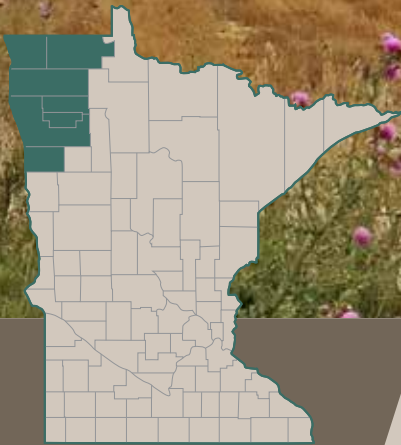




**NORTHWEST**  
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
COMMISSION



[www.nwrdc.org](http://www.nwrdc.org)

## ANNUAL REPORT 2018

*Serving the counties of Kittson, Marshall,  
Norman, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake and Roseau.*

[www.visitnwminnesota.com](http://www.visitnwminnesota.com)

# CONTENTS

## Introduction

A Message from our Chairperson .....	1
A Message from our Executive Director .....	2
Commission Membership.....	2

## Financials & 2019 Budget .....

## Dancing Sky Area Agency On Aging .....

Juniper
Pre-Admission Screening Specialists
Return to Community Partners with Medication
Therapy Management
Medicare Open Enrollment
Dementia Awareness
2018 Aging Grantees

## Community Development.....

Training, Housing, Community Needs
------------------------------------

## Economic Development .....

Grantwriting, Cluster Development, Branding
---

## Northwest Minnesota Arts Council.....

2018 Highlights, Grants Awarded, Funding Sources
--

## Transportation Planning .....

Regional Transportation Coordination Council
Northstar Trail Alliance Opens New ATV Trail

## Northwest Regional Enterprise Loan Fund... ..

The Momentum Continues in 2018
--------------------------------

## Emergency Operations Planning .....

Homeland Security & Terrorism the focus of 2018
---

## Plans & Publications .....

## NWRDC Team .....



THANK YOU JOHN LEROHL (L) AND MARK FOLDESI (R) FOR YOUR YEARS OF SERVICE.



SENATOR LEROY STUMPF ATTENDED THE 2018 ANNUAL MEETING.



2018 ANNUAL COMMISSION MEETING IN DECEMBER.



# A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRPERSON



DR. JOE BOUVETTE, COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON

## Welcome Friends!

**When the Minnesota Regional Development Act was passed 50 years ago in 1969, the intent was to create local organizations that would provide services and programs in response to unique regional needs. In Northwest Minnesota, although demographic data still reflect a somewhat declining and aging population, it exhibits sound strengths in agriculture, manufacturing and health care.**

The NWRDC is responding to these trends through its Area Agency on Aging program, providing services to older Minnesotans so they can stay in their own homes as long as possible,

delivering programs that help the elderly and their caregivers maintain a good quality of life and helping Medicare recipients to understand their options, among many other offerings. The same is true of our other programs: Emergency Operations Planning is provided to 14 counties who have specifically requested our assistance, adding to the disaster preparation and resiliency of the region; the Enterprise Loan Fund last year alone provided more than \$900,000 in low interest loans to new and expanding businesses, growing jobs and wealth in our area; the Transportation program teams with MnDOT and provides funds and planning to expand active living, trails, highway improvements and educational opportunities; the Arts program provides exposure to world

renowned artists, promotes cultural events and provides grant funding to further the student and adult artistic experience; and the Economic and Community Development programs have provided grantwriting for emergent business development, technical assistance for zoning and planning and connections to state and federal programs that can grow our possibilities. Behind it all is a solid financial and front office staff that is the glue that holds this team together.

I am proud of the NWRDC's accomplishments and hope this annual report will provide you with further insights into our work. Thank you for your support and we wish you the best in 2019!



COMMISSION MEMBERS THAT WERE IN ATTENDANCE AT THE 2018 ANNUAL MEETING: (FRONT ROW, L TO R) RONALD WEISS, KEITH SISTAD, GERALD AMIOT, WARREN STRANDELL, (BACK ROW, L TO R) JOHN LEROHL, KEVIN REICH, JIM DUCHAMP, GERALD JACOBSON, GARY KIESOW, LOREN LUSIGNAN, KATHLEEN TWITE, GAIL YUTRZENKA, MARK FOLDESI, DAVE ERICKSON, KIMBERLEY JOHNSON, DAVID TREUMER AND DR. JOE BOUVETTE.



# A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



CAM FANFULIK, NWRDC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## Greetings...

**Welcome to our annual report of agency activities in 2018! In past years, I've had the privilege to report not only our accomplishments but also what seemed to be the constant changes taking place in personnel additions, new programs, geographic footprint and technology improvements.**

We have always prided ourselves on being flexible and able to respond quickly to our clients' needs, or changes in federal rules or mandates from our stakeholders and benefactors. Sometimes it can be a little nerve-racking or intimidating, but I have always been able to count on excellent staff—team members who work together to find answers, resolve issues, work diligently and give their very best in service to our constituents.

The same is true of our Board and Commission members who give our staff direction, advice and support.

The NWRDC is an outstanding team devoted to serving people to the best of their abilities. Their accomplishments are many and I am proud to offer the 2018 annual report for your review.

## COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP

### Kittson County

Dr. Joe Bouvette**	Hallock	Counties
Kimberley Johnson*	Kennedy	Townships
David Treumer	Kennedy	Municipalities

### Marshall County

Gary Kiesow*	Goodridge	Counties
Loren Lusignan	Grygla	Townships
Lindsey Oslund	Grygla	Municipalities
Kristina Potucek	Warren	School Boards
Gail Yutzenka	Argyle	School Boards

### Norman County

Milton Alm	Hendrum	Municipalities
Sharon Josephson	Fertile	Townships
Nathan Redland*	Halstad	Counties

### Pennington County

Elvera Cullen	Thief River Falls	At Large
Dave Erickson	Thief River Falls	Townships
Cody Hempel*	Thief River Falls	Counties
Brian Holmer	Thief River Falls	Municipalities
Karan Lincoln	Thief River Falls	Minorities
Dante Steele	Thief River Falls	Minorities

### Polk County

Gerald Amiot	Crookston	Labor
Gerald Jacobson	Fertile	Seniors
Keith Sistad	Fosston	Townships
Warren Strandell*	East Grand Forks	Counties
Toby Strom	McIntosh	Municipalities
Kathleen Twite	East Grand Forks	Business

### Red Lake County

Jim DuChamp	Plummer	Municipalities
Catherine Johnson	Oklee	At Large
John Lerohl*	Oklee	Counties
Kevin Reich	Red Lake Falls	Townships
Ronald Weiss	Red Lake Falls	Watershed District

### Roseau County

Mark Foldesi*	Greenbush	Counties
Brenda Sather	Greenbush	Municipalities
Debra Wiskow	Greenbush	Townships

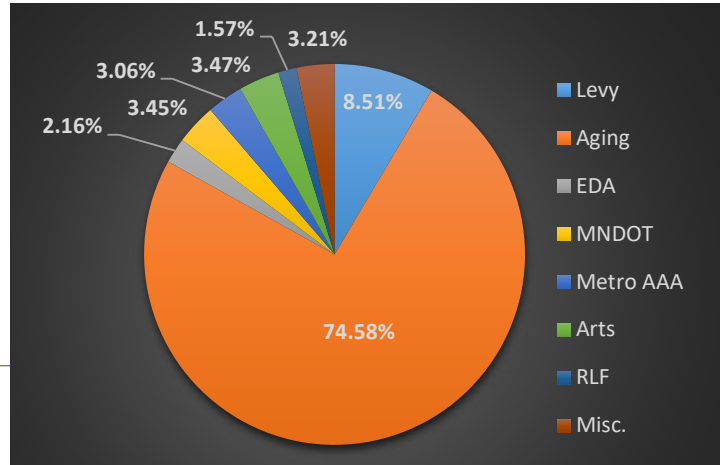
\* Board Members

\*\* Chairperson

# FINANCIALS & 2019 BUDGET

CALENDAR YEAR 2018

## Actual 2018 Revenue Sources



REVENUES	CY'2018 BUDGET	CY'2018 ACTUALS	CY'2019 BUDGET
Local Tax Levy	\$280,818	\$276,044	\$289,272
MN Board on Aging/Department Health	\$2,315,012	\$2,366,574	\$2,179,190
Economic Development Administration	\$70,000	\$70,000	\$70,000
MN Department of Transportation	\$99,213	\$111,944	\$112,125
NW Minnesota Arts Council	\$113,236	\$112,433	\$112,359
Dancing Sky AAA County Match	\$52,155	\$52,335	\$53,720
NW Minnesota Enterprise Fund	\$45,493	\$50,781	\$52,853
Metro Area Agency on Aging	\$97,074	\$99,089	\$63,500
Local Contracts/ Miscellaneous	\$96,914	\$104,064	\$95,563
Regrant Revenue	\$3,151,740	\$3,140,970	\$2,839,240
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,321,655</b>	<b>\$6,384,234</b>	<b>\$5,867,822</b>

### CY'2017 AUDIT

The CY'2017 Audit was conducted by Brady Martz, Certified Public Accountants and Consultants, Crookston, Minnesota. The auditor's report expresses an unqualified opinion on the General Purpose Financial Statements of the Northwest Regional Development Commission.

EXPENDITURES	CY'2018 BUDGET	CY'2018 ACTUALS	CY'2019 BUDGET
Salaries and Fringe	\$2,441,668	\$2,489,567	\$2,487,504
Professional Services	\$199,361	\$219,817	\$23,375
Travel	\$184,507	\$191,243	\$239,668
Printing/Postage	\$53,200	\$58,531	\$55,895
Supplies	\$21,899	\$25,266	\$38,360
Rent/Maintenance	\$54,736	\$61,679	\$52,776
Equipment	\$19,157	\$20,848	\$9,400
Other	\$195,387	\$137,557	\$121,604
Grants/Contracts	\$3,151,740	\$3,140,970	\$2,839,240
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,321,655</b>	<b>\$6,345,478</b>	<b>\$5,867,822</b>

### COST ALLOCATION

CY'2018 Actual  
Leave Rate:  
**16.34%**

CY'2018 Actual  
Fringe Rate:  
**36.76%**

CY'2018 Actual  
Indirect Rate:  
**9.26%**



[www.dancingskyaaa.org](http://www.dancingskyaaa.org)

## DANCING SKY AREA AGENCY ON AGING

AREA AGENCY ON AGING STAFF

### PURPOSE:

The Dancing Sky is 1 of 7 Minnesota Area Agencies on Aging. Our goal for the people of Minnesota is simple, to work with rural communities to help older adults stay in control of their choices. We envision vibrant communities invested in their elders and older adults and caregivers planning for the future. Together, older adults and communities thrive.

### SERVICE PRIORITIES:

Nutrition, congregate and home delivered meals, legal services, housekeeping, chore services, home modification, transportation services, disease prevention/health promotion, early memory care, medication management, falls prevention, Tai Ji Quan: Moving for Better Balance, Matter of Balance, chronic disease prevention, respite care and caregiver support.

## Together, Older Adults and Communities Thrive.

**The Dancing Sky Area Agency on Aging (DSAAA) and Senior LinkAge Line (SLL) had many opportunities throughout the year to collaborate and partner with service providers and continue to provide direct services to seniors throughout our 21 county service area. At the DSAAA, the vision, “Together, older adults and communities thrive”, has become a foundational focus of the work we do.**

### Juniper

The DSAAA formed a partnership with Juniper, a statewide program with a network of community organizations, local leaders and health systems. Providing a central resource, [www.myjuniper.org](http://www.myjuniper.org), guides seniors to evidence-based programs to help them manage chronic health conditions, prevent falls and foster well-being. Juniper is helping communities across Minnesota succeed in understanding the senior population and giving individuals the tools they need to take control of their own health.



### Pre-Admission Screening Specialists

Pre-Admission Screening Specialists (PAS) continue to assist people transitioning from hospitals to a skilled nursing facility through the screening process. PAS assisted 5,660 people in 2018, including 484 care transition calls for people leaving the nursing home, after a short stay. Coordinating information regarding nursing home level of stay; as well as coordination between county, hospital, consumer and billing continues to be a strength of the PAS team.

### Return to Community Partners with Medication Therapy Management

Medication Therapy Management is an initiative, in which the DSAAA, Consultant Pharmacies Inc. and the Minnesota Board on Aging (MBA) have joined forces providing medication regimen reviews to people following a nursing home stay. Community Living Specialists (CLS) provide medication lists, history/physical and labs to the pharmacy consultants through secure software. Pharmacy consultants then provide recommendations, which the CLS deliver, with an explanation, to the consumer. A copy of the recommendations are also provided to their doctor. The impact of this program has been

far reaching and pharmacists presented this initiative at the National Conference of the American Society of Consultant Pharmacists. An evidence-based study in partnership with NDSU is another result of this initiative. In 2018, CLS utilized Medication Therapy for 244 people.



## Medicare Open Enrollment

The Senior LinkAge Line® experienced an Open Enrollment for Medicare this year that surpassed any previous years' service to beneficiaries. Preparing for the Cost Plan changes, the Dancing Sky AAA educated 3,907 people through: Medicare 101 classes, Cost Plan presentations, educational newsletters and a quick reference for Medicare.gov. Additional staff assisted with the exceptionally high volume of beneficiaries needing insurance plan comparisons, SLL phone hours were extended as well. In 2018, the SLL assisted beneficiaries with 1,630 phone consultations and 1,338 were provided in person assistance.

## Dementia Awareness

As the DSAAA continues to work at increasing dementia awareness, the need was identified for a more comprehensive approach to community education and awareness. The agency developed "EMS Responds: A Patient-Centered Approach to Emergency Care of Dementia Patients." This program partners with rural EMS and First



Responder programs to provide education to increase their knowledge and understanding of dementia. The program allows EMS personnel to experience the Virtual Dementia Tour®, spend time learning about dementia and how to see beyond it and focus on the uniqueness of these patients.

As part of the goal to increase dementia awareness, the Dementia Friends Initiative continues to provide participants knowledge on the disease and how individuals and communities can help those with the disease.

Because all family members are affected by a diagnosis of dementia, "Grandpa and Lucy", has been incorporated into the Dementia Friends Initiative.

Written by a ninth grader in St. Paul, the book helps youth learn about dementia. A high school version of Dementia Friends has also been created to reach a younger generation. **During the past year, 993 people became Dementia Friends.**



As the DSAAA continues to strengthen time-honored relationships and seek out new partnerships we look forward to 2019! As we work together so that older adults and communities thrive, we will continue to build on the initiatives established in the past, while always looking towards the future.

## 2018 AGING GRANTEEES

Productive Alternatives Assisted Transportation [\$24,500]  
 Clearwaters Life Center Assisted Transportation [\$5,924]  
 Northwest Sentencing to Service Chore Program [\$12,823]  
 Tri-County Community Corrections Chore Program [\$12,977]  
 Legal Services of Northwest Minnesota Legal Assistance [\$72,000]  
 West Central Community Action Home Modification [\$25,670]  
 Lake Region Healthcare Medication Management [\$13,000]

Lutheran Social Services Caregiver & Respite [\$146,777]  
 Northwoods Caregivers Caregiver & Respite [\$29,513]  
 Park Rapids Living at Home Caregiver & Respite [\$21,124]  
 Central MN Elder Network Caregiver & Respite [\$25,129]  
 Nutrition Services Inc. Congregate Meals [\$400,500]  
 Nutrition Services Inc. Home-delivered Meals [\$506,000]  
 Lutheran Social Services Congregate Meals [\$462,810]  
 Lutheran Social Services Home-delivered Meals [\$324,120]





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## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

### PURPOSE:

To assist communities in maintaining the services and infrastructure needed to support a robust economy and an attractive quality of life.

### SERVICE PRIORITIES:

Community planning and zoning, tourism and promotions, recreational development and geographic information system (GIS) mapping.



"TEAM NW"  
HOUSING  
PROJECT IN  
WARREN



HOUSING  
ACTION  
NETWORK  
MEETS TO  
DISCUSS  
DEVELOPMENT  
OPTIONS

## Community Development - Training, Housing, Community Needs

### Housing Institute

Community Development staff completed an 18 month training course from Minnesota Housing Partnership fostering peer learning and best practices that encourage housing development in rural MN. Each team was charged with creating a housing project that reflected local needs. "Team NW" (Red Lake Falls, Crookston, East Grand Forks and Warren) chose single-family housing. Homark Homes was contracted as the builder in order to achieve economies of scale. One home was built in Warren with another slated for Crookston in Spring 2019.

### Blandin Statewide Learning Cohort

Staff participated with the Blandin Foundation, RDOs and MN Extension to develop a peer learning experience for development professionals that educated them on best practices, new theories and program implementation. The peer learning cohort is exposed to a variety of methodologies that provide

a standardized way of approaching economic and community development.

### Impact 20/20

The NWRDC participates with diverse Northwest MN leaders working together for the region's economic success. Priority issues include housing, workforce, broadband and education. We participate in Impact 20/20 Leadership Council as well as Workforce and Housing taskforce committees. Group goals include: positively impact career readiness and graduation rates, overcome obstacles to housing needs, support high-speed internet access and enhance workforce career pathways and student success skills.

### UMC EDA University Center

The NWRDC sits on the Economic Development Agencies (EDA) Advisory Board for the purpose of review and selection of proposed applied research projects throughout the state. Research includes a range of activities, including

housing, tourism, manufacturing and economic impact analysis.

### Zoning

Throughout the year, staff assisted several communities and townships in the region with issues regarding zoning and planning.

### Twin Valley Nursing Home Closure

The NWRDC worked with the city of Twin Valley and the MN Extension to provide an emergency economic impact analysis in response to the sudden closing of the local nursing home. 33 nursing home residents were placed in other facilities and 58 workers lost their jobs. A job fair was promoted and the NWRDC Aging program assisted with nursing home placement of residents.

### Housing Action Network (HAN)

HAN is composed of regional partners that examine existing and potential housing projects and determine area community needs for future development.





www.nwrdc.org

PRODUCTION FACILITY AT FAR NORTH DISTILLERIES IN HALLOCK

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### PURPOSE:

To maintain and increase the population level and job base in the seven counties of Northwest Minnesota.

### SERVICE PRIORITIES:

Business development, labor force development, renewable energy, promotion and planning.



OWNER RYAN EVENSON DESCRIBES REVELATION ALE WORK'S BREWING PROCESS IN HALLOCK

## Economic Development - Grantwriting, Cluster Development, Branding

### Value-Added Producer Grants

The NWRDC was instrumental in writing applications to the Minnesota Department of Agriculture for Value-Added Producer Grants (VAPG). The grant funds were used toward the purchase of machinery and equipment at Vertical Malt in Crookston and Soyko International in Gary. Vertical Malt is a vertically integrated custom malting company that provides products for the craft brewing industry. Soyko International is a minority-owned food processing business that provides food-grade soybeans for markets in Korea, Ukraine and worldwide. We also assisted 2 other edible bean companies in the region with preparing VAPG applications in 2019.

### MADO/Growth & Justice

This year we participated with MADO and Growth & Justice in a review and examination of DevelopMN goals and

made recommendations for a metrics measurement dashboard to be developed. This would allow MADO to measure progress and align our goals with state and regional objectives in economic development.

### Peer Review

The NWRDC (Economic Development District #1) completed a successful peer review process with the Federal Economic Development Agency (EDA), board members and an outside economic development agency from Illinois. One recommendation that resulted was encouragement to do more social media and leverage other media resources to spread the word and awareness about our work and services.

### Craft Brewing Cluster Development

Staff assisted craft brewing industry entrepreneurs with loans and grants,

OWNER BEN ERICKSON DESCRIBES THE CUSTOM PRODUCTION PROCESS AT ERICCO MFG. IN VIKING



business advice, data and research in the communities of Hallock, Warroad, Thief River Falls and Crookston. Adding value to agricultural production is one of the goals in our Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy.

### Warroad Branding & Economic Development

We also assisted community leaders with information and advice regarding the development of an entrepreneurial base in downtown Warroad, as well as building upon community strengths in tourism and natural resources. The effort includes business retention and expansion in the downtown area, attracting residents and workers to the community and building upon existing assets to increase natural and man-made amenities to improve the area.



# NORTHWEST MINNESOTA ARTS COUNCIL (NWMAC)

NORTHWEST MINNESOTA ART EXHIBIT AT  
RALPH ENGELSTAD ARENA TRF IN APRIL 2018

## PURPOSE OF THE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN NWRDC & NWMAC:

To provide full time staff, office space, shared office equipment, and support staff to the non-profit Northwest Minnesota Arts Council. CY 2018 \$112,433.

## MISSION:

Support and enhance the development of arts and artists in Northwestern Minnesota.

## SERVICE PRIORITIES:

Grants and Grants Administration; Artist Showcase; Arts Promotion; Workshops/Training; and Statewide Leadership in Arts.

More information is found on [www.NorthwestMinnesotaArtsCouncil.org](http://www.NorthwestMinnesotaArtsCouncil.org) including how to sign up for monthly e-newsletters to stay informed and see NWMAC annual reports with more details.



THE 4TH EDITION OF OUR ARTISTS OF NORTHWEST MINNESOTA BOOKLET WAS PRINTED IN 2018

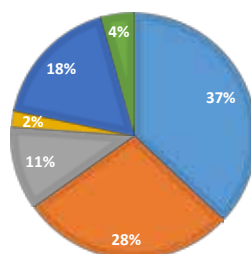
## 2018 Highlights

- Gallery in East Grand Forks: Seven main showcases
- Jim Kent of Crookston selected for the Northwest Star Award for lifetime achievement in music
- Held our 1<sup>st</sup> Arts Expo in April 2018 with 19 arts leaders from across Minnesota
- 1<sup>st</sup> Teaching Artist Roster Program training series with five artists completing, roster on our website
- Artists of Northwest Minnesota booklet printed 3,000 copies and features 39 artists and 58 businesses, posted on our website

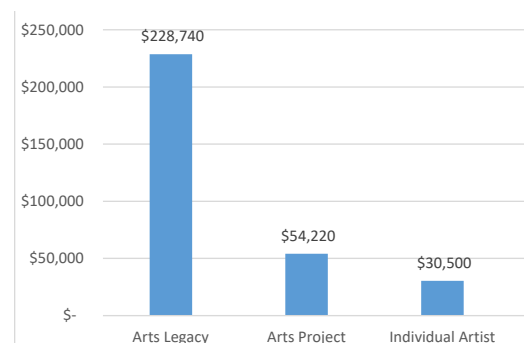
## Tune in Tuesdays to Radio Pioneer 90.1 at 3:05!

- 47 interviews in 2018

- Artists
- Arts Org Leaders
- NWMAC Director
- NWMAC Board
- Statewide Arts
- NWMAC Staff

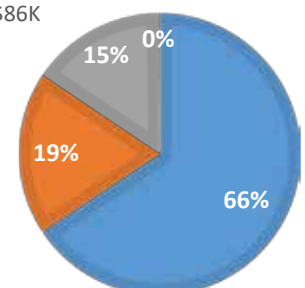


## Grants Awarded



## Funding Sources

- Clean Water, Land, and Legacy Amendment \$300K
- State of MN General Allocation \$86K
- McKnight Foundation \$70K
- Charitable Donations/Fees \$1K







www.nwrhc.org

## TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

**PURPOSE:** To ensure safe and efficient movement of people and commodities and provide an on-going forum for important transportation issues in the region. To assist MnDOT and provide input with its planning efforts and programs.

**SERVICE PRIORITIES:** Direction setting, comprehensive regional planning, legislative advocacy and MnDOT project coordination.



THE NWRDC HAS CONTRACTED WITH MNDOT  
TO COORDINATE TRANSIT PLANNING

### Regional Transportation Coordination Council (RTCC)

The NWRDC has contracted with MnDOT to administer a new transportation program that is aimed at providing better transit services to the elderly, low-income, veterans and people with disabilities in the region. The new position is with the Office of Transit and Active Transportation and is called the Regional Transportation Coordination Council (RTCC). Region One currently has two primary public transportation providers serving rural areas. Tri-Valley Bus serves Roseau, Marshall, Pennington, Red Lake, Polk and Norman counties and Paul Bunyan Transit serves Roseau county. There is also providers in Fosston and East Grand Forks.

Phase one is the planning phase where a board will be created, by-laws established and public meetings held to discuss the opportunities available with this new transit role. It will also evaluate goals and objectives identified

in the 2016 Local Human Resources Transit Coordination Plans that the NWRDC completed. Phase two is the implementation phase where the goals and objectives that have been identified in the 2016 Local Transit Plan will be implemented .

The board will be made up of a county commissioner and representatives from social services, veteran services, Tri-Valley Bus, Paul Bunyan Transit, Fosston City Transit and East Grand Forks Transit. Non-voting members include public riders, hospital administrators, private businesses and representatives from MnDOT, the Diverse Abilities Corporation, Occupational Development Center, Metropolitan Planning Organization, Area Agency on Aging and social services.

### Northstar Trail Alliance Opens New ATV Trail

A new ATV Club is making strides in the development of trails in the Beltrami Island State Forest. Congressman

Peterson attended a ribbon cutting ceremony that connected trail systems that had previously been separated by land use/ownership. The Northstar Trail Alliance is comprised of the Fourtown-Grygla and the Roseau-Lake of the Woods Sportsman Clubs. They have been working for years to connect two roads once separated by land owned by the US Fish and Wildlife. Peterson and DNR Commissioner Landwehr worked with the federal agency to trade lands that would allow continuous access and better riding opportunities on the Bernard's Orchard Trail.

State Rep. Fabian and state Sen. Johnson were on hand to dedicate the opening of the Dam 4 Trail and the expansion of motorized access connecting the Elkwood and Morehouse forest roads.

The opening of the Dam 4 Trail along the Roseau River gives motorized users a continuous route between northern and southern portions of the massive state forest that had been separated by dead ends a half-mile apart.





# NORTHWEST REGIONAL ENTERPRISE LOAN FUND

**PURPOSE:**  
To strengthen and diversify the economy by providing a source of low interest financing to businesses when credit is not otherwise available from other sources and to ensure the successful completion of activities to be financed.

**SERVICE PRIORITIES:**  
Financing for-profit businesses which create or retain jobs, especially for the long-term underemployed or unemployed.

## The Momentum Continues in 2018

The Northwest Regional Enterprise Loan Fund saw two different companies pay loans in full for 2018. The Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) thanks those companies for their relationship with the NWRDC and wishes them the best in future endeavors!

New loan production continued to improve for 2018. The RLF closed 12 loans in 2018 for \$887,000. The number of inquiries in 2018 also continues to be strong. The program will have over \$350,000 available to lend going into 2019.

In addition to opening new loans, other loan fund activities included loan restructuring, interest rate adjustments, payoffs, loan assistance to community economic development agencies (EDAs) and technical assistance.

We provided technical assistance in the form of information and referral to other organizations and agencies including but not limited to: Small Business Development Center, EDA University Center, Agricultural Utilization Research Institute, Department of Employment and Economic Development, Headwaters Regional Development Commission, NW Minnesota Multi-County HRA, Northwest Minnesota Foundation and the IDEA Competition.

**Historical Loan Activity**  
(period ending 11/30/2018):

Total Loans	210
Active Loans	44
Total Loan Amount	\$15,022,230
Other Financing Leveraged	\$68,295,658
Jobs Created/Retained	2,303
Total Project Costs	\$94,137,511

**Historical Loan Activity by County**  
(period ending 11/30/2018):

County	# of Loans	Amount
Kittson	23	\$1,284,120
Marshall	40	\$2,769,045
Norman	18	\$904,248
Pennington	19	\$1,795,850
Polk	62	\$5,234,975
Red Lake	12	\$883,115
Roseau	27	\$2,150,876

LAKE OF  
THE WOODS  
BREWING  
COMPANY,  
WARROAD, IS  
A 2018 LOAN  
RECIPIENT.





## EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLANNING

**PURPOSE:** To aid Homeland Security & Emergency Management (HSEM) Region Three in the preparation, planning and implementation of activities related to regional preparedness, response and recovery.

**SERVICE PRIORITIES:** Utilize a specifically geared, annually evolving work program to support existing emergency management capabilities throughout Northwest Minnesota, as approved by the Emergency Management Joint Powers Board and HSEM staff.

## Homeland Security & Terrorism the focus of 2018

**The NWRDC continued its planning partnership with the Homeland Security & Emergency Management (HSEM) Region Three Joint Powers Board by providing planning services for the 14 counties located in Northwestern Minnesota.**

With an ever-evolving work program combined with an active array of hazards present in Minnesota; it takes many individuals active in emergency preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery in order to save lives, reduce property damage and decrease/eliminate future effects. Government, local agencies, volunteers, businesses and emergency response personnel all work together and lend efforts/resources to keep our communities safe. The following points highlight a few of the successes that the Northwest Emergency Manager's Joint Powers Board's regional planning program has accomplished in 2018, thanks to a grant funding opportunity through Minnesota HSEM:

- Whole Community Assessment
- Critical Infrastructure Assessment
- Regional CBRNE Teams Assessment
- Information Sharing Portal
- Canadian/Partner Integration Plan
- Hostile Actions Playbook
- Terrorism-based Regional Exercise
- Governor's Conference, AMEM and the Pigeon River International Cross-Border Conference Attendance
- Senior Disaster Preparedness Presentation at the "Association of Minnesota Emergency Management" conference in partnership with the Dancing Sky Area Agency on Aging. Individual presentations have also occurred.
- Regional Badging & Credentialling
- Involvement with the Upper Red River Valley Community Organizations Active in Disaster, Regional Radio Board/ Radio Advisory Committee and the Northwest Health Services Coalition.
- Quarterly and Joint Powers Board Meeting Attendance
- Local and Regional Exercise Involvement

# PLANS & PUBLICATIONS

## PREPARED BY THE NWRDC

### PLANS:

**2019 Aging Area Plan** – Includes senior and provider input as well as demographic data to establish priorities for the use of Title-III Older Americans Act funds. Includes information on the unique characteristics of our region, demographics, accomplishments, program outcomes and budget information.

**Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)** – The 2017–2021 CEDS has taken a little different shape to more closely resemble that of each of the other Economic Development Regions of Greater Minnesota. The Economic Development Regions have agreed upon four key cornerstones to economic development; Human Capital, Economic Competitiveness, Community Resources and Foundational Assets. Each region has based their CEDS on these cornerstones and developed their own unique goals and strategies. The 2017-2021 CEDS does maintain previous priorities of Planning, Promotion, Business Development, Labor Force Development and Renewable Energies with added emphasis on workforce related issues such as housing, childcare, training and business succession planning.

**Regional Arts Plan** – Includes goals, strategies and work activities for State Arts Funds and McKnight Arts Funds.

**Revolving Loan Fund Plan** – Consists of program elements and guidelines.

### PUBLICATIONS:

**SeniorNews** – A newsletter for senior citizens and service providers of Northwest Minnesota.

**Artists of Northwest Minnesota** – A directory of 36 artists and non-profit organizations. 3,000 printed in 2015.

**Government Units of Service Directory** – A listing of service agencies and government offices from the township and legislative levels.

**2018 Annual Report** – A report sent to local officials and legislators of funding and work activities of the NWRDC.

**NW MN Visitor & Recreation Guide** – A guide of attractions which offer services and opportunities in Northwest Minnesota communities.

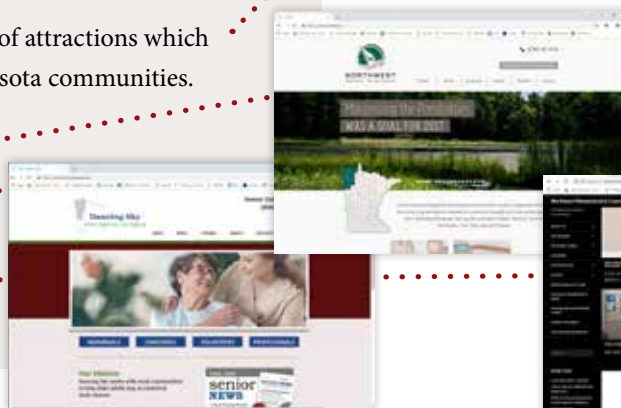
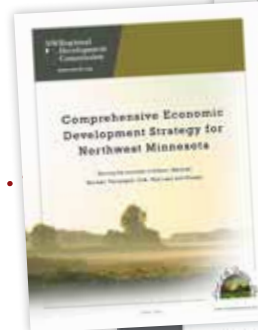
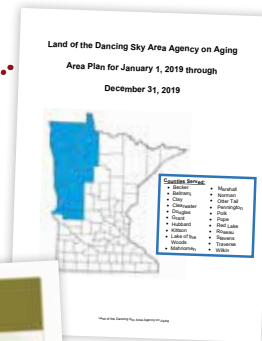
### WEBSITES:

[www.nwrdc.org](http://www.nwrdc.org)

[www.dancingskyaaa.org](http://www.dancingskyaaa.org)

[www.northwestminnesotaartscouncil.org](http://www.northwestminnesotaartscouncil.org)

[www.visitnwminnesota.com](http://www.visitnwminnesota.com)





# NWRDC TEAM



**Cameron Fanfulik**  
Executive Director



**Carol Sorensen**  
Financial Director



**Kalen Wiseth**  
Financial Officer



**Kelly Pahlen**  
Administrative Support



**Judy Flaten**  
Administrative Support



**Mara Hanel**  
NW Minnesota Arts  
Council Director



**Sean Ranum**  
Loan Fund Manager/  
Economic Development



**Troy Schroeder**  
Transportation  
Planning Director



**Jennifer Olson**  
Emergency Operations  
Planning Director



**Darla Waldner**  
Dancing Sky AAA  
Director



**Beth Budziszewski**  
Senior LinkAge Line®  
Supervisor



**Danica Robson**  
Development Supervisor



**Judi Weiss**  
Grant & Contract  
Manager/Program  
Developer



**Kate Storhaug**  
Program Developer



**Connie Troska**  
Program Developer



**Amy Dallmann**  
Program Developer



**Carol Bye**  
Healthy Aging  
Coordinator



**Nancy Finstrom**  
Community Living  
Specialist



**Debbie Eiler**  
Community Living  
Specialist



**Heather Pender**  
Community Living  
Specialist



**Deb Rapp**  
Community Living  
Specialist



**Sabrina Anderson**  
Community Living  
Specialist



**Jane Stumbo**  
Community Living  
Specialist



**Dana Kloeppner**  
Pre-Admission  
Screening Specialist



**Melissa Hoeft**  
Pre-Admission  
Screening Specialist



**Valerie Mattison**  
Pre-Admission  
Screening Specialist



**Kaela Wiskow**  
Pre-Admission Screening  
Case Aide Specialist



**Helen Phalen**  
Volunteer Coordinator /  
Senior LinkAge Line®  
Phone Specialist Lead



**Kathy Dahl**  
Senior LinkAge Line®  
Phone Specialist



**Jennifer Hedrick**  
Senior LinkAge Line®  
Phone Specialist



**Lyn Pankratz**  
Senior LinkAge Line®  
Phone Specialist



**Marlene Dahlquist**  
Senior LinkAge Line®  
Triage Coordinator



**Paul Baymler**  
Senior LinkAge Line®  
Phone Specialist



**Kim Anderson**  
Senior LinkAge Line®  
Phone Specialist

Over the past 5 years the NWRDC has shown a remarkable growth in both personnel and budget, reflecting increased government mandates, shifts in local needs, state program legislation and growing residential and business demands.

To respond effectively, our workforce has grown from 15 to 34 employees, with a budget exceeding \$5 million.

With any change that takes place in our programs, we need to communicate accordingly to our clients and benefactors what is happening. With all the staff additions and program adjustments we were undergoing, we felt it was time to revamp our various agency and program websites, explore social media options and make our logo and stationery more modern for our customers.

The redesigning of our logo was a lengthy process that started with a collaboration with students in the Communication Art & Design program at Alexandria Technical College and the design team at the advertising agency, Anchor Marketing, in Grand Forks, ND. In the end, it was truly a team effort involving all NWRDC staff and Commission members.

So, to put it simply, our new logo represents to us a compass pointing Northwest. A compass is a symbol for guidance. It is our goal to be a guide to help the people of Northwest Minnesota get where they want to go and to reach their hopes and aspirations.

When you see our version of the compass, we hope you think of the NWRDC as a trusted resource to point you in the right direction.



**NORTHWEST**  
REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT  
COMMISSION