

2021

ANNUAL
REPORT



EPILEPSY
FOUNDATION[®]

MICHIGAN

EPILEPSY FOUNDATION OF MICHIGAN
25200 TELEGRAPH ROAD - SUITE 110 - SOUTHFIELD, MI - 48033
(800) 377-6226 WWW.EPILEPSYMICHIGAN.ORG

WHAT ARE WE ALL ABOUT?

BUILDING A STRATEGIC PLAN WITH YOU AT THE CORE

By Brianna Romines, President-Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan

This year we embarked on an incredible journey.

It forced us to ask ourselves four very important questions: "What are we all about?", "What do we want to have happen?", "What are we willing to hold ourselves accountable for?", and "How are we going to do this?"

This journey led our team and our organization towards a "major aim"-- developing a Strategic Plan. Strategy is defined as "a plan of action or policy designed to achieve a major aim". And as we developed this road map, our core mission served as our compass: the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan serves those affected by epilepsy.

By the end of 2021, we had answered all of these questions and in the process, created the path for our mission to grow, thrive and deepen over the next five years by doing the following:

- **Objective #1:** Design and maintain a highly effective financial model to promote growth and ensure sustainability
- **Objective #2:** Empower, inform, and advocate through education
- **Objective #3:** Facilitate connection and support among those affected by epilepsy
- **Objective #4:** Create pathways to appropriate epilepsy care and resources
- **Objective #5:** Promote epilepsy and seizure awareness
- **Objective #6:** Ensure that diversity, equity, and inclusion are represented in everything we do

In short, our compass all along was YOU. Our beloved epilepsy community. You are at the core because you are why we are here. Now, let's link arms and bring this Strategic Plan to life!

Here for you- Brianna



HOW WE CHANGE LIVES

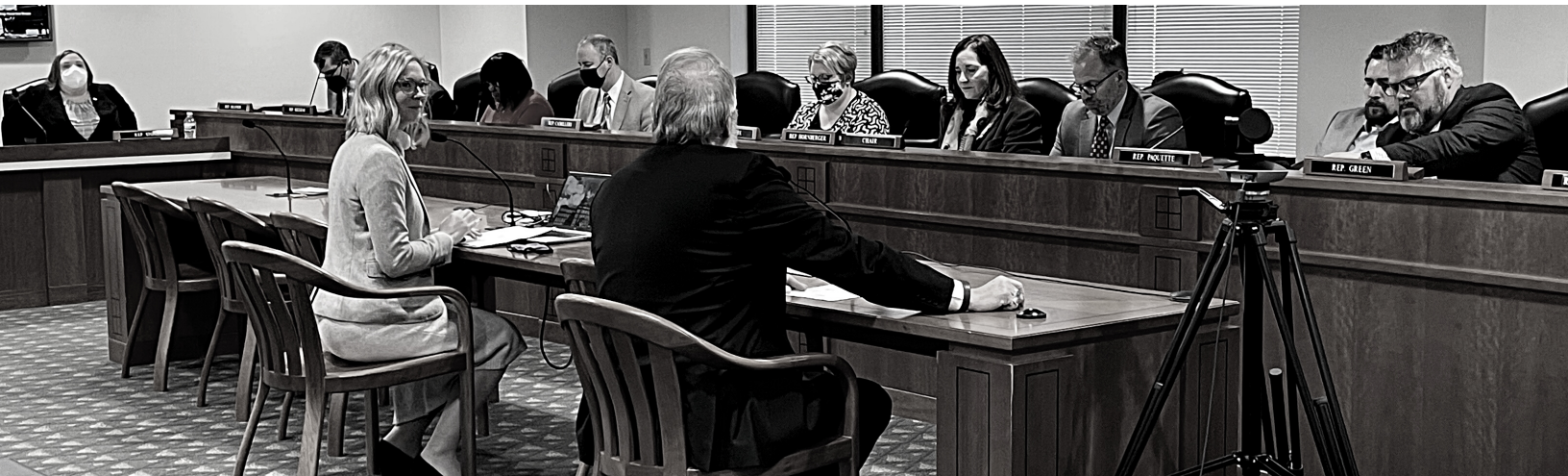
Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan strives to improve the lives of people affected by epilepsy; this happens through the more than 8,679 meaningful interactions we have with those we serve. This section illustrates how the mission is at work in people's lives.

- 1,155 client interactions were received on our **Here for You Helpline** with an average of 23 minutes per call of individualized education and consultation.
- 28 contacts were made on behalf of 18 clients to help resolve conflicts related to employment, education, health care, or legal rights through our **Individual Advocacy** program.
- 39 campers with epilepsy or have a sibling with epilepsy attended **Camp Discovery** at no cost through our partnership with North Star Reach. This partnership also allowed an additional 9 teens with epilepsy to attend **Solstice Camp** with other teens who have chronic health conditions. Both camp sessions were held as an online **Camp-at Home Program** with fun and innovative camp activities. Two sessions, Doc Talk and an Improv activity, were facilitated by the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan for camp.
- Over 75% of the **Epilepsy Innovation Conference** participants were given optimism through a session that provided information on an epilepsy-related innovation or new development. For the **Wellness & Epilepsy Conference**, 96% of attendees agreed that the conference provided inspiration, encouragement, or hope. For the **Back to School Conference** 86% of attendees agreed that as a result of attendance, they intend to change at least one aspect of how they manage epilepsy or its consequences.
- Over 800 hours were dedicated to the **Michigan Pediatric Epilepsy Project**, a collaborative grant with Children's Special Health Care Services that is focused on improving epilepsy care and outcomes for children and youth with epilepsy in rural and underserved areas.
- 379 participants in our Epilepsy Innovation Conference, Wellness & Epilepsy Conference, Back to School Conference, and monthly Learn & Share Conference Calls had access to 35 hours of **educational content** provided by 55 expert speakers who volunteered to share their knowledge.
- Recorded conference presentations and Learn & Share Conference Calls on our **YouTube channel** were viewed over 14,500 times.
- **Optimizing Health Outcomes for Older Adults with Epilepsy**, a grant project funded by The Health Fund, was launched, and it focused on the planning and implementation of support, education, and outreach toward older adults with epilepsy and their caregivers.
- In partnership with Greater Chicago, Minnesota and Wisconsin Epilepsy Foundation Affiliates, the Foundation hosted the **Upper Midwest Rare Epilepsies Conference**. The virtual program brought together 155 individuals for discussions on research, new therapies, wellness and planning for the future among those in the rare epilepsies community.

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- The **Call & Connect Network** sessions expanded to five groups. 38 Adults with Epilepsy, 31 Parents of People with Epilepsy, 25 Young Adults with Epilepsy, 15 Older Adults and Caregivers, and 7 Teens with Epilepsy discussed epilepsy-related challenges and strategies for managing them through our weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly Call & Connect Network sessions.
- Through 32 phone sessions, 31 adults with epilepsy completed one of four Project UPLIFT sessions offered. After participating in **Project UPLIFT**, a phone-based epilepsy self-management program focused on managing depression, the large majority of participants experienced improvements on scored assessments for depression and anxiety.
- The **Epilepsy Self-Management, Advocacy, & Resilience for Teens (E-SMART)** program is a 6-week, Zoom-based program that brought together 17 teens who focused on building knowledge, goal setting and skills while providing peer support. Over 92% of the teens felt their knowledge of epilepsy increased as a result of the E-SMART program.
- Through 32 presentations, 555 educators and other human service professionals learned potentially life-saving seizure recognition and first aid skills through our **Seizure Recognition and First Aid Training**.
- Our 2021 **Challenge of the Year** program focused on "Supporting Caregivers." Information about this topic was integrated into our existing programming (e.g. conferences, Learn & Share Conference Calls, Call & Connect Network, etc.), social media messaging, and website.
- The **Seizure Safe Schools Act (HB 4970)** was developed in response to the nationwide movement to make Seizure Recognition and First Aid common practice for school personnel. This bill was introduced by Representative Jack O'Malley and passed overwhelming out of the House Education Committee and the full Michigan House of Representatives, before being sent onto the Michigan Senate.
- The Foundation was able to harness the power of statewide, donated **Media Coverage** with 30 story placements on television, radio, print and electronic media in five major markets within Michigan as well as nationally.



ELEVATING YOUR VOICE

Our mission is to lead the fight to overcome the challenges of living with epilepsy and to accelerate therapies to stop seizures, find cures, and save lives.

E-SMART

[My daughter] really enjoyed the E-SMART sessions! I encouraged but not forced her to do it, and she was really excited after just the 1st session! She told us all about the things she was learning each week, and she appreciated getting to know others with her condition. Thank you for hosting it!

Epilepsy Innovation Conference

Thank you to EFM for all you do to bring together these very important opportunities to improve our knowledge and quality of life. You truly make a difference.

Wellness & Epilepsy Conference

I was just diagnosed with epilepsy this past year...these past few months have been full of uncertainty/anxiety and sadness. It was wonderful to listen to and read comments of other people who have been through this and the sessions gave me hope (after months of not having any)!

Project UPLIFT

When I signed up for Project Uplift, I wasn't sure what I would get from it. For almost two decades, I have struggled with anxiety & depression. More recently, still spanning several years, I have struggled with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Living a lifestyle of seizures, makes anxiety, depression, and PTSD, come frequently. I decided that working in a group, with people who understand, could benefit me, as I try to work on coping with the mental struggles that epilepsy can make worse. The methods for coping that were taught, are things I'd heard of. What was different, and what I am putting to use daily, is how they were taught. Project Uplift made me think about things differently. It made me realize the things I really need to work on. Now, several weeks later, I use those tools daily, without thinking about it. And it has helped. Our group became special to me. We could openly talk about seizures, jobs, & life overall. When I find myself struggling with life, I love that I can continue to use what I learned, and also look back at the information we were given. I'm glad that I took the step to work through Project Uplift.

Camp Discovery

[My son] had the BEST week! What a special time! He's so excited to connect and go to camp next year already. Thank you to everyone who makes this experience possible!

[My son] was over the moon to get his box today ahead of participating in epilepsy camp! He immediately filled out the postcards to tell his friends from school that he's attending camp. He was diagnosed with epilepsy in December and also carries a pretty much lifelong diagnosis of mild cerebral palsy. As a parent, it has been difficult to find things that he can "fit" with, and I was so excited to learn about this opportunity.

Seizure Recognition and First Aid Training

I want to say thanks again for providing the Epilepsy Training for our staff. We appreciate you providing your wealth of knowledge and our staff sends accolades for your awesome presentation." ~ Seizure First Aid Training recipient

BEING A GOOD STEWARD

Full Financial Summary and 990 available upon request and on our website: www.epilepsymichigan.org

Statements of Financial Position As of December 31, 2021, and 2020			Statements of Activities For the years ended December 31, 2021 and 2020		
	2021	2020*		2021	2020*
Cash & cash equivalents	\$716,549	\$452,158	Support & Revenue		
Investments	757,502	576,038	United Way designations	\$21,007	\$20,454
Contributions receivable	200,082	224,365	Revenue from governmental agencies	96,346	81,817
Prepaid expenses	31,093	24,787	Foundation & corporate grants	109,725	264,650
Property & equipment (net)	9,469	5,472	Special event revenues (net)	290,620	302,065
Total assets	\$1,714,695	\$1,282,820	Contributions & bequests	603,226	397,286
			Program service fees	750	3,216
			Investment income (loss)	28,981	59,779
Paycheck Protection Program Loan	\$101,815	\$101,812	Paycheck Protection Program Income	101,812	0
Trade payables	7,696	2,966	Total revenue	\$1,252,467	\$1,129,267
Accruals – salaries & benefits	60,939	77,118			
Accruals - other	743	866	Program Expenses		
Deferred revenues	12,014	187	Individual & family services	\$264,479	\$263,734
Deferred rent	10,303	9,654	Community services	411,809	412,779
Total liabilities	\$193,510	\$192,603	Advocacy & Public Policy	29,134	21,233
			Support Services		
Net assets without donor restrictions	\$1,383,759	\$926,903	Development	11,577	9,851
Net assets with donor restrictions	137,426	163,314	Management & general	104,500	99,091
Total net assets	\$1,521,185	\$1,090,217	Total expenses	\$821,499	\$806,688
Total liabilities & net assets	\$1,714,695	\$1,282,820	Change in net assets	\$430,968	\$322,579

*Subsequent to the issuance of the 2020 financial statements, it was determined that a \$160,000 grant that was awarded in November 2020 had been improperly accounted for as conditional. To correct this accounting, the Foundation restated their net assets with donor restrictions at the beginning of the year in the accompanying statement of activities.

Additionally, subsequent to issuing the Foundation's 2020 financial statements, the Foundation determined that it was eligible to benefit from the Employee Retention Credit. Accordingly, the Foundation amended its 2020 941s and applied for 2020-related Employee Retention Credit in 2021 in the amount of \$47,234. The correction was applied by restating net assets without donor restrictions at the beginning of the year in the accompanying statement of activities.

The following line items in the statement of activities were affected by the restatements:

	As Previously Stated	As Restated	Effect of Correction
Net assets without donor restrictions	\$879,669	\$926,903	\$(47,234)
Net assets with donor restrictions	3,314	163,314	(160,000)
Total Net Assets	\$882,983	\$1,090,217	\$(207,234)



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