**Dear Friends,**

It was another remarkable year for the Epilepsy Association. In 2016, we incorporated new awareness efforts, developed new donors, enacted different fundraising efforts, and further established our organization as the go-to local resource for those living with seizure disorders in Northeast Ohio.

During the year, we expanded our online presence through social media outlets and electronic marketing, found new supporters, and continued the growth of our seminar series program to help educate our consumers on epilepsy-related topics. Through social media, the agency’s newsletter, blogging, the Kids and Family Program, support groups, and much more, we were able to serve more families, field more information and referral calls, and provide more direct service and social service treatment to our community. In fact, we reached more than 12,000 people! It’s been a memorable year.

We are now midway through our 2015-2017 Strategic Plan. We have now been able to dive in and take the direction of the plan and focus our efforts on providing relevant services to those children, adults, and families affected by epilepsy, raise awareness of epilepsy and EA’s services, and increase funds to support agency services.

A big thank you goes to our dedicated and loyal Board Members who embrace the mission and purpose of our organization every day. What we were able to accomplish in a year wasn’t an easy task, but with their dedication and leadership we were able to help those who are living with a seizure disorders. The Agency would not be where it is today without our volunteers and the epilepsy community assisting the agency and each other.

Finally, we look forward to more years of service as our job is far from complete. I congratulate you for helping to grow service for the epilepsy community here in Northeast Ohio! We have witnessed tremendous courage and perseverance from those who are dealing with what epilepsy has brought them. This makes us eager to look forward to the next chapter and another successful year. We thank you for your continued support of the agency!

Regards,

Jeffrey B. Karlovec
Kelley S. Needham
2016 Highlights

What we’ve done

- 58 parents and families served
- 95 information and referral calls fielded
- 281 individuals received case management and other adult social services
- 2,407 social service treatment hours provided
- 12,257 individuals reached through community programs
- $373,607 donated through private contributions, grants, and special events
Our Mission

For children, adults and families in Northeast Ohio impacted by epilepsy we will raise awareness in the community, provide education, advocacy and direct services that lead to an increased understanding of the disorder and to better management of the condition, resilience, personal fulfillment, independence and the ability to contribute meaningfully to the community.

Our Purpose

We believe education and awareness are imperative to treatment, acceptance, equitable division of resources and the inherent right of every individual impacted by epilepsy to lead a happy, healthy and productive life.

The Epilepsy Association is not affiliated with any national organizations. The agency is a designated 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation. As a cost savings measure, the Epilepsy Association shares its office space with the Kidney Foundation of Ohio. All funds raised by the Association stay here in Northeast Ohio providing service in 11 counties which include: Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain and Parts of Ashland, Ashtabula, Erie, Huron, Medina, Richland, and Trumbull.
About the Epilepsy Association

The Association was started in the mid-1950s by parents of children with epilepsy, under the name Parents Crusade Against Epilepsy. It later became the Committee on Epilepsy of the Family Health Association. In 1972, the Committee on Epilepsy became an independent agency supported by funding from the Cuyahoga County United Way Services.

The agency is licensed by the Ohio Department of Mental Health, is a funded agency of United Way Services, and is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF). CARF is an international, independent, nonprofit accreditor of human service providers, and CARF-accredited service providers meet the highest national and international standards of quality. The agency has held this CARF distinction for 28 years.

The staff of 7 professionals, along with many volunteers, provide the numerous services of the Epilepsy Association.
Agency Services Include:

**Kids and Family Services**

**One-on-one Resources**—Case Manager meets with families in their homes or in the community to assess needs of all family members and connect with community resources that support the entire family. Case Managers also provide general support, epilepsy education, and advocacy.

**Epilepsy Education**
- **Kids on the Block puppet shows for children:** Preschool–4th grade
- **Youth education:** 4th grade–12th grade
- **Be Smart Manual:** An Epilepsy education manual designed for school personnel

**Support Group for Parents (PIKES)**—Parents Inspiring Kids with Epilepsy and Seizure Disorders—monthly support group that meets at rotating locations for parents of children with epilepsy.

---

**Adult Social Services**

**Mental Health Case Management**—Mental health case management for adults who have epilepsy as well as a mental health condition. Provides individualized care to best promote health and quality of life for those served.

**Support Groups**
- **Lake West:** Support group that meets monthly for adults who have epilepsy and their caregivers
- **Networking Group:** Group that meets twice a year to facilitate social networking connections for adults who have epilepsy

**Community Services**

**Information and Referral**—Information requests answered by a licensed social worker to promote epilepsy education, advocacy, and connections to appropriate services.

**Seminar Series**—The Seminar Series is a set of consumer-focused educational meetings that address timely issues affecting those with epilepsy and their families. These seminars feature presentations by neurologists and other professionals on relevant epilepsy related topics.
Public Awareness & Events

- Winter Walk for Epilepsy: Our community event is held annually at the SouthPark Mall in Strongsville and gathers over 500 community members, parents of children with epilepsy, and individuals affected by epilepsy. The Winter Walk is an indoor, 2-mile Walk where participants form teams and collect pledges that support our programs and community services. Each year, the Winter Walk committee selects a featured family and highlights their story as a way to increase awareness about epilepsy throughout the community. The 2016 Feature Family award was presented to the Baciak and the Tillman families.

- Purple Day® March 26: Purple Day® is celebrated in 80 countries; the Global Epilepsy Awareness Day, or Purple Day®, focuses the world’s attention on epilepsy. Purple Day was conceived by a young girl named Cassidy Megan of Nova Scotia, Canada and her goal was for people with epilepsy everywhere to know they are not alone. We celebrate Purple Day on March 26 and raise awareness in NEO by organizing a grass-roots campaign and supporters host mini-fundraisers throughout the city with a call to action being wear purple to show support and help raise epilepsy awareness.

- eRACE 5K and 1 Mile Race & Family Fun Day: The eRACE is a family-oriented 5K and one mile run/walk to benefit the Epilepsy Association. In conjunction with the road race is our Family Fun Day. Families living with epilepsy are invited to attend the Epilepsy Association annual Family Fun Day that runs simultaneously with our eRACE. The Family Fun Day is attended by parents of children with epilepsy and adults with epilepsy and consists of family-friendly activities allowing individuals and families to come together for support, networking, and fun!

- Rockin’ they Keys for a Cause: This is a fun and casual, after-work dueling piano themed event that helps raise money to fund agency programs.

- Annual Gala: This annual event is held every year in November as part of the National Epilepsy Awareness month. The formal evening has over 250 people in attendance and our Legacy Award is presented to recognize a person/medical professional and corporation who make outstanding contributions in the field of epilepsy. Our Silver Year Youth Humanitarian Award is presented to youth who have exhibited extraordinary commitment and effort in raising awareness of epilepsy and have shown outstanding support and advocacy on behalf of the Association. The 2016 honorees included: Dr. Jonathan Miller, University Hospital, Legacy Award and Lucy Johnson and Camden Frank, Youth Humanitarian Award.
Donations

Corporate gifts

The Epilepsy Association wishes to thank our corporate sponsors and grant makers for their gifts and event sponsorships.

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The Association wishes to thank all the individuals who supported the agency during 2016. The Epilepsy Association named the giving levels listed below after writers, artists, and composers who had epilepsy.

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Ms. Amy E. Kellogg

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($249 to $100) continued

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[Logos of ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County, United Way of Greater Cleveland, and CARF]
# Financials

## Support and Revenue:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016 Audited</th>
<th>2015 Audited</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions and grants</td>
<td>$166,681</td>
<td>$146,927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program services fees</td>
<td>$192,215</td>
<td>$246,986</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special events</td>
<td>$268,094</td>
<td>$274,993</td>
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<tr>
<td>Less: Direct benefit to donor</td>
<td>$(60,690)</td>
<td>$(68,650)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net gain on investments</td>
<td>$55,667</td>
<td>$(16,693)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td></td>
<td>$990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Support and Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>$621,967</strong></td>
<td><strong>$584,553</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Expenses:

Program services:
- Community services: $53,543, $54,441
- Patient services: $374,809, $381,090
- **Total Program Services**: $535,443, $544,414

Supporting services:
- Management and General: $23,744, $25,063
- Fundraising: $58,127, $61,361
- **Total Supporting Services**: $81,871, $86,424

**Total Expenses**: $617,314, $630,838

Change in net assets before other changes in net assets: $4,653
Other changes in net assets; loss on disposal of assets: $(812)
Change in net Assets: $3,841, ($46,285)
Net Assets—Beginning of Year: $865,076, $911,361
Net Assets—End of Year: $868,917, $865,076

## Use of Funds

- **Patient Services**: 61%
- **Epilepsy Awareness Education**: 17%
- **Individual and Family Support**: 13%
- **Supporting Services**: 9%

## Revenue Sources

- **Program Service Fees**: 43%
- **Contributions**: 27%
- **Special Events**: 31%
- **Investments & Misc. Income**: 9%

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2016 independent audit performed by Howard Wersbale & Co.
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Our Twitter handle is @Epilepsy_Assn
Our Instagram name is epilepsy_association
Our Blog is at www.insightsintoepilepsy.org.

Thanks to Jyll Presley for the layout and design of the annual report
and to Daily Legal News for its printing.

Cover photo by AlyCPhotography.