

Verts Grand Lake LLC Personnel Experience

Verts Grand Lake LLC, doing business as Verts Neighborhood Dispensary (Verts), was built to thrive in an emerging and fiercely competitive retail cannabis landscape, under a strict regulatory microscope, while focusing on providing a positive company culture. Verts developed its executive team by incorporating five professionals with extensive business and cannabis industry experience. Verts' leadership has deep experience in operating licensed cannabis establishments including retail, adhering to regulatory guidelines, and overseeing and managing employees while maintaining a positive company culture.

Notably, Verts CEO and co-owner Ashley Close was the first female cannabis owner and executive in Golden, and has helped blaze trails for other Colorado women looking for leadership roles in the cannabis industry.

Verts looks forward to expanding operations in the Town of Grand Lake, and we possess the necessary expertise and skills to do so efficiently and effectively. Each team member's qualifications and experience are provided in detail below:

Ashley Close – Colorado CEO, co-owner and board member

Ashley has managed Verts' cannabis operations in Colorado since 2013, first in Fort Collins and then assuming leadership of the Golden location in 2016. She recently worked closely with local officials to achieve approval for retail marijuana sales to be licensed in the City of Golden after years of medical-only sales.

Overseeing all of Verts' day-to-day operations, Ashley is responsible for the company's:

- Personnel, including staffing, hiring, termination, disciplinary actions, training, compensation and benefits.
- Finances, including banking, accounting, budgeting, taxes, cash management, reconciliation, contracts and leases, and acquisitions.
- Inventory, including ordering, receiving, Metrc, transfers and audits.
- State and local regulatory compliance, including training and standard operating procedures, implementation of new and updated rules, inspections and audits, and labeling.

She also oversees all of the company's state and local license applications and renewals, artwork and advertising, vendor relations, store design and operational flows, security features and customer service.

As the CEO and co-founder of Verts Neighborhood Dispensary in Fort Collins since 2013, Ashley has led the co-located medical and retail marijuana sales operations of one of northern Colorado's most successful dispensaries. With her business partner Joe Feucht, Ashley purchased a pre-existing license that had never been open for sales. They completely redesigned the store, added a retail license and now maintain annual revenues of \$5-7 million.

Verts Grand Lake LLC Personnel Experience

On the cultivation side, Ashley and Joe have built out three different facilities, producing some of the industry's best flower at an affordable price. They have worked to develop state-of-the-art grow operations and to evolve with current requirements and regulations.

Consistently trying to keep up with this ever-changing industry, Ashley has remained adaptable and flexible. She focuses on compliance and team-member retention, with the goal of making her dispensaries among the best workplaces in the Colorado cannabis industry.

On the advocacy side, Ashley has worked with Dan Rowland to bring retail sales to Golden, and to lobby the City of Fort Collins to bring its cannabis regulations up-to-date with statewide industry standards. She has built a coalition of dispensaries to work together on common issues and has helped out with local and state campaigns on important election issues that affect the industry. Ashley is the Verts representative to the Marijuana Industry Group, which focuses on compliance, campaigns and regulatory issues, and keeping the industry current and evolving. She consistently volunteers her time and donates money and resources to support the cannabis industry within the state of Colorado.

Ashley is a graduate of the Ohio State University. She lives in Denver with her husband and their son.

Alexander Close – National CEO, co-owner and board member

Alex is the chief executive officer of Verts Neighborhood Dispensaries, the national chain of cannabis stores located in Colorado, Michigan and Missouri. He is also the chief investment officer of Sugar Factory Cannabis Company, which is a cannabis cultivation facility located in Owosso, Mich., and president of Midwest Wellness, a CBD store located in Columbus, Ohio. Lastly, he is the managing member of Precision Cannabis, a new dispensary in Chicago.

Alex began his career in cannabis in 2014 in Colorado and has since expanded the company to seven locations. He is a graduate of Ohio University in 2010 where he studied finance. Alex loves to travel, paint and draw, along with other outdoor activities in his free time. Alex is from Columbus, where he lives today.

Daniel Rowland – Advisor, co-owner and board member

Dan is a global cannabis policy and regulatory expert. He helps companies and governments understand the complexities, impacts and market opportunities associated with the legalization of cannabis and emerging markets. He has served as an advisor to the Verts businesses since 2020 and spearheaded the movement to transition Golden from medical-only to adult-use.

Dan's experience in the legal cannabis industry covers a wide range of projects, ensuring good compliance and the successful implementation of newly legal cannabis businesses and their marketplaces. In addition to his work with Verts, Dan provides market and regulatory analysis for

Verts Grand Lake LLC Personnel Experience

a multinational supplier of cannabinoid ingredients and cannabis production technologies. He also supports local government relations and licensing efforts for several U.S.-based operators, helped launch a Canadian operator of more than 30 retail stores, launched a U.K.-based CBD drinks brand, and advises multinational brands on regulatory compliance, new product development and expansion into emerging markets.

Prior to launching his consulting practice, Dan spent five years with the City and County of Denver, leading implementation efforts for the first major city in the world to develop a fully legal, commercial cannabis industry. He was Director of Public Affairs for Denver's Office of Marijuana Policy and Department of Excise & Licenses and the spokesman and public liaison for the City's business licensing efforts and first-in-the-world implementation of legalized marijuana regulations. In this role, he frequently consulted on the implementation of legalized cannabis for governments, companies and other stakeholders around the world.

Dan has a Master of Public Administration from the University of Colorado and a Bachelor of Journalism from Arizona State University. He lives in Lakewood, Colo., with his wife and their two sons.

Richard Kennedy, shareholder

Richard has been involved in Colorado dispensaries since 2011 and has been a Metrc administrator since March 2015. At Natural Alternatives in Fort Collins, he led the transition from medical sales into adult use sales and managed the store through the Covid pandemic. He started at Verts in Fort Collins in April 2022 and is currently the Director of Operations there.

Richard also has consulted with and operated a compliance business whose clients have included some of the largest grows and operations in Colorado. Since arriving at Verts, Richard has assisted the teams' medical-to-adult-use transition in Golden and Missouri, and with startup operations in Michigan. In Fort Collins he is helping with Verts' buildout of a new storefront space to modernize the operation and compete with the larger corporate and publicly traded companies that are consolidating the market.

Richard has been a resident of Fort Collins for 20 years and is a graduate of Front Range Community College. He also has a bachelor of hospitality management with a minor in business management from Colorado State University. He loves to ski and explore.

Nicholas Higbee, shareholder

Nicc is the Chief Marketing Officer of Verts Neighborhood Dispensaries and Vice President of Operations for Verts Missouri. He has worked with Verts and the Close family since 2021, and led the company's effort to commence and operate four medical marijuana dispensaries across Missouri.

Verts Grand Lake LLC

Personnel Experience

Upon the legalization of adult-use cannabis, Nicc converted all four licenses to comprehensive (adult-use and medical) operations and oversaw the launch of the company's adult-use sales in February. He also assisted with Verts' launch in the Michigan market, helping with operational start-up on the group's first dispensary in Traverse City.

Nicc's hospitable approach to retail in the cannabis space stems from his more than a decade of experience in bar and nightclub management, where he always had a strong passion for team building and serving others. While the business was fun and fulfilling, the hours were not conducive to raising kids, so Nicc channeled his passion for his community into civil servant work for the City of Kansas City, Kan. His leadership skills blossomed there and he quickly became a project manager. As rewarding as the work was, he was drawn to Verts by the people and the opportunity to build teams and create experiences.

Nicc has an associate's degree in fire science. He lives in Kansas City with his wife and two daughters.

Joseph Feucht, shareholder

Joe is a Colorado cannabis industry veteran with deep experience in the development and management of cultivation and retail facilities. Joe co-founded Verts with Ashley Close and has been an integral member of the team.

Joe is also the owner and co-founder of Verts Neighborhood Dispensary in Fort Collins, where he has overseen all aspects of the development and operations of the company's cultivation facility. Joe has owned and operated Verts since 2013 and was instrumental in building the vertically integrated company.

Leading the Verts cultivation facility, Joe oversaw the buildout and staffing of the facility, and is responsible for all daily operations, including growing, cloning, vegging, flowering, up-potting, transferring and packaging. He is also involved in daily management of the company's finances, licenses, business acquisition strategy and advocacy efforts.

Joe is a graduate of the University of South Carolina. He lives in Larimer County with his wife and their two daughters.