

THE CONVERSATION 2025



Wayfinder
FAMILY SERVICES

PROGRAM

WELCOME

Jay Allen, President and CEO, Wayfinder Family Services

LUNCH

WAYFINDER AWARDS

Glenn Sonnenberg
Jason Russell
W. M. Keck Foundation

PANEL

MODERATOR
Emily Williams
Chief Executive Officer
UCLA-UCSF ACEs Aware Family Resilience Network (UCAAN)

PANELISTS

Diana E. Ramos, MD, MPH, MBA
California Surgeon General

Josue (Swey) Pineda
Youth Justice Organizer
Hoops 4 Justice
UCAAN

Dawn Vo-Jutabha, PhD
Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer
Wayfinder Family Services

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THE PANEL



Dr. Diana E. Ramos is a renowned public health leader and California's second Surgeon General and first Latina Surgeon General. As California's Doctor, she is the leading spokesperson on the most pressing public health issues of the time within the State of California. Her mission is to advance the health and wellbeing of all Californians.

Raised in South Central Los Angeles, Dr. Ramos received her medical degree from the Keck University of Southern California School of Medicine and completed her residency training in obstetrics and gynecology at Los Angeles County-University of Southern California Medical Center. She also holds a Master of Public Health degree from UCLA and a Master of Business Administration degree from UC Irvine Paul Merage School of Business.

Over the past three decades, Dr. Ramos has provided reproductive care to thousands of Californians as an Obstetrician Gynecologist at Southern California Kaiser Permanente.

Dr. Ramos' leadership spans from the local level in Los Angeles County where she previously served as the Director for Reproductive Health, State leadership as the prior chair for the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, California & Ecuador (IX) District, nationally on the Women's Preventive Service Initiative, American Medical Association Foundation board, as a prior executive board member for the National Hispanic Medical Association, and many others. Prior to her appointment as the California Surgeon General, she served as the Assistant Deputy Director of Chronic Disease Prevention for the California Department of Public Health.

Within the academic sector, she serves as an adjunct Associate Professor at the Keck University of Southern California School of Medicine.

Dr. Ramos has written and contributed numerous articles to the obstetrics and gynecology and public health literature and has lectured in Spanish and English, locally, nationally, and internationally.

In 2024, the California Latino Legislative Caucus awarded Dr. Ramos with the Latino Spirit Award for Achievement in Public Service and Health.

THE PANEL



Josue (Swey) Pineda has been a youth advocate since 2018. His work as an abolitionist started after he was facing 23 years to life in prison at the age of 19 in 2017. Post-incarceration Swey has been a mentor for youth both currently inside juvenile hall and youth coming back into the community, whom he has assisted in gaining their freedom. From 2020 through 2022 Swey was a youth mentor and case manager for formerly incarcerated youth where he assisted with re-entry services, job placement, peer to

peer mentoring, as well as enrollment into higher education. He is an artist and podcast host for *Not in Isolation: Voices of Youth*, a podcast that centers the experience of youth who have been placed in solitary confinement. This is part of a nationwide campaign to Stop Solitary For Kids. Currently, Josue is a youth facilitator and Youth Reentry Coordinator with Hoops 4 Justice. He is certified in Seeking Safety (group and individual therapy that addresses both substance abuse and PTSD) and currently sits as a Young Adult Advisory through the ACEs Aware Initiative.



Dawn Vo-Jutabha, PhD joined Wayfinder in 2023 as executive vice president and chief operating officer. In this role she also serves as Wayfinder's chief clinical officer and oversees all operations. Vo-Jutabha has over 16 years of experience in clinical services and training, program development and quality improvement and most recently served as the chief clinical officer for The Guidance Center in Long Beach, California. She is a licensed clinical psychologist and has worked at several prominent community mental health agencies in Southern California.

Vo-Jutabha earned her doctorate in clinical psychology with an emphasis in children and families from Clark University in Massachusetts and her bachelor's in psychology from the University of California, Los Angeles. She was awarded a four-year national grant from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development to support her graduate research and clinical work.

She has held leadership roles at statewide and national associations, including the Southern California Association of Psychology Training Programs, the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Programs and the American Psychological Association (APA) Commission on Accreditation. She is currently a cohort member of APA's flagship leadership training, the Leadership Institute for Women in Psychology. More recently, she was elected as a Director-at-Large of the California Psychological Association Board of Directors.

THE PANEL



MODERATOR Emily C. Williams is the CEO of UCAAN. For six years, she served as a senior adviser for the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, Second District, shaping budget, legislative, equity and human services policy for the largest county in the nation and oversaw child welfare, education, social services and workforce development initiatives for the district's two million constituents. Prior to joining the County, Emily worked for the City of Los Angeles as deputy chief of staff to former City Councilmember (now U.S. Representative) Tony Cárdenas (CA-29) and as a civilian commander for the Los Angeles Fire Department.

Emily earned a B.A. in Political Science from UCLA and an M.P.P. from the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs, where she was recognized as Alumna of the Year and currently serves as a Senior Fellow.



WAYFINDER HONOREES



The W. M. Keck Foundation was established in 1954 in Los Angeles by William Myron Keck, founder of The Superior Oil Company.

Mr. Keck envisioned a philanthropic institution that would provide far-reaching benefits for humanity. By taking a bold, creative approach to grantmaking, he created a legacy that the Foundation proudly upholds today.

Over the years, the Foundation has focused on Science & Engineering Research; Medical Research; Undergraduate Education; and Southern California.

Their support of Southern California-based organizations that enrich the lives of the region's residents has expanded and deepened over the years to focus on under resourced communities. They place a special emphasis on children, youth, and their families, with the goal of providing safe, healthy, supportive environments that prepare children to succeed in school and in life. Dorothy Fleisher, Ph.D., MPA, MSW, senior program director for the W. M. Keck Foundation's Southern California Program, will accept the award on its behalf.



Dorothy Fleisher, Ph.D., MPA, MSW is the Senior Program Director for the W. M. Keck Foundation's Southern California Program, where she oversees grantmaking in the areas of arts and culture, civic and community services, health care, precollegiate education, and early childhood development. She has been with the Foundation since 1999.

Prior to joining the Foundation, Dr. Fleisher worked for United Way, where she oversaw funding allocations to community organizations and launched several major initiatives, including a network of school-based family centers in the northeast San Fernando Valley. Currently, she is the co-convenor of the Education Funders Group, founder and member of the L.A. Partnership for Early Childhood Investment, and a steering committee member of the Child and Family Well-Being Funders Collaborative. She also serves as a board member of the California Social Welfare Archives. In the past, she represented Southern California Grantmakers on the Los Angeles County Children's Planning Council.

She earned her doctorate in social work from the University of Southern California with a focus on social policy and administration.

WAYFINDER HONOREES



Glenn Sonnenberg's career has spanned law, real estate finance, and real estate equity investment. He currently is Chairman of LaSalle Debt Investors and President of Latitude Real Estate Holdings, both real estate investment firms.

Glenn is a graduate of the University of Southern California, with a B.A. in History, 1977, magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, and a J.D., 1980. He has received the USC Alumni Service Award, the Bet Tzedek Lainer award, the Jewish Federation Torch of Justice Award, the Stephen Wise Temple annual award, the USC Ex Libris award, and the

Hillcrest Country Club Lifetime Achievement Award. Glenn and his wife Andrea raised three children. They reside in Southern California.

He has served on the board of Wayfinder Family Services since 2018, a period of remarkable growth for the organization. Glenn explains his commitment this way: "Wayfinder has served communities of people in need for over 70 years. As chair of the board, I couldn't be more excited to work with our phenomenal staff, led by Jay Allen, in making the organization even stronger, expanding its reach to help more people with more innovative programming. I believe we have the programs, the team, the board and the community support to do just that."



WAYFINDER HONOREES



Jason Russell has known about Wayfinder his entire life. “My grandparents were founding members of the Guiders, a fundraising arm of what was then known as the Foundation for the Junior Blind. My uncles, aunts and many of their friends were intermittently involved throughout my childhood. And my mother was a volunteer in her teen years.”

Jason grew up, studied law, and became the managing partner and co-founder of Jacobson Russell Saltz Nassim & de la

Torre, LLP, an entertainment law firm.

Twenty-two years ago, Jason met two men who served on the board of the Foundation for the Junior Blind. He had been thinking about giving back to his community, and this was a perfect opportunity to reconnect with a nonprofit that meant so much to his family. He joined the board of directors and served for nine years.

In 2021, Jason was asked to once again be a volunteer leader and join Wayfinder’s Impact Council—a group of ambassadors who raise money and awareness for Wayfinder’s programs and services. He’s excited to be part of the organization. “This is an organization that helps people who would have nowhere else to turn. Wayfinder reinforces my faith in humanity.”



PREVIOUS HONOREES

2022

George Hoag Family Foundation

2024

Dr. Harold A. Davidson

Camilla Walker

The Ralph M. Parsons Foundation



CONGRATULATIONS TO The W. M. Keck Foundation

With gratitude,
The Board of Directors,
Impact Council and
President's Council of
Wayfinder Family Services



Wayfinder
FAMILY SERVICES



To the Wayfinder family, who have given of themselves in the service of its mission - we thank you for making this world a better place.

Paula and Jason Russell





Dear Glenn,

What a privilege it has been to have become your dear friend. You care so deeply about our community and our world and are so committed to helping those in need, and those less fortunate. You lead by example and are an inspiration to all that know you. You give all the time, even while others are sleeping!

Congratulations!!

Jodie & Steve



**CONGRATULATIONS
W. M. Keck Foundation
Glenn and Jason**

Linda Myerson Dean
proud supporter and board member
of Wayfinder Family Services



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CONGRATULATIONS TO GLENN SONNENBERG

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Jason Russell has been more than a friend to me over the years; he has been a mentor and confidant. I am proud to support and congratulate him on receiving his deserved recognition for his hard work and service to Wayfinder Family Services.

–David Berg



We Are Proud Supporters of
Wayfinder Family Services.
Your Dedication to the Community
Serves as Inspiration to All.

Harold & Nadine Davidson

Harold Davidson & Associates, Inc.
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— **CONGRATULATIONS** —

Glenn!

You care deeply about Wayfinder Family Services and so many other important charities in our community.

Thank you for your generosity and dedication.

Sincerely,

Heidi and Albert Praw

Celebrating a place where everyone can move forward.

Verizon is a proud supporter of Wayfinder Family Services and their mission to give everyone the resources they need to thrive.

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Teaming up to bring hope to families across California

Honored to support Wayfinder Family Services in their mission to ensure children, youth, and adults facing challenges always have a place to turn. Thank you for your dedication to making a lasting difference in our communities.





Congratulations to Glenn Sonnenberg for receiving this well-deserved award for his dedication to children and families in need.

Lynn and Les Bider



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CONGRATULATE

**WAYFINDER
FAMILY SERVICES**



We recognize Wayfinder's commitment to providing opportunities for children & families to thrive.

We also recognize the service of **Anita Siraki** who is a member of **Wayfinder's Impact Council**.

We're proud to share Wayfinder's mission of lifting up our local community.

1149 North McCadden Place | Hollywood, CA 90038 | 323.464.0055



To Glenn Sonnenberg:

As a former Foundation for the Junior Blind leader, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to you on being honored for your outstanding service as a board member.

This well-deserved recognition serves as a testament to the positive impact you've had on the community.

Annette and Leonard Shapiro



**CONGRATULATIONS TO GLENN AND JASON
ALPERSTEIN, SIMON, FARKAS, GILLIN & SCOTT, LLP
SCOTT AND CARIN FARKAS
PROUDLY SUPPORTING WAYFINDER FAMILY SERVICES**

Congratulations Glenn for a well-deserved honor.
You are among the world's movers and shakers.

From the grateful clergy and community of
Stephen Wise Temple

STEPHEN
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Proud to support Glenn Sonnenberg
for all his leadership and impact in
our community.

Gersh




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Congratulations Glenn
and thank you for all
the amazing things
that you and Andrea
do for our community.
We are proud to call
you both our friends.

With love and respect,
Susan and Scott
Edelman



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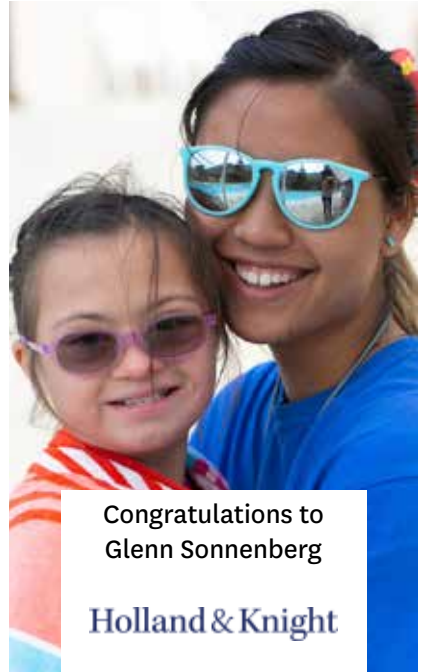
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children, youth, adults
and family members
served annually



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services

learn more:



With great appreciation to Jay Allen and the amazing team at Wayfinder Family Services for all they do to make our world a better place.

Andrea and Glenn Sonnenberg



A close-up photograph of a woman with dark, curly hair smiling warmly as she hugs a young child with similar curly hair. The child is also smiling broadly with their eyes closed. The background is softly blurred, suggesting an indoor setting with natural light.

**WE ARE
INVESTED IN
THE FAMILIES
WE SERVE**

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