



WILLINGWAY ALUMNI PROGRAM

WEEKLY ALUMNI MEETINGS

Zoom Meeting

TOGETHER WE RISE

Every Thursday | 7:30 am

MEETING ID: 821 5803 9785
PASSWORD: RECOVERY



373 Savannah Ave. Statesboro, GA 30458

**WILLINGWAY ALUMNI
MEETING**

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

For questions text or call 912-515-7103

OVERVIEW

Our Alumni Program keeps you connected and supported through our alumni app, monthly events, regular check-ins, and both virtual Zoom and in-person meetings—helping you stay engaged, build relationships, and continue growing.

ALUMNI GROUP RESOURCES

Monthly Alumni Events



Meet Your Alumni Coordinator!

Dakota Ulmen
Cell # 912-515-7103

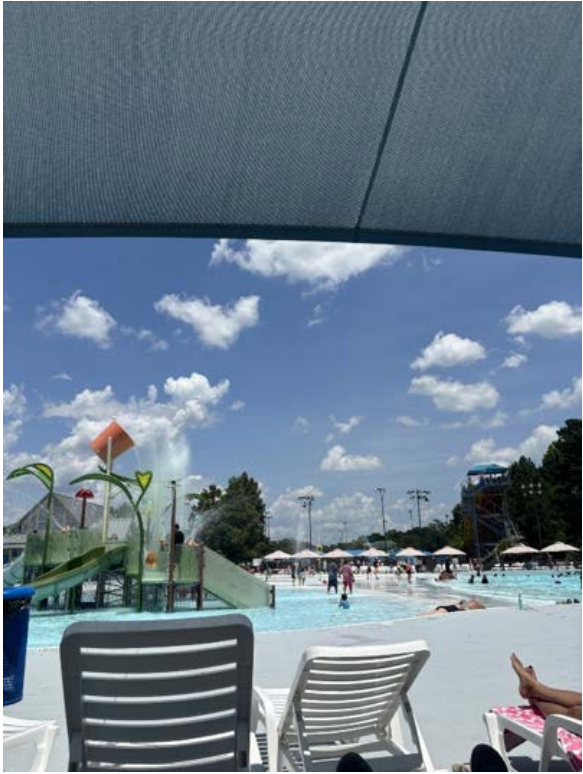


Join our Alumni App!



June Alumni Event Recap!

We had an incredible time at Splash in the Boro with our amazing alumni, staff, and family members. From water slides to wave pools and plenty of laughs in between, it was a day full of fun, connection, and making memories together. Thanks to everyone who joined us—we can't wait for the next adventure!



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: Mark Platt

Position: Business Office Director

Start Date: 10/9/2017



How would you summarize what you do?

I support our team by making sure the people we serve get the care, structure, and compassion they need. A big part of my role is keeping things running smoothly behind the scenes while also being present for patients and coworkers. I'm here to help create an environment where people feel safe, supported, and able to grow.

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

My favorite part is seeing real progress in the people we work with. Even small steps forward feel meaningful. I also love the teamwork here — when we work together you can feel the energy. It's rewarding to be part of something that genuinely changes lives.

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

Stay open, stay patient, and don't be afraid to ask questions. This work can be intense, but you're surrounded by people who want you to succeed. Lean on your team, take time to learn the rhythms of the job, and remember that compassion — for others and for yourself — goes a long way.

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

The hardest moments are when you want to help someone more than they're ready to help themselves. It takes emotional balance to stay supportive without burning out. Another challenge is managing the fast pace — some days require shifting gears constantly. But those challenges can make us stronger and more adaptable.

What's your secret talent no one knows about?

I'm surprisingly good at cooking — I worked in high-end restaurants for a long time and it's something I still enjoy to do at home for the family.

What do you like to do in your own time?

Besides cooking, I like to keep up with various sports, read history books, and go on little adventures with my fiancé and kids. Anything that helps me recharge and feel grounded is a win.

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

People are usually surprised by how many random chapters I've had in my life. I've been a balloon-animal-making clown, a stage-lighting tech in a playhouse, a national trivia competitor, and a volunteer building houses in New Orleans. I've camped in Yosemite for six weeks, wandered through Salem's oldest graveyard at midnight, and even met the Dalai Lama. I also spent part of my childhood in a parsonage in south Alabama, which gave me a pretty unique perspective on people and community.



July Birthdays:

- Susan H. (RN)- 7/6
- Megan P. (Rec Therapist)- 7/7
- Autumn A. (Counselor OP)- 7/9
- Patricia S. (Housekeeping)- 7/12
- Mary M. (Women's Rez Director)- 7/12
- Maia A. (BD Rep)- 7/30

CEO Corner By David Gerber The Power of We

The progression of addiction is an inward journey. By the time we hit bottom, most are in a selfish, lonely and isolated place. We disconnect from healthy people, places and things in our lives. When individuals first go into treatment, they get exposed to 12-step philosophy, but often believe that they just need to stop using and everything else will be OK.

I believe the first word of the first step, "We", is the most important word of them all. It speaks to while abstinence may be possible doing it on our own, long-term sobriety is less likely until we embrace the concept of we in recovery. A meaningful and lasting recovery becomes increasingly possible when we come to realize that we not only don't have to do it alone, but our own efforts to get sober are enhanced when we have the support of others.

Think of it like this. Hold your hands out widely apart, and bring them together. This highlights the inward journey in addiction. Now take your hands together and spread them wide open. This demonstrates a recovery inclusive of others. When we ask our patients why they relapse after long periods of abstinence/sobriety the number one answer is: "I stopped going to meetings." We abandon what has worked and slowly return to isolative patterns. The more alone we feel, the less important staying sober becomes.

If you are enjoying a renewed life in sobriety, think about the people in your life that you have to support you today. If you are struggling, can you see yourself drawing away from people? Whether you pick up the phone and call someone, join our alumni program or if you require help, know that you are worth it, and we can help. You can call Willingway at 912-513-5778. You can also go to any one of our continuing care groups throughout the southeast.

Stay connected!

David



Continuing Care Community Support Groups

Statesboro Group:

Contact: Catherine Tootle
Phone: 912-764-8283
Email: cmtootle@freedomthroughrecovery.org
When: Wednesdays at 3 PM
Where: Freedom Through Recovery
226 S. Zetterower Ave.
Statesboro, GA 30458
Zoom Meeting ID: 876-2398-5668
Password: 203757

St. Simons Group:

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

Atlanta Group:

Contact: Candi Florence and
Jocelyn Wallace
Phone: Jocelyn 404-747-6482
Email: jocelyn@neveralonech.org

When: Thursdays at 3 PM
Where: Never Alone Clubhouse
8380 Grady St., Douglasville, GA 30134
Zoom Meeting ID: 868 1749 3228
Password: 834476

When: Thursdays at 7 PM
Where: Never Alone Clubhouse
8380 Grady St., Douglasville, GA 30134
Zoom Meeting ID: 827 6468 4073
Password: 832161

Augusta, GA Group:

Contact: Paula Wood
Phone: 706-664-9672
When: Saturdays at 10 AM
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 6:30 PM
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 7:30 PM
Where: St John's Baptist Church
1615A Oberlin Rd.
Raleigh, NC 27608
Zoom Meeting ID: 885 4336 3501
Passcode: Willingway

Macon Group:

Contact: Tracy Miller
Phone: 478-960-4574
Email: tracytmiller58@gmail.com
When: Mondays at 6:30 PM
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
Email: jtrinterventions@gmail.com
Cathy: cmroberts109@gmail.com
When: Mondays at 6 PM
Zoom meeting ID: 996 758 129
Password: 1234

When: Tuesdays at 6:00 PM
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.*



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