

Dear Camper Families,

We are thrilled to announce our latest endeavor: the introduction of our NEW Family Camp Experience!

Carefully crafted for families in Michigan with children aged 17 years or younger who are living with epilepsy, as well as their family members residing in the same household. Family Camp is designed to create a nurturing environment where unity thrives. Our paramount goal is to offer a unique opportunity for families to step outside of their typical daily routines, recharge, nurture family relationships, and create lasting memories together. Moreover, camp provides a platform for special connections with other families who share similar experiences.

Family Camp at North Star Reach

- **Location:** North Star Reach, 1200 University Camp Dr, Pinckney, MI 48169
- **Dates:** July 19, 2024 – July 21, 2024
- **Registration:** Opening Soon!
- **Cost:** Free to camper families
- **Website:** Please browse our Camp website for more information and stay tuned for updates in our Camp FAQ section.

Traditional Camp Program Update

In September 2022, our camp partner, North Star Reach, faced the challenging decision to suspend all in-person camps. While their organization is diligently working to restructure and enhance fundraising for long-term success, this prompted the Foundation to explore alternative options. After consulting with various internal camp stakeholders, conducting a statewide survey, and meeting with camping institutions across the Midwest, it became evident that there is no other camp in Michigan with the same comprehensive focus on children with disabilities and chronic health conditions as North Star Reach. It is clear that North Star Reach will continue to be our most suitable long-term partner. While we are grateful for this, we recognize that it postpones our ability to offer a full-week, overnight camp experience in 2024.

While our families will have the opportunity to enjoy a new camp experience this summer, the leadership of the Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan remains committed to providing a traditional camp experience for epilepsy youth in Michigan in the future. We know that while a Family Camp model can be extremely beneficial and fun for families, it doesn't provide the respite opportunity that most parents desperately need, nor does it provide the independent opportunities that youth have historically enjoyed. It is for that reason and many others, plans with North Star Reach are being developed for an overnight, camper experience and will be unveiled over the next year.

To get acquainted with these initiatives, we encourage you to explore our camp webpage or meet us in person at one of our upcoming events. We would like to invite you to join us in this journey! To learn more about what we do and how to join us at a future event, please visit our website at www.epilepsymichigan.org or call us at (800) 377-6226.

We want to thank you for trusting us to create a safe and enriching camping program for youth with epilepsy. Your trust means the world to us. Please know that we remain here for our beloved epilepsy community through every step of the epilepsy journey.

In Service to You,



Brianna Romines, MPA
President