

# NATALIE SEER

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Free At Last

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Co-Founded with David Lewis

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1993 Global Fellow



## BIG BOLD IDEA

Reduce exceptionally high rates of substance abuse and HIV infection and to break the cycle of addiction by instituting community-based, culturally appropriate bilingual treatment, intervention, and prevention services.

## ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

To treat the most marginalized, disadvantaged, and hard-to-reach substance abusers, ideally the service provider needs to be accessible and located within the community. In a small closed community like East Palo Alto, people are more open to treatment when the role models are people with whom they identify. Free at Last provides community-based, culturally appropriate prevention, intervention, bilingual outpatient and residential substance abuse treatment services for adults, intervention services for at-risk youth, and transitional housing and aftercare for alumni. The organization's primary goals are to break the cycle of addiction and rebuild families, provide alternatives to incarceration, prevent the spread of AIDS, foster education and economic self-sufficiency, and contribute to the health and safety of the community.

## PERSONAL BIO

Natalie Seer graduated with her BA in Biology from Stanford, and later received her Doctor of Education from Mills College. Seer served as a board member at Palo Alto Community Child Care and is now a council member with the Santa Clara County Office of Education. She is currently a quality improvement coordinator at WestED, a non-profit organization focused on research and development that works with education to improve learning for youth and adults. Seer is also a Child Development adjunct professor at De Anza College, advising students on pathways for child development careers.

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### Organization/Fellow Location

San Francisco, United States

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### Impact Location

North America

United States

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### Organization Structure

Nonprofit

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