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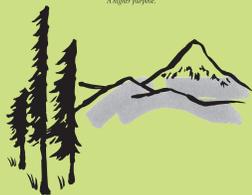
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FOUNDERS

Louis McBurney, M.D.
(1938 - 2009)
Co-Founder

Melissa McBurney
Co-Founder



The mission of Marble Retreat is to help bring healing, hope and restoration to those in vocational Christian ministry and the church at large through Christ-centered brief intensive counseling.

Winter 2018

The Blessing of a Scholarship

Recently we raised scholarship funds to help a ministry couple in great need of financial assistance attend Marble Retreat. Months after participating in a session, they wrote this letter to thank the donors who gave to the scholarship fund which made it possible for them to come.

*We wanted to write and thank you for your service and the ministry of Marble Retreat. **We will be ever grateful for our time at Marble and we can't thank you, and the givers, enough for the scholarship.** It has made a great difference in our lives. We were so blessed that we want to give back to the scholarship fund, so others can be blessed as we were.*

It was well worth the wait and will be a blessing for our lifetime. God also worked out the group, as we hit it off with each other very quickly. We were able to minister to each other while at Marble, have stayed in touch, and are planning to have a reunion next year.

*As far as the counseling itself, we were very blessed by the model of group counseling along with private counseling. Most of all, **we felt safe to share our struggles, as did the other three couples. I would venture to say that the four men in our group had never shared like that in our entire lives.** I know it is true for me, but the Lord's presence was at Marble Retreat and He opened our hearts to be able to receive counsel and healing.*

We cannot say enough nice things about Drs. Mike and Kari or about how professional they were. They were exemplary listeners and gave us solid, godly advice, while helping us see things that helped us in our marriage. We would recommend Drs. Mike and Kari and Marble Retreat to anyone that would like to help their marriage or family be better.

*I would like to add to have 10 days away from all outside interactions was a key to the rest & renewal we needed. **Everything about our experience was positive & will last a lifetime.** I thank both Mike & Kari for speaking into our lives as we seek to serve the Lord.*

We have continued with the great counsel we received. Thank you for everything!!! Also, to have our meals prepared by Bob was an amazing part of our time at Marble Retreat. Bob and Lisa were just the most gracious people.

We pray the Lord's continued blessings upon Marble and thank you again for the scholarship which made it possible for us to attend.

We were blessed to be able to give \$71,600 in scholarship assistance this fiscal year, thanks to the generosity of supporters like yourself. The Marble Retreat scholarship fund is an invaluable part of making it possible for those in ministry to attend one of our sessions and receive the emotional help they need. If you are looking for a way to support a Christian leader in need, our scholarship fund is a great way to give back to these sacrificial servants who have such Kingdom impact.

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MinistryCare@marbleretreat.org • www.marbleretreat.org

Quotes from Recent Alumni

- *I just wanted to take the time to tell you just how much I appreciate you and your program. **It's been truly life-altering.** I cannot express adequately with words how much you and the program mean to me. My heart was made again and is still flesh. I'm overwhelmed with emotion and gratitude.*
- *My wife and I are full of gratitude these days as our love and companionship continue to be satisfying for the both of us. As to my sobriety - 404 days. I have completed and continue to live the 12 Steps - and am now sponsoring another alcoholic. **We are so grateful for the way God used you and Marble Retreat in our lives.***
- *The time we spent at Marble is so precious to me, and actually **changed my life.** Thank you so much for what you are doing for so many hurting people.*
- *Wanted to say a huge thank you for all you have done for us. **Your patience, concern, wisdom, and kindness** have helped us to discover so much about who we are, particularly in the light of who Christ is.*
- *The church is stoked to see **our new passion for ministry.** We reflect on our time at Marble constantly.*
- *When I first called I was nervous, but Cheryl immediately made me feel at ease and like it was **a safe place.***
- *Bob and Lisa's heart for God and ministry **set the tone from the moment we arrived** and throughout our stay.*
- *Thank you for opening our eyes to the filters and dances that led to bringing us here. Your gentleness, kindness, patience and care are felt. **Thank you for allowing God to use you in such a profound way in our lives. I am sure the ripple effect of your ministry reaches far beyond the mountains of Marble to impact other ministries and lives.** We will work hard at continuing the work started here. It will be a part of our marriage, our home, and if God allows, our ministry. We leave here truly holding our hands open to what and where God wants us to be. We will continue to pray for the ministry of Marble and point the broken your way, before they are burned out. Thank you!*

Update on the Capital Campaign

As you may remember, we have been working on raising the funds to purchase the private home adjacent to the retreat lodge. **Thanks to donors like yourself, God has provided \$113,820 towards this goal!** The Marble Retreat board of directors met recently and **re-affirmed their commitment to this capital campaign.** The Cappas, former directors and owners of this home, have decided to hold off on putting the house on the market at this time in order to give Marble Retreat more time to raise the funds for the shared goal of keeping the Marble Retreat campus intact and expand the ministry.

By purchasing this home, Marble Retreat will be in a position to both **broaden our ministry** and take necessary steps to **ensure a peaceful haven for all who come seeking refuge and restoration.** Preserving this peaceful sanctuary will allow us to continue to provide the quiet, anonymity, and beauty our clients love and appreciate. In addition, turning this home into a ministry center would allow us to host larger staff retreats, couple's retreats, spiritual formation retreats and more.



© Greenfire Photography/Seth Andersen

We are currently applying for several grants to cover the remaining balance needed to purchase the adjacent property. **Please pray for these foundations to capture a heart for what we do at Marble Retreat and for favorable outcomes.** Would you also prayerfully consider a gift to our capital campaign? Secure tax-deductible online donations can be made at marbleretreat.org/donating-marble-retreat/, or use envelope provided. Please designate "capital campaign." Thank you!

Would you like to receive our newsletter and other updates electronically? If so, please email our office at MinistryCare@marbleretreat.org.

WELCOME NEW STAFF MEMBER



Cheryl Yarrow

We are excited to welcome Cheryl Yarrow back to our Marble Retreat family! Cheryl moved across country from Washington, DC to join the Marble staff in 1995 and served alongside founders Louis and Melissa McBurney as hostess in the retreat lodge. After seven years of ministering in a variety of capacities, including using her administrative gifts, Cheryl “retired” to focus on her growing family - husband Daryl and two beautiful daughters. Sixteen years later, our staff and board are blessed to welcome her back to the team in yet another capacity, Office Manager. “It’s like returning home,” Cheryl has noted time and again. We are grateful for God’s hand in directing her path back to Marble Retreat. Cheryl’s daughters are currently in high school, so as the family moves into new seasons in the coming years, she is grateful to be moving into a new season with Marble Retreat. Welcome back, Cheryl!

Grateful for our Volunteers

Huge thanks go to all of our volunteers this past year! From stuffing and sealing envelopes, to chopping and stacking wood, to serving as volunteer hosts during a group, we so appreciate your service! Blessings to each of you who gave precious time and energy. It is truly a gift to this ministry and directly touches the Christian leaders and servants who come to Marble Retreat.

New Woodstove and Flue!

Over a year ago we asked you, our donors and supporters, to help with raising the money to replace our flue and buy a new woodstove insert. All the money was raised, and the work was done in June. Thank you so much for your generous support! The Marble Retreat lodge is going to be a much more comfortable place this coming winter because of you and we are sure our guests will appreciate it.



Car Donation Opportunity

This year a couple donated their used car to Marble Retreat through **Instant Car Donation**. One of **Instant Car Donation’s** primary goals is that the donated vehicle will benefit a charity which represents your personal values. They take a donation of any kind of automobile, truck, boat or RV. They will pick up your vehicle for free, fix it up if necessary, and then take the vehicle to auction. The donor said it was an easy and smooth process. If you are interested in learning more about how you can donate your used vehicle to benefit Marble Retreat, go to this link:

<https://instantcardonation.org/colorado/carbondale/marble-retreat/>

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Kari MacKenzie, D. Min., M.A.

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Cheryl Yarrow

Office Manager

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Manager of Hosting and Maintenance

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A Year to Celebrate

Merry Christmas! As we wrap up 2018, we are praising God for what He has done this year! Marble Retreat served 35 more clients this year than last. Our annual census was more than we have seen in the past 10 years! We have been blessed by many volunteers who gave of their energy and time to improve our campus and stock us up on wood for the winter. Fifty percent of our operating budget is still dependent on the generous donations of people like you. We could not serve so many people in ministry without your support! This is the only way Marble Retreat can continue to keep costs low for our guests. Thank you for your generous financial and prayer support throughout the year! Please keep Marble Retreat in mind as you consider your year-end giving. We hope you are inspired and encouraged as you look inside to see what God has been doing this year through the ministry of Marble Retreat.

May God bless you and make His face shine upon you in the coming new year. May your 2019 be filled with hope, peace and joy.

