A volunteer spotlight on:  
Tej Yale

We have amazing volunteers within our Foundation community.  
We recently interviewed Tej Yale about his connection to the Foundation and what being part of our community means to him.

How did you first become connected with the Foundation?  
I have always believed when an individual or an organization reaches a point where they have the ability to give back to the community, it is in the vested interest to do that.  
I believe in this so much that I have started a non-profit arm within my marketing company, ThinkHelping—which aims to work alongside non-profits to further their mission and vision through digital marketing, primarily social media. With this strong desire to make an impact in the local community, I reached out to Mrs. Brianna Romines and Mrs. Andrea Schotthoefer, and they were the first organization within our non-profit sector, and I will always be grateful for this opportunity.

What are your main volunteer roles with the Foundation?  
ThinkHelping works with the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan team to provide on-site social media coverage through all major social media platforms, including their signature events such as the Back to School Conference and the Epilepsy Innovation Conference, among others.

Tell us one of your most memorable moments in your volunteer role.  
Being involved with the Foundation at multiple events, the most memorable moments are forming new relationships with individuals within the healthcare field who are at the cutting edge of futuristic technologies and interacting with key executives within the Foundation – both staff and the board members.

What would you tell others to encourage them to become volunteers?  
Volunteering provides an avenue for individuals who believe in a mission-driven organization and its goals, while contributing to a mission that is important to them.  
I would encourage others to volunteer with this organization; it will provide a completely different outlook on life, both professionally and personally, while making a difference in the community.  
The mindset is completely different. People sometimes complain about the most minute things and get disappointed for simple reasons. By volunteering or becoming involved with this organization or any organization, it is inspiring to see how adversity is embraced by those who face it.

What does the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan mean to you?  
Being associated with this Foundation means a lot to me. It is a combination of compassion and empathy, while making a difference in the community. As a local Detroit native, it is great to see how far the Foundation has come and the resources that they have available – and how they are using their platform to inspire volunteers and the next generation to be involved.

To find out about our volunteer opportunities,  
contact Lauren Parrott at (800) 377-6226 ext 1220 or email at lparrott@epilepsymichigan.org

Volunteers are VITAL!  
We could not do the work for our community if we did not have amazing volunteers like YOU!