

Family Council Matters Newsletter

MVH-Minneapolis



January 2026

Your 2026 Family Council Officers

The MVH-Minneapolis Family Council is a volunteer organization that consists of family members or friends who have, or have had, a loved one living at the MVH-Minneapolis. Family Council Officers are also volunteers, elected annually at the December Meeting. The following officers were reelected for 2026 at the December 2025 Meeting.

Co-Chairs

Kirk Larson
Diane Windham

Secretary

Jane Hanzalik

Treasurers

Kirk Larson / Diane Windham

Members at Large

Sandy Gibson
Cindy Hauwiller
Amy Schall

These officers are committed to the Family Council's vision, which is "families supporting families." Family Councils are mandated by law; specifically, Federal Statutes 42 C.F.R. Section 483.10 (f) (5) – (7), and Minnesota Statutes Sections 144.651, Subd. 27, 144A.10, Subd. 8b, and 144A.101, Subd.6.

The Family Council is a formal vehicle for communication and information sharing between family members and friends of residents, with the MVH-Minneapolis Administration and staff, through which the following are accomplished.

- Projects developed that are aimed at improving the quality of life, wellbeing, and happiness of our loved ones, as well as for all residents living at the Vets Home.
- Input provided on Vets Home decisions.
- Nursing home consumer and resident rights are safeguarded.
- Channels of communication between residents, families, Vets Home staff and Administration, as well as the general public, are strengthened.

Please Join Us for the
Monthly Family Council Meeting

In Person

And Online (Listen Only)

**Building 21, Theater Room
Saturday, January 10, 2026**

Come Early for the Social Half-Hour

11:45am till 12:15pm

Followed by the Meeting

12:15pm till 2:00pm

Speaker:

**Carmelle Hanson
Assistant Director of Nursing
Building 22**

- Information and support are provided to the families of past, current, and prospective residents.
- Goodwill and fellowship are promoted among members.

Please consider this article to be your personal invitation to attend the next meeting. Join with other family members and friends of residents on the Family Council, and participate in this ultimate partnership with the MVH-Minneapolis Administration, which helps to ensure that your loved one receives the very best of care. In fact, as your loved one's representative at the Family Council's monthly meetings – your ideas, your concerns, and your successes – are invaluable input about which the Family Council wants to be informed. Without a doubt, you are a vital link in the chain that delivers dignified and respectful care to your loved one, and by attending Family Council Meetings, that chain is strengthened. Won't you plan to join us at the next meeting? Hope to see you there!



MVH-Minneapolis COVID Info Line 612-548-5737

Our condolences go out to the families and friends whose loved one recently passed away.

2026 Meeting Dates

**Second Saturday of
Each Month at 12:15pm
In-Person and
Online (Listen Only)**

January 10

February 14

March 14

April 11

May 9

June 13

July 11

August 8

September 12

October 10

November 14

December 12

**Family Member Support Group
Wednesday, January 14, 1:00-2:30pm
Building 22 Community Room**

At our January 14 Meeting, the large group will include some fun and lighthearted get-to-know-you activities, to help you connect with one another. Plus, treats will be provided by the Chaplains! The small groups will continue to be led by facilitators and organized by building.

The Family Member Support Group meets on the 2nd Wednesday of every month. As Caregiver to your loved one at the MVH-Minneapolis, you're invited to come, connect with others, share, and receive care. Chaplain Brandon is your contact. There's no need to sign up ahead of time. Feel free to email him directly at brandon.newton@state.mn.us with questions, to receive past resource materials, and to be included in all future notifications.

Thank You's

A heartfelt thank you to Judith Costello for making a generous donation to the Family Council.

One more heartfelt thank you to the Hugo American Legion Post 620 for making another generous donation to the Family Council.

Also, heartfelt thank you's to BBGF Best Buy Payments, and BBGF Wells Fargo Payments, for making several generous donations to the Family Council.

Another heartfelt thank you to the family of William Campfield, for making a generous donation to the Family Council.

One last heartfelt thank you to John Ward, for making a generous donation to the Family Council.

Officer of the Day (OD)

MVH-Minneapolis

612-221-6389 or 612-210-6295

Call at Night and on Weekends

At Other Times,

Please Call Unit or Building Manager

Ombudsman for MVH-Minneapolis

Anna Solowiej

651-703-6290

Email: anna.solowiej@state.mn.us

Website: <https://mn.gov/ooltc/>

Family Council Officers

Contact Information

Co-Chairs

Kirk Larson, 612-708-8483

kirkisatwin@gmail.com

Diane Windham, 763-657-1443

diane@dwindham.net

Secretary

Jane Hanzalik

Treasurers

Kirk Larson/Diane Windham

Members-at-Large

Sandy Gibson

Cindy Hauwiler

Amy Schall

Website: <http://mn.gov/mdva/homes/minneapolis/>

Email: mvhfamcouncil@gmail.com

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**The MVH-Minneapolis Family Council is a volunteer not-for-profit
501(c)(3) organization.**