DR. RONIT MOLKO

Ph.D., BCBA-D

CLINICIAN | CEO | BOARD DIRECTOR | STRATEGIC ADVISOR | ENTREPRENEUR

35 years of leadership and advisory across behavioral healthcare, private equity, transformation, clinical excellence, operations, culture, M&A, and technology.



Dr. Ronit Molko is a clinician, behavioral healthcare executive, entrepreneur, board director, and strategic advisor with 35 years of leadership experience spanning clinical excellence, organizational growth and scaling, private equity, M&A, enterprise transformation, culture and leadership development, and technology innovation. She has operated across the industry as a clinician, founder, CEO, board director, investor advisor, and M&A strategist, bringing an integrated perspective to organizations navigating growth, transformation, and value creation.

A licensed clinical psychologist in California and Washington and a Board-Certified Behavior Analyst, Dr. Molko combines deep clinical expertise with decades of executive and operating leadership. She is recognized for connecting clinical excellence, operational performance, organizational infrastructure, leadership, technology, and enterprise value—helping organizations build the systems, teams, and capabilities required to scale while maintaining quality, managing risk, and improving outcomes.

Dr. Molko has led organizations through nearly every stage of the business lifecycle, including founding and scaling companies, building multi-state operations, creating infrastructure for national growth, executing a successful sale, operating within private equity-backed environments, integrating acquisitions, and leading enterprise transformation. Her experience includes operating-model redesign, KPI and performance-management systems, workforce strategy, organizational structure, culture transformation, clinical quality and outcomes, regulatory and compliance infrastructure, technology implementation, M&A integration, and growth strategy.

As co-founder and CEO of Autism Spectrum Therapies (AST), Dr. Molko grew the organization from a startup into one of the nation’s leading autism services companies, employing approximately 1,000 professionals and serving approximately 1,500 families across four states through home-, clinic-, and school-based services. She built and led the organization across clinical operations, service delivery, workforce development, finance, infrastructure, leadership, quality, technology, and geographic expansion. In 2014, she sold AST to LEARN Behavioral, formerly Learn It Systems, and remained involved following the transaction to support continued growth under private equity ownership.

From 2024 through January 2026, Dr. Molko served as CEO of Alongside, a private equity-backed autism services organization in Southern California. She led the company through significant transformation, including organizational integration, operational redesign, leadership development, technology modernization, clinical and compliance initiatives, workforce improvement, KPI development, and growth. Her experience leading both founder-built and sponsor-backed organizations gives her a practical understanding of the intersection between investment strategy, board expectations, organizational capacity, and execution.

Since 2014, Dr. Molko has served as Founder and Principal of Empowering Synergy, advising private equity firms, investors, boards, and healthcare organizations on clinical and operational diligence, enterprise assessment, transformation, and post-deal value creation. She evaluates whether

organizations have the clinical model, operating infrastructure, leadership, technology, compliance systems, workforce capabilities, outcomes framework, and performance discipline required to deliver high-quality care, operate efficiently, and scale successfully. She identifies risks and opportunities that may affect quality, compliance, growth, and enterprise value and works with leadership teams to develop practical remediation and transformation plans.

Her governance experience includes serving from 2019 to 2024 as an Independent Director and Audit Committee member of LEARN Behavioral, now backed by Gryphon Investors. She also served on the board of Radicle Health, a portfolio of market-leading software companies serving human and social services organizations, and for six years as an Independent Director of the GALT Foundation, where she served on the Audit, Compensation, Governance, and Executive Committees and as Board Secretary. Across these roles, she contributed expertise in growth strategy, governance, risk, financial oversight, executive leadership, healthcare operations, clinical quality, technology, and organizational performance.

Dr. Molko served as an advisor to BOOST, an enterprise SaaS and AI platform for ABA and behavioral healthcare, focusing on how new technology can better support the delivery, quality, efficiency, and scalability of ABA and related services.

She is co-founder of the Autism Investor Summit, which brings together investors, executives, clinicians, entrepreneurs, and other stakeholders shaping the future of autism and behavioral healthcare. Her book, Autism Matters: Empowering Investors, Providers and the Autism Community to Advance Autism Services, published by ForbesBooks, examines the evolution of the autism services industry and the opportunities and responsibilities facing investors and providers as the sector matures.

Throughout her career, Dr. Molko has focused not simply on growth, but on building organizations capable of sustaining it. She has extensive experience developing leadership teams, strengthening accountability, transforming organizational culture, improving employee engagement and retention, and aligning clinical and operational functions around shared objectives. Her perspective is particularly valuable in healthcare businesses where enterprise value depends on balancing clinical quality, regulatory responsibility, workforce performance, operational discipline, technology, and growth.

Dr. Molko has been recognized with the World of Difference 100 Award in Education from The International Alliance for Women, the Enterprising Women of the Year Award, and the Mickey Weiss Award for Outstanding Alumni from American Jewish University, and was named one of the Los Angeles Business Journal’s Women of Influence. She is a Platinum Member of the Women Presidents’ Organization.

Dr. Molko received her M.A. from Claremont Graduate University and her Ph.D. in Developmental and Child Psychology from the University of Kansas. She is also a graduate of Harvard Business School’s Owner/President Management (OPM) program.