

Free The Kids Independent Voting Board Member Biographies

Bill Commer is **Chairman of the Board** of Free the Kids (FTK). Mr. Commer holds his Bachelor's Degree in Construction Management and two Masters degrees, including one in Architecture. His firm WJCA, Inc. specializes in design management and has completed over 2200 projects in 50 states. He has been instrumental as a design consultant for FTK. He has served on the board since 2002. Class of 2013.

William Haggerty, C.P.A. serves as **Treasurer** on the Board of Free the Kids and is managing partner of The Haggerty Group, an accounting firm he founded 22 years ago in Ridgewood, NJ. Mr. Haggerty is a CPA and a Registered Investment Advisor. He has been involved with numerous non-profits. Class of 2012.

Regina Abilies has been a member of the Free the Kids Board of Directors since it was founded in 1998. As an advocate for orphaned and vulnerable children, she devotes her time to raising funds, developing partnerships, and increasing public awareness. As Editor of our Newsletter, Ms. Abilies kept donors abreast of progress in Haiti. She sits as Chair of the P.R. Committee and also serves on the Logistics and Appropriations Committee. Class of 2012.

Cynthia DeSoi, M.D. former Chairman of the Board of Free the Kids and Medical Director of Pwoje Espwa Sud (PES) has been serving FTK and PES since 2000. Dr. DeSoi completed medical school at the University of Rochester and her residency and fellowship training in Chicago. She is board certified in Internal Medicine, Pediatrics, and Nephrology. Dr. DeSoi leads volunteer medical teams to Southern Haiti several times a year. She is devoted to the development of preventative care practices for the children at PES. She also has a full time medical practice in Maine. Class of 2012.

Doug Dittrick former Chairman of the Board for Free the Kids has been involved since its inception. After graduating from Ohio Wesleyan University, Mr. Dittrick, a cable and television industry pioneer, was extensively active in the National Cable & TV Association from 1966 to 1990. He was elected chairman of the NCTA's executive committee two consecutive terms. In 1982, he was named Executive of the Year by Cable Business Magazine. In 1984 he was presented the NCTA's Vanguard Award for outstanding contributions to the cable television industry. In 1986, Mr. Dittrick founded Douglas Communications Corp. II (DCCII) to acquire and operate cable television companies. He is involved in numerous charities and currently sits on the Board of Governors of the National Red Cross and is Chairman of the Valley Health System. He is President and CEO of DCCII providing consulting services in the communications and chemicals fields. Class of 2011.

Robert Morris, Esq. joined the Board of Free the Kids in January of 2009. Mr. Morris, a practicing attorney in Portland, ME, is a 1980 honors graduate of the University of Missouri at Columbia. In 1983 he earned his law degree at Missouri University. Over the past twenty-five years, Mr. Morris has practiced primarily as a trial lawyer, specializing in the area of injury litigation. He is admitted to practice in the Federal and State Courts of ME and MO, including the U.S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. Mr. Morris is a member of the American Trial Lawyers Association, the Maine Trial Lawyers Association, the Maine and Missouri State Bar Associations and the Cumberland County Bar Association. Mr. Morris primary offices are in Portland and Brunswick. Class of 2013.

Nelson J. Vogel, Esq. is licensed in Indiana as a certified public accountant and is a member of the Indiana State Bar Association and the State Bar of Michigan. He currently serves as Managing Partner of Barnes & Thornburg LLP in South Bend office. He has also taught business and tax courses and Notre Dame Law School and accounting and tax courses at Indiana University. Mr. Vogel has served as the President of Big Brothers/Big Sisters of St. Joseph County and the South Bend Regional Museum of Art. He currently serves as director of the St. Joseph County Chamber of Commerce. Class of 2014.