

Meet Board Member Nick Halverson

When did you join the board?

2019



Why did you join?

I was first impacted by suicide when my 21 year-old nephew, who was more like a little brother to me, took his own life in 2010. I had very little exposure to suicide at the time and during the next decade, my family became more and more involved. First my father joined the SAVE board (and then resigned due to health reasons after 5 years), and then I was asked to join.

Suicide is a very complex issue. Factors that impact suicide include a person's age, ethnicity, experiences and even their occupation. Therefore, it is not an easy solution. That is one of the main reasons I joined, which is to work with other like-minded people, to help reduce the probability of suicide by establishing and sharing programs and education.

In my personal experience, I never expected my nephew to take his own life. As I learned more, there were behaviors I should have noticed and things I could have said. Nothing will bring back Jonathan, however, I hope to be able to use my experience, and those of my fellow board members, to try to help others.

What skills to you bring to the board?

I'm a small business owner and my professional background is marketing and strategy. My business consulting business involves working with senior level management teams of companies with revenues between \$500 million - \$2 billion, to help them understand trends in consumer technology, general business challenges and helping provide strategies and ideas to solve problems for them. This problem-solving work is relevant to SAVE. As a board member we have many opportunities, challenges and ideas to provide impactful solutions, grow the organization, fund raise, and help those that need it.

I also own several companies in Costa Rica (residential real estate development, <u>property management and vacation rentals</u>, tour company). In managing employees from different cultures and using technology to manage the business, is transferable to the challenges SAVE has in the diverse communities we look to grow to.

What do you most like about serving on the board?

I am very appreciative that we make a difference in the world of mental health and suicide. It With Dan's leadership, SAVE is helping lead and drive policies and processes around the world in suicide prevention. It has been a pleasure to meet the other amazing and talented board members, some of which have become trusted friends.