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(1938 - 2009)
Co-Founder

Melissa McBurney
Co-Founder



*A higher standard.
A higher purpose.*



Marble Retreat™

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.

Spring 2020

Join Us in Supporting Christian Leaders

“Lead them straight and true; give strength to their arms, stoutness to their hearts, steadfastness in their faith. They will need Thy blessings. Their road will be long and hard. For the enemy is strong. He may hurl back our forces. Success may not come with rushing speed, but we shall return again and again; and we know that by Thy grace, and by the righteousness of our cause, our sons will triumph.”

- excerpt from the prayer of
President Franklin D. Roosevelt on the
evening of the D-Day Invasion

Today, the church has entered a battle. Obviously, there are many differences between current events and fighting on the beaches of Normandy, but there is at least one similarity - the risk is great, but so is the opportunity.

During these unprecedented and challenging weeks, we have been in communication with many Christian leaders and we hear and see how they are boldly leading the church during this time. They are being “God with us” to those in the Kingdom and to those without. They are leading us to live out our faith and be a beacon of hope in tumultuous times instead of succumbing to fear.

The risk to Christian leaders and the Church is not only the physical risk of the virus, it is the risk that the church will not be supported, financially and in other ways. It is the risk that pastors and missionaries and others on the front lines, who need our prayer support and encouragement now more than ever, will be forgotten if many in the body are not seeing them up front every week while we cannot meet together.

We are asking you to continue to support pastors, missionaries, and the local church – both prayerfully and financially – as they endeavor to be the light of Christ to a world in need. And, we ask that you be wise and safe during this time as well. This is a time of risk, but also a time of great opportunity for the Gospel of Christ to shine brightly.



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ministrycare@marbleretreat.org • marbleretreat.org

Quotes from Recent Alumni

- *“We have just been reflecting that it has been a year now since we came to Marble Retreat, at probably the lowest point of our lives. We are deeply grateful and in awe of what the Lord began there and has continued to do since we came home.*

We came utterly broken, completely exhausted, overwhelmed with pain and grief, unable to see our way forward, unsure if we would find enough hope to take the first step out of the pit of darkness we were experiencing. We felt like we were being swallowed up by the enemy’s schemes to destroy our health, our ministry, our family, our fellowship with others, our dreams, our reputation, our future, and our faith. We felt alone, abandoned and betrayed.

But you offered us welcome and a refuge of loving hope. You offered us truth and grace, wisdom and compassion, understanding and care, when we needed it most. You helped us make the transition from despair to the beginning of healing. You listened well and helped us listen to each other better, and begin to hear the voice of our Father again. You reminded us who our God is and who we are. You showed us a path forward to walk with Jesus in hope, dependence, in forgiveness, repentance, in love and grace. You showed us a path for overcoming shame by the truth and power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We can’t thank you or the Lord enough for the mercy and help we received.”

- *“Thank you for the work you guys were a part of in our marriage, ministry, and much much more! We will be advocates for Marble Retreat for the remainder of our lives. You both (and Bob) hold a special place in our hearts and we look forward to reconnecting with you guys in the future! We are in our new position. It has been a total blessing for us to be here and feel loved and wanted and needed in ministry again. Love you guys!”*



Help Support Marble Retreat

In our 45-year history, we’ve never closed our doors to ministry leaders who are in need. Sadly, Marble Retreat was forced to temporarily close our doors due to the COVID-19 crisis. We hurt for those that are in desperate need of our ministry today, and we are very concerned about the long-term future of Marble Retreat.

We want to let you know that even though we can’t physically be with Christian leaders who need our services, we continue to serve them in other ways during the COVID-19 shut down:

- We are providing counseling via phone or internet.
- We are communicating and encouraging via email and text.
- We are connecting Christian leaders with sources of support.
- We are working on a book on how to be whole and healthy in Christian leadership.

The two major sources of funding for the ministry of Marble Retreat are gifts from folks like you (about 50%

of our budget) and the income we receive from hosting clients at the Marble Retreat lodge (the other 50%). Being temporarily closed has stopped this second form of income. We are looking into grants and other sources of funding during this time.

We realize that you may personally be in a time of financial hardship and in no way do we want to add more stress to your life. However, if you are able to give a donation, we would really appreciate it. Our hope is that folks could give a one-time special gift to help us get through this time. As mentioned above, we continue to support Christian leaders during this challenging season and are looking at ways to support first responders once the restrictions are lifted. We have already been contacted by a first responder looking for a faith-based place for healing and recovery. We know that the need will be great.

Can you help us be here when the crisis passes?

May God bless you and your families!

“If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up.”

- Ecclesiastes 4:10

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

A Life Well Lived: Tribute to Dr. Byrn Williamson

Dr. Byrn Williamson, one of three original board members, is now in the presence of His Lord and Savior. He was a loving husband to Anita for 54 years, a father, a grandfather, a Mayo Clinic radiologist, and a faithful follower of Christ. We are grateful to God for Byrn's selfless commitment to this ministry from its inception.

Melissa McBurney, co-founder of Marble Retreat, shares these words: "Byrn Williamson was an essential gift from God to Marble Retreat. Byrn knew all the practical ways to run an organization ethically and effectively. He was the perfect secretary for our meetings and always had information at his fingertips that we needed. He was gifted in numerous ways but the most memorable to me was his faithfulness to the Lord, to Anita, to his children, to his integrity and to Marble Retreat. Thank you, Lord, for Byrn." Dr. Scott Middleton, chairman of the board for much of Byrn's time of service, adds these words: "Byrn's support for what Marble Retreat was offering to stressed servants of the Lord was always evident. He operated from the foundational base of Truth and God-given wisdom. From our original meeting, his thoughts were often a plum-line for us."

We remember Byrn with gratitude for his life of service and contribution to the ministry of Marble Retreat. At Byrn and Anita's request, in lieu of flowers, gifts may be made in Byrn's honor to Marble Retreat, P.O. Box 176, Carbondale, CO 81623 or online at marbleretreat.org.



STAFF

- Mike MacKenzie, D. Min., L.P.C.**
Clinical Director
- Kari MacKenzie, D. Min., M.A.**
Executive Director
- Cheryl Yarrow**
Office Manager
- Bob Rue**
Manager of Hosting and Maintenance

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Annual Report: A Year in Review FY 2018-2019

Marble Retreat experienced another great year. We celebrated 45 years of serving Christian Leaders! It was a year to reflect on the faithfulness of God over the past 45 years. We once again had the opportunity to serve a record number of clients. What a blessing to watch God's transforming work in the lives of leaders. We were fortunate to be able to give \$43,385 in scholarship assistance this fiscal year, thanks to the generosity of supporters like yourself. Marble Retreat continues to invest most of our income directly into serving those in ministry.

Financial Statement

October 1, 2018 - September 30, 2019

Marble Retreat depends on the support and generosity of our board, staff, alumni, friends and foundations. Thank you!

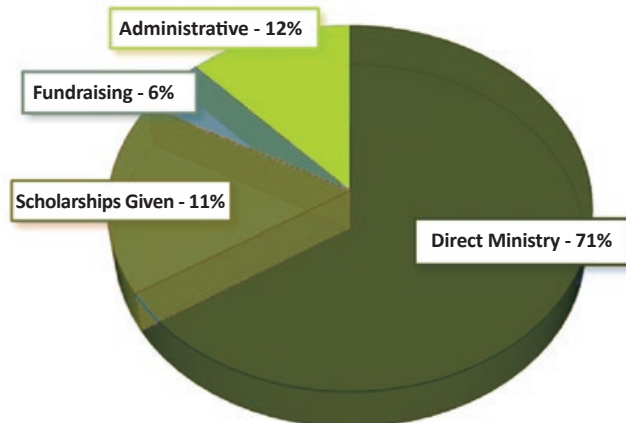
Support and Revenue:

Contributions	\$146,337
Program Fees	\$235,955
Other Income	\$7,350
Total Income	\$389,642

How Resources are Invested:

Direct Ministry	\$284,197
Scholarships Given	\$43,385
Fundraising	\$22,874
Administrative	\$48,402
Total Expenses	\$398,858

How Resources are Invested



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The full Marble Retreat audited financial statement is available upon written request.



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Carbondale, CO 81623

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

MacKenzie Family Welcomes a Precious New Life

Easton Graham MacKenzie arrived on January 13th, 2020, son of Mike and Kari and brother to Dylan. He is doing well. We are so blessed!

