

2018 Board of Directors

Robert Mark, Ph.D., Psychotherapist, Co-Founder of Victories, Emeritus. Bob is a clinical psychologist with a successful private practice. He also serves as a consultant to the executives of Fortune 500 companies. Through innovative programs, like Mindsprouts (creative problem solving) and Psycho-Chi (mind-body-spirit awakening), Bob has helped individuals, couples, and corporations for over 40 years. He and Buddy Portugal co-founded Victories of the Heart, which was one of the earliest groups in the men's movement. While no longer leading weekends, Bob remains active and supportive of Victories' mission, assisting in training new Weekend Leaders. Bob has been married for over 46 years and has two married children and three grandchildren.

Scott Conklin, LCPC, Conklin Counseling, LLC. Scott works as a therapist in private practice. Prior to this he served as school counselor for Alphonsus Academy (PK - 8th grade), where he started the social and emotional learning program. He began his clinical career in Athens, Georgia, after working as a writer, editor, adjunct professor, service professional and bike messenger. Scott has earned degrees from Miami University (Ohio), The University of Idaho, Columbia University (New York), and The University of Georgia. He completed his transformative Victories Breakthrough Weekend in April 2011 and has since staffed several weekends, completed the Shadow and Breakthrough II weekends, and presented at A Day of Victories in 2015. Scott is a proud father and husband and lives and works in Evanston, IL

Kevin W. FitzPatrick, LCSW, Psychotherapist, BreakThrough Weekend Leader, Shadow Weekend Clinical Advisor. Kevin has been involved in Victories since 1987. He has lead BreakThrough Weekends since 1991 and is the co-creator of the Shadow Weekend, which he's co-facilitated since 1996. In his private psychotherapy practice, he counsels individuals, couples, groups, and families and has consulted with schools, businesses, and hospitals. As part of his mission to empower through healing, Kevin has a particular interest in and commitment to working with men. He presented at all of the Chicago Men's Conferences, Oakton Community College Men's Day, and the Second International Men's Conference in Austin, Texas. He has an undergraduate degree in Psychology from Monmouth College and a Master's Degree in Social Work from the University of Illinois, Chicago. Kevin and his wife Ellen have been married for 34 years and have two grown sons. In addition to Victories, he also is passionate about music, motorcycling and yoga. He is a registered yoga teacher.

Matt Happ, President of Happ Builders, Inc. Matt grew up in Lake Forest and attended Indiana University and the College of St. Francis, but chose to leave school and enter the family business, a third generation construction company specializing in commercial, educational, and municipal projects. In 2010, Matt took over the family business from his father. He is a Member of the Board of Governors for Great Lakes Construction Association. Matt attended the Breakthrough Weekend in April 2016 and staffed his first weekend in 2017. He embraced Victories to help his own personal growth and hopes to give back by helping other men. Matt currently resides in Libertyville with his wife of 13 years, Tiffany, and their son and daughter.

Matthew T. Heffner, J.D. is a partner with Heffner Hurst, a boutique class-action and complex litigation firm. He has practiced for 18 years in federal and state courts across the country, served as the lead trial and appellate counsel in groundbreaking litigation, held leadership positions with the American Bar Association and Chicago Bar Association, and received the Award for Excellence in Pro Bono Service by Chicago's Federal Trial Bar. He studied philosophy, mathematics, and physics at Indiana University (B.A.) and law at the University of Texas (J.D.). Since participating in his BreakThrough Weekend in 2012, Matt has been an active PGG member and staffed Breakthrough Weekends. He plans to staff many, many more.

Ron Himmelman, MD, Wisdom Years Weekend Leader. Ron spent the first 27 years of his life in the Minneapolis area, including undergraduate and Medical School at the University of Minnesota. He trained at Cook County Hospital and has been a practicing emergency physician since then, mostly in the northern Chicago suburbs. He's been successfully married for 31 years to a beautiful psychologist and has two wonderful daughters, one married, the other at home for now. Victories has been a part of his life for 25 years, including co-leading 10 Wisdom Years Weekends with his close friend Donnie, and having deep friendships with men he met through the organization. Victories and these friends have helped him to pursue two of his passions/purposes: serving others and continually working on all parts of himself.

Paul Kachoris, M.D., FAPA, FAACP, FAAT, Psychiatrist, BreakThrough Weekend Leader, Shadow Weekend Clinical Advisor. Paul is a Board Certified Child, Adolescent, and Adult Psychiatrist, as well as Board Certified in Pediatrics. In his private practice, he works with children, adolescents, adults, couples, families, and groups. He is a student of men's issues, an expert in play therapy with children, and a psychiatric consultant to School District 65 in Evanston-Skokie, Illinois. Paul received his undergraduate and medical degrees from Indiana University. He is a member and Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association, a member and a Life Fellow of the American Academy of Child/Adolescent Psychiatry, a Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics, and a member of the Illinois Psychiatric Society where he serves on the Illinois Council of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. Paul has served on the Victories Board since its inception in the 1990's. He has been leading BreakThrough Weekends since 1990 and co-leading the Shadow Weekend since 1996, a weekend which he co-created.

David Multack, Principal, The Braeside Group. David formed The Braeside Group a, real estate investment and management company, over twenty-five years ago; the company manages in excess of 6,000 apartment and condominium units in the Chicago Area. He has been active in local community affairs, having served as Chairman of the Highland Park Plan Commission, appointed as Chairman of the Ft. Sheridan Joint Plan Commission and participant and leader in many community forums affecting Highland Park. David also serves on the Board of the Spertus Institute of Jewish Studies. David Multack has been active in the Victories organization for 18 years as a participant, weekend staff, and Board member. He applies many of the skills and teachings of the Victories program in his business and personal life and attributes the organization for helping him achieve many of his life and personal goals.

Peter Myran, BreakThrough Weekend Leader, Personal Growth Group Leader. Retired. Pete received his computer science education from DePaul University and worked as a software engineer and IT Manager in the financial services sector for 30 years. Pete attended his first Victories program, the Wisdom Years Weekend, in 2006. He enjoys co-leading the weekend staff trainings. He is passionate about supporting the PGGs as they develop into thriving, long-lived groups. Pete has been married for 35 years, has a wonderful grown son and is a proud grandpa.

Gil Nuccio, Retired USPS, BreakThrough and Wisdom Years Weekend Staff. Gil entered the Victories community in 1994, attending the Breakthrough Weekend. He is an integral part of the weekend leadership team, and actively stays involved as a facilitator of Personal Growth Groups. Gil provides advanced training for Weekend Leadership team members, and he is a member of the Victories fundraising committee. Gil recently retired from his position as a U.S. Postal Service Manager after 39 years of service. He has two adult children and resides in Northwest Indiana.

Tom Ostler, Information Technology Manager, Utilities, Inc., BreakThrough and Shadow Weekend Leader. Tom is a senior IT manager for a national water utility company located in Northbrook, Illinois. He attended University of Illinois at Chicago and Illinois Institute of Technology. Tom has been active in every program of Victories, beginning with his own BreakThrough weekend in 2001. He is a member of the Board of Directors, sits on many Victories committees, and facilitates trainings. He became a BreakThrough Weekend Leader in 2010 and a Shadow Weekend Leader in 2013. Outside of Victories, Tom's interests include creative writing, cycling, music, and dogs. He and his wife of 29 years live in Arlington Heights.

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Ron Rooth, Board President, BreakThrough Weekend Leader. After a 34 year career as a successful finance and operations executive, Ron has now successfully shifted his experience, talent, and passion to helping executives in various stages of leadership, facilitating people toward higher levels of empowerment, engagement and fulfillment - as an executive and career coach with Rooth Coaching and Consulting, LLC. Ron is also on the faculty a Lake Forest Graduate School of Management. Prior to his current role, Ron was Vice President and Executive Coach with the Robinson Resource Group. Ron also served in senior finance and operations roles – including CFO and/or CEO and board member at both large and small businesses including Fonterra (USA) Inc., Emmi Solutions, Exelon’s Enterprises, infiNET Solutions, and Searle Pharmaceuticals. Ron began his career at Arthur Young & Company (now Ernst & Young). Ron is a CPA and Registered Business Coach® earning a BS in Accountancy from the University of Illinois at Champaign. Ron has been married for over 30 years and has two grown daughters and a dog.

Donald Spitzer-Cohn, Psychiatrist, MD, Wisdom Years Weekend Leader. Don is a psychiatrist with a private practice in Northbrook, IL. He has extensive experience with individuals, couples, and family therapy. Don’s interest and expertise in men’s issues brought him to Victories almost 20 years ago. In addition to leading the Wisdom Years program, Don was for many years a Senior BreakThrough Leader. Current areas of interest include men and money, retirement, growth, and finding happiness and meaning.

David Weinberg, Board Secretary and Treasurer, is a twenty year residential mortgage lender who is the preferred lender to the top Realtors, Attorneys, and Financial Advisers in the Chicagoland area. David attended the BreakThrough Weekend in 2013 and has completed additional Victories trainings. Victories has been an incredible growth tool, both personally and professionally for David, and he has a strong desire to "pay it forward." He has also referred people to the weekend programs. David lives on the Northshore with his wife of twenty years and two beautiful daughters.

Daniel T. Zagorin is a successful independent futures trader and member of the Chicago Mercantile Exchange. After receiving his BA from the University of Iowa, he found his first passion on the floors of the Chicago Board of Trade. Dynamic relationships were developed with people of all walks of life. Dan nurtured those relationships with the desire for more than just casual encounters. He came to Victories for the BreakThrough weekend in 2012 to explore personal growth and development and walked away with much more. He is a strong advocate for human rights and dedicates a significant portion of his time giving to others. Dan is also an avid bridge player, competing both nationally and internationally. Dan has two sons, and lives with his wife and daughter in Chicago.

Bruce Zimmerman, BreakThrough Weekend Leader. Bruce is an adjunct faculty member at Dominican University, facilitating seminars on Work & Leisure and Ethics. He and his wife of 32 years live in Deerfield where their three grown children went to school. Bruce has been active in various Victories programs beginning with his own BreakThrough weekend in 2007. He is a member of the Board of Directors and became a Personal Growth Group leader in 2010. In addition to Victories, Bruce is active in the Masons and Scottish Rite. He earned his BA at the University of California, Santa Barbara, his MBA from the Kellogg School at Northwestern, and his MLIS at Dominican University in River Forest.