



# STARFISH

her infinite impact

## Starfish Board of Directors

**PRESIDENT: Rebecca Weaver**—Rebecca brings her business background (Home Depot, Target Corporation) to Starfish. After visiting Starfish in 2012, she decided to visit again a few months later to learn more. Rebecca has made girls' education a priority in her busy life with a young daughter and a husband conducting his medical residency. She and her family live in Las Vegas where Rebecca is the Director of People Operations of the Downtown Project. In 2015, Rebecca gave a [TED](#) Talk about human potential.

**TREASURER: Scot Barker**—After a very successful career in commercial real estate, Scot continues to serve on a variety of corporate boards. Scot acted as an advisor to Starfish before formally bringing his business acumen to the Board in 2012. He lives in Golden, Colorado.

**SECRETARY: Julie Hull**—Julie's 25 years of experience as a volunteer, fundraiser, and philanthropist inspired her to visit Starfish's program in Guatemala in early 2014 and join the BOD this fall. She holds a BA in Spanish and a certificate in professional editing. Julie and her husband have three grown children and reside in Shoreline, Washington.

**Chris McClure**—Can you imagine being raised by two blind parents? Chris brings a unique professional (nursing) and personal perspective to Starfish. Throughout her career, Chris has always kept her finger on the pulse of international development. For decades, Chris has been a champion of women's empowerment and has fueled this commitment through her work abroad. She lives in Napa, California.

**Susie Caldwell Rinehart**—Susie is a writer, mother, and educational consultant. For 23 years, she was a high-school teacher and principal, then the director of *Where There Be Dragons*, a Study-Abroad program in developing countries for teenagers. She helped schools to strategically place leadership development and the empowerment of girls at the center of their educational missions. Susie lives in Boulder, Colorado with her husband and two children.

**Kael Robinson**—Kael brings entrepreneurial expertise to Starfish as the founder and CEO of Fleeps and two other major fashion brands including Brazilets and Live Worldly. Robinson has enjoyed a career in fashion at top design houses such as Vera Wang and Talbots. Robinson's passion for travel, girls' education initiatives, and fashion inspired the creation of FLEEPS and the charity component that acts as the foundation of the brand. Kael lives in Denver, Colorado.

**Tami Goodlette**—Tami is an attorney focusing in on civil litigation with an emphasis on legal malpractice and school litigation. Tami's commitment to women's rights/social justice issues is evidenced by her pro-bono work. Prior to entering the law profession, Tami was involved in girls' education and has traveled and lived throughout Latin America, where she learned Spanish. Tami and her husband live in Denver.

## STARFISH EMERITUS BOARD

**Connie Ning**—In addition to being the co-founder of Starfish, Connie was also instrumental in starting Friendship Bridge and was an early adopter of women-centered development when few knew of it. She is one of the prime torchbearers of the "quality over quantity" commitment and was the originator of the mentorship concept in Starfish. She also co-founded the Evergreen Alliance for Sustainability (EAS+Y). She lives in Evergreen, Colorado.

**Mimi Schlumberger**—Mimi pioneered female-led business when it was a rarity. As founder and operator of Powder Pandas in Aspen, Mimi has gravitated towards women's economic empowerment issues for decades. After spending years in the women's microcredit field, Mimi co-founded Starfish. She left the Board in 2014 but remains active in the organization.

**VICE PRESIDENT: Theodore Ning**—[Ted](#) is a semi-retired urologist, professor of medicine, insatiable reader, and recognized expert in the field of international development and medical anthropology. In addition to being a co-founder of Starfish, Ted co-founded Friendship Bridge. He holds an honorary doctorate from the University of Colorado for his international service, is a Rotarian, and serves on the Board of Evergreen Alliance for Sustainability + You (EAS+Y). Ted lives in Evergreen, Colorado.

## STARFISH TECHNICAL ADVISORY BOARD

**Peter Konrad, Ed.D.**—Peter brings tremendous knowledge and experience to Starfish from a philanthropic and strategic programmatic perspective. Over the course of his career, Peter has managed a variety of foundations and brings this unique insight to Starfish. Peter loves Guatemala and has been visiting Starfish since its early days.

**Jodi King**—Jodi is a highly skilled facilitator and has made a career of leadership development. She brings this expertise to Starfish's offices in Colorado and Guatemala and focuses on helping Starfish develop the leadership skills of each mentor and Girl Pioneer.

**Karen Layton Barker**—Karen is a former broadcast journalist with a passion for education and women's empowerment. She supports Starfish with her communication expertise and crafting of key messages that engage the listener. Karen visits Starfish annually and was the keynote speaker at Starfish's first graduation ceremony.

**Dr. Beth Osnes**—Beth is a professor at University of Colorado's Department of Theatre & Dance. She is a renowned expert in the field of women's vocal empowerment, having traveled the world conducting workshops for marginalized women. Beth regularly visits Starfish to introduce techniques that equip Girl Pioneers with the power to express their unique perspective. Her work with Starfish is featured in her [recent book](#) published by Routledge.

**Dr. Sherwin Cotler**—Sherwin is a clinical psychologist who provides Starfish staff with pragmatic strategies on self-care. He has decades of experience, specifically in the areas of anxiety, depression, and trauma. Through annual visits to Guatemala, Sherwin provides technical support to the leadership team on ways that staff and students can endure and overcome the challenges of pioneering.

**David Jansen**—David made a career out of being a numbers guy. As a retired expert on issues of taxation and accounting, David has been instrumental in helping Starfish develop and maintain the highest standards of transparency. He conducts annual visits to the field to check on the internal controls and support our administrative team.

**Allison Grenney**—Allison represents the new generation of changemakers in girls' empowerment. Allison is passionate about women's business development and entrepreneurship and is an avid innovator. She launched EduKate, a social enterprise supporting girls' education. Allison is employed as a business consultant but always makes time to coach girls' sports at St. Mary's Academy in Denver.

**Mariah Dickson**—Mariah knows a thing or two about education, having co-founded the Denver School of Science and Technology ([DSST](#)), one of Denver's highest performing charter schools. She is a recognized expert in curriculum development and brings this experience to Starfish at a critical time. Mariah lives in Carbondale, Colorado.

**Jeannie Amidon**—Jeannie taught primary school for decades. Her "retirement" did not last long. Along with her husband Doug, she founded the Dorcas House in Tijuana before joining the Starfish BOD. She has found a niche in Starfish with her focus on innovating educational techniques and effective study skills. Jeannie served on the BOD from 2012-2015. She lives in Carlsbad, California.



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**Doug Amidon**—Doug has dedicated his life and career to youth development. Even after decades in the trenches, his [commitment](#) grows. Doug worked for over two decades in Young Life and for a decade as an educator of at-risk youth. He and his wife Jeannie founded the Dorcas House in Tijuana, a residential home for severely excluded children. Doug is known in Starfish for his unique hokey-pokey dance skills (staff English class) and pragmatic approach to education. Doug served on the BOD from 2012-2015. He lives in Carlsbad, California.