

Education and Nonprofit

Kelsey Rae Morgan

*Co-Founder
& Chief Impact Officer*
EverFree



In 2015, Kelsey Rae Morgan founded Willow International to provide quality care and reintegration support for human trafficking survivors and transform global systems that fuel trafficking. Through her work leading Willow, over 65,000 lives have been impacted, hundreds of survivors have received comprehensive care and the country of Uganda saw increases in victims identified and traffickers arrested and convicted. Willow became known as a global leader and quality aftercare provider and Morgan's team grew from a staff of five to 72 in six years. Under her leadership, the organization's revenue and impact doubled year after year. In 2021, she set an ambitious goal to increase Willow's scope and impact by creating an international merger with 10ThousandWindows. Uniting both organizations into a global entity named EverFree ensures every trafficking survivor around the world has access to quality care.

Cristol Barrett O'Loughlin

Founder & CEO
ANGEL AID CARES



Cristol Barrett O'Loughlin is fiercely passionate about providing mental health services, emotional relief and personal connection to "Rare Mothers" – 350 million women globally who are caring for a loved one with a rare genetic disease. Through her nonprofit, ANGEL AID, she connects with more than 1,400 rare families across 33 countries around the world, all through her family home turned retreat center, Barrett Family Ranch, located in Orange. O'Loughlin works with a team of professionals to deliver weekly virtual support groups. Caregivers all over the world attend these groups to find like-minded parents to connect with and learn some sustainable coping skills. Weekly support groups are an opportunity for these caregivers to take an hour a week and focus on their own mental health and self-care. ANGEL AID connects caregivers with one another on Mighty Networks so they can lean on one another.

James Palmer

President & CEO
Orange County Rescue Mission



For the last 36 years, Dr. James 'Jim' Palmer has been an extraordinary leader and a tireless champion for Orange County's less fortunate individuals and families. Dr. Palmer has transformed Orange County Rescue Mission in Santa Ana from a single rundown facility housing nine homeless men into a 14-facility, multi-organization operation serving thousands of homeless, formerly homeless individuals and youth at risk of homelessness each year. Along with a staff of more than 80 individuals and hundreds of volunteers, he has established 10 programs catering to the wide-ranging needs of those occupying the Rescue Mission's 11 transitional living and three healthcare facilities. Led by staff and volunteers, these programs provide aid to the local homeless population, including food, healthcare, addiction recovery support, education, job training and supportive living communities that dramatically improves people's lives and sets them on a path to continued success.

Dawn S. Reese

Chief Executive Officer
The Wooden Floor



Dawn S. Reese leverages her unique blend of experience in business, technology, education and the arts to not only propel young people forward, but to also help the nonprofit sector remain innovative to better serve those in need. She has helped The Wooden Floor, the youth development nonprofit she oversees as CEO, maintain its hard-fought accomplishment of seeing 100 percent of the organization's graduates finish high school on time and immediately enroll in higher education. Founded in 1983, The Wooden Floor transforms the lives of young people in low-income communities through the power of dance and access to higher education. Also, the nonprofit uses a long-term approach grounded in exploratory dance education to foster the confidence and gifts within each child to innovate, communicate and collaborate – skills necessary for success in school and in life. She is also the founder of the O.C. Nonprofit CEO Forum.

Maricela Rios-Faust

Chief Executive Officer
Human Options



Maricela Rios-Faust is a leader in preventing and ending relationship violence through her work as CEO of nonprofit Human Options, one of the most comprehensive relationship violence service providers in Orange County, and her leadership on partnerships and collaboratives aimed at ending the cycle of violence. When relationship violence rates increased due to the pandemic, the need for Human Options' emergency shelter, community based services and other essential programs increased. Her team trains HR professionals and employers to recognize the signs of abuse among employees even when leading a remote workforce. Knowing that relationship violence is the leading cause as to why women become homeless, Rios-Faust initiated a partnership with the Women's Health Foundation of CA and leading domestic violence providers to provide housing to victims and survivors. She is an expert on relationship violence, working with business, government and nonprofit community partners on local and state levels.

Angie Rowe

President & Executive Director
Beyond Blindness



Angie Rowe leads Beyond Blindness, a nonprofit with the mission of empowering children with visual impairments and other disabilities to achieve their fullest potential. With 25 years in the nonprofit industry, she offers extensive leadership experience across multiple disciplines and has hands-on experience building stakeholder communities and organizational capacity, as well as experience in revenue, donor growth and community participation. This year, Beyond Blindness is celebrating its 60th year of service and has served more than 300 children with visual impairments as well as their families since its founding. Within the last two years, Rowe has expanded the organization's vision to reflect the robust needs of children and their families. In 2020, she led the charge in crafting a strategic planning process. Today, the organization offers expanded services, including early intervention, education + enrichment and family support to children with visual impairments and their families.