



MEET OUR NORTHSTAR TEAM

NorthStar Community Services has experienced an abundance of amazing opportunities over the last year, allowing us to the ability to expand our team. Here are some of amazing team members that assist NorthStar in numerous programs with passion and commitment.



Heather opened NorthStar Community Services in March 2019 with the drive and passion to go above & beyond providing services to the community. Her vision was to support the individuals we serve with resources & inspiration to live their best life... she surpasses that vision each & every day. In everything she does for the company, community and her family, Heather's down-to-Earth, wholesome family values shine through.

FUN FACT: Ask Heather what her ultimate dream is... to have a fully operational Equine Therapy business by the time her twin babies are in elementary school. She looks forward to combining her love for horses and her education and experience in the Human Services field.

HEATHER WRIGHT

PRESIDENT/OWNER & OPERATOR
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Spencer has been with NorthStar since the beginning of our 245d expansion. He has been an integral part of the team; helping with development, creating our first referral form and representing us in the community. Spencer has over 10 years experience working with individuals with disabilities. He is extremely motivated to help people meet their goals, and enjoys being in the community. Spencer is always thinking of ways to build and better the way we do things for and with the individuals we serve.

FUN FACT: Spencer is extremely competitive in athletic events. He enjoys playing competitive softball, and coaches high school baseball & football!

SPENCER CLOUGH

COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES PROGRAM DIRECTOR
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Jill joined our team in 2020 & has over 25 years of experience assisting individuals with employment. She is so professional and kind. When Jill joined our agency, we received numerous calls from; county agencies, employers, guardians, individuals, and employees all wanting to join our team to continue working with her. Jill currently works between our Cloquet & Duluth office.

FUN FACT: Jill and her family enjoy muscle cars! We were attending a fall hay ride, and amazed as we watched this beautiful classic car pull into the parking lot, only to realize it was Jill and her family as they stepped out. It is one of her husbands prized treasures... next to Jill ofcourse.

JILL EVANS

EMPLOYMENT SERVICES
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Ashley brings a diverse amount of experience to NorthStar. She has experience in case management, housing supports, crisis response services, and 245d services. Ashley is currently working between all locations and is so passionate about the work she does that you can sense it after spending just a few minutes with her. Ashley goes above and beyond for our individuals & thinks outside the box when it comes to supporting them.

FUN FACT: Ashley and her family have an Ice Castle, and enjoy spending their winter weekends on the ice. In the summer months, they spend their time at their camper in Wisconsin.

ASHLEY HANHELA

DESIGNATED COORDINATOR & BILLING
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Stacey has joined our team as of 2021 and will be working in the Duluth & Cloquet offices. Stacey is one of the most knowledgeable providers in Housing Support Services in the Northland. She has been asked by county social service agencies to provide large scale housing trainings, and has developed many supportive programs to meet housing needs in the region. Stacey is passionate about meeting people where they are and working through diverse and complex situations.

FUN FACT: Fun Fact: Stacey has an identical twin sister! They participated in a twin program with the University of Minnesota and found that they are 75% identical!

STACEY NORDBY

HOUSING SERVICES PROGRAM DIRECTOR
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Do you ever drive by the NorthStar Cloquet office and see all the cute quotes and decorations? That's Mindy! She keeps us all in line. Mindy is extremely creative, organized and keeps the spirit through NorthStar everyday. Mindy will soon be working with our individuals at Northern Lights.

FUN FACT: Mindy has over 20 years of experience in education, and has a dream of designing and building a natural play park within the community!

MINDY LEGER

OFFICE MANAGER & TRANSPORTATION COORDINATOR
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Exciting NorthStar update: We have recently acquired the space at 901 Cloquet Avenue (previously Wood City Lights) and will be opening a community based resource center and thrift store there, and will be called Northern Lights Community Action.

The store will provide resources to the community, but it will also offer opportunities for employment & community supports for those we serve such as; assisting with operating the store, helping with weekly food drive-throughs, building products to sell in the store and more!

Some of the projects we have in mind to construct include; wood wick Candles, wood chairs, decorations, flower boxes, and other handmade crafts. In addition to the store, we will house a second store front within this building and are still envisioning how to best utilize that. More to come on this! There are similar programs within St.Louis and Pine Counties which have seen great success for the individuals they serve, as well as their communities.

The grand opening for this store will be June 1st! Please watch for more Information.