

# MN HOSA Board makes Organization Visible and Successful

***What makes up a board for an organization?***

***What do they do?***

***Who are they?***

***Where do they come from?***

***Are they that important?***

Our state organization was trying to swim uphill without a paddle until an interested Mayo Clinic industry representative visited one of our State conferences after he had heard a little about the student organization that was preparing students for a future in healthcare. To this day he talks about his first meeting with the teachers and students and their advancement in leadership and maturity at that conference and then began the start up of the fully working and supportive board for our HOSA organization. Guy Finne, Human Resource Rep for Mayo Clinic loves students and loves to see them succeed, so he started promoting HOSA to others. That was in the beginning of the year 2000. In 2003 we had a beginning of a working board, new by-laws and policies and procedures.

Today we have over 25 dedicated board members in areas of education secondary and post-secondary, healthcare industry, students, and state departments. They come from areas of human resources, hospital department heads, colleges, high schools, MN HOSA state officers, the MN Hospital Association, MN Health and Housing Alliance (Older Adult Services), Department of Education, Health and Department of Employment and Economics), and the Health Care Industry and Education Partnership Council. This board has made MN HOSA a visual organization in every part of the state and in every conference and meeting they attend. With the dedication of the board we have begun to make steps forward both financially

and awareness of our mission. With this recognition we have representatives at every conference and activity to judge, present or encourage students.

Some of our board members have been on the board for more than 5 years because of their passion of healthcare and the future healthcare workers. They make it an easy fit into their everyday jobs by setting meetings for 4 times a year, having set committees in areas of student support, events, Public Relations and Budget and Finance. Computers are a great way to keep the communication going after a board meeting as a follow up of work to be done.

Our Board Chair, Karen Powell from Park Nicollet stated recently in an article that the goals of the board remain to be membership, diversity, and chapter growth and to raise the visibility and awareness of MN HOSA so it will no longer be the best-kept secret in the state.

A competent and supportive board makes our mission real with the future of growth that will meet the needs of healthcare. MN HOSA is working to prepare our young people to become the skilled healthcare workforce of the 21st century. This all happened with the help of some great partners. Yes, this is important to our organization and to the future if healthcare in Minnesota and we thank them every day.



**MN HOSA supporters being recognized for their financial and board participation including Vicki Boche from HealthEast Health Care System, Mary Jo Huebner from Allina -Abbott-Northwestern Hospital, Karen Powell, Board Chair from Park Nicollet Healthcare System, Josie Brinda from Fairview Healthcare Systems, Christy Mader from Allina-United Hospital in St. Paul and Mike Mullen from Mayo Healthcare system.**



**Two board members, Guy Finne from Mayo Clinic and Susan Klug from the MN Hospital Association, judging the Career Health Display event at the Minnesota HOSA State Leadership Conference.**