



April 2021 Newsletter

Karis Community
A Mental Health Community
of Hope and Healing Since 1976

Executive Director, E.J. Barklage, retires after 22 ½ years at Karis Community.

E.J. has served as Karis Community's Executive Director for over 22 years and will retire this summer. His devotion to Karis and mental health is rooted in respect for every human being's inherent worth. He considers it an honor to walk alongside those navigating their hurting places, seeing value and purpose they may not yet see, and holding hope until they embrace it for themselves.

E.J. has an M.A. in Counseling Psychology and a B.A. in Business Administration. His commitment to advocacy and passion for hope and healing in the mental health community has motivated his service at Karis.

During his tenure at Karis Community, he was awarded the Denver Business Journal's Champion in Health Care Innovator Award and The Denver Foundation's Swanee Hunt Individual Leadership Award. He led projects that will ensure Karis's ongoing mission by raising funds for and overseeing the expansion of Karis in both a \$1.1 million renovation of Karis in 2012 and a \$925,000 addition and renovation of Stepping Stone Cottage in 2015.

We are incredibly grateful for E.J.'s transformative leadership. We will miss him dearly and wish him the best as he retires and reinvents his dedication to advocacy for the marginalized in our community while enjoying the journey with his wife, Joy, and dog, Jovi.

Join us on Wednesday, May 12 at 6 pm for a virtual fundraising event honoring E.J. before his retirement and celebrate Karis' 45th Birthday.

Our Empowerment Program fosters open communication, respectful cooperation, mutual feedback, healthy self-awareness, personal responsibility, autonomy, and interdependence.

Living at Karis enables members to learn relationship skills such as empathy, collaboration, sharing, and gratitude, preparing them for integration into the broader community.

Thank You to Our Major Supporters

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45 YEARS OF HOPE & HEALING HONORING E.J. BARKLAGE

Karis Community has been a place of hope & healing since May 12, 1976. Led by Executive Director E.J. Barklage for 22 years, Karis offers a community of support for those recovering from serious and persistent mental illness. Join us this spring as we honor E.J. before his retirement and celebrate Karis' 45th Birthday. All proceeds benefit Karis Community's Empowerment Program.

WHEN: Wednesday, May 12 at 6:00 pm (MST)

HOW: This is an online event. Please visit www.kariscommunity.org for more information.

WHAT: Sharing gratitude | Speakers from Karis past, present & future | Circle of encouragements | Thank You Video | Paddle Raiser

COST: The registration fee is up to you. For sponsorship opportunities: Contact Lisa Andersson, Director of Development and Communications, at lisa@kariscommunity.org.



SCAN ME

Hover your camera phone over the QR code above, click "Open kariscommunity.org" at the top of your phone's screen. This takes you directly to our event registration, donation, and sponsorship form.

THANK YOU TO OUR MAJOR SPONSORS:

Presenting Sponsor

Julie and Scott Chandler

Hope & Healing Sponsor

Nanette and Steve Shelley
Stapleton/Harmes C. Fishback Foundation

Birthday Party Sponsors

Joy and E.J. Barklage
Pam Gates and Mark Trubowitz
The Wagner Family: Carol, Irwin, Aimee, Gary & Susan

How to Support Karis Community

We focus our resource development efforts on the services that will strengthen our programs; changing the lives of people suffering from serious and persistent mental illness, and the people around them.

Karis is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization and your gifts are tax-deductible. Our Federal Identification Number is 84-0715042.

DONATE BY MAIL: Make checks payable to “Karis Community” and mail to Karis Community, Attn: Donations, 1361 Detroit St., Denver, CO 80206.

QR CODE: Hover your camera phone over the “scan me” image below, click on “Open kariscommunity.org” at the top of your phone’s screen, and head directly to our donation page.

BECOME A MONTHLY DONOR: Monthly giving is one of the most sustainable sources of nonprofit funding. It allows organizations to spend

less time fundraising, think longer-term, and make a bigger impact.

After clicking on the donation button on our donations page, please check the box that says, “Show my support by making this a recurring donation.” That’s it!

SCAN ME



AMAZON SMILE: Simply go to smile.amazon.com, sign in, and select Karis Community as the charitable organization you’d like to support. We then receive 0.5% of eligible purchases.

KING SOOPERS: Shop at King Soopers? Please link your rewards card to Karis! Go to <http://www.kingsoopers.com/communityrewards> and click enroll to make an account. Search for Karis, or enter our ID: IX097 to choose us, and they give us a percentage of all money spent within the Community Rewards program.

Thank you for making a difference to Karis Community!

WE WILL MISS E.J. BECAUSE...

He extends patience and understanding over and over again.

He quietly supports those of us who are most struggling. He doesn't get recognized for this but we all see ①

and appreciate that he extends himself to the community members who are most vulnerable. ②

He SEES THE INNER STRENGTH OF ALL PEOPLE AND OUR ANIMAL FRIENDS
= 1 =
= 2 =

He is the most caring man I've met!

HE'S THE PERSON YOU'D MOST WANT ON YOUR VOLLEYBALL TEAM!

His laugh is contagious!



He is incredibly compassionate and forgiving.

His is kind to ANIMALS
C#LOG

He puts a lot of care and effort into ensuring that community members have fulfilling holidays & birthdays.

He makes great punch bowl cake!

EJ is passionate, compassionate, and thoughtful in the care he gives to Karis and its community!

He sees the best in people and encourages us to be the best version of ourselves.