

Alaska Leadership Board Members



**Beverly K Wooley, Retired – Public Health
Chair and Regional Board Member**
Anchorage and Mat-Su

Ms. Wooley is a retired public health professional with over 30 years of experience in Alaska. She was raised in Alaska and went to Washington State University where she received her degree in Dietetics and Nutrition. Passionate about advancing public policies focused on realistic, sustainable solutions to public health issues, she served as the Alaska Division of Public Health, Director and the Municipality of Anchorage Department of Health and Human Services, Director. A longtime clean air advocate, Ms. Wooley joined the Alaska Leadership Board in 2014 and the ALA Mountain Pacific Regional Board in 2017. She is committed to working to enact a statewide smoke-free businesses and public places law in Alaska.



**Katie Pesznecker, Stakeholder Relations Manager - Alyeska Pipeline
Service Company**
Past Chair
Anchorage

She has worked at Alyeska, the company that maintains and operates the Trans-Alaska Pipeline System since 2007 and previously spent six years as a reporter at the Anchorage Daily News. Ms. Pesznecker moved to Anchorage in 2001 from Oregon, where she grew up and earned a degree in English from Oregon State University. She joined the ALA in Alaska Leadership Council in 2012. She also serves on boards for the Food Bank of Alaska and the Anchorage Schools Foundation, and in 2014 was named an Alaska Journal of Commerce Top 40 Under 40. In her spare time, she enjoys freelance writing, traveling, and reading. Ms. Pesznecker says, “I believe all Alaskans have a right to breathe clean air and I am proud to advocate for that cause.”



Patty Ginsburg, Self-Employed
Regional Board Member
Anchorage

Before her retirement in 2016, Ginsburg worked variously in communications, politics, public relations and journalism. She came to Alaska in 1980 from her home state of California, expecting to stay in Alaska two or three years at most. Ginsburg became involved in the American Lung Association in 2009 after surviving advanced lung cancer five years earlier. She represented Alaska on the ALA Mountain Pacific, and led two efforts to search for a new CEO. She served as board chair of ALA Mountain Pacific for two years prior to the merger of all ALA charters in 2017. She currently serves on the advocacy committee of the American Lung Association.

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Julie Hasquet, Corporate Communications Manager - Chugach Electric Past Chair

Anchorage

Former Director of Government and Public Affairs for BP Alaska, Ms. Hasquet joined the Alaska Leadership Council in 2007. She arrived in Alaska in 1986, a graduate of San Diego State University. Her professional career includes working as a reporter and anchor for KTUU-TV, and as the Communications Director and Press Secretary for Mark Begich when he was both Mayor of Anchorage and then a U.S. Senator representing Alaska. Inducted into the Anchorage ATHENA Society in the spring of 2015, Ms. Hasquet is also involved with Hospice of Anchorage and volunteers at Providence Alaska Medical Center for the Nobody Dies Alone program. She is the mother of two daughters, Savannah and Shelby. Of the ALA mission, Ms. Hasquet says, "After watching my mom smoke all my life, and then losing her to lung cancer in 2001, my goal is to do what I can to rid the world of cigarettes and tobacco products."



Dara Glass, Environmental Protection Specialist - Bureau of Land Management

Anchorage & Oregon

Ms. Glass is an. She graduated from the University of Texas at Austin and has more than 30 years of experience in land use planning and law. Originally from Oregon, she and her husband became Alaskans in May 2008, enjoying all Alaska has to offer with the goal of eventually retiring here. Ms. Glass has experienced more of Alaska in eight years than most Alaskans do in a lifetime. In May 2009, her husband Sam was diagnosed with cancer, with an eventual diagnosis of stage IV adenocarcinoma of the lung (non-small cell lung cancer). He passed away in August 2013. Ms. Glass is team captain of Glass Half Full, participating in the Clean Air Challenge and fundraising for the American Lung Association in Alaska. Each year she has been either the top individual fundraiser or among the top fundraisers, and the Glass Half Full team has been as well. May 2016 will be her fifth year participating in the event. Ms. Glass is committed to advancing lung health through fundraising and advocacy in memory of her late husband and in honor of various family members who have asthma and COPD.

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Charles E. Holyfield, R.R.T., Director of Respiratory Care - Fairbanks Memorial Hospital *Fairbanks*

Mr. Holyfield was born and raised in rural Mississippi where he learned the value of hard work, the outdoors, and family. From an early time, two things were important goals for Charles. The first was he wanted to be in the medical field and the second was to live in Alaska. Following high school, he attended the University of Mississippi, majoring in pre-med and medical technology. He worked in the oil fields during summers and holidays to pay tuitions. An accident before his junior year somewhat altered his course of study, directing him toward an education in respiratory care. It was during that time, he met and married the love of his life, Nilda. Charles and Nilda have two sons, Kenneth and Kevin. They have one grandson and soon-to-be one granddaughter.



Mr. Holyfield has been employed at Fairbanks Memorial Hospital as the Director of Cardiopulmonary Services since January, 1983. He is a founding member of the Alaska Society for Respiratory Care and member for 33 years serving in most of the officer and board positions. He has served as a board member for the Alaska Thoracic Society and as a board member for the American Lung Association of Alaska in previous years. Having dedicated my professional career to lung and cardiac health, I feel a very strong bond to the mission and work of the Lung Association. Work with the Better Breathers Club, Asthma education, and COPD training are all so important. "When you can't breathe, nothing else matters..."



Kelly R. Larson, Director of Corporate & Community Partnerships - Alaska State Fair *Mat-Su Valley*

Ms. Larson was raised in Alaska and married her high-school sweetheart. She is the mother two, and grandmother of six. Though she grew up in Anchorage, she resides with her family to the Valley. She is the Marketing and Communications Manager for the Alaska State Fair. She holds a bachelor degree in business management and is pursuing her master's degree in the same field. She is a graduate of the Institute of Fair Management and holds the distinction of Certified Fair Executive. She is also a second-year student in Institute of Venue Management. Kelly's favorite part of her job is working with the talented staff at the Fair to build memories and make people happy.

She enjoys serving her community and is excited to be on ALA Leadership Council. As a child Kelly suffered reoccurring respiratory illnesses due to prolonged exposure of secondhand smoke. As result, she currently has environmentally induced asthma. She feels blessed that upon her son's asthma diagnosis, both of her parents stopped smoking! She prays they will suffer no long-term effects and is an advocate for improving lung health and preventing lung disease through education.

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Julie Millington, Retired – Arts

Anchorage

In 2016, Ms. Millington retired as Vice President of the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts, with 30 years of experience combining her love of the arts with her background in education. Ms. Millington, a former primary school teacher, runs an Anchorage School District teachers' integrated arts program affiliated with the Kennedy Center. She worked with Ushering in the Arts volunteer corps for 30 years. She graduated from Russell Sage College in 1968, and moved to Alaska in 1970. Ms. Millington first become involved with the American Lung Association in Alaska in 1984 when her daughter attended the first year of Camp Champ, a camp for children whose lives are affected by asthma. Ms. Millington says, "I grew up in a household of smokers before we knew the long-term effects. I'm a lifelong asthmatic, so I've been irritated by cigarette smoke all my life." She sees volunteering with ALA as a healthy way to channel her violent aversion to cigarettes and the dangers of second-hand smoke.



Clarice Louden – Mingo, Principal – North Pole High School

Fairbanks

More to come...



Brian Saylor, Retired – Public Health

Anchorage

Mr. Saylor has extensive experience in public health in Alaska over the last 35 years, including positions at the Department of Health and Human Services, Anchorage Community Mental Health Center, Alaska Psychiatric Hospital, and the Institute for Circumpolar Health Studies and the UAA. His dedication to public health stems from a passion for gathering data and measuring program outcomes. Now retired, Mr. Saylor is volunteers with several theatre organizations including ACT, Cyrano's, APU, and Out North. Mr. Saylor says, "In almost any position I've held, lung health always comes up as a factor. Health and social welfare changes very slowly, so it's important for organizations to be able to measure outcomes."

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George Stewart, Retired – Pulmonology

Anchorage

Dr. Stewart is a renowned Alaskan physician, having practiced pulmonology/critical care in Alaska for 36 years. A native of Massachusetts, he spent 2 years in Bethel with the Indian Health Service in the 1960s he fell in love with Alaska and settled here in 1971. He became a Board Member of the “Alaska Lung Association” 2 months after arriving in Anchorage and has served as an ardent champion of lung health in Alaska for more than four decades. He was instrumental in getting hospitals to go smoke-free and worked with others to spread the smoke-free culture in all of Alaska. He was part of the “Smoking Or Health” committee of the national American Lung Association working in the 1970s to have airlines go smokefree (Alaska Airlines was the first). He was an active participant in getting the Smokefree Workplace law passed in Anchorage, and has made a number of trips to Juneau to testify on the Statewide Smokefree Workplace legislation. Dr. Stewart retired from medical practice in 2005 and still serves on the Leadership Board of the American Lung Association in Alaska. He is also on the Board of Medical Education International and has been to China, Liberia, Kazakhstan, and Kenya 5 times his primary focus overseas is TB and Community Health. Dr. Stewart teaches aviation courses (safety, psychology, physiology) in the aviation degree programs at UAA.



Larry Taylor, Jr – Founder, Alaska Environmental Resources, LLC, Anchorage, and Flat Lake Engineering LLC, Ketchikan

Mr. Taylor was the Environmental Engineer for the Air Quality Office of the Municipality of Anchorage for many years where he researched and implemented programs for the control of ambient air dust, carbon monoxide, and volatile organic compounds and participated in indoor air quality research, inspections, and made construction code recommendations. He is a chemist and runs two environmental engineering companies that do air quality measurement certifications and air emissions monitoring. He is a former Smokefree Anchorage and Alaska Asthma Coalition member. He resides in Ketchikan, has ties to Mat-Su and Anchorage, and travels the state doing air quality work. Larry is a lifelong asthma sufferer who knows first-hand that “When you can’t breathe, nothing else matters...”



Tiffany Tutiakoff, President and CEO - Northwest Strategies *Anchorage*

Ms. Tutiakoff is an award-winning communications professional and published author with more than a decade of communications and commercial art experience. She has grown up and lived her adult life all over Alaska, gaining a valuable statewide perspective on life in the last frontier. In 2013, Ms. Tutiakoff was named one of Alaska’s Top 40 under 40. She is an active member of the non-profit community, serving on

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steering committees for the Alaska Alliance for Healthy Kids and Alaska Tobacco Control Alliance, and as a board member for AWAIC.

John S. Yordy, M.D., Ph.D., Radiation Oncologist – Valley Radiation Therapy Mat-Su Valley

Dr. Yordy is a graduate of the Medical Scientist Training Program at the Medical University of South Carolina, where he earned his M.D. and Ph.D. degrees. Following the completion of residency in Radiation Oncology at MD Anderson Cancer Center in Houston, Dr. Yordy joined the faculty at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, Texas, working as a physician scientist. He worked in the clinic as well as directed a translational research lab testing new drugs that could be combined with radiation therapy to make radiation treatments more effective. Prior to medical and graduate school, Dr. Yordy was able to visit and experience many different parts of the world, as well as work in several interesting jobs. "I traveled to Alaska three times before moving permanently to the Valley. I always wanted to live in Alaska and I am honored and feel fortunate to have joined Dr. Chung and Dr. Settle in delivering high-quality radiation therapy to anyone in need of this treatment. I look forward to a long-standing relationship with the community and treating patients with the highest level of care. From the time I was a child, I have always felt a calling to serve others. I am thrilled to be working in the Valley, continuing to follow my calling, and helping patients here that need radiation therapy."

