

Melissa Van Rossum's Weekly Volunteer Work Supports Women Rebuilding After Addiction, Homelessness, and DV

Her steady service at Serenity, a residential recovery program at Knox Area Rescue Ministries, reflects a long-term commitment to dignity and restoration



Atlanta, Georgia Mar 12, 2026 ([Issuewire.com](https://www.issuewire.com)) - [Melissa Van Rossum](#) is best known professionally for leading MarketPro, an Atlanta-based executive search and contract staffing firm she founded in 1996. With nearly 30 years of experience helping organizations navigate complex transitions, she has built her career on stability, accountability, and long-term strategy.

Those same values guide her personal work. Outside the boardroom, Melissa Van Rossum devotes weekly time to helping women rebuild their lives after addiction, homelessness, and domestic violence. Her main focus is the **Serenity program**, a faith-based recovery community at **Knox Area Rescue Ministries (KARM)** in Tennessee.

Support That Starts With Presence

Serenity provides secure, residential care for up to 32 women and children. The program spans 18 months and is built around the belief that lasting recovery requires both structure and support. [Melissa](#) plays a consistent role in that recovery process.

She leads Bible study sessions, mentors women one-on-one, and shows up weekly to meet real needs as they arise. Her help may include reviewing job applications, preparing someone for an upcoming interview, or simply listening as they work through a hard week. Her support is direct, compassionate, and rooted in trust.

“Every woman at Serenity is navigating something complex,” Melissa explains. “Addiction doesn’t happen in a vacuum. [Neither does healing](#). My job is to be present and steady while they figure out their next steps.”

Recovery Built on Relationships

Serenity is not a shelter. It is a structured, long-term recovery environment. From day one, the focus is on stability. That includes everything from trauma-informed counseling to parenting support. Melissa Van Rossum’s role is not as a counselor or administrator, but as a trusted volunteer who shows up consistently.

Each week, she helps women move from crisis into independence. Some are working toward reuniting with children. Others are facing court dates, custody hearings, or the long process of rebuilding after years of instability. Her support bridges the gap between hope and action.

Melissa's relationship-based approach mirrors KARM’s core model of “rescue, relationships, and restoration.” She understands that many women in crisis have been let down by systems, institutions, and even past helpers. Building trust takes time—and so does recovery.

Practical Help for Life After the Program

Melissa also supports residents as they prepare to re-enter the workforce. She offers resume feedback, helps clarify career goals, and coaches women on how to discuss employment gaps during interviews. These skills are not abstract. For many residents, job readiness is one of the final hurdles between recovery and sustainable independence.

Her guidance is informed by decades of professional experience, but always delivered with humility. “These women don’t need someone to talk down to them,” she says. “They need someone who sees what’s possible and treats them accordingly.”

In some cases, Melissa refers women to outside resources, including medical and legal professionals who offer pro bono services. These referrals are handled carefully and only when appropriate.

Faith and Accountability in Action

Melissa's work is deeply grounded in Christian values, but she avoids heavy-handed approaches. Her faith shows up in how she serves: with consistency, without judgment, and always rooted in respect.

"KARM's mission is to restore lives through Christ-centered support," she says. "That means supporting people fully—emotionally, spiritually, and practically—until they're ready to stand on their own."

Her commitment to Serenity has remained strong even as her own life has changed. After relocating from Atlanta, she sought a new place to serve. KARM's vision aligned with her values, and the structure of the Serenity program matched her belief that real change takes time.

Why This Kind of Work Matters

There is no quick fix for addiction, homelessness, or domestic violence. Melissa Van Rossum knows that. What she offers instead is a reliable presence in a world where many women have learned not to expect one.

Her work at Serenity is quiet, personal, and impactful. It reflects a belief that everyone deserves a second chance—and that second chances often begin with someone who simply refuses to give up.

About Melissa Van Rossum

Melissa Van Rossum is a business leader, executive search professional, and [long-time volunteer](#) who focuses on supporting women recovering from crisis. Through weekly service at Knox Area Rescue Ministries, she works to help women and children rebuild lives marked by stability, purpose, and hope. She is the founder of MarketPro and brings the same dedication and care to her community work as she does to her career.

Media Contact

Melissa Van Rossum

*****@gmail.com

Source : Melissa Van Rossum

[See on IssueWire](#)