



NDAD

helping others to help themselves

Summer 2022

Insider

NDAD'S MISSION:

Enhance the quality of lives
of individuals facing health challenges.

A leg up on home health equipment

Summer began for Duke Evenstad in an unaccustomed manner using a wheelchair and wearing a cast on his right leg. A nasty fall while bicycling on June 15 resulted in an untimely break for the Northwood 6-year-old.

With NDAD's help, Duke is making the most of a frustrating situation. Parents Tony and Kate Evenstad brought him to our Grand Forks office on the last day of spring. He left riding a black-and-canary yellow pediatric manual wheelchair, obtained free for up to 90 days from NDAD's popular Healthcare Equipment Loan Program (HELP).

While HELP satisfactorily fulfills the needs of several thousands of users annually, sometimes home health equipment is needed for a much longer period. NDAD may be able to help them with direct financial assistance to obtain that necessity. Visit NDAD.org or call (800) 532-NDAD to learn more.

NDAD. It's for you. ■



Laurie Parsons

NDAD provides ‘hope’ as Fargo woman deals with health challenges

If a travelogue was made of her life’s health journey, Laurie Parsons says, charitable NDAD would have an “instrumental” role in recent years.

“NDAD has always gone above and beyond to pay for new medications when they are needed and if they meet the NDAD criteria,” the Fargo resident said. Plus, she’s received NDAD’s charitable medical travel assistance for a spring appointment to the University of Minnesota Medical Center.

“At the lowest times of my life,” Laurie said, “NDAD at least has given me some hope. It’s sure nice somebody cares.”

As a 13-year-old living in Barnesville, Minn., Laurie received a donated liver back in 1988 that likely spared her eventual death from the incurable Wilson’s disease, a rare, inherited, progressive disorder characterized by excess copper stored in some body tissues.

For decades, Laurie says, she had no serious problems after the liver transplant “until last year.” She learned that 34 years of anti-rejection medications had taken a toll, and she’s now dealing with end-stage liver cirrhosis. At some point, she may need another transplant.



Laurie Parsons with “best friend” Ariel, the Parsons’ 7-month-old Cavalier King Charles spaniel.

“I get much-needed help from (NDAD) with my liver transplant meds I take to prevent rejection of my organ,” she said. “NDAD has also been instrumental in helping me pay for several of my psychiatric medicines, which are also very important.”

Laurie began receiving NDAD financial assistance help several years ago after her future husband, Steve Parsons, inquired about NDAD’s services after shoveling the office’s snow as part of his work for Fargo’s Downtown Community Partnership.

In the years since, Laurie said, NDAD’s Kim Zeeb, its client services representative for Fargo, Moorhead and southeast North Dakota, “has always been exceptionally helpful and is always willing to answer my questions and help out in any way she possibly can.” ■



Laurie and Steve Parsons, who’s holding Ariel.

Donna and Hilbert Klingman

NDAD prescription assistance helps Minot couple catch their breath

During 60 years of marriage, Donna and Hilbert Klingman have done more things together than they possibly can count.

Add another thing to that list, now that these retirees both receive help with medications from charitable nonprofit NDAD. Donna is the newer recipient of the two after rising costs took her breath away. “Now both of us are in need” of prescription help, she said. “When I got on these inhalers that got so expensive.... Ohhhhhh! Ridiculous!”

Hilbert had been using NDAD’s free prescription assistance program to help him treat his diabetes, COPD and congestive heart issues.

When the inhalers for Donna’s own COPD further challenged their finances, Donna contacted NDAD’s Marsha Dupre, our charity’s client services representative in Minot. “She sent some paperwork to fill out. Just a few questions,”



she said. It wasn’t a difficult task, she added.

Donna concedes she at first was somewhat apprehensive about seeking NDAD’s assistance. “I didn’t feel comfortable” at first, she recalled. “You want to do things on your own. It just felt a little embarrassing

or something.” But need helped her get past her initial reluctance, and now she’s grateful she proceeded to apply. As a result of NDAD’s help, she’s now breathing a sigh of relief.

“Yes, I think it’s a great system, a great program,” Donna said about NDAD. “I’ve been real satisfied. I’m tickled to death to be in it.” ■

Gibbens Memorial Grant goes to Northlands substance abuse program

NDAD has awarded a 2022 Gibbens Memorial Grant to a new Grand Forks program that provides substance abuse support and treatment to people experiencing homelessness.

Northlands Rescue Mission was chosen to receive the \$5,000 grant following NDAD’s call for applications during April.

NDAD awards at least one Gibbens Memorial Grant annually to an agency or organization for use in a health, welfare, social service, or education purpose serving at-risk populations.

The grant, named for NDAD’s late co-founders and program leaders, Faye and Ron Gibbens, is in its seventh year.

Northlands is a Christian-based emergency shelter that’s served homeless and poor adults

since 1942. With Agassiz Associates Mental Health Services as its primary community partner and collaborator, Northlands aims to

identify and then put into action equitable and culturally appropriate service delivery practices for people experiencing homelessness, substance addiction

and co-occurring behavioral issues.

Northlands seeks to “implement effective interventions to promote behavior change through cycles of contemplation and preparation, action, and maintenance, with backup supports for relapse and stabilization,” according to its grant application. “Safe housing is the point of entry into treatment for many individuals.” ■



Client services expansion in Williston

NDAD's Williston operations temporarily are being handled from our charity's Minot office until a relocation is completed within Williston. It's our organization's fifth office; Minot, Bismarck, Fargo and Grand Forks are the other communities offering full-service client services from a local office. NDAD's Williston service will also include an expansion of our popular Healthcare Equipment Loan Program (HELP), which provides free loans of up to 90 days of a variety of home medical equipment, including wheelchairs, walkers, scooters, toilet risers, and shower chairs and benches. Watch NDAD.org and our Facebook and Twitter pages for further updates.

GF-EGF get medical travel help

NDAD recently introduced the Transportation Assistance Program (TAP) for in-town medical travel in Grand Forks and East Grand Forks for residents who live in those communities. Qualified applicants

receive gas cards or city bus fare as funding is available. TAP is provided through a grant from the Altru Alliance, a membership group within Altru Health System. More TAP information, including a downloadable brochure/application: <https://ndad.org/services/FinancialAssistance/transportation/>.

Weather prompts Escape cancellation

Extremely high winds created unsafe conditions that prompted the cancellation of the 2022 Escape to the Lake at Nelson Lake near Center, N.D. It's just the second time since Escape's 1994 debut that unfavorable weather has prevented the adaptive water-skiing and recreation event from occurring. Plans already call for Escape to return in 2023.

NDAD 2021 Annual Report available

See our charity's report and learn about who we help, how we spend our money and our past year at a glance: https://ndad.org/about/annual_report/.

Be sure to subscribe to our digital newsletter at [NDAD.org](https://ndad.org)



Our charitable programs help North Dakota and directly adjacent border communities with:

Prescription Medications | Local Accessible Transit | Out-of-town Medical Travel
Medical Equipment and Supplies | Adaptive Recreation
Home and Vehicle Accessibility | Personal Attendant Care ... and more!

GRAND FORKS

Main Office
grandforks@ndad.org
(701) 775-5577
(800) 532-NDAD
2660 S. Columbia Road
Grand Forks, ND 58201

FARGO

fargo@ndad.org
(701) 281-8215
(888) 363-NDAD
21 N. University Drive
Fargo, ND 58102

BISMARCK

bismarck@ndad.org
(701) 751-0739; (888) 703-0358
1012 S. 12th St., STE A
Bismarck, ND 58504

MINOT

minot@ndad.org
(701) 838-8414
(888) 999-NDAD
1808 20th Ave. S.E.
Minot, ND 58701

WILLISTON

williston@ndad.org
(701) 774-0741
(877) 777-NDAD
TBA
Williston, ND 58801

NDAD is a nonprofit, charitable organization founded by concerned citizens to assist mentally and physically disadvantaged people in North Dakota, many of whom are not eligible for services from other agencies. NDAD provides financial assistance through funds generated by both the organization and community projects. NDAD also provides information and referral services to help people receive assistance through other agencies, when possible.

It's AMAZING what people can do when there's help.

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Mike Brue, communications director & editor, (701) 795-6605,
mbrue@ndad.org

**It's for
You.**