

MEET PTS



KELLIE WILD '09 RECEIVES THE FRED MCFEELY ROGERS AWARD FOR CREATIVE MINISTRY

For more than 24 years, the Rev. Kellie Wild '09 has worked with people living in poverty, including the homeless, in senior management positions for non-profit and for-profit organizations.

Her wide-ranging degrees in higher education and professional licensure include an M.Div. from Pittsburgh Seminary and ordination as an elder in The United Methodist Church, a J.D. from Duquesne University and membership in the Pennsylvania bar, plus bachelor's degrees from Allegheny College (Meadeville, Pa.) in biology and Thomas Jefferson University (Philadelphia) in physical therapy and certification as a physical therapist. At Alumnae/i Days 2019, PTS presented Kellie with The Fred McFeely Rogers Award for Creative Ministry.

A practicing PT in Pittsburgh from 1986-1994, Kellie provided acute care and rehabilitation in hospitals, outpatient clinics, and patients' homes. For the next two years she worked with Cannon & Associates as a rehabilitation specialist. In this consulting role, she emphasized clinical excellence in working with 12 skilled nursing facilities in Western Pennsylvania.

A decade after graduating from college, Kellie became chief operating officer of Pittsburgh's Apex Rehab Solutions—a position she held for the next eight years. As COO for Apex, she managed all operations for this provider of contract rehabilitation services, including physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech language pathology, respiratory therapy, and occupational health services. Then in 2004 she became executive director of Rx Council of Western Pennsylvania, a provider of prescription medication assistance to low-income individuals.

All these earlier roles combined to prepare Kellie for her next position—director of programs for the city's Light of Life Rescue Mission. There Kellie provided operational visioning, oversight, direction, analysis, and leadership for serving “the poor, addicted, abused, and needy.” And after five years in that role, in 2012 Kellie assumed her current job as IMPACTS program director for East End Cooperative Ministry, based in the PTS neighborhood. She now provides visioning, strategic planning, operational execution, and oversight to ensure that all EECM's services are aligned with the overarching goal of breaking the cycles of poverty, addiction, and homelessness.

Additionally, Kellie has taught as an adjunct professor in the University of Pittsburgh's department of physical therapy. Her volunteer work has included service on the boards of Church Union, Foundation of HOPE (Allegheny County Jail), and Three Rivers Walk to Emmaus; the advisory board of the Seminary's Metro-Urban Institute; various committees of the Western Pennsylvania Annual Conference of the UMC, and more. She is a certified Taekwondo instructor—and a founding member and the first president of the Women's Law Association of Duquesne University's School of Law.

Yes, she's busy. And she's doing this creative ministry for God's glory.

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Pittsburgh Theological Seminary
616 North Highland Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15206
Phone: 412-362-5610



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