

Leaders who serve:

The Ensō Verde Board of Directors

Meet the dedicated people who are helping make Ensō Verde a reality.

Stephen G. Bailey is Chief Strategy Officer at The Kendal Corporation and is responsible for leading new senior living initiatives, seeking new development opportunities, and fostering innovative partnerships with universities and other non-profit organizations in support of Kendal's mission. He and his team support the land acquisition, planning, development, and construction of real estate projects at all of the Kendal affiliate communities. Steve also led Kendal's expansion to California with Ensō Village, a first-of-its-kind life plan community and partnership with the San Francisco Zen Center.

Beyond his decade of work in non-profit senior living, Steve has held leadership roles in residential, commercial, and industrial development firms, creating profitable and creative real estate projects nationwide from inception through disposition. A Licensed Landscape Architect, Steve earned his undergraduate degree in Landscape Architecture from Michigan State University and an MBA from the Whittemore School of Business and Economics at the University of New Hampshire.

He is a member of the Society for the Advancement of Gerontological Environments and the Urban Land Institute, and he has participated in panel discussions and presentations at national senior living and commercial real estate conferences. Steve is a past member of the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania/New Jersey/Delaware chapter of the CCIM Institute as well as the Philadelphia chapter of NAIOP, the Commercial Real Estate Development Foundation.

Per Health and Safety Code section 1772.2, Kendal at Ventura has filed an application for a Permit to Accept Deposits and a Certificate of Authority with the California Department of Social Services.

Joan Barnes is an entrepreneur, inspirational speaker and published author. She was the founder and CEO of Gymboree, a global billion-dollar brand, before moving on to founding YOGASTUDIO. Joan is an accomplished speaker, advisor and mentor about life balance issues and women's advancement in the professional sphere. Her book, "Play It Forward," chronicles her journey of business success, self-reflection, and societal awareness. She has vast knowledge in areas such as consumer marketing, brand building, and work/life balance.

Rabbi Laura Geller is Rabbi Emerita of Temple Emanuel of Beverly Hills, and was the third woman in the Reform Movement to become a rabbi. Named one of Newsweek's 50 Most Influential Rabbis in America, and by PBS' Next Avenue as a 2017 Influencer in Aging, she was a cofounder of ChaiVillageLA and is the chair of the Synagogue Village Network. She served on the Corporation of Brown University from where she graduated in 1971, and now on the boards of the Jewish Women's Archive, CoGenerate.org (formerly Encore.org) and the ActiveAgingNetwork.org (formerly B3: the Jewish Boomer Platform.) Her book, co-authored with her husband Richard Siegel (z'l) *Getting Good at Getting Older*, was named a National Jewish Book Award Finalist in the category of Contemporary Jewish Life and Practice.

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A KENDAL AFFILIATE

ZEN-INSPIRED SENIOR LIVING
IN VENTURA COUNTY



The Ensō Verde Board of Directors continued

Paul Kuenstner previously served as Executive Director of the Association for Preservation Technology International, a nonprofit organization of architects and engineers who specialize in the preservation of historic buildings. Prior to that, Mr. Kuenstner served 20 years as Vice-President of the Fidelity Foundation in Boston, where he worked with all types of nonprofit organizations around the country. Before that he worked in corporate real estate managing people, properties, and projects. A registered architect, Mr. Kuenstner has a BA in English Literature from Swarthmore College, a Masters of Architecture from Columbia University, and an MBA from NYU. He has been on the boards of a number of local and national organizations. He and his wife Debby live in Boston.

Zesho Susan O'Connell currently serves as the Spiritual Director of the Zen-Inspired Senior Living Community Project. She was on the Board of Directors of San Francisco Zen Center (SFZC) for 10 years as Vice President, then President of San Francisco Zen Center, and before that for two years as an elected member. She began Zen practice in 1987 and became a resident of Zen Center in 1995. She received priest ordination from Tenshin Reb Anderson in 1999, was head monk (shuso) in 2004, and was given Dharma Transmission in 2017. She has lived at all three practice centers at SFZC and served in a number of senior training positions. Susan attended UC Santa Barbara and UCLA in film and television and worked as a professional actress from 1967 to 1990. She has produced several films, including Tell Me a Riddle, and a movie for television. She is a co-producer of A Confederacy of Dunces, now being developed at Paramount Pictures. Susan is a founder of Northern California Women in Film,

a founding member of the Delta Psi chapter of Alpha Chi Omega Sorority at UC Santa Barbara, and a founding officer of No Abode Hermitage. She has served on the boards of Women in Film and Make-A-Circus.

Laurie Sowd served as Senior Vice President, Chief Operations Officer at the California Science Center from 2015-2021, where she oversaw guest services, food and event services, building and exhibit maintenance, and living collections. For 25 years prior to that, Laurie was Vice President for Operations at the Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens, where her responsibilities included the facilities, security, risk, and information technology departments, and management of many multi-million-dollar construction and historic rehabilitation projects. Trained as a classical pianist and choral conductor, Laurie now enjoys reconnecting with her musical past as chair of the board for the Pasadena Conservatory of Music.

Nancy H. Welsh is an associate at DLA Piper LLP (US). She focuses her practice in the area of commercial real estate. Her experience includes representing property owners, purchasers, borrowers, and developers in the acquisition, disposition, and development of office and lab properties, multifamily properties, industrial properties, and mixed-use projects. Nancy earned her JD and Masters of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Michigan, and her undergraduate degree from Wellesley College.

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