



Denise Mayotte

Executive Director, The Sheltering Arms Foundation

Denise Mayotte is the Executive Director of the Sheltering Arms Foundation and the co-chair of the Start Early Funders Coalition. Previously, Denise worked as a program officer for the arts at the McKnight Foundation and as the executive director of the Neighborhood Resource Center. She serves on the board of In Progress, a youth media organization, as Policy Committee Chair of the Strategic Leadership Team for Youth Community Connections in addition to numerous other civic and community leadership roles.



Frank Forsberg

Senior Vice President, Greater Twin Cities United Way

Frank Forsberg is the Senior Vice President of Systems Change and Innovation. He oversees impact planning, public policy government relations, and external engagement. He came to United Way in December, 1999, from Catholic Charities, where he was administrator of the Advocacy and Outreach Division. He has a bachelor's degree in business from St. John's University and a master's degree in public administration from Hamline University.

Away from the office, Frank spends most of his time with his wife and three children. He also enjoys walking along river banks and local swamps looking for Ruby Crowned Kinglets and other small feathered friends.



Dr. Heather Winesett, M.D.

Pediatrician, St. Luke's Pediatric Associates, Duluth

Dr. Winesett grew up in Nebraska and became interested in working with children when she was in junior high and volunteered in a summer program that served special needs children for seven years. She has diverse interests, and worked as a college instructor, received a master's degree in chemistry, worked on the board of a non-profit hospital program called Listening Friends, and served as an officer in the Army National Guard along the way. Pediatrics allowed Dr. Winesett to finally unite several of her different interests. Although she's spent most of my life out West, she joined the practice at St. Luke's about 10 years ago. She has four fantastic children (ages 15-7).



Dr. Edward Ehlinger, M.D., MSPH

Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Health

As commissioner, Ehlinger is responsible for directing the state's lead public health agency. Prior to his appointment by Gov. Mark Dayton in 2011, Dr. Ehlinger was director and chief health officer at Boynton Health Service at the University of Minnesota. From 1980 to 1995, Ehlinger served as director of Personal Health Services for the Minneapolis Health Department. He served in the National Health Service Corps from 1973-75. Dr. Ehlinger is an adjunct professor in the Division of Epidemiology and Community Health at the U of M School of Public Health. Dr. Ehlinger is board certified in Internal Medicine and Pediatrics and has a master's degree in public health and was a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholar and Bush Fellow. He is Past President of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, the MN Public Health Assn. Twin Cities Medical Society and North Central College Health Association.



Lucy Arias, M.Ed.

Parent with the Family Partnership

Lucy Arias is a mother to three children: her 18 year old biological daughter and her kinship adopted 5 year old daughter and 4 year old son. Ms. Arias has worked for multiple community-based research projects at the University of Minnesota and coordinated community-initiated public health and early childhood intervention programs in the Twin Cities metro region. In addition to professional duties she has served on community non-profit boards, advisory councils, and grant review committees. She has wide-ranging experiences in child and adolescent welfare, public health, teacher development, and community outreach.



Norman "Skip" Ferris, III

Director, Arrowhead Head Start, Virginia

Norman E. "Skip" Ferris, III has been Arrowhead Head Start's Director since August 2004, serving in an administrative capacity managing the program and fiscal operations of the Head Start program. He has over 25 years of management/finance experience including managing the Job Training Programs (WIA) for the City of Duluth, working in the private sector, as a small business owner and with Arrowhead Head Start. Skip has a BS degree in K-12 Music Education from Minnesota State University-Mankato. He is a board member of the East Range School to Work Partnership that administers Carl Perkins funding for secondary and post-secondary schools in northeastern Minnesota, is treasurer of the Head Start Northern Lights cluster, serves as a member of the Education Advisory Committee for Mesabi Range College, and participates in local early childhood initiatives throughout the region. He served as past co-chair of the Access & Finance Committee of the Governor's Early Childhood Advisory Council from 2009-2011.



Molly Greenman

President & CEO, The Family Partnership

Molly Greenman joined The Family Partnership in 1986, and was named President/CEO in 2004. She is a nationally recognized leader with more than 40 years of expertise with children and families, innovative program development, community partnerships, and local and national family service initiatives. Under her leadership, the organization committed to utilizing a 2-Generation approach to interrupt poverty through early education and care; parent engagement and development; mental health services; and support and advocacy to end sex-trafficking. The organization was chosen as one of ten organizations in the country to participate in Change in Mind, an initiative of the Alliance for Strong Families and Communities and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to infuse brain science into policy decisions about the well-being of children, youth and families. Molly also co-founded an innovative model of shared administrative services which currently serves more than 40 partner nonprofit organizations in Minnesota. Molly holds a Master's Degree in social work from the University of Minnesota and a bachelor's degree from San Francisco State University. She is a licensed independent social worker and serves on the board of the Alliance of Strong Families and Communities, and Metropolitan Alliance of Connected Communities.





**Kamyala Howard, MSW, LICSW
Independent Consultant**

Kamyala Howard, khowardonsultingllc, has over 22 years of experience working with children and families within diverse communities and 14 years executive leadership. Ms. Howard is a graduate of the University of Minnesota with special clinical emphasis in Child Welfare, African American Culture, and Early Childhood Mental Health. Currently she certified in a range of professional certifications that aid in her inspirational delivery methods and learning. Ms. Howard is an independent consultant/trainer and community advocate who has a proven ability to create innovative models and programs aimed at dismantling barriers, integrating intercultural theory, culturally responsive trauma-informed practices, and community based interventions towards building resiliency and supporting positive change. Ms. Howard is an active member on many advisory council's and continues to build a large network through community outreach, collaborating, and advocating for systems change. Ms. Howard has a history of bringing many voices to the table in creating solutions to complex challenges and believes often as a leader, it is her duty to establish a system that brings the voices of those often on the margins, to the table so they can be a part of solution-focused discussions to complex problems.



**Lynn Haglin
Vice President/KIDS PLUS Director**

Lynn Haglin's experience spans over 30 years in education, administration, community development and philanthropy, with an extensive background in early childhood, youth development and inter-generational programming. She began her career as a Kindergarten teach and Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) educator. Since 1992, Lynn has led the Northland Foundation's nationally recognized KIDS PLUS Program, which, under her guidance, has grown into an array of children, youth and inter-generational initiatives encompassing 52 community coalitions throughout northeastern Minnesota. She holds a Master of Arts in Educational Leadership and Administration from Western Michigan University and a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education from Bemidji State University.

