



Set Free Alaska Board of Directors October 2020

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SET FREE ALASKA EXPANDS PROGRAMS AND BOARD FOR 2021

PALMER, ALASKA-

Set Free Alaska, the CARF certified non-profit organization serving men and women focusing on rehabilitation from substance abuse addiction, has expanded to programs, and grew the Board of Directors.

“This year, despite some unique challenges, we’ve had an excellent opportunity of growth in the community of Homer, Alaska, where we opened a new men’s sixteen-bed facility,” said Executive Director Philip Licht. He added, “We added two incredible board members, and we opened a quarantine house in Wasilla assisting with COVID related challenges.”

The Alaskan agency offers residential treatment for men at the Homer Compass location and for women at the Valley Oaks Wasilla facility, Outpatient services in Homer and Wasilla, Children’s Behavioral Health for Children and Adolescents, Peer Support, a Workforce Development Program, and most recently, have set up quarantine options related to the COVID-19 crisis.

The Set Free Alaska Board of Directors met recently in Homer, Alaska, to prepare for the upcoming year of growth and the management of existing businesses in the Southern Kenai Peninsula and Matanuska Valley.

“We use a holistic approach, where the client is treated with respect and dignity from day one. We are a Christian organization and that resonates in every decision and action we make. The results of excellence from our program speak louder than words. We see lives changed daily!” added Licht.

[Biographies and professional headshots below]

Mrs. Linda Hendrickson, Board Chair



Linda served with Teen Challenge and CRISTA Ministries in Seattle before relocating to Alaska in 2001. After 16 years as executive director of Chugiak Senior Center she is ready for the next part of her wonderful journey.

Owner of several business's in the valley and lower 48, Linda desires to bring Biblical principals intertwined with everyday business management expertise to the marketplace in Wasilla.

After losing two of her siblings to addiction Linda made a decision to answer the call to serve in any way possible to see people set free from the grips of drugs and alcohol. Linda counts it an honor and a privilege to serve in this successful organization.

Mr. Ryan Ray, Founder



As an accomplished social innovator, Ryan is driven by a deep passion to see people experience God's love and thrive to fullest of their potential.

Throughout his career in the public and nonprofit sectors, Ryan witnessed firsthand the devastating impact of substance abuse in Alaska. This experience inspired him to found Set Free Alaska in 2008.

Ryan currently serves as the Founder and Senior Partner of 61Sixty, LLC; a social benefit company that works to develop creative solutions to complex social challenges. Through 61Sixty and a well-cultivated network of global partners, he is actively involved in leading a number of cool projects that make a difference in the lives of others. Ryan maintains a Lean Six Sigma Master Black Belt certification from Villanova University; a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Southern California; and is a candidate for a Doctorate of Social Work in Social Innovation, also from USC. Ryan enjoys college football, rugby, extreme outdoor sports, and experiencing new places around the world. He currently

lives in Palmer with his bride Melissa and their son Jackson Ryan.

Mrs. Elizabeth Garvey



Elizabeth Garvey is a third generation Alaskan who lives in Homer with her husband Josh and three children Ariela 8, Raphael 5, and baby Gabriel.

Liz holds an undergraduate degree in Theology and Psychology, and she has a Masters in Business with an emphasis on Human Resources. She believes each individual struggling with addiction will find freedom in a loving community and through faith-based programs like Set Free Alaska. Liz has volunteered overseas in the Middle East, Mexico, Europe. One of her greatest passions is to see people come alive in their destiny, build loving communities with strong values, and live the fullest life we were intended.

Mr. Josh Garvey



Josh Garvey was born and raised in Alaska. He currently lives in Homer, Alaska with his wife Elizabeth and their three children. Josh has a Masters in Accounting and Finance, and currently works as the COO for Shopanova, an online advertising company and he also conducts sales and leadership coaching for Southwestern Consulting.

He values community transformation via marketplace ministry, and believes that a healthy family is critical to the building of a healthy community. One of his greatest passions is to see people set free and empowered to fulfill the life they were destined to live.

Mr. Einar Gonder



Krista and Einar have been involved in Set Free Alaska as consultants and supporters for many years. Their passion for those in addiction being not only healed but trained and equipped to become productive members of society is evident.

They are the owners of Alaska Tags and Titles a DMV Express business which operates in various locations around Alaska, and part owners in Northern Industrial Training with offices located in the Matanuska Valley, Anchorage, and North Dakota.

They are very committed to the health and wellbeing of the communities in which their businesses operate.

Mrs. Krista Gonder



Krista and Einar have been involved in Set Free Alaska as consultants and supporters for many years. Their passion for those in addiction being not only healed but trained and equipped to become productive members of society is evident.

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Krista is a top 40 under 40 award winner.

Mr. Jeremy Creech



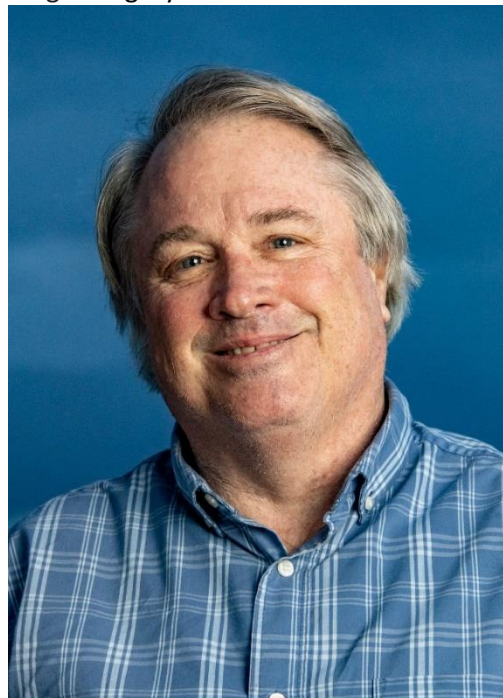
Jeremy is passionate about Alaska's prosperity. With a career journey as a business leader, educator, network engineer, and infantryman, he is fully invested in the power of people to make the world a better place.

Working for Cisco Systems, a top Fortune 500 company in Silicon Valley, he uses a diverse skill-set in the domains of business, technology, and education to partner with people worldwide solving problems.

Having been raised in Wasilla, Alaska, Jeremy lives there now raising his family with his wife, Rachelle; both having degrees in business management, they share a passion for whole families, healthy communities, successful businesses, and personal wholeness.

Jeremy also serves the University of Alaska System advising on technology education and can sometimes be found teaching courses in Information Security and Cybersecurity at Matanuska-Susitna College.

Judge Gregory Heath



Retired Palmer Superior Court Judge, former District Court Judge and Palmer Public Defender.

Judge Heath has been married to Phyllis Heath for 41-years, who is a retired Mat-Su schoolteacher.

They have four children: Sarah Heath, Melissa Ray, Joel Heath, and Michael Heath.

"I am very excited for the opportunity to serve on the board of Set Free. My heart both as an attorney and a judge has been to see restoration and healing for those held captive by addiction and mental health issues. I look forward to being part of an ever-growing family of individuals who through hard work, dedication and love are changing the lives of so many Alaskans," said Judge Heath.

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