

Wendy Norcross

Board Member since 2024

Wendy came to the north in the late 70's at the invite of a coworker who was building a log cabin. Originally growing up near Minneapolis, she had always had a desire for the woods and water but no opportunity. The Ely graduate coworker eventually became a spouse with the knot being tied on the shores of Fall Lake nearly 40 years ago.

Wendy has a heart for the aging after returning to Minnesota in 1999 to assist her parents with their mounting health issues. Eventually, Alzheimer's and Parkinson's Disease took their toll in 2018 and 2019.

Her desire to continue to advocate for the needs of the elderly led her to the Alzheimer's Association and the Minnesota Elder Justice Center. As an advocate, she has been to DC lobbying lawmakers on Alzheimer's related issues and she continues to support global organizations/initiatives that improve lives of caregivers and their loved ones.

Wendy has a love for canoeing and travel and in 2021, put them together and launched The Purple Canoe - a dementia awareness mission. Her adventure has thus far taken she and her husband to 49 states, filled their hearts with countless stories of walks with dementia, and provided opportunities to let people know that they are not alone.

Retiring to the area late in 2022, Wendy knew she wanted to get involved in the community. Northwoods Partners is an impressive community resource and Wendy couldn't be more excited to join them in their efforts to serve the area aging population.

