community who are experiencing homelessness. Morning and afternoon flights are available.

Join us for a great day of golf and fellowship! Register today at karm.org/events.

