**Judi’s House/JAG Institute Leadership Development Project Stakeholders**

**Board Leadership**

Leroy Garcia  
**Executive Partner, New York Life Insurance Company, Denver, CO**

Leroy Garcia is an Executive Partner with New York Life Insurance Company in Denver, CO. Leroy started with the company in 2001. By 2004, Leroy was promoted to Partner. In 2013, Leroy was promoted to Senior Partner and was recognized as the National Senior Partner of the Year which highlights the best personal performance of an Executive/Senior Partner in five overall categories. In 2015, Leroy was promoted to Co-Managing Partner of the Colorado General Office, serving in the role until 2019. Currently, Leroy is serving as an Executive Partner in the Colorado General Office.

Leroy has been a Judi's House board member since 2016. He has chaired the finance committee, been a member of the nominating and governance committee and assumed the role as Chairman of the board in July 2024. He is the past Chairman and board member for the Hispanic Chamber Education Foundation. He is also a former board member for the National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors (NAIFA) and the Association of Latino Professionals in Finance and Accounting (ALPFA).

Prior to joining New York Life, Leroy attended Yale University, where he played football and studied architecture.

Matt Teeters  
**Regional President, Denver Region, Alpine Bank**

Matt Teeter joined the Judi’s House board of directors in fall of 2020. In his tenure he has served as a member and chair of the finance committee and assumed the role of Vice Chair in July 2024.

Professionally, Matt works as the Regional President of the Denver Region for Alpine Bank. Over the past seven years, Teeters has served an integral role of expanding the bank’s services across the Front Range and has successfully grown the Union Station branch from $0 to $230MM in loans and $100MM in deposits. Personally, Matt is a Colorado native and was born and raised in Denver. He attended Cherry Creek High School and from there, went on to Grinnell College, earning a bachelor’s degree in economics. He completed his MBA from the University of Denver in 2013, where he was acknowledged as a Phi Beta Kappa scholar. Matt has also served as a board member for Roundup River Ranch, The Sonoran Institute, The Alliance for Sustainable Colorado, and the Metro Denver Chamber of Commerce’s Board of Governors.

Brook Griese, PhD  
**Co-Founder, Immediate Past Chair, Judi’s House/JAG Institute, Clinical Psychologist**

Brook Griese, PhD is a clinical psychologist, researcher, author, educator, and community leader who has devoted her career to promoting resilience in children and families who have experienced trauma, loss, and adversity. Dr. Griese co-founded Judi’s House and JAG Institute, spearheading the organization’s research and trauma-informed programs. She served as CEO before transitioning to her current role on the Board of Directors.

Dr. Griese regularly publishes and presents nationally on childhood bereavement, trauma, and preventive interventions that support healthy developmental trajectories. She has served on several boards and advisory bodies and is currently an assistant clinical professor in the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Colorado.

**Senior Staff Leadership**

Micki Burns, PhD   
**Chief Executive Officer**

Micki Burns, PhD was named Chief Executive Officer of Judi’s House/JAG Institute in May 2024 following 12 years of service to the organization leading core programmatic initiatives. She is a Licensed Psychologist with more than 20 years of experience providing assessment and therapeutic support to families facing adversity. In her work, she has witnessed the lasting, negative impacts of unaddressed grief.

Micki is dedicated to ensuring that appropriate care is available for all and raising childhood bereavement to a level of critical public importance. She oversees Judi's House/JAG Institutes core initiatives: Direct Service, Evaluation and Research, and Training and Education.

Jeffrey Lin, PhD  
**Director of Evaluation & Research**

Jeffrey Lin, PhD, is the Director of Evaluation and Research of Judi’s House/JAG Institute. He has a passion for applying research evidence to develop public policies and practices that best serve the community. With decades of experience working in partnership with public and nonprofit agencies, he has seen the impact that good research can have on people’s lives.

Jeff was a sociology professor for 15 years, focusing his research and teaching on addressing pressing public issues such as criminal justice and youth services reforms. This experience deeply informs his commitment to producing data and evidence that can help bereaved children and families.

Lauren Ross, LCSW  
**Director of Clinical Programs**

Lauren Ross is a licensed clinical social worker and leader in the field of child and family mental health. With nearly 25 years of experience in public education and nonprofit clinical settings, Lauren is passionate about creating spaces of belonging, support, healing and resilience for youth and families. As the Director of Clinical Programs at Judi’s House, Lauren’s work supports the organization’s vision that no child should be alone in grief.

In 2019, Lauren trained under Brené Brown to become a Certified Dare to Lead™ Facilitator. She has brought this training to the public education and nonprofit sectors to build courageous leadership skills with the amazing humans doing hard and important work. In 2022 she shared the story of Project Village on the stage of [TEDxCherryCreek](https://tedxcherrycreek.com/), encouraging all of us to show up in social media space with greater courage, compassion, connection and community.

Julie Scott   
**Director of Philanthropy and Communications and Interim Director of Operations**

As director of philanthropy and communications and interim director of operations, Julie leads fundraising, communications and awareness, and operations and administrative activities for Judi’s House/JAG Institute. She brings more than 20 years of marketing, communications, fundraising, and nonprofit management experience to her role.

Scott served as president for the Public Relations Society of America’s (PRSA) Colorado chapter’s 500+ members in 2014. Scott’s work in the nonprofit healthcare sector has also been acknowledged by PRSA Colorado and Colorado Healthcare Communicators.

**Other Staff Stakeholders**

Maria Bartini  
**Evaluation Manager**

Member of Evaluation and Research Team since October 2023.

Alicia Carney  
**Assistant Director of Clinical Programs**

Member of Clinical Program Team since August 2018.

Juanita Diaz  
**Executive Assistant**

Member of Admin Team since June 2024.

Jamie Heindryckx  
**Assistant Director of Clinical Training**

Member of Clinical Program Team since February 2019.

Emily Napier  
**Assistant Director of Community-Based Care**

Member of the Clinical Program Team since July 2022.

Pranav Shrestha  
**IT Manager**

Member of the Admin Team since August 2018.