

## The mission of Light The Legacy is to educate and empower the people of Central Minnesota about the importance of personal health care planning through facilitating conversation and inspiring action.

## **MONIQUE'S STORY**



## Dear

One night, back in 2017, I happened to be in the audience at an event called the reConvenings. The purpose of the evening was to inspire and motivate individuals and families to continue the conversation about living and dying well. A key part of the event was a performance of the play *An Almost Murder Mystery*, written by Lynn MacKenzie, Executive Director of Light the Legacy.

Sitting there, watching the actors play out what can happen when family members have not had the conversation about their wishes in the event a loved one can no longer speak for themselves, I became deeply moved. I remembered what it was like to watch my mother struggle with a difficult illness, having never had the opportunity to have that critical conversation with her. Though it was painful to watch the play, I felt like it was giving language to my experience. I finally felt seen.

A few months later, when the opportunity arose to volunteer with Light the Legacy, I remembered that feeling of finally having my experience understood. I knew I wanted to help others have the conversation so that they can have peace during those hard times with their loved ones.

Through these experiences and the influence Light the Legacy has had on my life, I can proudly say "I **DID IT**" and I continually ask family and friends if they have "done it." I make sure they are having the conversation and I know I am making a difference by doing so.

## Have you filled out your Health Care Directive, shared your wishes with your Health Care Provider and had the conversation with loved ones and friends on what those wishes are? Won't you join me in Light the Legacy's "I Did It" campaign?

Light the Legacy is a non-profit community-based organization. They can't continue to make this great impact in our communities without your help. You can make a difference too. Consider volunteering or giving financially. By doing so you will help Light the Legacy continue their mission of improving end-of-life care in Central Minnesota.

- Make a donation online at www.lightthelegacy.org.
- Use the enclosed envelope to send in a financial donation.
- Contact me, Monique Waters, at Monique@lightthelegacy.org, if you'd like to volunteer.

If you haven't already, I encourage you to have the conversation, fill out your Health Care Directive and say "I DID IT!" Join us!

Monique Waters

Light the Legacy Volunteer Coordinator Community Member

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