

North Shore Area Partners

Summer 2025

North Shore Area Partners helps people age in place

"How can I help?"

When people need extra support at home, North Shore Area Partners Care Navigator & Home Care Manager, Ericka Blanchard, often is the first person people talk to.

From connecting people aged 60 plus with resources, to creating individualized care plans to support them in their home, Ericka helps people navigate programs and services to keep them healthy and happy at home for as long as possible.

"North Shore Area Partners offers a wide variety of services, including Home Care, to help people age in place, which is shown to be the most positive environment," said Ericka. "Most people were born and raised in this community. Keeping them safely in their home for as possible is our goal."

The North Shore Area Partners (NSAP) Home Care program is licensed by the state of Minnesota. Trained Home Health Aides go into homes to provide assistance with homemaking tasks, such as light housekeeping, assistance with activities of daily living, including personal cares, as well as assist with other activities such as meal prep or errands that keep people living independently.

Home Care Services also include:

- Assessment & Intake
- Financial & Benefits Consultation
- Errands & Groceries
- Meal Prep
- Medication Set Up & Reminders

If you or a loved one needs more information, call Ericka Blanchard, LSW, at 218-353-1464 or email ericka@nsapartners.org.



Deb Johnson gets a ride from North Shore Area Partners volunteer, Joe Dorn.

Transportation Program keeps residents active, connected

North Shore Area Partners (NSAP) is helping residents, aged 60 plus, get to where they need to go around the Silver Bay area. Whether it is to the grocery store, a medical appointment, or to a social activity, NSAP's Transportation Program provides needed support to our older adults — allowing them to lead a healthier life and remain in their homes for as long as possible.

"I don't know where I'd be without North Shore Area Partners driving me," said Deb Johnson, 69, of Silver Bay. "They have helped me with so many things. The transportation is such a blessing."

To learn more about the Transportation Program or to schedule a ride, call Stacey at 218-353-1391. Rides are scheduled based on volunteer driver availability. A notice of two business days (48 hours) is required.

Want to make a difference? Consider becoming a volunteer driver. As a volunteer you will meet new people, gain a sense of purpose, feel happier and healthier, and encourage a sense of belonging. Call 218-353-1391 or stop in today!



Welcome

Pam James, Home Health Aide

North Shore Area Partners is pleased to welcome Pam James as a Home Health

Aide. Pam brings a great deal of knowledge and experience in health care to our team, having worked as a nurse for 30 years.

Pam greatly cares about providing care that addresses the whole person — mind, body and spirit. She is excited for the opportunity to contribute her skills to a team that shares her enthusiasm for collaboration in community care. In her spare time, Pam enjoys spending time with her grandson and baking.

Volunteer Spotlight: Peg Robertsen

Peg Robertsen developed a love of volunteering at an early age, growing up in a home where her mom was the volunteer coordinator at a senior residence in Fargo, North Dakota.

She always enjoyed the company of older adults, so when she was encouraged to volunteer at North Shore Area Partners (NSAP) in 2005 by making home visits to people aged 60 plus, it was a perfect match.



Northern saw-whet owl banding.

Currently Peg is a board member at NSAP and volunteers with Meals on Wheels, Reading Pals, gardening and Creative Generations. Peg retired in 2023 after a 32-year career as a USDA Forest Service wildlife biologist. Peg and her husband, Steve, have one son, Al Robertsen, who graduated from William Kelley High School and now works as an environmental engineer in the Twin Cities.

In her spare time, she likes birdwatching, dog training, gardening, cooking, biking and cross-country skiing.



Peg Robertsen and her Australian Shepherd, Bernie.