

# Passionate Executive Forges Own Path in People-Oriented Career

Unconventional journey inspires, empowers others to design lives of their own choosing.

**T**eresa Carroll still remembers how nervous she was to tell her dad she was walking away from a good job as an industrial engineer to pursue a more “people-oriented” career. Ken “Whitey” Bishop wasn’t thrilled with his headstrong daughter’s decision, but then, his youngest girl had always forged her own path. The first of six siblings in her small-town family to go to college and one of a minority of female engineering graduates from General Motors Institute (now Kettering University), Carroll made the leap to Kelly Services because she wanted more than “a good job.” She wanted to carve her own path in the world, and she wanted to help others do the same.

Fast forward 25 years and Carroll has no regrets about trading in her steel-toed boots for a career in workforce solutions. Standing on the shoulders of all the “Kelly Girls” who came before her, her unconventional journey has led from engineering to marketing to operations to executive leadership and a packed schedule travelling the world consulting with a host of blue-chip clients.

Along the way, she has been constantly inspired by the difference Kelly makes in people’s lives.

“We’ve spent more than seven decades breaking barriers and building bridges to better work and better lives,” says Carroll, noting that founder Russ Kelly ushered in a workforce of women at a time when opportunities were few and pioneered testing programs, online learning communities, and digital solutions to equip workers to meet changing market

## A People Company, Staffing the World

Kelly Services is built on a tradition of integrity, quality, and professional excellence and aspires to serve as a trusted business partner to its customers and candidates. A global leader in providing workforce solutions, consulting and outsourcing services, and managing employment opportunities for more than one million workers across the globe, the company connects customers with world-class staffing on a temporary, temporary-to-hire, and direct-hire basis. For more information, visit [kellyservices.com](http://kellyservices.com).

needs. “The heart of Kelly’s business is connecting people with work that enriches their lives. People want to work in a way that offers freedom and flexibility, helps them grow personally, contributes to their communities, and connects their work to something bigger. That’s what drives Kelly every day.” And in today’s increasingly digital world, those options and opportunities for connection are limitless.

Kelly’s commitment to inclusivity is another point of pride for Carroll. “Not only is it the right thing to do, it makes good business sense. As work continues to go global and mobile, an inclusive talent strategy helps companies reach the brightest and best talent the world has to offer.” This view is evident in Kelly’s relationships across a vibrant network of thousands of diverse

suppliers, including numerous partnerships with minority- and woman-owned businesses. Kelly consistently garners awards for its commitment to inclusive networks, including accolades from some of the world’s biggest companies. The result, says Carroll, is “a rare win-win-win, where Kelly is better able to meet clients’ talent needs, diverse entrepreneurs gain a seat at the table with powerhouse brands, and companies see an influx of diversity that strengthens their talent base.”

Carroll and Kelly face the future of work with optimism and confidence. “We defined the industry, and we’ll keep redefining it to improve people’s lives,” Carroll says. That’s exactly the bold spirit that would make Russ Kelly—and even Whitey Bishop—proud of the “people-oriented” path she chose.



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**Teresa Carroll,**  
Executive  
Vice President