



# A PLACE OF BELONGING

We all want to find a place of belonging where we can be our true selves. As you'll hear in the pages that follow, a sense of true belonging is precisely what hundreds of children with serious illnesses and their family members enjoyed at North Star Reach last year through shared experiences and meaningful friendships.

These experiences are truly life-changing for kids with serious health conditions whose illnesses alienate them from friends, and even family, and who often feel like they do not belong.

Thanks to your dedication and generosity, North Star Reach gives these children, often for the first time in their lives, a chance to connect with an incredible community that's bigger than their families and their care teams. At camp, they just can be themselves with other kids who have faced similar medical challenges. Your support has made an incredible impact in 2019, and we hope you enjoy reading about the positive experiences you've made possible.

Thank you for helping North Star Reach to become a place of belonging for so many. We simply could not do this important life-giving work without you.

With gratitude,

Doug Armstrong, RN, MS Founder & CEO, North Star Reach





"This was my son's first year. Along with his epilepsy, he has bad anxiety. We were ALL nervous! But thanks to all the counselors he had an amazing time and conquered a lot of fears! He's already asking when he gets to go back! I'm so amazed by this organization and am relieved he gets to make normal childhood memories!"

#### -FELECIA

(mom of Sammy, who attended Epilepsy Camp for the first time in 2019)



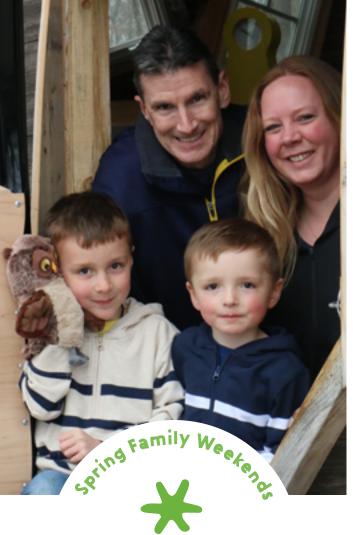
# "This picture holds my heart. These boys have such a bond."

"They say a picture says a thousand words, but I will try to describe the meaning of this one in less. My son Owen has attended summer camp since you opened. First, cardiac camp and now solstice camp. This is his last year as he will age out. Camp has meant so much to Owen. He has fostered friendships that will last a lifetime and, in some cases, have. It's hard enough being a teenager today without having the added burden of health issues and not always feeling as if you fit in. He has never had to worry about that at camp and that confidence has carried on outside of camp.

He still wears his first camp t-shirt religiously even though he has long outgrown it. The names of his bunk mates are signed on the back. Two of whom lost their battles and are no longer with us. You would think that losing friends along the way would make going to camp sad or difficult, but he just says, "Mom but we had the best time together." It's no longer bright white and has a stain here and there. But this shirt means happy memories, friendships and lifelong confidence. Things that he thankfully gathered at CAMP! What a blessing North Star Reach has been."

#### -JEAN

(mom of Owen, pictured in the blue shirt, with his friends from Solstice Camp)







April – May

182
CAMPERS

June – August

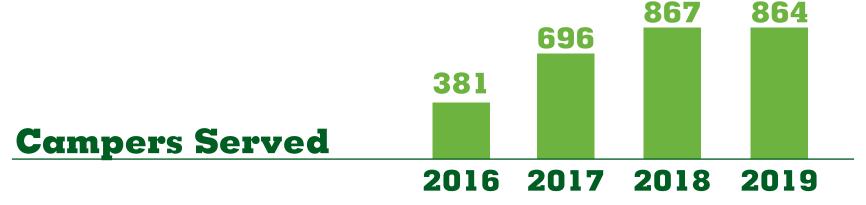
452 CAMPERS

September – November

230 CAMPERS

## HIDDEN GEM IN THE GREAT LAKES

As pediatric hospitals increasingly specialize on acute care, North Star Reach provides a "healing bridge," offering kids the emotional, medical, and physical support they need to transition from seeing themselves as a "sick kid" with limitations to seeing themselves as a kid with tremendous resilience and potential.





## **Medical Conditions Served**

North Star Reach serves children living with dozens of different 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

<sup>\*</sup> Bold represents primary conditions served during our summer camp season

# NEW OUTDOOR ADVENTURES

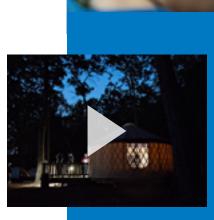
With the completion of two new Yurts and a rustic "Outpost" campsite, our campers enjoyed the chance to sleep under the night sky, some for the very first time. The space and new outdoor structures were made possible with generous gifts from the Buhr Family Foundation, Delta Air Lines Mechanics, Jan Herrick and Serious Fun Children's Network. We are indebted to them for creating a place where generations of campers will benefit from unforgettable outdoor adventures and benefit from the mental wellbeing that comes from spending time in nature.

### **Oversight/Licensing**











## THE WONDER OF OPEN SKIES

Campers enjoy the chance to sleep under the night sky, some for the very first time. Check out the video to see some of the spectacular experiences North Star Reach campers enjoyed last summer.

SEE THE NEW OUTPOST SPACE DURING A CAMP SESSION: HTTP://BIT.LY/NSR\_YURTS



# LIFE-CHANGING IMPACT

Two years ago, we surveyed parents one month after their child attended camp; the changes they report point to the power of camp to positively impact children living with serious health challenges.

74% reported an increase in independence

reported an increase in self-esteem

reported an increased in their child's social skills

"Camp has changed my worldview. When I came to camp and heard other stories, I realized I'm not the only one going through this stuff. And that's kind of reassuring."

-TERRIEN, 15

(at right with his friend, Malaki, during Transplant Camp)

Our 2019 camp sessions were generously supported by our friends the University of Michigan Transplant Center, Dance Marathon at the University of Michigan, Epilepsy Foundation of Michigan.





"It's very bittersweet for me thinking back on how much the campers have impacted me. As counselors, we're supposed to be there to set an example for them, to make magic happen, to make a home for them. But they ended up making North Star Reach a home for me."

#### -RICHARD NGUYEN

(SAS Member and Program Volunteer, picture at left above)



Hear our campers' thanks and why they want to be a future counselor: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8WytGyP9BRA

# PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS WHO MAKE CAMP POSSIBLE

The dedication and talents of our incredible volunteers are vital to creating life-changing camp experiences for campers. Our 2019 camp season was fueled by **468 program and medical volunteers**, from college-aged students and working professionals to retirees—all with a passion for making a difference in the lives of kids with serious illnesses.

"Camp should always be a place where diagnoses build community, not barriers. Thank you, North Star Reach, for making that possible! Cabin three (youngest boys!) brought so much joy to my heart."

-CHRISTA SCHAFER (Program Volunteer, pictured below)



# MEDICAL VOLUNTEERS WHO MAKE CAMP POSSIBLE

Our volunteer team included **70+ MEDICAL VOLUNTEERS** from our partner and referring hospitals, including RNs, MDs, NPs, and Child Life specialists. Many of these medical professionals also treat our campers in the hospital—the camp experience gives both caregiver and camper a chance to spend valuable time together outside of the clinical environment.

#### CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL SHARING OUR MISSION

Our 12 partnering hospitals and medical centers throughout Michigan and the Chicago area share our belief that camp has the power to promote healing for children with serious health challenges.

Ascension – St. John | Beaumont Children's | Bronson Children's Hospital | Children's Hospital of Michigan | Covenant HealthCare | Helen DeVos Children's Hospital of Spectrum Health | Henry Ford Health System | Hurley Children's Hospital | Rush University Medical Center | Sparrow Health System | The University of Chicago Medicine Comer Children's Hospital | University of Michigan C.S. Mott Children's Hospital







"Each summer is an opportunity, as a medical provider, to witness my patients experience camp magic. They're able to interact with kids who can identify with them on a level much deeper than their classmates. They can take risks, be themselves, and laugh a whole lot. It is a privilege to care for them, and experience camp alongside them."

#### **MOLLY ROURKE**

(BSN, RN, CPN, who is the dedicated sickle cell nurse at Chicago's Advocate Children's Hospital and pictured above)

Enjoy a tour of camp, starting at the heart of our camp, the Observatory: http://bit.ly/NSRCampTour

## **EVENT HIGHLIGHTS**

Special events help us share our mission, raise funds, and connect with our supporters—building the strong community that is key to sustaining our organization. In May, 17 Howell High School seniors camped out for their Senior Survivor fundraiser, raising a total of \$100,000 for camp!

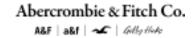
In September, we welcomed hundreds of guests to the Detroit Athletic Club for our annual signature fundraiser, Under the North Star, raising nearly \$300,000 for our campers and their families. We're grateful to each and every donor who gave generously and made the evening a success. Special thanks to Presenting Sponsor Delta Air Lines and Send-A-Kid-To-Camp Challenge Sponsor the Stanley L. & Phyllis Berger Foundation.

In the fall, we also welcomed 350+ friends, volunteers, families and camp supporters for our 2nd annual Fall Family Fest. We also cheered on hundreds of swimmers during Swim to the Moon, hosted by Epic Races, with proceeds benefiting our campers. And dozens of staff, volunteers, donors and camper families attended The A&F Challenge, a SeriousFun network-wide fundraiser hosted by Abercrombie & Fitch. This event raised a phenomenal \$4+ million for network camps, including North Star Reach.

We closed out the year with our third annual #GivingMooseDay, on #GivingTuesday. The digital fundraiser generated more than \$24,000 in just a single day of giving, a tribute to our amazing community of generous supporters.

Masco gave in support of our 2019 Family Camp for kids with a neuro-oncology diagnosis. Thank you, Masco, for making camp possible!









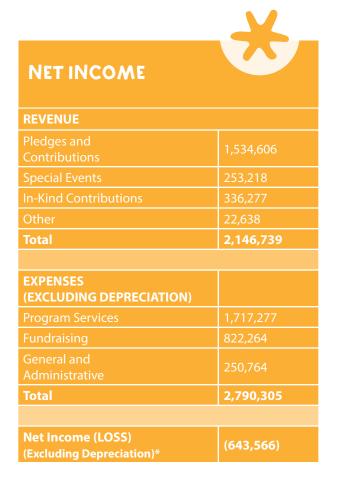






## **2019 AUDITED FINANCIALS**

### FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st



CASH FLOW	
CASH INCREASE (DECREASE)	
Net Income Excluding Depreciation	(643,566)
Prior Year Pledges Received	1,263,536
Investments in Endowments	(199,289)
Capital Expenditures	(109,382)
Loan Repayments	(337,806)
Other	8,297
Net Increase (Decrease)	(18,210)
Cash Balance as of 12/31/2019	81,992

BALANCE SHEET	W
ASSETS	
Current Assets	127,415
Fixed Assets (net of Depreciation)	15,755,025
Pledge Receivables**	1,846,510
Endowments	450,648
Other Assets	4,545
Total	18,184,143
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	
Current Liabilities	270,311
Long-Term Liabilities	2,219,150
Equity	15,694,682
Total	18,184,143

<sup>\*</sup>Depreciation expense of \$719,956 was recorded in 2019, but was excluded from this net income summary since it is a non-cash item.

<sup>\*\*</sup>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, 2019, the outstanding pledge receivable balance was \$1,846,510.

## **CURRENT STAFF & BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

## Staff

**Doug Armstrong, RN, MS** Founder & CEO

#### **DEVELOPMENT & FINANCE**

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**Louisa Artelt** Associate Director of Development

Mike ("Coach") Parker Special Initiative Coordinator

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Patrick Smith
Director of Camping

**Colleen Triezenberg**Camper Experience Manager

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Jeff Boots Facility Manager

**Jo Ellen Soesbee**Facility Administrative Assistant

**Ami Walsh** Experience Design Strategist

Sissy Phillips
Digital Media Specialist

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Officer, Bank of Ann Arbor

**Steven Berger, Secretary**CVO, First Choice Building and Maintenance, LLC Vice President, Berger Realty Group

**Matthew Denenberg, MD** Vice-President Medical Affairs, Helen DeVos Children's Hospital

**Kate Henry**Camp Champion, Young Professional Board Liaison

**Doug Armstrong, RN, MS, ex officio** CEO, North Star Reach

**Monica Philipp, ex officio** Chair, North Star Reach Young Professional Board

**Emily Edkins, Fellow**University of Michigan, Steven M. Ross School of Business - Graduate Student

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#### **Robert McCurren IV, MD**

Regional Vice President, Emergency Physicians Medical Group

#### Rebecca Patrias, MD

Medical Director, Three Chelsea Docs

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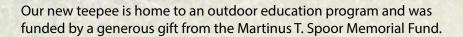
Medical Director and Chair of Emergency Medicine, Ascension St. John Hospital and Medical Center

#### Alison Tothy, MD

Chief Experience and Engagement Officer, University of Chicago Medicine Comer Children's Hospital

#### **Doug Armstrong, RN, MS**

Founder & CEO, North Star Reach



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Global GTM Strategy Manager for Duo Security

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Quality Analyst, Trinity Health

#### **Tom Wille**

Promotional & Commercial Video Director, Constant Motion Productions

#### Kate Henry, ex officio

Member, North Star Reach Board of Directors

## **OUR GENEROUS DONORS**

On behalf of the 864 children and families who enjoyed the experience of a lifetime at North Star Reach in 2019, 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.

Great care has been made preparing the list of supporters who made a gift to North Star Reach between January 1 and December 31, 2019. Please accept our apologies in advance if we have inadvertently made an error or omitted a name. To make a correction, please contact Stephanie Stahl at 734-680-8744.

#### Thank you for making dreams come true:

http://bit.ly/ThankYou-NSRDonors



#### **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

**Delta Airlines Foundation** 

#### \$10,000-\$49,999

Abercrombie & Fitch
Joy In Childhood Foundation
Masco Corporation
Anonymous
Newman's Own Foundation
The Children's Foundation

#### \$2,500-\$9,999

88 Acres

AZ Pools, Spas & Landscape Design

Bank of Ann Arbor

Chelsea Milling Company

**Desk Drawer Fund** 

Domino's Pizza

**DTE Foundation** 

**Enspire Dental** 

Epic Races: Swim to the Moon

Facebook

Michigan Medicine Clinical Engineering

Department

Probility

Robert Schechter & Associates

Spectrum Health Foundation

Suburban Chevrolet Cadillac Trinity Health Utilities Instrumenation Service WDIV-TV Local 4 Detroit Zingerman's Community of Businesses

# "I've just really enjoyed camp and I'm proud to be here and be who I am."

-MADISON, 11 (Camper)

#### \$1,000-\$2,499

Ajax Paving Industries, Inc.

**BCBSM Foundation** 

Bigger Than Ten, LLC

**Detroit Athletic Club** 

Epic Races: Probility Ann Arbor Marathon

Girl Scouts Heart Of Michigan

Google

Hasbro, Inc.

La Jolla Fine Jewelry

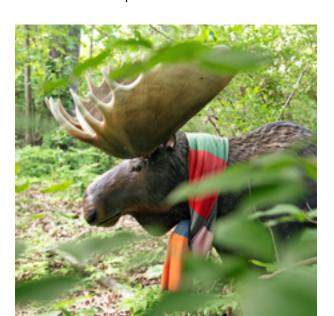
**Lewis Jewelers** 

**Momentum Construction** 

SnowFreaks, LLC

Terumo Cardiovascular Systems

Corporation



#### \$250-\$999

A Touch Of Lace

**Abovo Communications** 

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Farrow Battle Creek Location

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Access Title Agency

Conagra Foodservice

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Krispy Kreme Doughnuts

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**Angelos Restaurant** 

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Bessemer Trust

Vera and Joseph Dresner Foundation

The Estate of James Foreman

**Howell Public Schools** 

Jones Family Foundation

SeriousFun Children's Network

Ted and Jane Von Voigtlander Foundation

University of Michigan Transplant Center

#### \$10,000-\$49,999

Dr. and Mrs. Robert Armstrong

Dr. Jacob Bilhartz

**Buhr Foundation** 

Cause for a Party

**Community Foundation For Southeast** 

Michigan

Dance Marathon at the University of Michigan

**DeRoy Testamentary Foundation** 

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**Epilepsy Foundation Of Michigan** 

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Joyce Lindquist

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The Stanley L. & Phyllis Berger Family

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#### \$2,500-\$9,999

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Rachel Orfei
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David and Alisande Read
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Lisa and Stephen Schwartz
United Jewish Foundation of Metropolitan
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United Way Of Washtenaw County

#### \$1,000-\$2,499

The Well Church

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#### \$250-\$999

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# "Camp offers everyone a place where you realize that you're not all alone."

#### -MACK (Program volunteer)

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Alice Cook

Madelyn Cook



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"This camp is where I belong, I never felt so happy at a camp like this. This is my home."

-DESHAWN, 16 (camper)

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Nancy Dean Noah Dean

Adam Denenberg

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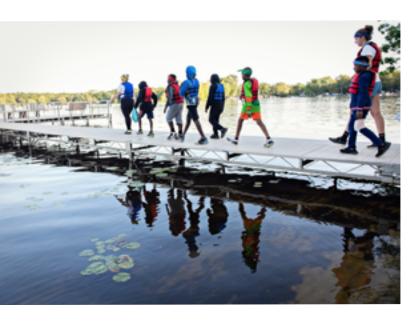
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Kiwanis Club Of Ann Arbor

Debra Klezek

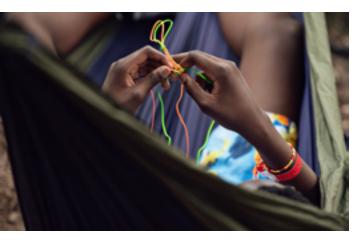
Andrew Morrill and Marie Knoerl

Chelsea Knowles

Joy Koenes

Andrew Kolanowski

Gay Konschuh



Kevin and Vickie Kooyers Belinda Korson Sam Kosinski Frans Kox

Arlene Kraft

Dr. and Mrs. Neal Krasnick

Allison Krebs

David Kreske

"I really like camp because I get to do things at my own pace, and I get to be around people who are just like me."

-THOMAS, 14 (Camper)

Noelle Krimm

Elizabeth Krochmalny

Taylor Kroll

Barbara Krzycki

Jon Kulick

Rajeev Kulkarni

David Kull

Kevin Kuranowski

Josh Kurtz

Dr. Stephanie Kutzen

Eileen LaBell

Joseph LaCasse

**Anonymous** 

Erin Lahood

Megan Laib

Mackenzie Lampe

Richard Larese

Cynthia Laurence

David and Anna LeDuc

Karen LeDuc

Gary and Jennifer Lee

Jennifer Lee

**Bob and Robin Leenders** 

Paula A. LeFlar

Jeff Lehman

Curt and Ann Lemmen

Gabrielle Lemmen

Samantha Lemmen

Marcia Leonard

Deborah and Thomas Lewis

Kristi Lewis

Denise and Jeff Liebzeit

Colleen Livingstone

Sheila Locano



**Barbara and Steve Locks** 

Joleah Lombardo

Karen Lopez

Marcus Lowther

Jill Lozo

Laura Luecke

Phil and Francine MacBride

Ian Macek

Gary Mach

Andrew Magill

Jeff Maier

Anna and Joseph Maiuri

Lindsay Malcolm

Aileen Malczewski

Michele and Matthew Maley

Jesse Manson

Amanda Marchant

**Brian Marentay** 

Sheri Mark

Janice Marko

Laura Martin

**Erin Martinez** 

**Modesto Martinez** 

Yoshihiro Marumoto

Kayla Marut

**Sharon Mason** 

Matthew Matuszak

Krystol Mayer

Anna and Paul Mazur

Kathryn McCalla

Angelika McCann

Kate McDonnell

Nate McGaha

**Andrew McGuiness** 

**Adam McGuinness** 

Gabe and Laura McGuinness

James McGuinness

Moira McGuinness

Philip McGuinness

Monica McInnis

Danielle McKay



Shandra McNelis

Raffaella Meduro-Naurato

David Mehram

Morgan Merrill

James and Lisa Mesaros

Katherine Mesaros

**Kelly Messing** 

Annette Miller

Rebekah Modrak

John and Mary Mohn

John and Mary Mohn

Skyler Moomey

Stacy Morris

Suzy Morse

Jana and Mark Mueller

Robert and Jane Murdock

**Rose Nagy** 

**Christy Nehro** 

**Amy Neumann** 

Angela Newton

**David Nickens** 

Susan and Robert Novasel

Susan Nunez-Gardner

Jasmine Oesch

Jennifer Oldham

Katie and Mike Olsson

Julie and Geoff Omiatek

Ceren Onsan

Ronni Oppenheim

**David Owens** 

Anonymous

Kelly Parkinson

Mark and Sue Pascoe

Suraj Patel

Dr. Rebecca Patrias

Elizabeth Paulson

Christina Pechette

Mariel and Douglas Peck

Linda Peltier

Marliese Peltier

Christopher Penna



Samantha Perovski

Lori Perri

**Charles Peterson** 

Monica Philipp

Natalie Philipp

Marie Phillips

Sissy Phillips

"Camps like these support families like ours in ways that are just irreplaceable. We thank you with all of our hearts."

**-SARAH** (Camper Mom)

Wendy, Glen and Aaron Pickover

Anna Pierre

Zoe Pillar

Jeff Pituch

Alison Pollard

Debora Pommerville

Georgia and Perry Porikos

Holly Porter

Presbyterian Women--Littlefield

Presbyterian Church



Bruce and Janice Pringle
Marlene Promer
Kent Purdy
Jennifer Quinlivan
Lori and Cyril Radwin
Shashank Raghavachari
Justin Ramirez
Jamie and Jamison Rantz
Chris Raquet
Kari Rea
Erin Reasoner
Kristin Reece

# "Seeing his camp friends and favorite counselors are what he looks forward to all year!"

-JENNY (Camper Mom)

Dwayne and Christine Reed

Pamela Reister Amy Rembert

Sally Reynolds

**Chris Conner and Stanley Rhodes** 

Sandra Richardson Thiany Riddihough Pat and Kim Riley

Hayley Roberts

Megan Rodgers and Julie Crichton

Patricia Rogers Debra Rollins Katherine Rooks

Brian and Tiffany Rooney

David Rose Shelley Rose Jeffrey Rothstein Megan Rowe Cheryl Royster David Rudy

Martin and Jeanne Ruikka

Pam Rush

Matthew Rutherford Macauley Rybar Robert Rygiel

Fadi and Taimaa Saab

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Samuels

Cailey Sanchez Cristina Sapoval

Anne and David Sassano

Sara Saymuah Cheree Scarantino Michael Scarborough Christine Schafer Dr. Emily Schehlein

Andrew and Denise Schimmoeller

George and Joyce Schlecht

Tracy Schmidt
Lisa Schneider
Brian Schrag
Carol Schutt
Delaney Schwab
Randy Schwemmin
David and Kristy Scribner
LeAnn and John Seto

Ramy Shabana Dr. Krupa Shah Steve Shalit Caroline Shanks

Chelsea Shapiro Diane Shavinski Ann Sheagren Sarah Shinaver Emily Shipman Yakov Sigal

Dr. Brooks Sitterley Andrea Siwicki Sarah Skavnak

Samantha Skobel

Trish Joyce and Steven Slack William and Janet Smith

Keri Smith



Nancy Smith Katy Sorini

Chris and Terri Spitzig

Sallie Springer Ann Stals Christine Stead

Tamara Steil

Robert and Krystn Stephens

Brian Sterling Wyatt Sterling

Stockbridge Lioness Club

Scott Stoeffler

Victor and Marlene Stoeffler Heather Stout Dr. Courtney Strohacker Debra Stuart Ashley Stutzmann Bruce Sullens Julie Summers



Carol Surago
Timothy and Patricia Sweeny
Jim and Michelle Sweikowsky
David and Janet Swimmer
Ely Tama
Anna Tankersley
Anna Thompson
Melissa Toth
Colleen & Nathan Triezenberg
Penny and Denny Triezenberg
Pam Tyler
Teresa Utt

Christi Vaerten David Van Acker Jane Van Velden Aimee Vance Liz VandenBerghe Drew VanDrie Donald VanLoon Cara Vanweelden Darin Vaxelaire Sara Veltri Joan Warren Amanda Walker Lee Walsh Sheila Walsh Dr. and Mrs. Bradford Walters Danielle Watkins Alyssa Wealty Patti Weber and Dominic Weber Scot Weiner Katherine Wellington April Wesolowski Emma Westerman Susan and Jim Westhoff Thomas Whitaker Katy White Kirk and Jessica Wideen Tom Wille James Woodward Jessica Woodward Tisha Wowianko Lynne Wright **Donald and Terry Wurtzel** John Yablonky Ashley Yoder Rachel York Rachel Youssef Karen Zaleski Kimberly Zaleski Nathan and Susan Zill David 7immerman

**Errol and Carol Zimmerman** 

"This summer changed my life when I told a 16-year-old camper that she could teach special education and have epilepsy, just like I do"
-SAMANTHA (Program Volunteer)

Lisa Zurawski
Ryan Zwiefka
Simon Group Holdings
Stella & Dot
The Polo Fields Foundation
University Of Michigan Human Resource All
Management Forum
University Of Michigan Office Of University
Development
Weingartz Supply Company



# 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, our programs have already served nearly 3,000 children with serious illnesses and their families. We must grow to welcome even more deserving kids 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, LinkedIn, and SoundCloud 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. Volunteer to become an influencer by contacting Sissy Phillips at sissy@northstarreach.org

**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.















### **CAMP**

1200 University Camp Drive Pinckney, MI 48169

## **OFFICE**

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

## **NORTH STAR REACH**

501(c)(3) organization