Taylor Finklea

Manager of Cloud Systems · TherapyNotes

Good platforms start with architecture.

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Hands-on engineering leader with 15+ years in IT and cloud. Champions AI adoption at TherapyNotes, where approved AI use went from near zero to 75%+ of engineers, architected its Kubernetes platform, and builds open-source AI developer tools in Go, Rust, Swift, and Python.

01
AI Engineering
Three open-source AI developer tools.

02
AI Adoption
Approved AI use: near zero to 75%+.

03
Platform & Reliability
Kubernetes architect; 99.98% SLO met.

EXPERIENCE

Manager of Cloud Systems
2023 – Present

TherapyNotes

- Champion AI adoption for engineering: new models, tools, and providers, and the usage policy, model access, PHI and risk reviews, and AI champions community around them. Approved AI use grew from near zero to 75%+ of engineers; now architecting a platform for AI-built internal tools.
- Built an AI agent that traces Datadog cost spikes to releases, tickets, and merged PRs; scripts gather, the model analyzes.
- Architected the Kubernetes platform (thousands of containers, all production by end of 2026); championed IaC (Terraform, Ansible), GitOps (Flux, then Argo CD), and the zero-trust Virtual WAN design.
- Moved 50+ pipelines from Jenkins to GitHub Actions; built and own the CAB process: ~200 production changes a month, no change-management audit findings.
- Called in for 50+ incidents, release issues, and deployment escalations a year; 99.98% SLO met in 2025.
- Grew two teams into four; now lead SRE and DevOps (12 reports, up to 20); sponsored 9 promotions.

Manager of Cloud Engineering
2019 – 2023

Lumifi Cyber

- Led a three-person cloud team through modernization: moved two datacenters (200+ VMs) to Azure with zero downtime, then Kubernetes, Terraform and Ansible, and Azure Firewall and Virtual WAN as code.
- Drove SOC 2 Type II; built the Sentinel SIEM and observability (Azure Monitor, Prometheus, Grafana, PagerDuty); cut Azure spend by hundreds of thousands a year with reservations.

Earlier roles
2011 – 2019

Systems administration at Executech, PKI support at DigiCert, and IT support roles.

OPEN-SOURCE AI TOOLS

Harness Deck `Go` · Local dashboard where coding agents publish reports, approvals, and decisions via a versioned contract.

Harness Voice `Swift` · `Python` · Push-to-talk iPhone app for local coding agents, with a FastAPI speech backend.

herdr-ask `Rust` · Terminal command generation across local and hosted models; previews commands, never runs them.

pi-ask-user `TypeScript` · Upstream contributor: responsive context collapse for a Pi agent decision-gating tool.

CAPABILITIES

AI Engineering	Claude Code · Codex · MCP · Agent Skills · Agent orchestration · Multi-model routing · Context engineering · Human-in-the-loop workflows · LLM evaluation · Ollama · local LLMs · OpenAI · Anthropic · Azure AI Foundry
Platform & Reliability	Kubernetes · Helm · AKS · EKS · Talos · Terraform · OpenTofu · Spacelift · Infrastructure as code · GitOps · Ansible · Packer · Docker · GitHub Actions · CI/CD · Prometheus · Grafana · OpenObserve · Datadog admin and cost · Azure · AWS · GCP · Cloudflare
Languages	Go · Rust · TypeScript · Python · Swift · Bash · PowerShell · PostgreSQL · SQLite · FastAPI · SwiftUI
Security & Governance	AI usage policy · HITRUST AI · Zero trust · Entra ID · PIM · SOC 2 Type II · HITRUST · HIPAA · Microsoft Sentinel · Defender · DevSecOps

Beyond work Home lab · Wildlife photography · Birding and naturalism · Daily hiking