

## **Caryn Cranston Biography**

### **December 9, 2021**

Caryn Cranston's involvement within her community, both personally and professionally, ranges from public school teacher and athletic coach to active church lay leader and certified Stephen Minister as a community organizer and volunteer.

Currently, as she has done for the past 20 years, her paying job is a Director of Tennis and USTA Regional and National Schools Trainer. In addition, to help support her launch her newest venture as the Founder of SEEDS Outreach Services, two years ago Caryn was a Fellow of the Changemaker Initiative and more recently graduated as part of the 13<sup>th</sup> cohort of the Center for Excellence in Non-Profits last Spring. Caryn also currently serves as a Board member for UCCM, United Campus Christian Ministry, one of the co-sponsors of this evening's event.

SEEDS, which started here at First United Methodist Church of Palo Alto just over 4 years ago as a holiday Advent project, now serves as a street level outreach and ministry program for unhoused youth living throughout the Bay Area. And just today, SEEDS completed its final step to now being a fully autonomous 501c3 non-profit. This now officially makes Caryn the Founder *and* Executive Director of SEEDS Outreach Services!

Caryn holds her BA in English Literature and Child Psychology from Pitzer College as well as her MA in Education from Claremont Graduate University.