

CEO Corner

“Improving the Lives We Touch”

Our mission statement is simple. “Improve the Lives We Touch.” For the staff at Willingway, it is how we arrive at work every day. Every moment, every interaction is an opportunity to make someone’s life better. Hitting bottom and experiencing consequences of use is what brings people to the doors of treatment. While in the throes of addiction, and even early on in the treatment process lives may seem hopeless, worthless and valueless to those sick and suffering. We have a unique opportunity to make a difference. We have the ability to help people move away from being discouraged to becoming encouraged. We encounter those who have difficulty looking themselves in the mirror and are blessed to watch a transformation occur as we improve the lives we touch. And we are always looking for new and different ways to improve our ability to improve. In just the last few weeks, we have taken steps to improve access to medical assisted treatment, giving access to individuals who previously might never have gotten to experience what Willingway has to offer. We are also moving to restore family services, an essential part of the therapeutic process that has been relatively dormant at Willingway for several years. We have also launched an off-site Partial Hospital program to enhance our access to a more full continuum of care. Our goal to achieve our mission is simple: begin the process of restoration of meaningful and purposeful lives as people completing our program are placed on a path of sobriety. We take our mission seriously, and embrace our responsibility to Improve the Lives we Touch. If you are struggling, no matter how many times you have tried to get sober before, reach out to our admissions department at 912-207-9227. If you are an alum- stay connected by joining our Cared For App. where you can share your joys and your struggles. Just text “WILLINGWAY” to “30678”. Until next time, we wish you peace, serenity and sobriety.

David Gerber, CEO

Annual Overdose Awareness Event Recap

We had about 90-95 people who came out to honor those we have lost from this cunning disease. What a powerful reminder of why the work we do, day in and day out, is so important.



Ways to Give Back!

If you're looking for a way to be of service, look no further! We have just the program for you!

Become a Willingway Alumni Ambassador!

Are you a member of our alumni community with **1+ years of continuous sobriety** and actively working a recovery program? If so, we'd love for you to become a **Willingway Alumni Ambassador!**

This is a meaningful opportunity to give back, support others on their recovery journey, and represent Willingway in a positive light.



What is a Willingway Alumni Ambassador?

A **trusted leader** in our alumni community who:

- Serves as a contact for newer alumni returning home, helping them get connected to local recovery resources
- Stays engaged and supportive through our alumni network

What does a Willingway Alumni Ambassador do?

- **Engages regularly** on the Willingway App (AMBASSADOR will be added to your name)
- **Represents Willingway** in a positive light (through word of mouth, Google reviews, etc.)
- **Visits campus**, when possible, to share their story with current clients
- **Refers individuals** struggling with addiction to Willingway

What's in it for you?

- A **FREE Willingway Ambassador T-shirt!**
- A chance to **support and uplift** the alumni community (you have to give it away to keep it!)
- A way to **enhance your own recovery** through service and 12-Step work
- An **AMBASSADOR badge** next to your name on the app

Interested? Reach out to: *Dakota Ulmen, Alumni Coordinator*
Office: 912-489-7211 Cell: 912-515-7103



HR Highlights

Name: Katie Rodriguez

Position: Admissions Director

Start Date: 9/12/2018



How would you summarize what you do?

As Director of Admissions at Willingway, I ensure that every individual or family seeking help is met with compassion, clarity, and care. My team and I strive to make each first impression a supportive and healing experience.

Can you tell us a few details about your favorite part of your job?

What I find most rewarding is offering hope and a path to recovery for those who feel they have none. I take pride in helping families find meaningful solutions for their loved ones and witnessing the transformation that begins with the first call and continues through to discharge.

What is the best advice you would give to someone just starting out at Willingway?

Approach each client with patience, empathy, and a warm smile. Don't hesitate to ask questions—everyone starts somewhere, and learning is part of the process. This work can be incredibly rewarding and impactful.

What are the toughest challenges you've had at work?

Maintaining a healthy work-life balance can be challenging in this field. It's important to recognize that not everyone is ready to accept help—and, as difficult as that may be, we must respect their journey and meet them where they are.

What's your secret talent no one knows about?

I'm a pretty solid cook—meatballs and gravy are my signature dish. It's the one thing I make that no one ever questions.

What do you like to do in your own time?

I love spending time with my family—whether it's hanging out with my husband, chasing after my kids, or just trying to drink a cup of coffee before it goes cold.

Tell us something about you that we would not normally know?

My guilty pleasure is binge-watching old movies—TCM is my go-to for some classic entertainment and nostalgia.



September Birthdays:

- Tonya H-M. (Lead Tech) 9/3
- Matthew G. (OP Counselor) 9/10
- Ozella S. (RN) 9/14
- Alexander M. (Business Development Rep) 9/18
- Michelle K. (Tech) 9/27

Alumni Meetings:

373 Savannah Ave. Statesboro, GA 30458

WILLINGWAY ALUMNI MEETING AT THE FORK



**Thursdays @ 6:45pm. Join us for fellowship
and an alumni meeting (located in the fork,
address listed above!)**

Zoom Meeting ID: 815 1227 6359

**For questions text or call
912-515-7103**

Together We Rise



**Weekly alumni Zoom meetings Thursdays
at 7:30am**

Morning Meditation

Meeting ID: 821 5803 9785

Password: Recovery

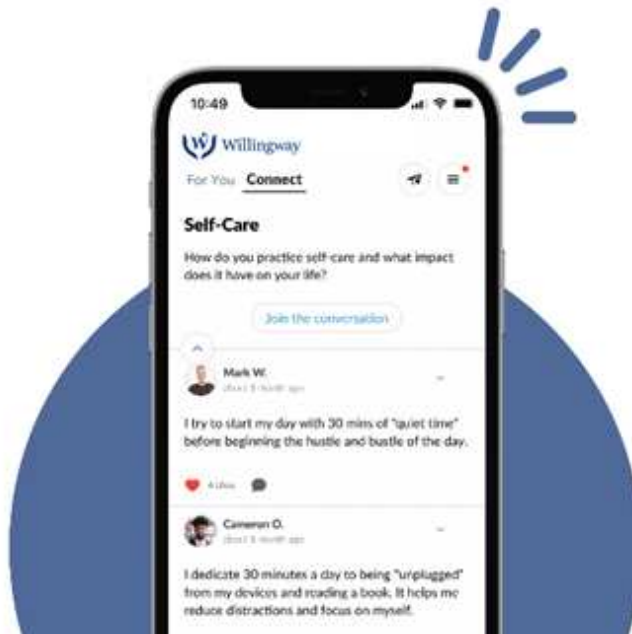


Ready to get started? Scan here >



We're all in this together

Join fellow alumni & staff on the
Willingway Alumni Community app today!





Continuing Care Community Support Groups

Statesboro Group:

Contact: Catherine Tootle
Phone: 912-764-8283
Email: cmtootle@freedomthroughrecovery.org
When: Mondays at 7:00pm
Where: Freedom Through Recovery
226 S. Zetterower Ave.
Statesboro, GA 30458
Zoom Meeting ID: 876 23985668
Password: 203757

St. Simons Group:

Contact: Joel Mills
Phone: 912-617-6385
Email: jvmssi@me.com
When: Saturdays at 6:30pm
Where: The Club House
1501 Demere Road
St. Simons Island, GA 31522

Atlanta Group:

Contacts: Desiree Garrett and
Jocelyn Wallace
Phone: Desiree 678-231-6777
Jocelyn 404-747-6482
Email: desiree.g@neveralonech.org
jocelyn@neveralonech.org
When: Thursdays at 3pm
Where: Never Alone Clubhouse
8380 Grady St., Douglasville, GA 30134
Zoom Meeting ID: 868 1749 3228
Password: 834476

When: Thursdays at 7pm
Where: Never Alone Clubhouse
8380 Grady St., Douglasville, GA 30134
Zoom Meeting ID: 827 6468 4073
Password: 852161

Augusta, GA Group:

Contact: Paula Wood
Phone: 706-664-9672
When: Saturdays at 10am
Where: Covenant Presbyterian Church
3131 Walton Way, Augusta, GA 30904
Zoom Meeting ID: 893 8465 3063
Password: 038521

Charleston Group:

Contact: Rhett Crull
Phone: 843-323-7111
Email: crull.rhett@gmail.com
When: Mondays at 6:30pm
Where: Church of the Holy Spirit
299 Seven Farms Rd.
Daniel Island, SC 29492

Raleigh Group:

Contact: Charlie Wagner
Phone: 919-349-6269
Email: mail4youcw@gmail.com
When: Mondays 7:30pm
Where: St John's Baptist Church
1615A Oberlin Rd.
Raleigh, NC 27608
Zoom Meeting ID: 885 4336 3501
Passcode: Willingway

Macon Group:

Name: Tracy Miller
Phone: 478-960-4574
Email: tracytmiller58@gmail.com
When: Mondays at 6:30pm
Where: Centenary Church
1290 College St., Macon, GA 31201
Zoom Meeting ID: 858 8774 8270
Passcode: Recovery

Jacksonville/Jacksonville Beach Group:

Contacts: John Roberts and Cathy Roberts
Phone: John 904-463-1246
Cathy 904-463-5200
When: Mondays at 6pm (Zoom)
Zoom meeting ID: 996 758 129
Password: 1234

When: Tuesdays at 6:00pm
Palms Presbyterian Church
Where: Palms Presbyterian Church
3410 Third Street, South
Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250
Education/Office Bldg. (north side of campus)
Room 202

*For more information about
continuing care, please contact
alumni@willingway.com.*