



## Northland Foundation honored for AGE to age: bringing generations together (February 22, 2010)

The Northland Foundation has been honored by Minnesota's largest association of aging services organizations.

Northland Foundation was recognized with an Excellence in Practice Award at the Aging Services of Minnesota Institute in Minneapolis last week. The Institute is the state's premiere event for professionals in older adult services.

The Northland Foundation's *AGE to age: bringing generations together* project focused on bringing generations together to learn from one another and address community needs.

The project's emphasis was to create a fundamental shift in traditional perceptions of older adults being a population of need, vulnerability, and net resource consumption to instead recognizing them as vital resources for community improvement and enrichment.

In nine rural communities, these groups of elders and youth identified local needs and devised grassroots solutions which resulted in the development of self-determined plans that join the generations in improving their communities.

"We are pleased to receive this award not only on the Northland Foundation's behalf but also on behalf of our AGE to age community partners. The older adults, adults, and youth from Bois Forte Reservation, Chisholm, Cloquet, Floodwood, Fond du Lac Reservation, Itasca Area, McGregor, Moose Lake, and Proctor have been a joy to work with. We look forward to them expanding their community improvement projects over the next three-year phase of AGE to age," said Lynn Haglin, Northland Foundation's Vice President and KIDS PLUS Director.

*AGE to age* is made possible through resources from the Community Experience Partnership – an initiative for U.S. community foundations from The Atlantic Philanthropies; Bush Foundation; the Blandin Foundation; and Temple University's Communities For All Ages.

### **About Aging Services of Minnesota**

Aging Services' 1,000 + members serve over 100,000 Minnesotans each year in settings across the continuum from their home to congregate housing to assisted living to care centers. Committed to excellence and to innovation, Aging Services is a leader in pioneering new service delivery models and is nationally recognized for expertise in aging services issues related to long term care, senior housing and supportive services.



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