
John Zoltner

Board candidate profile · Founder & CEO, AIChildSafety.org · Founder, AI4SocialImpact · Portland, Oregon / Santiago, Chile

John Zoltner is a nonprofit chief executive and serial institution-builder working at the intersection of AI, child protection, and technology for social impact. He founded and leads AIChildSafety.org, a US 501(c)(3) nonprofit research, implementation, and advocacy organization, where he carries full governance, fundraising, and fiscal responsibility, and its Childhood and AI Lab Research Fellowship of 66 researchers in 23 countries. Over 25 years he has built and run technology programs inside two of the world's largest NGOs and founded social enterprises in Latin America.

WHAT HE BRINGS TO A BOARD

- **Governance and fiduciary experience** – current 501(c)(3) chief executive; past board service with NTEN and Child Wise; DataKind Advisory Council (2022–2025).
- **Technology and AI oversight** – founded and directed technology units and AI research programs; advises companies, foundations, and NGOs on AI risk; a published personal Responsible AI policy grounded in recognized frameworks.
- **Safeguarding and child protection** – built Save the Children's Safe Digital Childhood initiative; co-chairs the Technology Industry Working Group of the UN Protection through Online Participation initiative; working-group member at the Childlight Global Child Safety Institute.
- **Revenue models and sustainability** – built and sustained the 17-person TechLab at FHI 360, raising more than \$7 million in total; multi-donor portfolio experience across institutional philanthropy, government, and corporate funders.

CURRENT ROLES

Co-chair, Technology Industry Working Group, UN Protection through Online Participation initiative (2023–present)

Member, World Economic Forum Global Coalition for Digital Safety (2026–present)

Working group member, Childlight Global Child Safety Institute (2026–present)

External Advisory Board, Young and Resilient Research Centre, Western Sydney University (2021–present)

COMMITTEE INTERESTS

Governance · technology and AI oversight · safeguarding · revenue and development

RECOGNITION AND EDUCATION

AI for Good Impact Award, 2025 WLDA Awards (World Leaders in Data and AI)

MBA and BA (English), Georgetown University · Works in English and Spanish