



BOARD MEMBER BIO

Darlene Degener

Board Member

Darlene Degener has been involved with the Arthritis Foundation for 10 years. She is a past chair for the Northeast Indiana Branch and now serves on the Chapter Board. She is also a member of the branch's *Celebration of Wine* planning committee.

Degener's commitment to the cause is both personal and professional. Her mother suffers from osteoarthritis which "has left her with very crippled hands and struggling to complete her own daily tasks. Her pain is constant."

Now the CEO of Select Specialty Hospital in Ft. Wayne, Degener is a trained physical therapist who understands the "devastating effects arthritis can have on an individual's lifestyle and life choices. Its effects are life altering. Finding a cure, and mitigating the effects of arthritis will dramatically improve the quality of life for so many people."

Degener's favorite Arthritis Foundation event is the Ft. Wayne Jingle Bell Run because, "it is our longest standing event in Fort Wayne and has a lot of tradition associated with it. I love the time of year and enjoy the canine costume contest, as it is always fun to see the cute pups."

In her spare time, Degener enjoys antiquing, gardening and playing with her dogs.