

N.Y.B.L. Podcast Ep 124 (Lynsi Snyder Ellingson) DESCRITP EDIT

[00:00:00] **Rebecca Zung:** Welcome to another episode of negotiate your best life. I'm Rebecca Zung and I'm super excited today to welcome Lindsay Snyder Ellingson. She is the current owner and president of the company in and out burger. She started working there as an associate in 1999. She's the granddaughter of the original founders.

[00:00:30] **Rebecca Zung:** And she has an incredible, incredible, incredible story. I came to know her in a really cool way, which we're going to be talking about here in a second. And she and I have created a foundation together, which we're also going to be talking about. And I just absolutely love her story. So, so, so inspirational.

[00:00:56] **Rebecca Zung:** She's now taken over the entire [00:01:00] corporation on her own. She's. I, I mean, I just think she's an incredible human being on so many levels. I just, I can't even say enough about how inspired I am by her. Not just personally, not just professionally, but on every level as a mother. As a business owner and just as philanthropic really religiously, I, you know, she just has done so much in so many ways for so many people.

[00:01:38] **Rebecca Zung:** Uh, she's so, so busy and she so tries just to balance so many different things by being an amazing wife, amazing mom, you know, do a good job for her employees. For everybody in her life and show up in so many different ways. So it is, I, I, there's no way we're going to be able to cover [00:02:00] everything I want to cover today, but it is my honor.

[00:02:02] **Rebecca Zung:** And my pleasure to welcome you, Lindsay Snyder,

[00:02:05] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Ellingson. Oh, thank you. Thank you for having me.

[00:02:10] **Rebecca Zung:** Yeah, my pleasure. So I, I want to just go and start back at the beginning. You were the granddaughter of the founders of in and out burger or. You know, for a lot of people in the, uh, you know, on the west coast, it means a lot, everybody knows in and out burger on the west coast.

[00:02:37] **Rebecca Zung:** Not everybody knows it on the east coast as much, but certainly on the west coast, it's a, it's an institution. So tell us about. You

know what that was like growing up as the granddaughter of the founders of this institution.

[00:02:58] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Yeah. Well, you [00:03:00] know, it was thing, I think it's probably not what a lot of people would assume or think.

[00:03:04] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And I know you know, I never got to meet my grandfather. He died in 76. I was born in 82 and You know, my uncle was, uh, overseeing and running the company when I was born. And my dad was involved as vice-president and then my grandmother was still involved as well. So, You know, being little, I didn't really know too much or understand it other than I was around a lot of special people that were close to my family.

[00:03:34] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** That weren't exactly my family, but where my, what I later came to know as my internet family. Cause we've just all been very close, you know, from the beginning there was a closeness, my grandparents had, you know, the associates in their own homes and cook dinner for them. And so, It's a really neat relationship.

[00:03:49] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** So that's one of the things I did remember was the people that were there and there were people there that I knew as a child that are with us today. So, there's that, and then the other fun fact is that our in and out spreads. [00:04:00] Usually in my refrigerator, uh, our extra fridge in the laundry room, we had a Sub-Zero, which was a big deal back in the eighties.

[00:04:06] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And we had the in and out spread in there and I just thought it was the best thing ever. Cause, you know, I don't like tomato, but we had a modified BLT within and out spread and That was great, but, you know, I didn't know that much. And you know, there wasn't social media and all of that back then.

[00:04:21] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** So it wasn't well known and I felt like other than having a pretty big backyard, my childhood was pretty normal. And then I moved to Northern California when I was seven, which took me even further away from in and out or growing up inside of You know, being known as the granddaughter or in and out versus so because where I live, there's almost an organ and there weren't any in and outs anywhere around there.

[00:04:47] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** So I was just a normal kid, two people up there. And I think that was great. I think it preserved probably I don't know. I, I. I think my parents made a [00:05:00] really good decision when they did that,

because it preserved any sense of normalcy or me just having, uh, you know, more of a humble upbringing, I guess.

[00:05:09] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Uh, like I said, you know, there was, I lived on a ranch, so there was property to roam around on, but it was a normal house. And I rode four wheelers and, you know, it was, it was great. But it wasn't until I was 11, when my uncle died in that plane crash, that I was exposed to what it might be like as being known as, you know, an in and out family member that, you know, got different treatment.

[00:05:35] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And what was a Christian school? And unfortunately it was a terrible experience. It was the worst year in school. And you know, I had pretty good grades. Up until then, and then just kind of getting bullied and made fun of, and even a teacher that seemed to, you know, my parents were like, she's jealous.

[00:05:53] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** That's why she's taking on. And you're like, no way, why would she take it out on, you know, an 11 year old like this isn't doing, [00:06:00] what was she saying? I'm just grading really harshly on reports. So they got me a tutor and they had the tutor look that used to be a teacher in her, like. This is at least, you know, an a minus or a B plus.

[00:06:10] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And she just jacked it down, like a cease on it. And it was just crazy stuff like that. And just her attitude towards me. But later I found out I wasn't the only person that she was terrible to my husband, random little side thing here. My husband's cousin had her and he told me literally a month ago that she ruined his life.

[00:06:32] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** So, so, uh, she was a terrible teacher, uh, but. Yeah, it was that year. That really, I was exposed to, you know, names like, oh, burger, burger, princess burger queen in and out girl. Oh, do you must smell like hamburgers? Cause you're, you know, just, just stuff like that. It was really nasty. And then my dad got so sick of it and saw how it was.

[00:06:53] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** He moved us back up north and decided to just commute. He decided he would commute because he was running the company [00:07:00] at that point. So we went back. North. And they started a small private school and it was amazing.

[00:07:06] **Rebecca Zung:** Oh my goodness. That's terrible though. I mean, you know, it's awful that you'd had to be subjected to that.

[00:07:13] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Yeah. You know, I mean, I, luckily I was up there from, you know, uh, age seven to really 18 minus one year. So it was a lot of good years up there and upbringing up there where I was treated normal on. Okay. So

[00:07:30] **Rebecca Zung:** then your father, tell us about what happened then with him.

[00:07:37] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Yeah. So my. Uncle and him had a lot of, a lot of unresolved issues.

[00:07:44] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And my uncle's wife at the time was really putting a wedge between them. A lot of people would call her a gold Digger. She was my sister's age. And, but You know, I don't have any bad feelings towards her, but I do. I did hear a lot of [00:08:00] stuff that wasn't, wasn't great and threats she made against him about on I'll do this.

[00:08:05] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** If you lose weight and blah, blah, blah, just sad stuff, you know, for a man that was very loving. My dad and him had quite a falling out and they had not really been around each other for about a year and I. I invited him. I hadn't talked to him a long time. He got married in that very well. We weren't talking to him.

[00:08:24] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And I invited him to my Christmas play, where I was doing puppetry. So he came and him and my dad had a conversation afterwards and he asked my dad to forgive him. And he said, guy, I don't know when I'll see you again. And he hugged them, but my dad didn't like accept his apology. It was just kind of, he was hurt, you know?

[00:08:49] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And so it was the very next day that my uncle died in a plane crash. Quite tragic, wonderful that they got to see each other, but just kind of raw with it, not ending well, you know, so my [00:09:00] dad had been sober, uh, for years and, you know, his issues were mainly prescription drugs because he'd had a broken his back, paralyzed, his shoulder he'd have two different surgeries and he was fast and tabelized, or which I inherited didn't know until much later because I avoided narcotics and then I had a surgery and found out, wow, they don't work.

[00:09:18] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** So, Yeah, he was really going through it, just dealing with a lot of the childhood pain. I think any, any reason he already had to abuse drugs was amplified when he lost his brother. That was his only

sibling who says younger sibling. Now he's left with the whole company. You know, his dad's gone, his dad didn't show the approval to him.

[00:09:39] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Like he did the younger son. So he kind of had it the hardest And then lost his baby brother in that place. So it really was hard. And my dad was trying to commute to Soquel narco for work. And so with that shuffle and mixed with all that pain, it pushed him back into abusing prescription drugs.

[00:09:57] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And I'm really sad because that's
[00:10:00] where our relationship kind of fell apart and never got to be restored. Now he was a wonderful father when he was sober and you know, I often feel bad for other kids when I don't see some of the traits and character characteristics, my own father had like the, just the protectiveness, the quality time, the love, the selflessness.

[00:10:20] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** There were so many things that he provided when he was sober, which was a lot of my life, you know? But just tragic. You know, my uncle died in a plane crash and then my dad passed six, six years later from, from drugs. And it wasn't that he overdosed actually, they didn't find that much in the system, especially for someone that could literally take 30 Vicodin and live.

[00:10:40] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** But. He didn't have much, but his heart just, it gave out. I think they had enough. He already had atrial fibrillation. And so how old were you then? I was 17. Yeah. Yeah.

[00:10:55] **Rebecca Zung:** So young to lose your dad.

[00:10:57] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Yeah.

[00:10:59] **Rebecca Zung:** [00:11:00] And at that point you became the only heir to

[00:11:04] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** in and out, right? Yes. That is true. Yes. My uncle never had any children.

[00:11:10] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** He loved kids. I was basically his, his borrowed child borrowed me as a kid. Spoiled me.

[00:11:19] **Rebecca Zung:** That's a lot to take on as a child, right.

[00:11:24] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Yeah, I think I, you know, I had an attorney instantly, so I think I wrote my first will when I was 21. And you know, it was things definitely. Diverted from any kind of normalcy.

[00:11:39] **Rebecca Zung:** And so you yourself got married very young. The first time

[00:11:43] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** I did and I, you know, something, I may said it was a mistake before I did it, but I was just like, oh, deal that later. And I sure didn't but yeah, I was we didn't go to the same high school, but high school sweetheart kind of thing. We were together from 14.

[00:11:57] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Got married. 18. And then two [00:12:00] years later we're divorced. Yeah.

[00:12:02] **Rebecca Zung:** Yeah. I mean maybe trying to seek stability or something. Right. I

[00:12:09] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** know. Just guessing my parents were divorced when I was 12. So that was kind of when my dad wasn't in my life and wasn't providing. That loved need of, you know, just the quality time and that father, daughter, attention bond, all cause we were very bonded.

[00:12:25] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** I was much closer to my dad than I was my mom. So, you know, just missing that, I think I naturally was looking for that relationship. And so I was friends with guys. It was very normal for me to have guy friends, not necessarily looking for. Attention and those in all ways, but just because we related more, I was very tomboy rode quads.

[00:12:43] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** I drove tractor. I liked fishing. I liked, you know, offering, I liked so many things that guys like that the girls weren't as into lots of extreme sports and stuff. So I just kind of hit it off and I wasn't as most emotionally charged, definitely emotional, but. As emotionally charged as many women, I was kind of [00:13:00] more logical and rational.

[00:13:01] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** So I still have tons of relationships with, with, with men as good friends. And but that of course went into just trying to fill that void, you know, not having my dad, so, yeah. Yeah,

[00:13:15] **Rebecca Zung:** yeah. So, okay. So then you get married, you get divorced and then you ended up getting married again.

[00:13:25] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And

[00:13:26] **Rebecca Zung:** you had

[00:13:26] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** the twins.

[00:13:28] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Yeah, yeah. Yeah. So the first marriage ended from a list of things and paid without going into all the detail. I mean, he had no goals for his life had addiction. There was just a lot. And so I. Separated. And in that separation, I thought I would put the nail in the coffin and have enough hair basically.

[00:13:55] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And I did that and probably not the right order of things for [00:14:00] sure. But he did end up being my husband and the father of my first two kids, my twins. So, Yeah. It's one of those things where you can't go down the regret road because then you don't have those, those children, but yeah.

[00:14:12] **Rebecca Zung:** Right. And then you have another son with your next husband, right?

[00:14:19] **Rebecca Zung:** You have four children

[00:14:19] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** total. Yes, I do. So the, the pattern was really one relationship to the next, you know, in. Uh, you know, the first one was basically overlapped and then the next one was wanting to, you know, from the frying and into the fire kind of thing, where I went from one, not so great relationship into another.

[00:14:37] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And and again, it's that it was my own healing that I needed. I, you know, the daddy issue the, the void and trying to fill that with a person trying to get You know, the best way I can describe it as it's, it's a God-shaped hole that you're trying to put a person in. That's not going to fill it, you know?

[00:14:55] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** So I think that that heart and my whole was, was. [00:15:00] So big and I didn't realize you know, even though I loved God and, and all of that, you know, the times that I was close or at the times I drifted away from him I still needed that healing to be whole and to trust him and to really just be a person on my own without having to.

[00:15:17] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** You know, have that other person in my life and I can see, and my first marriage there was codependency and the second one, it was the opposite. He was not connected and did was not needy at all. So I had to learn to live off of meager rations of love and attention. So, you know, I went from one. Type of relationship to complete opposite.

[00:15:36] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And but I think, uh, you know, now that God, uh, the timing that I was alone after. My third husband. I finally sought that healing and and was a whole person before I got into another relationship, which now I've been happily married for almost eight years and had another child that I said I wasn't going to have.

[00:15:54] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And

[00:15:55] **Rebecca Zung:** but I know, I know Sean and you guys, and I I've been [00:16:00] fortunate enough to have, you know, social interaction. You know, you and your husband and my husband and me and the four of us have, have done some social things and, and, uh, you guys are so perfect for each other.

[00:16:14] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Thank you. Yeah. And

[00:16:16] **Rebecca Zung:** you know, but you know, you had to get whole yourself first.

[00:16:21] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Yeah. Yup. Absolutely. I wish. Yeah. So many other people to understand that because it would save them four divorces, pain, financial burden so much.

[00:16:34] **Rebecca Zung:** Yeah. Yeah, totally. But it's such a good lesson for people to hear. Yeah. So you, when did you, I mean, as you started working at the company when you were very young, but when did you fully take it

[00:16:51] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** over?

[00:16:52] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** So in 2010 was when I really like officially became president. My grandmother died in 2006. [00:17:00] The same year I had my twins. She died while I was pregnant and, you know, it was kind of put on the table and. You know, my uncle was actually 24 when he took over, which was the age I was then. And I just said, now, you know, I'm, I'm having these two kids, you know, I just lost my grandmother.

[00:17:15] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** There's a lot going on. I'd rather wait. And so, you know, I think it was the right decision. Waiting until 2010 was, was good. And you know, of course my involvement was still heavy and I was involved with making decisions and so many things, but it was official where it changed. In 2010. Yes. [00:18:00] [00:19:00] [00:20:00] [00:21:00] [00:22:00] [00:23:00] [00:24:00] [00:25:00]

[00:25:43] **Rebecca Zung:** Yeah. And I have to say having met your executive team myself and. Haven't gotten to know them. You have surrounded yourself with amazing people as well.

[00:25:58] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Yeah. Yeah. [00:26:00] Yeah.

[00:26:01] **Rebecca Zung:** And, but you are very much definitely the person who is in charge and you very much have stepped into that role and stepped up into that role.

[00:26:19] **Rebecca Zung:** And. Say I'm, I'm so impressed with how well you have stepped up and into that role as a female. I mean, there's so few female entrepreneurs and so female CEOs of large corporations. And especially as young as you are and with as much adversity as you had to overcome, I just have to, you know, I'm so in awe as somebody who's gotten to observe you on a close level of how well you've been able to step in and up to it, and [00:27:00] I've been able to attend in and out.

[00:27:04] **Rebecca Zung:** Functions and see firsthand how much the employees absolutely DOR you. And you know, you, you do your.

[00:27:16] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Uh, uh,

[00:27:17] **Rebecca Zung:** a lot of people may not know how you perform for them. You do these fire eating acts, you do these trapeze acts. Do you, do you play in this rock band for them? I mean, you, you are who you

[00:27:32] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** are

[00:27:33] **Rebecca Zung:** as a person.

[00:27:34] **Rebecca Zung:** You are such an individual. I mean, you are so much of who you are as an individual, and yet you still. Pilot this company in your own way and in such a bad-ass way. And I'm so in awe and inspired by that. So tell me how this journey has been for you. [00:28:00]

[00:28:01] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Oh, well, might need more time. Yeah, I mean, it's been, I learned a lot through adversity in different trials in my life, for sure.

[00:28:11] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Some of my own mistakes, some disloyal people, some betrayal, you know, there's, there's lots of different things that have happened that have helps me, I guess, be who I am and I for sure thank God every day because I would, I don't think I'd even be alive without him and you know, just his grace and I don't know, just him being able to give me a new start after some of the mistakes in my life and be able to build on top of that stuff.

[00:28:35] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Not just erase it, but build on top of it. And. No, the people that I can help and reach out to because of what I've been through. And maybe prevent them from going through some of the same things. And but I, you know, I used to care a lot about what people think. And I want to say, I, I kind of killed a lot of that one through not being able to defend myself in the public eye when false information goes out and just kind of go like,
[00:29:00] okay, or what are you gonna do?

[00:29:00] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** You know? And then also just having my identity in, in the Lord, like knowing who I am and who I'm not. And I think people mix up sometimes the definition of humility, but really it's knowing who you are before God, yourself and others. And I think that's been something that's helped me just kind of live in that freedom, I guess, is I don't have to try to fit into the corporate mold or try to be who the world says I should be, or, you know, I can, I can be me and, you know, you'll be rejected for it and that's okay.

[00:29:34] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** You know, not everyone's gonna like, like me and, and I just hope, you know, th the one area that I, of course. About what people think is if they think I don't care. I always say that like, I, I cared deeply for people and I have a love. And I think that when people try to misjudge and say, oh, she doesn't care.

[00:29:55] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** This is that that one hurts me and makes me feel like, oh, I just, I just need them to [00:30:00] know, you know? But other than that, you know, I think that I'm able to be pretty free and And, you know, some of the things you mentioned like me doing aerial or fire, you know, I have always loved to entertain people.

[00:30:14] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And my grandmother, she knew when I was probably four years old, she was like, Lindsey's going to be an entertainer.

And. Outside of in and out, but definitely within I've been able to help plan our parties, help plan our events, help plan our incentive, travel trips and the things that people need to do.

[00:30:32] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And, and also yes, be in abandoned, perform for them. You know, the, the fire, the aerial, all this stuff. I love it. I mean, I've always been kind of like an extreme sport or like take a risk and do stuff, but then I'm also tempered with a lot of. When it comes to work, I'm very like old school. I want to keep things original.

[00:30:51] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** I want to not jump into all these new things that everyone else is doing. So, so it's, it's interesting. There's, there's [00:31:00] some differences there where someone might think, oh, she does all these crazy things. So she's probably going to take the company into this crazy direction and, you know, grow super fast or change this, change that, but it's not, it's not like that.

[00:31:15] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Yeah, but I think it's

[00:31:17] **Rebecca Zung:** so inspirational how you are doing things on your own way, you know, and on your own terms and you don't feel like you need to fit into a mold. I just think that that is such an inspiration for women, especially. You know, and you've learned these lessons so young, I think it's it's so, I mean, have you ever thought about like being a motivational speaker, like

[00:31:44] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** for women?

[00:31:45] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** You know, I do, I do like a good bit of interviews and podcasts and speak at different places where I feel like I'm kind of doing that already. I mean, I just didn't put a title on, on it. So I think [00:32:00] I'm kind of already there. I just haven't officially made myself one, but I, I feel like I can pump people.

[00:32:08] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Yeah.

[00:32:09] **Rebecca Zung:** Cause you have such a, an incredible story, especially with so much adversity that you've overcome.

[00:32:15] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Yeah.

[00:32:16] **Rebecca Zung:** So let's talk about your philanthropic efforts, especially I do want to get to slate legal aid foundation, which we've created as

well. Because you've created several non-profits and, uh, you know, you've created several through in and out burger and a slave to nothing.

[00:32:36] **Rebecca Zung:** And obviously. Uh, you know, slave to nothing I, you know, is, uh, for human trafficking and for. For for,

[00:32:51] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** sorry.

[00:32:51] **Rebecca Zung:** Sorry, go ahead. I'll let you

[00:32:53] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** say it. Yeah. Oh, uh, yeah, nothing is just, it's kind of two part. It's both fighting human [00:33:00] trafficking and substance abuse and just, you know, the mission is to, to be able to help people and make sure that they're not enslaved to any substance or person.

[00:33:10] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Yes. And

[00:33:12] **Rebecca Zung:** so I, and, and both are near and dear to my heart and I think are amazing. And I've been to the the, the fundraisers for that. And I think they're absolutely incredible. And you've done such an amazing, amazing job for those and, and, uh, So, you know, if you want to just talk a little bit about those and then I do want to move into a slate, legal aid as well, but I do want to do, I want to give you a chance to talk about those

[00:33:42] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** as well?

[00:33:43] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Yeah. So yeah, slave to nothing, like I said, is, is helping to different Areas. And we have been pretty successful. You know, there's lots of different organizations we've been able to help and we just finished, you know, go through the grant process and [00:34:00] look at how it's grown and, and how many different organizations we're able to help.

[00:34:03] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** So I think You know, just in January alone with our events, we were able to raise over a million dollars and that was a big deal for slave to nothing, because this is one of our newer foundations. Our, our other in and out foundation is called the in and out burger foundation. And that's been around since the eighties and that's to fight child abuse.

[00:34:23] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** So that was started by my uncle and my grandmother. And actually my mom behind the scenes was involved. And that was as a result of my dad and my uncle being abused as children, my uncle

finally had the realization and came to terms with it and went to my dad. And my dad was like, yeah, no kidding. You're just not realizing this.

[00:34:44] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And so, so they started that. And so that's been going for a long time and we're actually having our 35th golf tournament. The smell in may, which is a huge event that's just wildly successful and raises so much money for all these kids and just [00:35:00] giving them hope for a better future and you know, preventing.

[00:35:03] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Child abuse as much as we can rescuing them as early as we can. And we even have programs that go out of you know, there's an age out thing where, you know, they get to a certain age and now where do they go? So there's programs that help up to like 24 now. So we're able to kind of catch those kids too, and cool.

[00:35:20] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Not kids, but. Well, yeah, so it's, it's really great. And then, you know, those are, those are the two that are under the umbrella of in and out. And then my husband and I have a ministry nonprofit, which is called army of love. And that's really, it's like a church with no walls. It's you know, where they, people can go from any church or no church, and they can either enlist to go through the modules, which is like a discipleship program.

[00:35:47] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** It's. It's kind of like a, somewhat of a Bible college, uh, abbreviated and put into these seven modules. And each module is about to take about three, four hours. But it's, it's [00:36:00] fantastic. So we have that and people can also seek help. So we're working on expanding our helpline, where people can chat and you know, the, the goal is to have so many people training.

[00:36:12] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And in our database that would be ready to be dispatched, to help, to counsel someone, to help them with something, to kind of meet them where they are. And we know so many other organizations where we don't need to reinvent the wheel. If there's someone struggling with addiction, we know all of these people that, you know, have organizations for that, so we can push them towards help their.

[00:36:32] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Uh, veterans, you know, we work closely with the mighty Oaks warrior program. So we have someone we can send them there. So we have a lot of places. We can also send people if it's in their wheelhouse and then just the day-to-day marriage or counseling or depression

or whatever it is, you know, we're there for them and can provide biblical, biblical counsel and, and just support.

[00:36:54] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** So it's been great. Actually some of the. Staff is over in Africa right [00:37:00] now. Doing amazing work and meeting with the past, some of the pastors and leaders that we, that are within army of level. Amazing. So

[00:37:11] **Rebecca Zung:** let's talk about slain legal aid. We came together because you've actually found me on YouTube, but we're originally.

[00:37:20] **Rebecca Zung:** And

[00:37:20] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** we,

[00:37:22] **Rebecca Zung:** we met and we became friends and, and you actually had mentioned to me initially, For me a, some sort of a foundation together. Right.

[00:37:36] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And

[00:37:37] **Rebecca Zung:** and so I was like, uh, yeah, I would love to create something with you. That

[00:37:43] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** would be amazing. And so I

[00:37:48] **Rebecca Zung:** said, how about we do, I've been wanting to do something to provide legal aid to people and.

[00:37:57] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** We, uh, [00:38:00]

[00:38:00] **Rebecca Zung:** started the, I mean, and I'm so amazed that this has now come to fruition. And so here we are, it's it's, it's up, it's running. And, uh, we now have hired a brand new executive director and Melissa, and

[00:38:19] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** so.

[00:38:20] **Rebecca Zung:** I wanted to ask you first, why did you want to do this? And what has inspired you to you know, to, to get

[00:38:33] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** involved with this?

[00:38:34] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Yeah, I think, you know, It first started with just your all of your knowledge and help with dealing with narcissists. So I was glued to your videos and watching one after the other. I'm like, yes, I need this. I need help. I need. And then realizing, you know, how common it is, how many narcissists are in different people's lives.

[00:38:54] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And and if they are in need of help, you know, legally, they just [00:39:00] don't know what to do. They don't have the money. They don't know. You know where to go. And so it just kind of continues with the narcissists manipulating and keeping them down. And it, it sucks. So I think that that was part of it.

[00:39:12] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And then just realizing how jacked up the system is that you know, I have someone close to me that was on drugs for a long time. Got sober and, you know, hasn't had their daughter and their life and. He was an, a child actor. So the baby's mom basically took how much he made when he was acting and, and tack that onto what his child's sports should be.

[00:39:37] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And so he. All the S you know, this giant number looming over him for the years, he's home drugs. And then now, and so he's, he's just scared that you would have a bank account, because any money that he does get is going to go towards there. And it's like, well, you need to deal with it. But again, how is he going to get.

[00:39:56] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Who's going to pay for it. What is he going to do? All he needs to do is have a [00:40:00] judge. See, wow, I've been on drugs now I'm sober. I can't pay this. I'm willing to pay something, but I can't pay this. What do I do? And he can't, you know, he can't get his passport to travel. He can't do all of these things because he's just tied up with this.

[00:40:12] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And so, you know, learning some of the things through you, just that, you know, you've got criminals that get attorneys instantly, and then you've got people in these situations. And they're stuck and they're just, you know, they are enslaved basically to a crappy situation because they can't afford to get an attorney and get help.

[00:40:31] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** So, I mean, there's, I mean, there's so many different, I know there's so many different categories of people in those situations where they just can't afford to get help. Yeah. I mean, so

[00:40:42] **Rebecca Zung:** I don't think that most people realize that. Criminals get an attorney appointed to them because of the constitution.

[00:40:53] **Rebecca Zung:** But that in civil cases, you don't get an attorney appointed to you. And I, [00:41:00] you know, I, I, I don't think that that's something that most people realize do you, I mean,

[00:41:06] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** I don't think they do.

[00:41:07] **Rebecca Zung:** Yeah. And so really at attorney. Is is something that only really people with some money can afford. And, and, and it's really kind of not fair to attorneys either because you're basically asking attorneys to work for free.

[00:41:24] **Rebecca Zung:** If, if, if and so, you know, I think that. I, you know, it's, it's kinda like, not fair to either side, if, you know, cause you're either saying work for free attorneys or, or, you know, or, or, or, you know, try to get somebody to. Be able to afford an attorney who who's, you know, charging 300 an hour, 500 an hour, a thousand an hour, 1500 an hour, whatever it is.

[00:41:58] **Rebecca Zung:** And it's just [00:42:00] so you know, it's inherently not fair.

[00:42:02] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Right. So,

[00:42:04] **Rebecca Zung:** I think. That that may be part of it as well. So, w was was there anything else that inspired you to, you know, you know, when you were saying, you know, you had You know, you were trying to defend yourself in the, in the public eye.

[00:42:20] **Rebecca Zung:** Did that also inspire you to want to, you know, collaborate to start slay as well? Or was that

[00:42:28] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** part of it? Not as much with that. I think, I think the, the main thing is just knowing, like, you know, I do. You know the money to afford it tourney, even though I think it's crazy sometimes, but even in that it's already hard enough.

[00:42:46] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And then to run into different people that whether they're dealing with a child support, child custody something domestic, you know, something like that. And they just don't know what to do. They can't afford, they don't know where to [00:43:00] get help. They, you know, I think I've even reached out to you about a few other people's issues and you've helped there.

[00:43:08] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And so just,

[00:43:10] **Rebecca Zung:** and veterans, like we talked about veterans. People who are victims of human trafficking. I mean, they can't get attorneys.

[00:43:22] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** It's just, it's, it's, it's very sad and it feels like an injustice to them. When you have criminals that are providing an attorney and then they're not

[00:43:31] **Rebecca Zung:** they get attorneys

[00:43:32] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** automatically, right?

[00:43:34] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Right. So, yeah. Yeah. I, I, I definitely, I think it just ties to a lot of what I feel my call is in life. And a lot of the, the verses that stand behind both slave to nothing and army above. Is to set the captives free and to bring healing and freed them and to be a voice for the voiceless and fight for those who can't fight for themselves.

[00:43:58] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** So I feel a lot of that. [00:44:00] And I think that this is just another area to kind of carry that out and help people.

[00:44:05] **Rebecca Zung:** Yeah, absolutely. I feel the same way. I feel the same way. And I feel, I feel that I was chosen as well. And, you know, I, I just always. You know, let, let my thoughts be your thoughts. Let my words be your words.

[00:44:22] **Rebecca Zung:** You know, show me, show me the way, you know, I just sort of pray that every morning. And you know, I do believe that we are all messengers and, and in different ways, you know, we get chosen to be messengers in different ways. Right. And you know, I believe that we were meant to come together.

[00:44:46] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Sure.

[00:44:46] **Rebecca Zung:** And, uh, so I, I feel very, very blessed to be your partner in this together and that, you know, that we get to. [00:45:00]

[00:45:00] **Rebecca Zung:** Bring this to the world and you know, and, and, and really change how justice is brought to people through, through slate legal aid, because I believe that we will be able to change how, you know, how people get access to justice through slate, legal aid. Yeah.

[00:45:26] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Yeah. I'm glad. Yeah.

[00:45:29] **Rebecca Zung:** Yeah. I mean, because the people that I've spoken to, even the lawyers are like, well, it's more fair for the lawyers to,

[00:45:37] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** you know?

[00:45:38] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Yeah. So, yeah. So,

[00:45:43] **Rebecca Zung:** so thank you for being my partner in.

[00:45:49] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And

[00:45:49] **Rebecca Zung:** so is there anything else that you want to make sure that we share about it or that we say about it?

[00:45:57] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** I don't know. I mean, I guess the, the call
[00:46:00] would just be to those who want to make a difference. You know, the people that want to that see injustice and it upsets them. You know, that's where we'll be calling on people to. You know, get involved and to help get behind it so that we are able to make a difference.

[00:46:16] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And, you know, it's, it's one person's story makes it all worth it. You know, you hear different testimonies and the different foundations we have and, you know, you hear one moving story and you're like, oh my gosh, that makes the whole thing worth it. You know? So, just to know again, that we can affect, you know, hundreds, thousands fives you know, and then it'll keep growing and be past thousands, you know, it's just It's exciting.

[00:46:38] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And I think we just need people to get outside of themselves and their bubble and think a little bigger than just, you know, our lives. Cause we, you know, we have our lives. We do have that. We never know how long they are, but the best thing we could do is, you know, Help others and impact outside of our lives and where that continues because many times one [00:47:00] person helped has a ripple effect because when they're helped, they want to help someone else.

[00:47:03] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And you know, just being being part of a bigger plan and part of You know, allowing God to touch people in that way, because I think some people are so stuck. They're so stuck in their enslaved to their problems, their issues, where they can't get outside of themselves to be able to do you know, what we'd like to do and help others.

[00:47:22] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** So, Absolutely.

[00:47:26] **Rebecca Zung:** And the more you help others, honestly, the, the more you will actually see blessings come into your own life. It really is so much. I mean, people think that, oh, I can't give, because I don't have enough, but you really do see that the more you give, the more blessings you see, come back into your life.

[00:47:50] **Rebecca Zung:** I mean, So much in giving that you receive?

[00:47:54] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Well, just like the, I mean, there's a story of the widow's mite where this woman in the Bible didn't have [00:48:00] hardly anything to give. And she gave like the smallest amount and she gave it in faith, you know, and God blessed her, you know? And I think that, you know, we got a check from someone for slave to nothing for a small amount.

[00:48:12] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Okay. You know, and there was a letter attached to it and it's like that one person believes that we're making a difference and gave something that was significant to them. Doesn't seem like it would be significant all around, but I just know that it is because you know, their heart inside of that, God's going to get behind it and he's going to make it grow.

[00:48:32] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** And you know, every, every little bit, whether it's financial or someone's effort of giving their time self-aware to others, you know, it's just It's meaningful.

[00:48:42] **Rebecca Zung:** Absolutely. Absolutely. Thank you so much, Lindsay. Thank you so much for being a part of this and being my partner in this. And thank you for your time today.

[00:48:54] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** Thank you for having me. Wonderful.

[00:48:58] **Rebecca Zung:** Thank

[00:48:58] **Lynsi Snyder Ellingson:** you.[00:49:00]