



North Star Reach
a serioüsfun camp



A YEAR OF RESILIENCE

2021 ANNUAL REPORT



North Star Reach's 2021 Halloween Drive-In Event: With a featured film on an outdoor big screen, this successful event safely welcomed camper families back to camp, socially distanced in their vehicles, for an evening of entertainment and seasonal fun.

YEAR IN REVIEW

Despite the uncertainty and challenges due to the pandemic in 2021, your generosity enabled us to deliver innovative, transformative experiences to campers and families across Michigan and beyond. Among the program highlights:

- * 414 meaningful camp-at-home summer and spring family weekend experiences delivered to children and families across Michigan, the Chicago area, and beyond.
- * A pair of online conferences focused on support resources for parents and caregivers of children with serious illness, hosting 100+ attendees, connecting them with one another and a host of leading medical and mental health professionals.
- * Year-round virtual facilitated meetups and support groups continued to provide community and connection to North Star Reach caregivers and campers.
- * A lineup of uniquely designed events, both in-person and virtual, gave hundreds of campers and their families a chance to have fun and connect in meaningful ways, from camp clubs and family game nights to an outdoor drive-in movie experience at camp.

Without all of you, we could not have delivered more than 1400+ experiences enjoyed by children and family members, totally free of charge. Thank you for being part of our incredible community in 2021 and helping to continue our important mission.



"I love that Jillian is connected to camp. When she has the T-shirt on, when she logs onto live sessions, she is with 'her' people. It brings me to tears every time."

-MOM OF JILLIAN

(pictured top right, enjoying no-hands spaghetti dinner—a beloved camp tradition)

**IN-PERSON
CAMPER
FAMILY
EVENTS**

**CAMP-AT-HOME
PROGRAMS**

**PEER-TO-PEER
SUPPORT
GROUPS**

Lifelines of Community & Connection

for children living with a serious illness and their families

"You really make an impact on my life and the lives of so many families. Especially with the coronavirus going on, these programs are a life saver." - Camper Mom

**SPECIAL EVENTS &
FAMILY FUN NIGHTS**

**S'MORE
CAMP
CLUBS**

**CAREGIVER
CONFERENCES**

YOUR SUPPORT DELIVERED INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS

Given the increased isolation of families caring for a child with a life-threatening illness during the second year of the pandemic, our families told us they urgently needed more resources. You helped us to respond with an expanded offering of programs and resources for both campers and their parents through a range of innovative alternative and safely designed in-person programs.

Camper/Caregiver Participation in 2021

Camp-at-Home	414
S'more Camp Clubs	169
Parent Support Groups	69
Camper Meetups	34
Caregiver Conferences	174
Special Family Events	431
In-Person Camper Family Events	143

Total Served

1,433



Family fun during our Campily Halloween Pre-Glow event.

North Star Reach serves children living with dozens of different complex medical conditions, including: Blood disorders | Cerebral palsy | Congenital heart disorders | Down syndrome | Genetic disorders | Developmental delays | Epilepsy | Hemophilia | Neuro-oncology | Organ transplants | Palliative care | Pulmonary hypertension | Sickle cell disease | Spina bifida

“SERIOUS SUPPORT” CONFERENCES REACH GROWING CAREGIVER COMMUNITY

Launched in 2020 in response to camper families asking for resources and community support to help them cope with the stress and social isolation of the pandemic, North Star Reach expanded its offering of virtual conferences in 2021.

Our first-ever “Coping with Loss” conference, hosted in partnership with Ele’s Place – Ann Arbor, was held in the spring. In October, our second annual “Family Care Conference” focused on topics of self-care. Both conferences allowed caregivers of children with serious illnesses to connect with one another--and to a host of leading medical and mental health professionals.

Topics featured panels and presentations on self-care and wellness approaches from social workers, providing support for siblings of children with serious illness, and insights on how to advocate for your child from Matthew Denenberg, MD (Vice President for Medical Affairs, Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital), Becky Patrias, MD (Medical Director North Star Reach), and Russ Derry, MPH (Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan).



[VIEW 2021 CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS](#)

THIS CONFERENCE
TAUGHT ME THAT GRIEF
IS SOMETHING WE MOVE
FORWARD WITH, INSTEAD OF
MOVING ON FROM.

Megan Carrillo

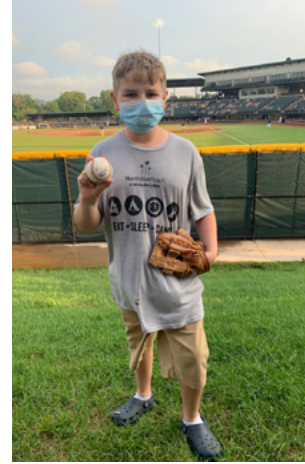


EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Special events help us share our mission, raise funds and awareness, and connect with our supporters—building the strong community that is key to sustaining our organization.


- ✦ In May, we hosted our second **Camp-A-Thon Challenge**, raising \$39,136, thanks to individuals across every corner of our community, including Board members, camper families, and program and medical volunteers.
- ✦ As we moved into summer, we were thrilled to offer a series of events allowing camper families to safely connect in-person, including a **Night at the Ballpark** at Jimmy John's Field, sponsored by United Shore Professional Baseball League, Trion Solutions, and Kiwanis Club of Macomb.
- ✦ In October, we celebrated a hugely successful **Interstellar 5K Trail Race**, bringing hundreds of runners and supporters to camp—including our friends at The Healing Notes Foundation (pictured at right)—and raising over \$52,000 to support North Star Reach camper families. Our 2nd Annual **Halloween Glow Light Show**, a popular illuminated light display for the local community, also included a **Campily Pre-Glow Drive-In Movie Experience** for dozens of camper families, all within the safety of their car, with dinner generously provided by Domino's Pizza.

Our deepest thanks to all our corporate sponsors, donors and volunteers for supporting these and other important fundraising and community-building events in 2021.




2021 AUDITED FINANCIALS


FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st



NET INCOME	
REVENUE	
Pledges and Contributions	1,246,994
Special Events	14,525
In-Kind Contributions	34,609
Other*	902,636
Total	2,198,764
EXPENSES (EXCLUDING DEPRECIATION)	
Program Services	899,281
Fundraising	400,339
General and Administrative	198,176
Total	1,497,796
Net Income (LOSS) (Excluding Depreciation)**	700,968



CASH FLOW	
CASH INCREASE (DECREASE)	
Net Income Excluding Depreciation	700,968
Prior Year Pledges Received	62,275
Investments	(61,990)
Capital Expenditures	0
Financing	(69,192)
Other*	(538,028)
Net Increase (Decrease)	94,033
Cash Balance as of 12/31/2021	402,230



BALANCE SHEET	
ASSETS	
Current Assets	537,901
Fixed Assets (net of Depreciation)	14,311,602
Pledge Receivables***	276,516
Endowments	676,618
Other Assets	20,000
Total	15,822,637
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Current Liabilities	923,993
Long-Term Liabilities	600,000
Equity	14,298,644
Total	15,822,637

*Includes Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan.

** Depreciation expense of \$719,883 was excluded from this net income summary since it is a non-cash item.

***Our life-changing work is made possible by the generosity of funders and donors, and we are especially grateful for prior multi-year pledges which are helping to sustain us going forward. As of December 31, 2021, the outstanding pledge receivable balance was \$276,516.

STAFF & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Staff

Becky Patrias, MD
Medical Director

Mary Ann Fithian
Director of Community Engagement

Louisa Artelt
Associate Director of Development

Monica Philipp-Adams
Associate Director of Development

Mike ("Coach") Parker
Director of Volunteer Engagement

Patrick Smith, MA
Director of Camping

Colleen Triezenberg
Camper Experience Manager

Jessica Doletzky, CCLS, CTRS
Family Liaison & Outreach Specialist

Jeff Boots
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Jo Ellen Soesbee
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Ami Walsh
Experience Design Strategist & Communications Director

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Project Management Consultant and Owner, Ode to June

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Founder

Doug Armstrong, RN, MS

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Medical Director, Three Chelsea Docs

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University of Chicago Medicine Comer Children's Hospital

YOUNG PROFESSIONAL BOARD

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Tom Wille
Promotional & Commercial Video Director,
Constant Motion Productions

OUR GENEROUS DONORS

On behalf of the hundreds of children and families who enjoyed lifelines of community and connection through North Star Reach's innovative programming in 2021, we extend our deepest thanks to each one of the donors who believed in the power of camp and supported our work to positively impact the lives of children with serious health challenges and their family members.

Great care has been made preparing the list of supporters who made a gift to North Star Reach between January 1 and December 31, 2021. Please accept our apologies in advance if we have inadvertently made an error or omitted a name. To make a correction, please call 734-680-8744.



FOUNDING DONORS

Vera and Joseph Dresner Foundation
The Jones Family Foundation
Mott Golf Classic
Ted and Jane Von Voigtlander Foundation

CORPORATIONS & CORPORATE FOUNDATIONS

\$50,000 and Above

Generator Z
Jones Family Foundation
Lakeshore Connections Inc.
SeriousFun Children's Network

\$10,000-\$49,999

Beaumont Health Foundation
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Masco Corporation
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The Stanley L. & Phyllis Berger Family
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Spectrum Health Foundation
The American Gift Fund
The Blackbaud Giving Fund

\$1,000-\$2,499

Community Foundation For Southeast
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La Salle Network
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A3 Disc Club
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Up to \$249

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YourCause

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BE PART OF SOMETHING LIFE-CHANGING

Part of the extraordinary magic of camp: No camper ever pays a penny. Your generous gifts of time, talent, resources and financial support make life-changing experiences possible. Thank you for your commitment to camp and kids!

DONATE to support a child's attendance at camp. North Star Reach is a not-for-profit organization dependent on private funding to serve every camper. 100% of all donations directly benefit our camp and programs. Gifts-in-kind are also greatly appreciated.

Since North Star Reach opened in 2016, donors have made it possible for our team to deliver more than 4,500 in-person and virtual life-changing experiences for children with serious illnesses and their families, all at no charge to them. We must grow to welcome even more kids with serious illnesses across the Great Lakes region, and we need generous donations from individuals like you to make that happen.

VOLUNTEER to directly impact kids at camp. You may discover that the life you change may be your own.

FUNDRAISE by participating in fundraising events or proposing your own event or online fundraiser.

SHARE THE WORD about the impact of camp. Like our Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, and LinkedIn pages. Follow daily stories of inspiration, hope, joy and resilience from campers, camper parents, volunteers and donors. Stories that connect us to our shared humanity.

CONNECT EMPLOYEES to camp through service workdays and other exclusive corporate partnership opportunities.

INVEST in strategic partnerships that deepen the impact camp and our purpose-driven programs make on the lives of children with serious health challenges and their families, as well as on our communities.





North Star Reach
a serioüsfun camp



CAMP

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Pinckney, MI 48169

OFFICE

674 S. Wagner
Ann Arbor, MI 48103-9002
Phone: 734-680-8744

NORTH STAR REACH

501(c)(3) organization