

## Welcome New Gilda's Club Twin Cities Board Members

### John Hupp

*Director at Large*



John is a financial advisor at the Hupp Group at Morgan Stanley. John started his professional career as an attorney and advanced from in-house counsel and senior project manager to President and CEO of both public and private companies. He raised over \$12 million in private equity financing and built and sold a substantial food processing business in the former Soviet Union. John first joined Gilda's Club Twin Cities in February 2013 as a member of the finance committee.

*"Like most everyone, my family has had to deal with cancer.*

*Gilda's Club plays a vital role in making sure that no one has to go through the life-altering effects of cancer alone. I am honored to be a part of such a great organization."*

### Mary Taylor

*Director at Large*



Mary is a Partner at Lindquist + Vennum with a practice in real estate. Mary has been a long-time volunteer for Gilda's Club Twin Cities. She assisted with the legal work to acquire our new clubhouse property, and continues to work on contracts for the renovation work currently underway.

*"The impact of losing someone you love to cancer is enormous. You feel helpless, as you watch the impact of the illness and loss ripple across family, friends, and community.*

*Providing volunteer time and legal assistance to Gilda's Club Twin Cities has given me a meaningful way to honor the memory of dear friends, and the opportunity to convert those feelings of grief and helplessness into positive energy, devoted to a cause that is so near to my heart. I know the Gilda's Clubhouse will make a tangible and incredibly powerful difference to so many people, and I'm honored to work with the Board of Directors to open the doors and make Gilda's Club a part of our Twin Cities community."*

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## Welcome New Gilda's Club Twin Cities Staff

### Laurie Walker

*Community Relations and Development Director*



Laurie officially joined the GCTC staff in March as Director of Community Relations and Development. Prior to becoming a staff member, Laurie served on the GCTC board of directors from 2007 to 2010, and most recently supported Gilda's Club on contract providing leadership and expertise in marketing, communications, event management and fundraising. She will continue to support these initiatives and work to broaden the GCTC reach with community partners.

*"It's been such an honor to support and work with this truly incredible organization. When I first met our founders Jenni, Carrie and Dolly and experienced their passion, I knew I had to help open the doors of this much needed resource in the Twin Cities. And I'm so excited we're almost there."*

### Trudi Meloche

*Development Director*



Trudi joined the GCTC staff in early June as Development Director. She is responsible for institutional and individual donor relations and tasked with leading fundraising and donor recognition initiatives for the organization.

She has an extensive background serving as Development Director for Minneapolis Parks Foundation, Rise, Inc., and Trinity School at River Ridge. Trudi also served as the Leadership Giving Manager for Greater Twin Cities United Way.

*"I have a heart for the GCTC mission, having watched helplessly as too many family members and friends went through their cancer journey without critical emotional, psychological and social support. As a development professional, I feel privileged to be able to use my expertise and experience to advance our mission in the community so that no one has to go through cancer alone again."*

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## Gretchen Peterson

*Program Director*



Gretchen joined the GCTC staff as Program Director in early September. She brings an extensive background as a clinical social worker in mental health programs working with youth and families in crisis. She has also served as adjunct social worker instructor at several colleges and universities in Minnesota.

*"My life has been bookended by cancer—first as a child when my best friend died of leukemia at age seven and recently walking with my Dad through his cancer journey and passing last year. If my family had a Gilda's Club available to us, we would have visited often to access the social and emotional support each of us so urgently needed. I am honored to be a part of opening the Gilda's Club Twin Cities Clubhouse."*