

Our Future:

North Shore Village has come a long way from a conversation between two friends over coffee to an organization that opened its doors on February 15, 2010 with 129 Founding Members.

If **North Shore Village appeals to you** and you would like to help make the future happen, we need your ideas, your volunteer efforts and your financial support.

Here's how you can help:

Become a Member. Membership is open to Evanston and Wilmette residents over the age of 60. Annual membership fees are \$540 for an individual and \$680 for a household.

Become a Volunteer. North Shore Village needs volunteers with a variety of skills and experience. We will be happy to find a slot for you.

Become a Donor. Help North Shore Village grow! Your tax-deductible contribution will help us advance our mission of making membership available to all seniors. Checks may be made out to North Shore Village and sent to:

North Shore Village
1603 Orrington Avenue
Suite 1800
Evanston, IL 60201

For more information about joining, volunteering, or contributing to North Shore Village, contact Helen Gagel, Executive Director:

Phone: 847-721-1413
Email: info@northshore-village.org

Visit our website: www.NorthShore-Village.org



North Shore Village

Your Home ■ Your Choice

Who We Are:

North Shore Village (NSV) is a member-driven organization that offers Evanston and Wilmette residents age 60 and over the practical means and support to remain in their own homes and neighborhoods while continuing to live the best and fullest lives possible. Our purpose is to provide **a single trusted source** for information and assistance.

With one phone call, members can access help with:

- Home maintenance and repairs
- Routine household chores
- Grocery shopping and errands
- Meal delivery
- Transportation
- Health care and wellness
- Personal/household business

North Shore Village services are **member-defined** and offered by trusted volunteers and providers who have been vetted and qualified by NSV. The village also organizes social and cultural activities, such as:

- Walking groups and exercise classes
- Concerts, plays and gallery tours
- Lectures and seminars
- Informal dining groups in members' homes and local restaurants

Services provided by volunteers are included in the membership fee. Services provided by NSV-approved vendors are paid for by the member. As the Village grows, we expect some vendors will offer discounts to our members.

Our Rationale:

North Shore Village is in the vanguard of a new way of thinking about and planning for getting older. A shift is taking place from the 20th century model in which agencies, caregivers or adult children decided what was good for seniors, to a fresh 21st century model, in which seniors decide for themselves. In cities and towns across the country, older adults are creating grassroots organizations that offer the services and programs they desire and need. Given the substantial increase in the over-60 population in coming decades, it is imperative that we begin now to design innovative, cost-effective ways to serve this population.

The Aging in Community model that North Shore Village embraces is one such innovation.

The village movement rests on three key principles:

1. Villages are consolidators of services, where one phone call satisfies a member's wishes and needs.
2. Villages are enablers that help members maintain their chosen lifestyle.
3. Villages build community – creating new models of the “old neighborhood” that too often exists only in memory.

Village members define the character of the organization. North Shore Village has members who live in the homes and neighborhoods they have cherished for years, where they raised their families and stored up memories. We also have members who have moved to high-rise condos or town homes. Whether they are in the “old” or “new” neighborhood, they want to be active and engaged in community life.

North Shore Village is the means by which older adults in Wilmette and Evanston can stay connected, involved, informed and engaged.

Members and their families have the assurance of knowing that help and social opportunities are just a phone call away. Every service arranged by North Shore Village will be provided by vetted, trusted sources. And, the village will follow up to ensure the service met the member's expectations.

Our History:

The village concept originated in 1992 in Princeton, New Jersey's Community Without Walls. Residents looking for ways to remain in their homes realized that, while the services they needed were available, it could be a challenge to locate them when needs arose. Why not form an organization with ties to service providers, one that would make member-to-member and member-to-provider connections? National growth was driven by Boston's Beacon Hill Village, which literally “wrote the book” on how to organize a village.



Co-founders Harriet Friedlander and Libby Hill welcomed 129 Founding Members to North Shore Village on February 15, 2009. Photo by Len Evens.

In the summer of 2007, two friends, both long-time Evanstonians, learned about Beacon Hill Village. They spent nine months researching senior services in Evanston. Every agency they interviewed endorsed the village concept as being much needed in Evanston.

Energized by that support, they held a public meeting to gauge community response. They were overwhelmed as more than 120 people filled the Community Room at the Evanston Public Library. A core group of volunteers formed to move the concept from idea to reality. Additional support came from strategic partners, including Mather LifeWays, which is providing office space and funding the Executive Director's position through December 2010; Northwestern University's Bluhm Legal Clinic Small Business Opportunity Center; and SASI, which served as fiscal agent pending incorporation. In August 2008, the Village was organized as an Illinois not-for-profit corporation under the name Evanston At Home Association. In February 2009 Wilmette was added to the service area and the name was changed to North Shore Village. NSV secured 501(c)(3) status in May 2009.