



Matt Burgess, MA, LCPC is the Chief Operating Officer of Home Sweet Home Ministries in Bloomington, IL. HSHM is an independent Christian ministry serving people who are experiencing homelessness and/or living in poverty. They have served the Central Illinois community for almost 100 years and currently operate a shelter for homeless individuals and families, a low income food co-op, a mobile health project, and several other services to people dealing with homelessness and poverty. In addition to managing the programs and services at Home Sweet Home Ministries, Matt is a tireless advocate of building systems of support that foster dignity and worth and provides consulting services to other non-profits and communities who are interested in improving their models of assistance.



Nathan Montgomery is cofounder and Executive Director of Salt & Light in Champaign, IL. Since opening in 2004, he has led Salt & Light into a community leader in poverty alleviation efforts. Through Nathan's visionary leadership, Salt & Light has developed an innovative and unique approach that is radically transforming how communities address poverty.

Nathan's passion for people and the community he calls home have driven him to serve on local Financial Stability and Food Insecurity task forces, as well as the Champaign County Rural Transit System. Most recently, he was named to the Christian Community Development Association's National Leadership Cohort. A sought after speaker on poverty related issues, Nathan actively challenges the existing systems designed to address them.



Nathan Lenstra is married to his lovely wife, Lauren, and they have a beautiful daughter, Hannah. Nathan has been involved in ministry with impoverished communities since 2004, since 2007 in Danville, IL through his church, Connexion. He loves to work with children and youth, especially helping young African-American men transition to adulthood and become mature in Christ and in life so that they avoid the traps of poverty, drugs, gangs, unemployment, etc. Nathan has a B.S. in chemistry education from the University of Illinois and a M.Div. from Urbana Theological Seminary. In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his family and gardening and is hoping for a long-awaited World Series championship from the Cubs this year!