



Southfield Office
25200 Telegraph Road, Suite 110
Southfield, MI 48033
(248) 351-7979
(248) 351-2101 Fax

Grand Rapids Office
161 Ottawa Avenue NW, Suite 211
Grand Rapids, MI 49503
(616) 454-7979

(800) 377-6226 • www.epilepsymichigan.org

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As a valued camper family/volunteer, we wanted to make you aware of a new partnership between Camp Discovery and North Star Reach. North Star Reach is a Member Camp of SeriousFun Children's Network, founded by Paul Newman, that partners with organizations, such as ours, to serve children with chronic and life-threatening health challenges across the Great Lakes Region, free of charge. We are thrilled to officially announce that Camp Discovery has entered into a partnership with North Star Reach, and here are some of the reasons:

- **SAFETY**- Every element of North Star Reach was created with children's medical needs in mind. North Star Reach ONLY offers camp experiences to kids with medical needs. This is apparent in their state-of-the-art, barrier-free facilities, such as their zero-entry pools and onsite medical facility. The passionate and experienced leadership team at North Star Reach, the highly skilled medical staff, and access to extensive training and activity-planning resources through the SeriousFun Children's Network, will help to further enhance the quality of the Camp Discovery experience.
- **SUSTAINABILITY**- North Star Reach is ultimately offering us long-term stability and sustainability. Until we find a cure, children with epilepsy will continue to need the support and growth opportunities provided by Camp Discovery. Relying on key volunteers to fill essential leadership positions at camp, and do so indefinitely, however, is unrealistic. Although Camp Discovery will always work to have consistent volunteer help, North Star Reach has a full-time Camp Director, Medical Director, and Program Staff dedicated to making our camps organized, fun, and safe. This model will ensure Camp Discovery remains available far beyond any one volunteer's ability to participate.
- **AFFORDABILITY**- As a part of the requirement to be a Member Camp of SeriousFun Children's Network, it is made clear that camp will be free to all campers. We are thrilled to now have the chance to offer Camp Discovery for free. While there will no longer be a cost to the campers, the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan has made a financial commitment to North Star Reach and will be running a fundraising campaign to help offset the cost of offering Camp Discovery free of charge.

For these reasons, and many more, the leadership of the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan and Camp Discovery believe this partnership is in the best interest of those whom camp was intended to serve: kids with epilepsy. This partnership has also opened opportunities to customize the camping experience even further than we could have imagined. We are excited to announce that as a part of this change, the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan will be able to offer camping experiences tailored for two groups of campers: children and teens. Here is a brief overview:

- **Camp Discovery** – Offered to campers ages 7-15 on **July 22 – 26, 2018**. This is a unique camping experience developed especially for young people with epilepsy. Camp will include many of the experiences you have come to expect like swimming, boating, fishing, arts & crafts, and “Ask the Neurologist,” but with the addition of a few more like pontoon boat rides, adventure activities, cooking classes, and more!
- **Teen Week** – Offered to campers ages 16-17 on **June 28 – July 1, 2018**. For many years now, we have received feedback that we needed to enhance the camping experience for older teens. Together with North Star Reach, we will be hosting a Teen Week camping experience that focuses on self-esteem building, empowerment, and transition to adulthood – in addition to the traditional fun camp activities. This camp is open to teens who have a variety of medical needs, including teens with epilepsy.

Both camp experiences will have 24-hour medical staffing and an entire team that is trained in seizure recognition and first-aid. We thought the best way for you to familiarize yourself with North Star Reach would be to see for yourself! We would like to invite you to join us as we host a Summer Camp Open House at North Star Reach. Here are the details:

April 14, 2018
 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM
 North Star Reach Camp, 1200 University Camp Drive
 Pinckney, MI 48169

This Open House will provide the opportunity to meet and greet with members of the Camp Team, which includes the signers of this letter, as well as some new members of the team! We will be taking families on a tour of the facilities and sharing our plans for the camping season.

We understand that this letter couldn't possibly answer all of your questions. That is why we encourage you to visit our webpage to learn even more. There you will find more in-depth information about Camp Discovery, links to Camper and Volunteer Applications, FAQs, and transportation information. As always, you are welcome to call us at (800) 377-6226, ext. 1204 or email us at info@epilepsymichigan.org if you have any questions or concerns. We would also encourage you to reach out to North Star Reach at (734) 680-8744.

We want to thank you for trusting us to create the safest and fun camping experience possible. We remain steadfast in our dedication to providing children with epilepsy a camping experience where they can “discover” their own talents and abilities. We especially look forward to the smiles we see at camp; it is truly a gift!

Best Regards from your Camp Discovery Leadership Team,



Brianna Romines, MPA
 President



Stephanie Bayma, RN
 Member, Board of Directors



Kyle Janes



Brianne Weatherford



Jules Constantinou, MD



Daniel Fain, MD