

AUGUST 2025
PARKINSON'S NETWORK NORTH
E-NEWS BLAST

Hello everyone!

Hope you are taking advantage of our warm summer days. It was great to see 37 people at our August support group meeting!

Reminder:

The next PNN Support Group Meeting is set for Tuesday, SEPTEMBER 9, 1PM, Presbyterian Church of TC. We have some great ideas for this gathering. Plan on joining us!!

PNN Financial Assistance is available for those who complete the application ([here](#)) and submit it by September 1st! There are no income barriers for this financial boost – please consider what services, equipment or medications you may need and apply now!!

Kathy Tuckerman & Jeanne Esch presented a program about the [Friends of Sleeping Bear Dunes](#), a non-profit organization established in 1994. They now have 600 volunteers who do wildlife monitoring, safety patrols, and accessibility initiatives.

The team explained the various accessibility options available to the public for free. These include an accessible kayak launch, camp sites, beach wheelchairs, and three different track chairs: Baby Bear, Mama Bear, and Platte Bear Track chair, and a wheelchair E-assist bicycle. The Railroad-grade trail allows users to get to the overlook and the beach.

This equipment is available for free Friday-Monday, but reservations must be made 3 days in advance. Reservations are accepted beginning in mid-April for

the summer season. A park pass is required to enter the park. Bathrooms are available at beginning of the trail, and people can take snacks or a picnic. These are great ways for anyone with mobility issues to enjoy the beautiful Sleeping Bear Dunes Park.

Chris Esper's husband, Mark, passed away on August 8. Please keep her and her family in your thoughts and prayers. You can read his [obituary here](#). If you wish to send a card, you can do that online from the Sympathy Cards tab on that site, or you can mail one to Chris in care of Parkinson's Network North, PO Box 5734, Traverse City, MI 49696.

Thank you to the support group for sharing meeting space with the indigenous artists who are creating a mural that will hang in the narthex of The Presbyterian Church.

Parkinson's Network North will be merging with the Michigan Parkinson Foundation with a target date of December 31, 2025. They will conduct a due diligence review of PNN and then present a plan for approval of both the PNN and MPF boards. Following the approvals, the PNN website will display a bubble explaining the merger with a link to the MPF site.

Our support group will continue to meet on the same day and at the same time and place with Torrey Davenport facilitating

If you haven't already registered for the Michigan Parkinson Foundation Hero Walk at the Traverse City Civic Center on August 23rd, you can do that on the [MPF website](#). The PNN team is #8, Russell Pence. The cost is \$20, and you can bring your dog. Jennifer Haskell volunteered to pick up any extra shirts left at the event.