





TOGETHER WE ARE VIRTUALLY UNSTOPPABLE

2020









ANNUAL REPORT

2020: A YEAR LIKE NO OTHER

This 2020 Annual Report highlights how even COVID-19 and the global health crisis could not derail the Epilepsy Association of Western and Central PA (EAWCP) from pursuing its mission to help people living with epilepsy. A challenge like no other, COVID-19 upended everyone's lives. The EAWCP Board of Directors, the staff, and those who contribute to our organization's financial stability united to prove that the EAWCP is "Virtually Unstoppable."

The EAWCP was quick to respond to changes brought about by the coronavirus. Our staff transitioned to online and virtual programming. We worked to continue to make traditional supports like emergency medication, movement detection/sleep monitors, respite care, and epilepsy first aid training available throughout 2020. The summer run/walk events made a quick and successful transition to virtual programs. Because of families' unwavering support, the virtual 2020 Family Fun Run/Walks for Epilepsy were a tremendous success.

With time and practice, support groups and social events even made the conversion to online programs. Everyone soon discovered that Zoom sessions could be fun, maintain connections, and provide peer support.

None of this is possible without the leadership of a dedicated Board of Directors and a strong staff. Each member of our Board has prioritized helping the EAWCP and guiding our decisions in 2020. This leadership will ensure our continued success into 2021 and years beyond. The EAWCP obviously can't predict the future. However, we can say with great confidence that our Association will continue to be unstoppable, virtually and otherwise.

EAWCP will continue to work to provide help for individuals and families in local communities, lessen the burdens of living with epilepsy, promote the understanding of epilepsy, dispel the myths associated with epilepsy and create a more accepting society for those living with seizures.



Before the World Turned Upside-Down

MARDI GRAS GALA

The EAWCP is thankful for the opportunity to honor Jeff Broadhurst, President & CEO of Eat'n Park Hospitality Group. On Fat Tuesday, February 25, 2020, the EAWCP transformed the Westin Pittsburgh into a striking scene from New Orleans. Fleur De Lis (\$25,000) sponsors from five corporations, Eat'n Park Hospitality Group, Highmark Blue Cross, Peoples, PNC, and UPMC, led a parade of more than 70 sponsors to our 26th successful gala. Over 700 guests enjoyed our traditional sit-down dinner, dancing, and various indulgences ranging from a candy buffet that included light-up cotton candy to special edition Eat'n Park cookies.

Mark your calendars for the triumphant return of the Mardi Gras Gala, Fat Tuesday, March 1, 2022.



REINVENTING OUR IMPACT



RUN/WALKS

Our run/walks became virtual events, launching with a video premiere to promote that although we were physically apart, together we continue to be virtually unstoppable. For prize distribution, we invited team captains and participants to drive to our Pittsburgh and Camp Hill offices for curb-side pick-up of their fundraising prizes.



CAMP FROG

We brainstormed ways to provide a memorable virtual experience for our campers. Virtual Camp Frog featured a week of camp crafts, activities, and several virtual field trips that included things like meeting baby moose calves in Alaska. Hosting camp virtually also allowed campers from all over western and central Pennsylvania to meet one another for the first time.







SOCIAL PROGRAMS

Quarantine and social distancing resulted in people feeling more isolated, which made the peer support from social programs more important than ever. We adapted our programs by shipping activity supplies to families and hosting virtual parties on Zoom.



Diagnostic Testing for Epilepsy: What you need to know and how to prepare for your appointments Danielle Corson, PAC Halle Gibbert, PAC Assure Widnest PAC Assure

EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

Although we have hosted webinars in the past, the pandemic shifted all our remaining educational events to digital programs. The increased focus on webinars resulted in improvements with marketing, increased corporate sponsorships, and an influx of material to post to our YouTube channel.

EAA PARTNERSHIP

Our ongoing partnership with Epilepsy Alliance
America has increased our visibility in the
epilepsy community. This year, EAA produced
a poster for schools called Seizure First Aid in
the Age of COVID-19, which will be distributed in
early 2021. We also received a sponsorship
for all of our run/walk events, as part of a
national initiative.









Epilepsy Association of Western and Central PA

2020 BY THE NUMBERS

We endeavor to improve the quality of life for persons with epilepsy/seizure disorders, and to dispel the myths, stigmas, and misunderstandings associated with epilepsy.



486

FAMILIES ASSISTED WITH
INDIVIDUAL CONSULTATION

182 new clients
2,264 non-event interactions

6



people provided with emergency medication MOVEMENT DETECTION

MONITORS for

25 FAMILIES

to alert for possible seizures

Seizure recognition and first aid training provided through

70 Project School Alert presentations

to 1,895 attendees

including

825 students

807 teachers

28 nurses

105 other school personnel

76 first responders

54 other community members



10



HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS totaling \$11,500 Funds for travel assistance provided to

family



250 HOURS respite care provided

WEBINARS

431 total audience

| 938 EMS providers

trained through an online course that provided continuing education credits



2 IN-PERSON EDUCATION EVENTS

with **72** attendees (pre-COVID)



for 370 adults. youth, and families

3 VIRTUAL SOCIAL EVENTS for

418 ATTENDEES

to enjoy actvities and receive peer support



28 CAMPERS

participated in **Virtual Camp Frog**

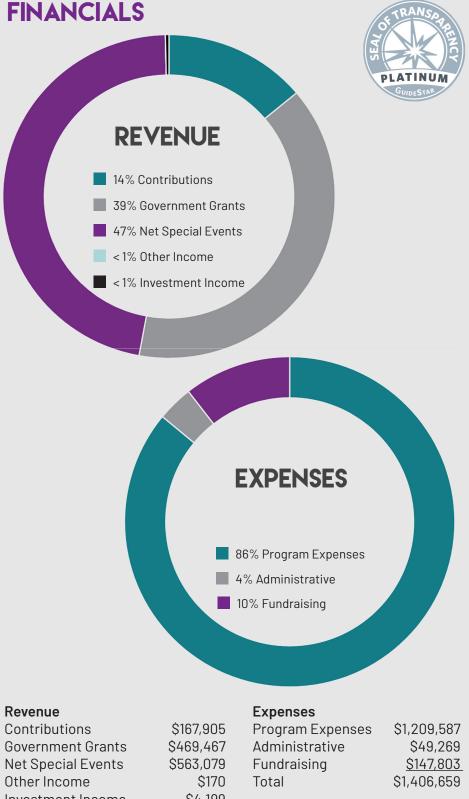


This year we started a new series of Facebook posts in May that highlighted

Epilepsy Warriors

with a total reach of

38.062 PEOPLE



Investment Income \$4,199

Total

Year End Net Assets \$5,556,126

\$1,204,820

^{*} Numbers are from the EAWCP 2019-2020 Fiscal Year. Revenues and Expenses are reported on a fiscal year, not calendar year basis. Our fiscal year ends June 30. Audited financial statements and the 990 are available on our website at www.eawcp.org.





Year in Review

2020 EVENTS

FUNDRAISERS

- Feb 25 Mardi Gras
- May 30 Virtual Erie Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community
- Jun 6 Virtual Laurel Highlands Highmark Walk for a Healthy Community
- Jun 20 Virtual Pittsburgh Family Fun Run/Walk
 - Aug 1 Virtual Harrisburg Senators Family Fun Run/Walk

SOCIAL EVENTS FOR FAMILIES

- Oct 29 Virtual Halloween Spooktacular
- Nov 14 Virtual Painting Party
- Dec 12 Virtual Holiday Party

CAMP PROGRAMS

Peer support meetings held virtually March-May, 6 meetings

Jul 27- Virtual Camp Frog Jul 31

PATIENT EDUCATION EVENTS

- Jan 21 Pediatric Epilepsy Surgery: No Longer a
 Last Resort
- Mar 7 Epilepsy Educational Mini-Conference
- Mar 10 Understanding Cannabis and Cannabinoids

FOCUS GROUPS

- Apr 25 Online Youth Leadership Focus Group
 - Sep 1 Women's Health Focus Group

SUPPORT GROUPS FOR ADULTS

Monthly support groups in Hershey, Johnstown, Mechanicsburg, and York, then continued virtually, 43 meetings

EDUCATIONAL WEBINARS

Transition Webinar Series

Apr 23 Getting Started on Transition: Discovering and Tracking

May 14 Building Bridges: Preparing and Planning

Jun 19 From Takeoff To Landing: Transferring and Completing

Parent Workshop Series

Jun 3 Special Education: Before and After COVID-19

Jun 10 Epilepsy Medications: The Effects on Mood and Behavior

Jun 17 Access to the General Education
Curriculum

Everything Epilepsy Series

Aug 20 Women's Health and Epilepsy: What You Need To Know

Oct 1 Diagnostic Testing

Oct 16 Let's Talk About SUDEP

Oct 22 Medications and Medical Marijuana for Epilepsy Treatment

Nov 6 **Drug Resistant Epilepsy: Demystification of Epilepsy Surgery**

Nov 12 Diet and Nutrition for Epilepsy Patients

Dec 10 Stress and Depression Management

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Community Education & Events Coordinator



WWW.EAWCP.ORG

PITTSBURGH

1501 Reedsdale Street Suite 3002 Pittsburgh, PA 15233

412.322.5880 800.361.5885 **CAMP HILL**

3507 Market Street Suite 203 Camp Hill, PA 17011

717.730.6779 800.336.0301

TDD EOPIAUX AID 800.855.2880