

Michigan Professional FIREFIGHTERS



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www.mpffu.org

Michigan Professional FIRE FIGHTERS UNION

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Terrence H. Chesney
Secretary-Treasurer

April 27, 2015

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

The Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union is the largest sponsor of the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) here in Michigan. Every year our firefighters hit the streets to help MDA in their life saving mission to cure muscular dystrophy and related diseases. Last year our efforts raised \$237,623 to help fund the programs that benefit families with muscular dystrophy right here in our own communities.

Over 60 years ago, the IAFF made the pledge to support the MDA until a cure is found. Members of the Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union have the opportunity to provide hope for the future to our Muscular Dystrophy families by coming together to create and develop new plans to help MDA in its life saving mission.

We invite you to take part in our 11th Annual MPFFU/MDA kick off celebration planned for June 15, 2015 in Augusta, Michigan, "MPFFU goes to Camp". Two representatives from each local are invited to attend*. All expenses will be covered after a \$25 per person registration fee. This includes all meals, hotel room (2 per room), and general session. Additional representatives can attend at a cost of \$125 per person.

- 9:00 a.m. registration at the McCamly Plaza Hotel.
- 10:00 a.m. shuttle bus to MDA Summer Camp at YMCA Sherman Lakes in Augusta, Michigan where we will spend the day in break out sessions, activities with campers, awards and presentations.
- 5:00 p.m. shuttle bus back to McCamly Plaza & Hotel.
- 6:00 p.m. walk to Griffin Pub & Grill for hospitality hour and dinner.

I would like to personally request your attendance at the 2015 MDA Boot Camp. Please join MPFFU and IAFF locals in strengthening our commitment to the MPFFU/MDA partnership. Please return the attached RSVP as soon as possible as space is limited, but no later than May 15, 2015.

Fraternally yours,

Mark Docherty, President
Michigan Professional Fire Fighters Union

*All representatives must be in good standings of their Locals, MPFFU or the IAFF.



Camp Goes to Camp!

Monday, June 15th



YMCA SHERMAN LAKES—AUGUSTA, MICHIGAN

CHECK IN AT 9:00 A.M. MCCAMLY PLAZA HOTEL—BATTLE CREEK, MI

WELCOME TO THE TEAM—DIANE RYDAHL, HEALTH CARE SERVICE COORDINATOR FOR GREATER MICHIGAN



Diane comes from the Michigan Primary Care Association where she was the Clinical Specialist. She has lived in Mason, MI for 48 years with her husband, two daughters, and two dogs. In her free time, Diane likes to travel and loves everything about Pinterest!

Welcome to MDA Diane!

MEET THE MDA TEAM—ROBIN RHEA, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR GREATER DETROIT



Robin has been with MDA for the past 5.5 years. She graduated from Ferris State University and married her college sweetheart. Robin's favorite MDA activity is to attend MDA summer camp and spend time with the kids. She also loves the Muscle Walk and enjoys seeing all of the families

come together. She currently resides in Howell, MI with her husband and two bulldogs. You will see Robin out and about with Detroit Fire and many departments in Ohio this year!!

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Bryan Schwesing of Western Wayne Fire Authority, Local 1279 has been the Fill the Boot Coordinator for many years. Bryan has not only attended boot camp, but has also played a key role in pushing his department to become deeply involved with MDA. Bryan has attended boot camp and been involved with families in the metro Detroit area, he has seen how much MDA has helped and strives to get his member's out in the streets to Fill the Boot for MDA! In the past two years alone, WWFA has raised over \$48,150! Bryan is a kind, passionate individual who is committed to Filling the Boot until there is a cure! Thank you, Bryan and all of WWFA!

MDA Camper of the Month

Jakob Gronski

Home and Family:

Jakob lives in Houghton Lake, MI with his mom and brothers.

Diagnosis:

When Jakob was 4, he was diagnosed with Duchenne muscular dystrophy by the MDA Clinic at University of Michigan.

School:

Jakob is in 11th grade at Houghton Lake High School. He enjoys all subjects, and is also in the band.

Interests:

Jakob is fun-loving and easy going with a great sense of humor. Jakob is an outgoing and polite young man, who is not easily rattled. He is a huge sports fan and likes to camp with his family. He enjoys hunting and fishing.

MDA Activities:

Jakob attends MDA Summer Camp every June, and absolutely loves camp! He says his two favorite things about camp are the food and his friends. Jakob and his family have participated in the MDA Muscle Walk for the last two years. Matt has represented MDA at numerous MDA events, and loves doing so! He recently attended the 3rd MPFFU District meeting in Bay City. Jakob currently attends the MDA Clinic affiliated with the University of Michigan DMD clinic, where he is able to see a multidisciplinary team of doctors and specialists, and hear the latest updates on research and clinical trials.



MDA[®]
Fighting Muscle Disease

Muscular Dystrophy Association
mda.org



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MDA SUMMER CAMP DATES:

GREATER MICHIGAN:

YMCA Sherman Lakes, Augusta, MI

June 14th through June 19th

GREATER DETROIT:

YWCA Camp Cavell, Lexington, MI

June 21st through June 26th