

Aaron Diefenthaler



Aaron Diefenthaler is Chief Investment Officer, Treasurer, and Member of Executive Management at RLI, a specialty insurance company based in Peoria, IL. He is primarily responsible for investment strategy and execution but also manages investor relations, treasury, and corporate development functions.

Aaron received his undergraduate degree from Indiana University's Kelley School of Business and received his MBA from DePaul University.

He resides in Dunlap, IL with his wife Emily and their four children: Ben (15), Maggie (14), Josh (12), Sam (6). His son Josh was diagnosed with T1D in August of 2017.

Tim Dietlin



Tim Dietlin is the Global Managing Partner of Heidrick & Struggles' Healthcare and Life Sciences executive search business. In this role, he leads all efforts in pharmaceutical, biotech, healthcare services, and medical device search. In addition to JDRF, Tim and his wife Molly are heavily involved with Avenues to Independence, which provides housing and employment for adults with disabilities. Tim is also a member of the Chicago Economic Club.

Tim earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in journalism from Loyola University of Chicago and received his MBA from DePaul University, the Charles H. Kellstadt Graduate School of Business.

Tim lives in Park Ridge, IL with Molly and three kids. Abby, age 18, is a rising Freshman at the University of Colorado. Max, 15, is a junior and plays club and high school volleyball. Quinn, 10, is the family free spirit and entering fifth grade. Abby was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes in May 2015, at age 13.

Joe Dougherty



Joe Dougherty is the Associate Vice President of Operations for vAuto, HomeNet, and Kelly Blue Book Instant Cash Offer, overseeing account implementation, customer service, technical support, and analytics teams, which serve dealerships across North America.

Joe is a graduate of Illinois State University with a B.S. in accounting. He is also a registered certified public accountant (CPA).

Joe lives in Oswego, IL with his wife Jessica and children: Maya (21), Maddie (19), Ryan (17), and Owen (13). Joe's niece Kierra Dunnington was diagnosed 8 years ago, and Joe has been part of JDRF activities ever since.

Naomi Fogel, MD



Dr. Fogel is a clinical pediatric endocrinologist, attending physician and director of the outpatient diabetes program at Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago. She is also an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine.

She works as part of a multidisciplinary team that aims to provide comprehensive care to support families living with diabetes.

Naomi received her MD in 2004 from the University of Illinois, Chicago. She was a Resident at Rush University Medical Center for Pediatrics (2007) and a Fellow at Northwestern University, McGaw Medical Center (Children's Memorial Hospital), Pediatric Endocrinology (2010).

Naomi lives in Evanston with her husband and children.

Steven “Sonny” Ginsberg



Steven “Sonny” Ginsberg is with Ginsberg Jacobs LLC. Sonny has more than thirty years of experience in real estate and finance law, assisting clients from both the lending and development side. He works with financial institutions and national funds to develop lending forms and guidelines and has vast knowledge in structuring complex debt and equity vehicles.

Sonny is a 1987 graduate of Cornell University and received his J.D. at the University of Michigan’s Law School in 1991.

Sonny lives in Chicago with his wife Lizzie Kaplan Ginsberg. He has 5 children: Ben (19), Sela (13), Liora (11), Gray (2 years), Sage (5 months). Sonny’s nephew Rex was diagnosed 18 months ago and although a prior supporter of JDRF, this has brought JDRF’s mission even closer to home.

Martha Kohlstrand



Martha Kohlstrand is an associate with the law firm Ice Miller. She works with their Litigation and Data Security and Privacy Groups. She handles commercial litigation, data security matters, class actions, and compliance matters. Her experience includes data breach response and incident planning, GDPR compliance, cryptocurrency matters, TCPA litigation, and ADA website compliance.

Martha is a summa cum laude graduate of Bowling Green State University and graduated cum laude from Northwestern Law in 2013 where she was on the staff of Northwestern’s Journal of International Law and Business.

Martha lives in Geneva with her husband John. Martha has 2 children, twins; Hanlon (23) and Ingrid (23). Her son Hanlon has had T1D since he was 7 years old.

Jason Lyrla



Jason Lyrla is an Audit Managing Director at KPMG LLP, where he provides external audit services to public and private companies within the professional services, software, and consumer industrial industries. He is involved in several initiatives at KPMG, including serving in leadership positions within KPMG's LGBTQ+ diversity network, and participation in national training and recruiting programs. He was recognized by Crain's Chicago Business as a "Notable LGBTQ Executive" in 2019 for his contributions to the KPMG and Chicago LGBTQ+ communities.

Jason is a graduate of Indiana University – Bloomington where he received his MBA and undergraduate degrees in accounting and computer information systems. He is a certified public accountant in the state of Illinois.

Jason lives in Chicago with his partner, Josh Varga, and enjoys traveling, spending time with family, and volunteering at the Anti-Cruelty Society of Chicago. He was diagnosed with T1D in 1993 and has family members living with T1D and T2D.

Chris Nash



Chris Nash is Assistant Vice President of Acquisitions for Red Stone Equity Partners, LLC where he is responsible for assisting in the origination, acquisition, financial underwriting, partnership structuring, and syndication of affordable housing and historic tax credit investments. Prior to joining Red Stone, Chris served as a member of Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel's financial team and was responsible for tax policy, public-private partnerships, and intergovernmental relations.

Chris received his B.A. from Miami University. He is also a licensed real estate broker and Certified Commercial Investment Member (CCIM) and currently a member of The Illinois Housing Council's Legislative Committee and The Preservation Compact's Leadership Committee.

Chris lives in Chicago with his wife Beth. He was diagnosed with T1D in 2014 at the age of 40.