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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Epilepsy Foundation of Minnesota Appoints New Executive Director
Former Goodwill-Easter Seals Minnesota's Heidi Fisher joins EFMN

St. Paul, MN – June 28, 2016 – The Epilepsy Foundation of Minnesota (EFMN) is pleased to announce the appointment of Heidi Fisher as its new executive director effective August 2, 2016. Heidi succeeds Vicki Kopplin, who left the organization on July 1, 2016 after 15 years of tremendous service.

Heidi Fisher brings over 25 years of nonprofit experience to EFMN, most recently as the Vice President of Marketing & Philanthropy for Goodwill-Easter Seals Minnesota, and an Adjunct Professor at Hamline University in the Masters of Arts Nonprofit Management program. She has served as an executive director at the following nonprofits: Chippewa Valley Technical College Foundation and Alumni Association, Eau Claire Community Foundation, and Literacy Volunteers – Chippewa Valley. Heidi earned her Master's in Nonprofit Management from Hamline University and is currently pursuing her Doctorate in Public Administration.

EFMN has seen tremendous growth in the last three years, with demand for its services increasing nearly 40% since Coach Jerry Kill's public advocacy for epilepsy began in 2013. The Foundation's annual gala exceeded its goals, its partnership on the Coach Kill Chasing Dreams Fund is strong, and the new executive director will continue this growth and success.

"The Foundation's work is critical, as the only organization that provides comprehensive services for people with seizures across MN and eastern ND. There are 60,000 people in our community with epilepsy who turn to the Foundation for education, resources and connection to others facing similar challenges. After a comprehensive and competitive search, Heidi was selected by our board as an outstanding person to lead EFMN into a bright future," said Board President Tim Gallagher.

About Epilepsy

One in 10 people will have a seizure in their lifetime, and 1 in 26 develop epilepsy. It's more common than people think, with a similar prevalence rate to breast cancer in the U.S. Yet it's one of the most under-funded and stigmatized conditions. EFMN works tirelessly to raise public awareness, decrease stigma and provide resources to help people rise above seizures.

About the Epilepsy Foundation of Minnesota

The Epilepsy Foundation of Minnesota (EFMN) envisions a world where people with seizures realize their full potential. The Foundation's services cover MN and Eastern ND. For information, visit efmn.org.

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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- Interviews: Tim Gallagher
- Heidi Fisher: heidifisher@citizens-tel.net