

About Us: Herbalists Without Borders (HWB) Keweenaw Chapter

HWB is more than herbalists. We are an international network of herbalists, traditional healers, complementary alternative medicine (CAM) practitioners, botanical product makers, botanical trades people, herb growers, farmers, ecologists, students, humanitarian aid workers and others interested the vital roles of plants in primary health care, sustainable agriculture, trade, and ecological preservation.

HWB Keweenaw is currently serving Houghton and Keweenaw Counties. Our chapter operates under the umbrella of the National and International Nonprofit Herbalists Without Borders doing unique projects in a variety of scopes focused on social justice with a down to the ground, grassroots structure.

The global vision of HWB:

A global community where all people have access to affordable natural and botanical medicine. To bring that vision into reality, we create educational, clinical, advocacy, and grassroots model projects to fill the gaps in health care social justice.

HWB Keweenaw Chapter: What, Who, and Values...

Our group's dynamic and diverse energy comes together under the shared values we place on the health of our Community, the People in it, and Access to opportunities for Self-Care through Sharing in the form of Knowledge, Resources, and Tools.

We are facilitators of discussions, connections, projects, and outreach that assist our community, both at the individual and the collective level, to have opportunities and access

to natural and complementary medicine for health. We expand the boundaries so that people in our community have access to making empowered self care decisions for themselves and their families.

We are an evolving and grass roots organization. We look for needs in our community and ways we can address them through passionate projects that make use of the skills, talents and resources we have in our unique region. We develop our network through volunteering, contributions, and other creative means of support.

We value teaching, education, and providing access to community members about resources readily available to them: whether they are in our own back yard, or are learned or shared tools, skills, and knowledge. We believe in creating opportunities for self empowerment, open source sharing, and sustainability of health.

We weave our community. Our community is an interconnected web; we are exploring, weaving and connecting the threads. We see that our community in the Keweenaw has a number of inspired individuals, groups, and organizations working towards the ends of increased individual and community health in a variety of ways.

We build relationships with complementary care practitioners, policy makers, organizations promoting individual health, natural resources for public use and health, and any and all others with similar community access, outreach, education, and goals. We see ourselves as working to complement other modes of care, while making self care tools, knowledge, and resources accessible.

Overall, we want to evolve as an organization

through a balance of assessing our community's needs, while doing interactive and meaningful projects that will adhere to our shared values. Our HWB chapter is fun, interesting, and engaging for participants and those we reach. A group dynamic is encouraged, with creative idea building, project sharing, and an even distribution of the 'work' flow and hands-on endeavors. We are flexible and open to creative contributions, growth, and change.

As a bonus, because we are part of a national non-profit, we have access to technical support, creative models for community projects, and information and knowledge sharing with the National and International Organization, assisting us to 'get to it' on creative projects.

Our scopes of projects are not limited by size, small or large. All creative ideas are welcome which uphold our shared values.

Upcoming Events:

Mother's Day Event- May 10th

Look for HWB Keweenaw Women's Wisdom Series, beginning with mothering care for the childbearing year and beyond on Mother's Day Weekend. The event will offer range of topics and resources for prenatal, birth, postnatal, and nursing.

Plant ID Walk- June

Take a walk in the Keweenaw and learn about some of the plants and flowers in your own back yard

Ongoing Project Planning:

Directory Project- A directory of area complementary health practitioners, botanical trades people, and services.

People's Clinic- free and sliding scale cost care from complementary medicine practitioners, botanical products, workshops, sessions, and more. Coming in the Fall.

Trauma Team- Coordination to bring holistic care trauma response to the area, working in an effort with other local emergency and trauma response teams.

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We are a completely volunteer run organization. Any resources to share, ideas, helping hands, interest, support welcome. Please let us know.