

The Empowered By Light Foundation is pleased to announce Alyssa Newman has been appointed as the organization's first executive director.

"We're thrilled to bring Alyssa's passion and experience in energy and philanthropy to our efforts to improve lives and the environment through renewable energy technologies," said Marco Krapels, co-founder of Empowered by Light. "With Alyssa's leadership, we'll be able to significantly scale our successes and expand into new regions." added Marco.

Alyssa brings nearly 20 years of experience in the energy and environmental sector. She has worked with and for several major solar manufacturers and system integrators, energy efficiency organizations, global nonprofits, and humanitarian leaders. She launched SunPower’s sustainability efforts in 2008, including the SunPower Foundation, where she managed more than $5 million in global energy programs and over 1 megawatt of donated solar power technology in project donations, and achieved 68% employee involvement in company-sponsored volunteer efforts. Most recently, she led a campaign, Rebuild With Sun, to bring solar technology to areas of Nepal devastated by a major earthquake earlier this year.

“I’m thrilled to join Empowered By Light," said Newman. "We’ve never been more in need of clean technology solutions that empower people, and combat the disastrous effects of climate change. I look forward to working with the board, our incredible partners, and supporters to advance Empowered By Light’s mission and impact around the world.”

When she’s not working on climate change solutions, Alyssa spends her spare time building things, gardening, pushing her athletic limits, traveling, or adventuring with her partner and dogs in the San Francisco Bay Area where she resides.

Empowered by Light is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to improve lives and the environment through renewable energy technologies. The organization has distributed more than 3000 solar-powered LED lights to rural schools in Zambia, affecting more than 8,000 school-age children, and has installed solar powered micro grids in remote areas of Zambia--at a high school serving over 600 students and a conservation education center serving the southern region.