



## Northland Foundation awards \$141,000 in three Aging Innovations Grants to improve older adults' well-being and quality of life

The Northland Foundation has awarded \$141,000 to three northeastern Minnesota nonprofits through a special grant opportunity. Aging Innovations Major Grant awards were selected through a competitive process. Nonprofit organizations applied for up to \$50,000 each for creative programming to help older adults in our rural region to age well in their homes and communities. The following Carlton, Aitkin, and Lake County organizations received grants:

### **Volunteer Services of Carlton County, Cloquet: \$50,000**

To expand the Daybreak Program by adding a new technology component for individuals caring for older adults who live alone, or who have dementia, that will provide family caregivers a way to check in on their loved ones remotely.

### **McGregor KIDS PLUS, McGregor: \$41,000**

To support the expansion of Pay It Forward, which delivers chore services to assist older adults with living independently and offers them opportunities for community engagement while also providing employment and work skills to local high school youth.

### **Community Partners – Two Harbors Block Nurse Program, Two Harbors: \$50,000**

For the development of a new program, Aging In Place—An Intergenerational Community-based Approach to Care, providing resources and supports to help older adults maintain their independence and increase social connections across generations.

The Aging Innovations Program is one piece of the Northland Foundation's \$2.8 million three-year Rural Aging Initiative, 2017-2019.

A second funding round of Aging Innovations Major Grants will open in February 2018, in which the Northland Foundation expects to award another three to five grants of up to \$50,000 each.

For more information about the Rural Aging Initiative or the Aging Innovations Major Grants, contact Erik Torch, Northland Foundation's Director of Grantmaking, at 218.723.4040 or visit [www.northlandfdn.org/grants/rural-aging-initiative.shtml](http://www.northlandfdn.org/grants/rural-aging-initiative.shtml).

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