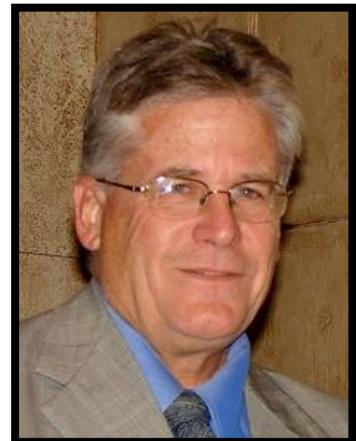




## ***Meet Board Member Mark Anderson***

***When did you join the board?*** I joined the board about 20 years ago, it was around the time when Dan took over as Executive Director.

***Why did you join?*** I had met board members at SAVE while I was working on mental health issues in the office of US Senator Paul Wellstone. I was impressed with how dedicated these board members were and they invited me to join the SAVE board.



***What skills do you bring to the board?*** Around that time Barbara Schneider died in a police call in Minneapolis. She was experiencing a mental health crisis and had a radio in the window of her apartment. Someone in another building called 911 to complain about the radio. The officers who were dispatched did not understand how to interact with someone in mental health crisis and their escalation of the situation led to Barbara's death. I worked with a group of community members to start the Barbara Schneider Foundation which does de-escalation training for police, corrections, local government and court staff, hospital nurses and security, educators and community members, really anyone who wants to improve their skills at responding to a crisis. I bring this policy and training perspective to the board. My work has led in many directions including working with many Native American communities in their tribal homelands and Native American urban communities on de-escalation of individuals and of their communities, which often deal with historical trauma in addition to current behavioral health issues and the loss of many cultural assets and disruption of their relationship to their ancestral lands. I also work extensively in multicultural, diverse urban communities, improving relationships between public safety and communities and helping agencies grow their capacity to keep their officers healthy even as they work in a very stressful occupation and are often exposed to trauma. I am often called on to assist community members learn about their own trauma and how they can take care of themselves in a holistic way. I try to bring these perspectives to the SAVE board.

***What do you most like about serving on the board?*** I enjoy the work of suicide prevention and response. Even one life saved makes all the work of the organization worth it. I believe that by reaching out nationally and even globally SAVE has given the gift of hope to so many. And we have indeed been part of saving many lives.