




**EPILEPSY  
FOUNDATION**  
Michigan

Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan  
**2016 ANNUAL REPORT**

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Each year at the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan we face the opportunity to progress, innovate, and transition. This was certainly true in 2016. Most notably, Arlene S. Gorelick decided that after 27 years of service to the epilepsy community, it was time to retire. We continue to be grateful for Arlene's time and talent, and the transformational change that she led the Foundation through in her 27 year tenure. I had the pleasure of working closely with Arlene for over 11 years and feel humbled to take over where she left off. Thank you, Arlene!

As the new leader of the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan, I want you to know that throughout every transition we face, our vision remains crystal clear: a world without epilepsy; lives free from seizures. And as you might expect, with every passing year the need for our awareness efforts; educational programs, social support, self-management tools, and advocacy work for the rights of people with epilepsy, only increases. It is my steadfast goal and commitment to remain mission-focused, creating an environment that is ready to tackle the issues affecting the epilepsy community, while putting the organization on the most sustainable path forward.

I can't let any opportunity to thank you for your support escape me. We present this Annual Report as part of our commitment to be transparent with you, and to illustrate the impact you have made on our mission. Thank you for doing what you can to change the lives of those affected by epilepsy.



BRIANNA ROMINES, MPA

# OUR MISSION

The Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan leads the fight to overcome the challenges of living with epilepsy and to accelerate therapies to stop seizures, find cures, and save lives.

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## 2016 PROGRAM IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS: HOW WE CHANGE LIVES

EPILEPSY FOUNDATION OF MICHIGAN STRIVES TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF PEOPLE WITH EPILEPSY. MORE THAN 5,500 PEOPLE RECEIVED DIRECT SERVICES FROM THE FOUNDATION IN 2016. THE FOLLOWING EXAMPLES ILLUSTRATE THE LEVEL AND IMPACT OF THESE SERVICES:

- 100% of participants in **Project UPLIFT**, a depression self-management program, had a reduction in depression score. 50% of participants who had depression at the start of the program had a clinically significant reduction in depression score at the end of the program (defined as 5 points or more on the PHQ-9 depression questionnaire).
- 674 callers received an average of 26 minutes per call of individualized education and consultation through our **Here for You Helpline**.
- **PROGRESS Toward Wellness** program, an epilepsy self-management program, was reintroduced in August. A total of 148 coaching calls were made to assist 29 program participants in developing and implementing Individual Wellness Plans that focused on one or more of the following areas: Stress, Sleep, Depression, Medication Management, and Memory & Thinking.
- 82 contacts were made on behalf of 42 clients to help resolve conflicts related to employment, education, benefits, health care, or legal rights through our **Individual Advocacy** program.
- 80% of parents said that their camper's self-esteem increased as a result of **Camp Discovery**. 89% of campers agreed that Camp Discovery helped them feel more confident in themselves and their abilities. Additionally, 95% of parents agreed that Camp Discovery increased or reinforced their belief that exercise is valuable and safe for their child.
- 100% of participants in the **Studio E Art Therapy** program indicated that they enjoyed the program and found it to be a valuable experience. In addition, 100% of participants agreed that, after the program, they felt more capable of expressing their personality, thoughts, and emotions.
- 88% of participants in our **Wellness & Epilepsy Conference** agreed that, as a result of attendance, they intend to make at least one positive change in their behavior to promote improved health. 86% of attendees indicated that their knowledge of epilepsy and related issues increased as a result of attending.
- Participants in our Wellness & Epilepsy Conference and our monthly **Learn & Share Conference Calls** had access to over 25 hours of educational content provided by 32 expert speakers who volunteered to share their knowledge.
- 1,138 educators and other human service professionals learned potentially life-saving seizure recognition and first aid skills through our **Seizure Smart** training.
- 23,803 people learned more about epilepsy by visiting one or more of the six educational pages in the **About Epilepsy** section of our website.

# 2016 FINANCIAL DATA: BEING GOOD STEWARDS OF YOUR SUPPORT

FULL FINANCIAL SUMMARY AND 990 AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE:  
WWW.EPILEPSYMICHIGAN.ORG

Statements of Financial Position As of December 31, 2016 and 2015			Statements of Activities For the years ended December 31, 2016 and 2015		
	2016	2015	Support & Revenue	2016	2015
Cash & cash equivalents	\$ 117,567	\$ 9,966	United Way allocations & designations	\$ 29,797	\$ 27,724
Investments	184,764	203,061	Revenue from governmental agencies	33,340	2,086
Contributions receivable	34,710	29,251	Foundation & corporate grants	159,050	125,400
Prepaid expenses & deposits	14,723	25,185	Special event revenues (net)	340,402	326,279
Property & equipment, net	578	3,687	Contributions & bequests	211,987	120,068
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 352,342</b>	<b>\$ 271,150</b>	Program service fees	34,293	42,989
			Investment income	6,046	(2,718)
Line of credit & trade payables	\$ 10,614	\$ 29,028	<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>\$ 814,915</b>	<b>\$ 641,828</b>
Accruals – salaries & benefits	32,356	27,238			
Accruals - other	1,528	5,274			
Refundable advances	48,118	250	<b>Program Expenses</b>		
Deferred rent	22,394	24,705	Individual & family services	\$ 285,347	\$ 275,553
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>\$ 115,010</b>	<b>\$ 86,495</b>	Community services	319,687	319,519
			Advocacy & Public Policy	44,136	69,540
Unrestricted net assets	\$ 231,702	\$ 157,025	<b>Support Services</b>		
Temporarily restricted	5,630	27,630	Development	15,235	9,803
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>\$ 237,332</b>	<b>\$ 184,655</b>	Administration & general	97,833	93,624
			<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>\$ 762,238</b>	<b>\$ 768,039</b>
<b>Total liabilities &amp; net assets</b>	<b>\$ 352,342</b>	<b>\$ 271,150</b>	<b>Change in net assets</b>	<b>\$ 52,677</b>	<b>\$ (126,211)</b>

## IN YOUR WORDS: IMPACT QUOTES FROM 2016

### Camp Discovery

"I can't say enough wonderful things about Camp Discovery. My daughter has not stopped talking about the great time she had at Camp and the friends she has made. She has made what I believe will be lifelong friendships with fellow campers. Also, it's the one place she can go that I don't worry about her. I know she is safe and supervised, and her medication will be taken accurately and on time. Camp Discovery has been life changing."

"I think it's an amazing place to learn and make new friends...also to have fun with others. I love how everyone is so caring to each other and how nice the counselor and campers are. It's a safe and helpful environment to be in too."

### Wellness & Epilepsy Conference

"This was the 2nd conference that I've attended. Both were beyond educational and informational. Today helped me to put a lot of things in perspective. Thank you."

"All the people whom I heard speak were very knowledgeable about their subject matter, and it made it very interesting. Also, they answered questions to make the subject more understandable."

### PROGRESS Toward Wellness

"Having someone making me focus on the disability and having to learn to accept it, research it, and manage it myself helped improve my quality of life. The program taught me how to be healthy and aware of my epilepsy. I'm so alert and aware now. It helped my self-confidence—I'm not ashamed anymore!"

"For me going through this for the past year and a half, there's such a difference from then to now. The outlook is so different, even though what happens all the time is pretty much the same. I don't see that having changed much without the program...It has helped my mental outlook so much."

### Project UPLIFT

"The facilitator was very helpful and positive. She gave everyone a lift."

"I liked learning the new relaxation techniques and speaking with others who suffer from the same condition as I do"

### Here for You Helpline

"Thank you so much for conducting the research and getting it done so quickly. I greatly appreciate your assistance. I am truly grateful to have found your organization, and I am looking forward to participating in the upcoming activities and events."



# THANK YOU

Because of your support, another person with epilepsy can be filled with hope.

The Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan is leading the fight to stop seizures. We remain focused on our goals: to close the treatment gap between what is being done for people with epilepsy and what should be done, to improve how people with epilepsy are perceived, accepted, and valued in society and to ensure that people with epilepsy and their families have access to full life experiences. When our donors demonstrate their commitment to the epilepsy community, our organization gets even stronger.



EPILEPSY FOUNDATION OF MICHIGAN  
25200 Telegraph Road • Suite 110 • Southfield, MI • 48033  
161 Ottawa Ave. NW • Suite 211 • Grand Rapids, MI • 49503  
(800) 377-6226 • [www.epilepsymichigan.org](http://www.epilepsymichigan.org)