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myTEAM TRIUMPH – Michigan Newsletter August 2019

Current News:

- The summer is progressing rapidly! Last month, we made a (belated) introduction of our **summer intern/administrative assistant**, Sarah Benedix. This month, we recognize that Sarah is already winding down her short internship with us. Some of Sarah's objectives involved simply acclimating herself to the kinds of administrative tasks involved with running a 501c3 organization. Others included actual coordinating tasks, such as website, facebook, and google form updates. Sarah expects to stay involved with mTT going forward, as much as her schedule permits. See below for Sarah's testimonial from this summer, and where her next steps will take her. We have found Sarah's input to be invaluable to our organization over these last three months. We wish her well in her next endeavors!
- In the Fall, Sarah will begin an online Masters degree in Disability Services in Higher Education from the City University of New York-School of Professional Studies. Her long-term career goal is to take a job in a college or university setting where she is able to assist students in obtaining the ADA accommodations they need to be successful in the classroom.
- myTEAM TRIUMPH – Michigan has received mTT branded **Goodr sunglasses** for re-sale. Most of these are verbally spoken for, and will be distributed in the weeks ahead. Those not claimed will be offered on the open market in due time. These sunglasses have mTT graphics etched on the top corner of the lens, and additional mTT insignia located on the inside of the right arm. These sunglasses come with a customized box and cloth bag.
- A big thank you to all who supported myTEAM TRIUMPH by participating in the **Virtual 5K** for Global Running day! Very nice metals were awarded to participants, and proceeds were shared between our National organization and local chapters. Our Michigan chapter tallied twenty participants, earning \$213.25 for our mission of inclusion. A big shout out to Sunset Coast Striders/Connected Soles for their promotional work for this special event!
- myTEAM TRIUMPH – Michigan is in the process of sending out regional **impact surveys** so that we can better evaluate our overall event experience. Please be on the lookout for a survey from your region in the coming months! We value and appreciate your feedback and look forward to your continued participation in our events in the future.

Regional Information (for the month of July)

- **Mature Regions:**
 - SWMI – Race for the YMCA 5K in St. Joseph was cancelled due to extreme heat



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- GLBR – mTT personnel partnered with two LPGA Tour teams at the inaugural Great Lakes Bay Invitational in Midland as an advocacy/fundraising event.
- **Emerging Regions**
 - Jackson – The Jackson crew entered a team in the ORS Rose Run 5K on June 8.
 - KZBC – The Kalamazoo/Battle Creek region entered a team in the Battle Creek 5K on July 6.

Upcoming Events (for the month of August)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Event Description</u>
8/3	5K	Clark Lake	ORS Series Clark Lake 5K
8/10	5K	Bay City	Rise ‘n Shine Summer 5K
8/18	5K	Baroda	Michigan 13.Wine 5K

Testimonials

mTT Michigan Testimonial – Intern Sarah Benedix

When I started this internship in May, I knew that I would connect with the mission of mTT due to my own Cerebral Palsy diagnosis, but now, as it is coming to a close, I can honestly say that it has been one of the greatest experiences of my life. Being able to give back to my own demographic through this internship has filled the place within me personally that longs for acceptance and inclusion. It has helped me feel more understood and less alone in my efforts to manage my own challenges. I love this organization and everything it stands for!

Along the way, it has also given me an opportunity to work towards one of my main goals: that of living my life for something bigger than myself.

Thank you to everyone at mTT that I have met over the course of the summer! This experience has made me a better person, made me stronger, and made my voice for advocacy that much louder. I look forward to continuing with mTT as a volunteer, in the months and years to come!

Fund Raising (Check out our website donate page for links to the following opportunities)

- Whirlpool Foundation Matching Gifts: Whirlpool employees and retirees – don’t forget that mTT is a certified recipient for matching gifts!
- Amazon Smile: All sales from Amazon are eligible for .05% kick back to myTEAM TRIUMPH IF, purchases are made through Amazon Smile, AND, the purchasers chooses mTT-mi as the beneficiary of the purchase.
- Thrivent Financial Clients: mTT-mi is a certified benefactor of your choice dollars.

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