



easterseals
Rehabilitation
Center

2023-2024 ANNUAL REPORT

A message from our Board Chair and our President/CEO

How do you sum up a year? Numbers can only tell part of the story.

How do you sum up a year?

We have all the usual things with nearly 6,000 people served and 43,000 clinical therapy visits provided last year. (That's over 850 therapy sessions every week!) Check out the notes throughout this report to see the impact of our other programs, in addition to clinical therapy services. Lives are also changed through employment services, early learning and education, mental health community trainings, services provided to group home residents, wheelchair and seating systems provided and more...

All of these statistics are important, and continuing to ensure that Easterseals' high quality services are accessible to everyone in our community is critical to the success of our friends and neighbors with disabilities.

But what happened this year to the *organization*? What are the strategic priorities that the leadership team and board of directors accomplished this year? Here are a few of the highlights.

- Leadership changes led us to make shifts in reporting structures and workflows. Laura Terhune (Development) fully retired and Jackie Smith (Residential Services) moved on to a bigger role in the community. We miss them both! But thanks to the strong foundation they helped to build, the changes have provided some interesting opportunities to restructure and reimagine the future.
- Successful completion of the capital campaign to raise funds restricted to the sustainability of our psychology services, allowed us to celebrate raising \$5.3 million.
- We continued to grow our partnerships with Southwestern Behavioral Health through the Neurodevelopmental Center, and with the University of Evansville Mental Health & Wellness Clinic and Emily M. Young Assessment Center.
- We've had a shift among therapy staff, as several long-term therapists have retired or are quickly moving toward retirement. This has created an opportunity for us to bring in a "batch" of new therapists who will be the future of therapy services going forward.
- A renewed focus on professional development, and particularly on leadership development, has been highly motivating.
- Assessing the need for renovations of the warm water therapy pool is preparing us to focus on those updates in the near future.
- Evaluating our current space (or lack thereof) has us looking for opportunities to expand and reorganize some things.

So, stay tuned and buckle up. 2025 promises to be an exciting year!



Michele Graham
Board Chair

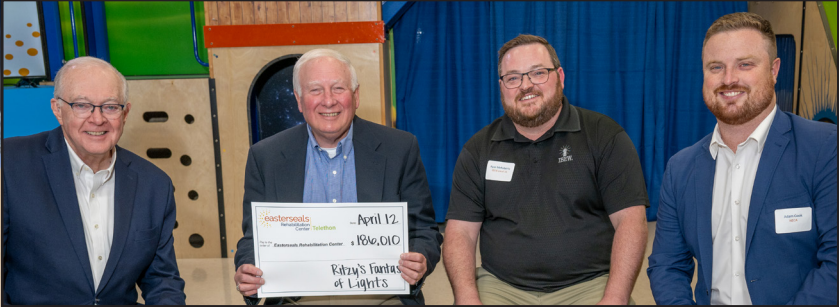


Kelly Schneider
President/CEO



Easterseals Telethon

The 2024 Easterseals Telethon reached viewers throughout the Tri-State on April 12. ABC 25/ CW 7 once again generously donated 100% of production and air time, allowing all proceeds to fund inclusive early education and essential therapies. The “final tote” of \$918,649 reflected an entire year of community support.



TELETHON BY THE NUMBERS



Approximate number of therapy sessions underwritten by 2024's "final tote"



Child and Adult Ambassadors since 1978



Consecutive years ABC 25/CW 7 has donated all production & air time

2024 Board of Directors

Board Chair
Michele Graham (Harding Shymanski & Co.)

Executive Committee
Shelby Collins (Ascension Medical Group)
Erica Esche (National Vet Help)
Geoff Gentil (Field & Main Bank)
Chad Grunow (G.D. Ritzel's)
Brant Kennedy (Harding, Shymanski & Co.)
Sara Miller (Old National Bank)
Bill Norman (Berry Global)
Spencer Tanner (Gutwein Law)

Mary Peach (Easterseals Posey County Representative)
John C. Schroeder, Director Emeritus (Wabash/Crescent Plastics)

Board Members
Anne Thrasher Boyd (Anne Thrasher Boyd State Farm)
Julie Burczyk (Tools 4 Teaching)
Abigail Catania (University of Evansville)
Trent Engbers (University of Southern Indiana)

Katy Gilberg (Community Volunteer)
Doug Kanet (Cresline Plastics)
Kyle Markle (Donaldson Capital Management)
Curt Molander (Community Volunteer)
Dana Myers (CenterPoint Energy)
Michelle Schmitt (Old National Bank)
Jeffrey Wedding (State of Indiana - Indiana State Psychiatric Hospital Network)
Brian Williams (Kahn Dees Donovan & Kahn)

Community Support Businesses, foundations & organizations donating \$1,000 or more

Independence

ABC25 / CW7
 Ascension St. Vincent Evansville
 Bullen Trust
 CenterPoint Energy
 Cresline-Wabash Plastics
 The Father James R. Endress Charitable Fund
 E'ville Iron Street Rod Club
 Holiday World & Splashin' Safari
 IBEW Local 16
 James R. Duncan Trust
 JATC
 Koch Foundation
 Kreyling Charitable Foundation
 Lamar Advertising
 Liberty Federal Credit Union
 NECA
 Raymond B. Preston Family Foundation
 Shaw Trust
 Townsquare Media: 99.5 WKDQ, 103GBF,
 MY 105.3FM, 106.1 KISS-FM, WGBF-AM
 Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Indiana
 Vanderburgh Community Foundation

Empowerment

Anchor Industries
 Bright Lights 5K & 1-Mile Walk
 Deaconess Health System
 Evansville Endowment Fund
 G.D. Ritz's
 Holiday Management Foundation
 Horseshoe Bend Carriage Co.
 Independent Insurance Agents
 Kemper CPA Group
 Kenny Kent Chevrolet
 LemonAid Stand for Easterseals/Wells Family
 Midwest Communications: 93.5 The Lloyd,
 104.1 WIKY, HOT 96 FM, WABX 107.5
 Old National Bank
 Reckitt Benckiser/Mead Johnson Nutrition
 RodentPro
 Tools 4 Teaching
 West Side Nut Club

Opportunity

ARC Construction
 Berry Global
 D-Patrick Ford
 Direction By Newman
 Field & Main Bank
 Fifth Third Bank
 Fraternal Order of Police - State
 German American Bank
 Harding, Shymanski & Co. PSC
 Heritage Petroleum
 Thomas & Evelyn Ingle Trust
 Lensing Building Specialties
 McMahon Exterminating
 Luther V. Oost Estate
 Olen & Inez Pumphrey Foundation
 Roebing Photographics
 Straub Photography
 Teamsters Local Union No. 215

Dignity

Acosta Sales & Marketing
 Alcoa Warrick Operations
 Atlas World Group
 Bayer's Plumbing, Inc.
 Celanese
 Custom Sign & Engineering
 David Enterprises, Inc.
 Edward W. Love Foundation
 Epic Midwest
 Evansville Federal Credit Union
 F.C. Tucker Emge Realtors
 Fraternal Order of Police - Lodge #73
 Hafer & Associates
 Heritage Federal Credit Union
 Houchens Food Group
 Jasper Engines & Transmissions
 Kaiser Aluminum
 Laroy Tax Service
 Morgan Distributing
 Sterling Industrial LLC
 Sterling United Federal Credit Union
 United Companies, Inc.
 VenuWorks of Evansville
 Winkler, Inc.
 Working Distributors
 Wright's Refrigeration
 Yeager Charitable Trust

Ability

Acclaim Graphics
 Alliant Medical Services
 American Legacy Fishing Company
 Anne Thrasher Boyd Insurance Agency
 Anthem Blue Cross & Blue Shield
 Bally's Evansville
 Bengert Family
 Bunzl
 BWX Technologies
 C & I Supply Co.
 Castle High School
 Coca-Cola Consolidated
 Cook Orthodontics
 Deaconess Women's Hospital
 Donut Bank
 Eastland Mall
 El Charro & El Patron
 Ellis Park Racing
 Evansville Bicycle Club, Inc.
 Fraternal Order of Police - Lodge #148
 Frito Lay
 GAF
 Greer's Flooring America
 Gutwein Law
 Happe & Sons Construction Inc
 Head's Construction
 Hearing & Speech Associates
 Hermann Family Foundation
 Hook's Apothecary
 HR Solutions
 International Union of
 Operating Engineers
 Jarvis Food Equipment

Ability (cont.)

Kahn Dees Donovan & Kahn
 Landmark Realty & Development
 Legence Bank
 Life Plan Business Solutions & Investments
 McCutchanville Elementary School
 Mike's Hard Lemonade
 Mine and Mill Supply Company
 Mitsos Foundation
 Mutual of America
 PC Quest, Inc.
 Prairie Farms Dairy & Ice Cream
 Ragle, Inc.
 Red Spot Paint & Varnish
 River Bend Association
 Riverside Capital Management Group
 Salas O'Brien
 Schneider Financial
 Schultheis Insurance
 Sign Crafters Inc.
 Smithfield Foods
 South Central Incorporated
 Southwestern Indiana Building Trades
 Spurling Properties
 Tucker Publishing Group
 U-Vet Animal Clinic
 Warehouse Services, Inc.
 Isaac S. Watson Memorial Foundation
 Window World
 Bruce Woodring Motors
 Zion United Church of Christ

Includes gifts received 9/1/23-8/31/24



5,928
 children & adults
 received
 services

42,748
 clinical therapy
 sessions provided

Easterseals Tribute

Hall of Fame journalist and veteran news anchor Brad Byrd was honored with the Community Impact Award at Easterseals Tribute on June 12. Brad has truly made an impact, especially as lead host of the Easterseals Telethon on ABC 25/CW 7 for the past 44 years. He has also generously given his time and talent to emcee Easterseals events, narrate videos, and spread the word about our life-changing programs.



					
15,340	450	785	5,332	128	1,296
vehicles drove through Ritz's Fantasy of Lights	driver's training and driver's rehab sessions	people participated in mental health trainings	organizational employment days	clients received housing modifications	First Steps clients (ages birth-3 years old)

LemonAid Stand for Easterseals

Special thanks to former Easterseals Ambassador Abby Wells, her parents Amy and Mark, brothers PJ and Noah, and friends for an amazing 2024 LemonAid Stand for Easterseals. The Wells family donated the entire \$40,638 raised by the May 30th event to help Easterseals provide life-changing therapy services. The family has coordinated the annual fundraiser since 2018. "We are so thankful that Abby is achieving her dreams," said Amy. "We wanted to help other children reach their potential."



Easterseals Presidents' Council

Individuals donating leadership gifts of \$1,000 or more

Independence

Alan & Sharon Braun
John & Karen Cinelli
Mike & Carol Hull
Wayne & Beth Kinney
Bill & Tracy Norman
John C. & Diane Schroeder
Tim & Jan Swickard
Hank & Teri Zunk

Empowerment

Clayton & Donna Babb
Drs. Jack Deppe & Shari Barrett
Charmie Guagenti
Cindy Heseman
Leonard Keller*
Holly Ann Leffel
Jim & Mary Kay Muehlbauer
Jim & Becky Sandgren
Lezlie Simmons

Opportunity

Anonymous
Dr. Chris Chacko
Joe & Betty Elpers
Josh & Katy Gilberg
Joseph & Jo Ann Jarboe
Daniel Linthicum
Eric & Sara L. Miller
Scott & Leigh Schroeder
Brad & Kelly Schneider
Norman & Susan Snyder
George & Sandra Thompson

Dignity

Kyle & Ashley Babcock
Bob & Patty Balbach
Brent & Cindi Beeler
Maurice & Cherie Berendes
Nathan & Alexandria Cobine
Sandy Ford
Leigh Gallian
John & Donna Hamilton
Brant & Stephanie Kennedy
Kyle & Abby Markle
Dennis & Colleen Martin
Marion & Ruby McDowell
Sara J. Miller
Patty Mitsos
Daryl & Carol Moore
Randy & Cathy Nicely
Joe & Leah Parker
James & Diane Riddle
Michael & Felicia Rudolph
Jerry & Beth Schilling
Tim & Amy Spurling
Darren & Lisa Verkamp

Ability

Gene & Linda Aimone
Randy & Cheryl Alsman
Dr. Terry & Jean Alvey
Harriet Anderson
Lauren Babb
Zach & Kim Barrett
Josh & Amy Barron
Randy & Linda Becker
Jeff & Maureen Bell
Jason Beuligmann
Joe & Donna Beuligmann
Tiffany Booth
Ira & Terry Boots
Dean & Karen Bosler
Al & Cathy Bragin
Tim & Sharon Bray
Bob & Jennifer Bromm
Ryan & Julie Burczyk
Mary Ann Campbell
Paul & Dr. Rebecca Carey
Jamey & Kim Carroll
Karen Daniel
Mike & Laura David
Roger & Kristine Deig
Dr. Mike & Judy Dukes
Wyatt Dunn
JP & Allison Engelbrecht
Butch & Linda Feulner
Jeff & Lisa Fisher
Jim & Mollie Francis
Jon & Martha Goldman
Rodgers & Daniele Greenawalt
Jerry Gries
Jim & Connie Gries
Amanda Griffin
Chad & Katie Grunow
Bob & Paula Guzzo
Tony & Jill Hall
Brian & Karli Hape
Rob & Lena Henson
Glen & Judy Heseman
Bob & Amy Hirsch
Charles & Diane Hirsch
Randy Hobson
Chris & Andrea Imes
Forrest & Virgilee Jackson
Brent & Sandy Junge
Doug & Debbie Kanet
Angela Kares
Bob & Jeri Kenning
Richard & Susan Kincaid
Burt & Madeline King
Kathy Kleindorfer

Bob & Cynthia Koch
Carolyn Kormelink
Donna Lounsbery
Brian, Anna & Olivia Luigs
Terry & Suzanne Martin
Ashley Matthews
Eugene McNabb
Ben Morris
Glen & Ann Muehlbauer
Dana Myers
Bob & Janet Naas
Emma Nicholls
Doug & Kathy Padgett
Dave & Karla Papariella
Taylor & Jenny Payne
Art & Mary Pike
Ron & Joanie Pohl
Denny & Cassie Quinn
John & Jill Raisor
Ray & Janet Raisor
Chris & Emily Reidford
Ruth Richmond
Greg & Jamie Risch
John Rohlman
Ron & Connie Romain
Kathy Rowe
Todd & Shenae Rowe
Gary Russell
Rusty & Melissa Schimmell
Mike & Laurie Schopmeyer
Jim & Amy Schroeder
Richard & Patrice Schroeder
Dr. Richard & Laurie Seals
Scott & Susan Shrode
Benton Simpson
Jeff & Amy Spurlock
Tom & Diane Stone
Spencer & Paige Tanner
Sean & Rea Tecson
Andrew & Patricia Tharp
Matt & Diane Theby
Jim & Becky Tilley
David & Sara Trockman
Jeff & Nancy Trockman
Deward Wagner
James & Janice Ware
Tom & Julie Welden
Jennifer Whitaker
Jeff & Laurie Wilmes
John R. & Linda Wilson
Deanna Wollard
Drs. Bill & Mona Wooten
Betty Worthington*

*Deceased

25th Annual Golfing Fore Kids

Thanks to everyone who made the 25th annual Easterseals Golfing Fore Kids a big success, especially lead sponsors D-Patrick Ford and D-Patrick Honda! We also thank our friends at Winkler for being lead sponsor for the first 23 years and continuing to support the event. This team effort has raised more than \$1,140,470 over the past 25 years. Next year's event is set for August 28 at Cambridge Golf Course.



Holiday World Play Day

Holiday World & Splashin' Safari welcomed more than 3,100 children with disabilities, their teachers and assistants, to the 32nd annual "Play Day" on May 15. The park generously donated admission fees of approximately \$40,760 to Easterseals. Play Day is a highlight of the year, as schools receive discounted tickets, Holiday World team members provide extra attention, and children enjoy the park at their own pace. Since 1993, Holiday World has hosted an estimated 73,700 Play Day guests and donated a cumulative total of approximately \$651,470 to Easterseals.



35
graduates of the
Easterseals
Early Learning
Center

27,743
Early Care and
Education
days

Easterseals HOP-N-ING

The Easterseals HOP-N-ING curriculum, presented by Tools 4 Teaching, helps preschool and elementary students understand what it means to have a disability, and how to be a friend to everyone. The online program features short videos about five animated characters plus links to teaching aids and suggested books. As part of HOP-N-ING, students can hop to collect pledges for Easterseals. HOP-N-ING is fun, flexible, and FREE for teachers. For details call Easterseals at 812-474-2348 or email mredman@evansvillerehab.com.



INARF Partnership Award

Each year, one individual or business is recognized by INARF, Indiana's primary organization for disability service providers. The 2024 INARF Partnership Award recipients are Chad Grunow, co-owner of Ritzy's with his father Dan, and the whole Ritzy's team. The award honors significant contributions to improve the lives of individuals with disabilities and the organizations serving them. G.D. Ritzy's, a family-owned business celebrating 40 years in Evansville, has always played an important role in the local Easterseals mission. While their most visible involvement is the lead sponsorship of Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights, they wholeheartedly support our programs, services, and awareness efforts. Dan previously served on our Board of Directors, and Chad is currently a Board Member serving on the Executive Committee. Congratulations and thank you, Chad and Ritzy's.



E'ville Iron Frog Follies

The E'ville Iron Street Rod Club hosted thousands of pre-1948 street rods at its 49th annual Frog Follies street rod show August 23-25. The club welcomed spectators to the Vanderburgh County 4H Center to enjoy the cool cars, a craft show, swap meet, concession stands, and even frog races. Each year, E'ville Iron generously donates a portion of Frog Follies admission proceeds to Easterseals and other area nonprofits. The club has donated more than \$1.7 million to Easterseals since 1984.



Ensuring the Future

Lead donors to the "Ensuring the Future" campaign joined Easterseals in celebrating a milestone on May 2. Thanks to donors' exceptional generosity, the special sustainability campaign exceeded its original goal of \$5 million. The funds will help to ensure the future of high quality, compassionate psychology services for area children and families, regardless of their financial means.



PSYCHOLOGY SERVICES BY THE NUMBERS

569

Individuals Who Received Psychological Testing

458

Individuals Who Received Psychological Therapy

4,768

Total Psychology Appointments

The best of both worlds.

In August our local Easterseals was honored with a visit by Kendra Davenport, President/CEO of Easterseals, Inc. the national organization based in Chicago. It was gratifying to show Kendra the reach and impact of our many services. Like all Easterseals affiliates, our local Easterseals Rehabilitation Center is a private nonprofit that is controlled and governed by a local board of directors. Money raised locally stays local, and decisions about programs and services are made autonomously by our leadership and local board. The National office is a great resource offering training, networking opportunities, and other expertise. Our national connection really is the best of both worlds.



L. to R.: Local Easterseals Rehabilitation Center President/CEO Kelly Schneider and Easterseals National President/CEO Kendra Davenport check out the therapy gym.

Warm-Water Therapeutic Pool

There's no age limit on a healthy, active lifestyle, thanks to the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center's therapeutic pool. Just ask Leola Ahrens, age 96, and Daly Dickens, age 7. Leola exercises in the pool every weekday morning before 8am. The warmth and buoyancy of the water makes movement much easier, offers a safe low-impact workout, and promotes pain relief. With individual swim lessons, Daly has learned to stay safe in the water and the interaction with his swim instructor has even had a positive impact on his communication skills. The fully accessible, full size, warm water pool really is for everyone. In addition to therapy for individuals with disabilities, programs include independent and assisted aquatic exercise, group fitness, and swim lessons for all abilities. Leola encourages others to give the pool a try and she says the benefits aren't just physical, but also social and emotional. "You have to have a purpose in life. That's what keeps you going." She laughed and said, "I would tell people to get up, get out, and get with it!"



22,401

Group Home days supported

12,482

Adult Day Services days



Easterseals iCan Bike

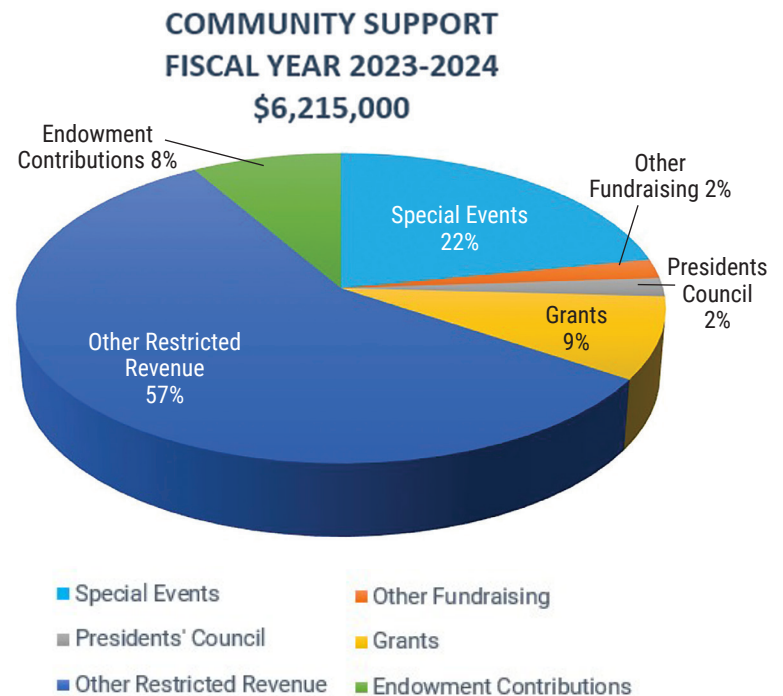
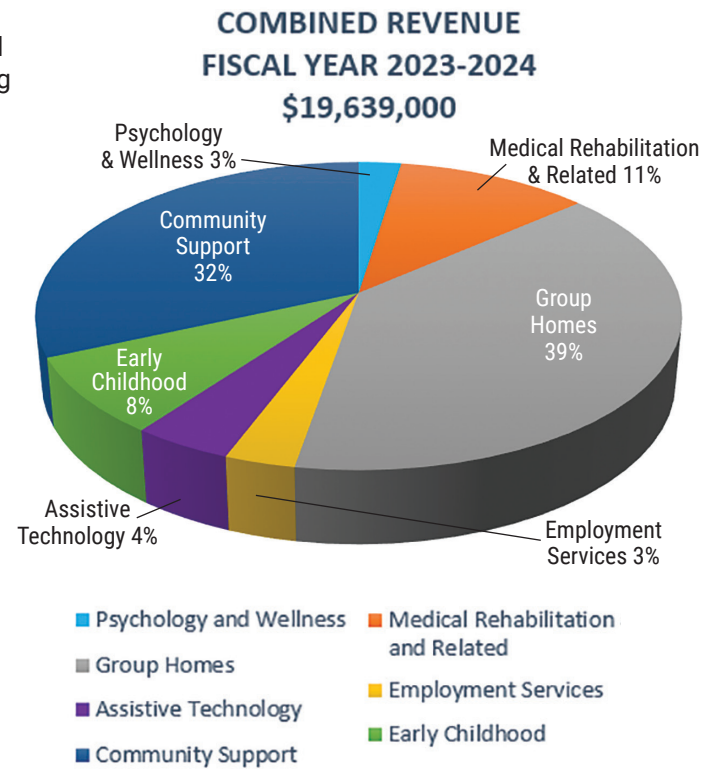
Almost 30 individuals achieved their dream of riding a bicycle at Easterseals iCan Bike day camp June 3-7. Participants progressed through a series of adapted bikes with assistance from volunteers. By the end of the week most were riding a regular two-wheeler on their own! Thanks to the volunteers and to supporters Bicycle Club of Evansville, CycleBar, Cycling Solutions, Heritage Petroleum, Progressive Health, Sabic, and Salas O'Brien. For information on next year's iCan Bike - including donating to the scholarship fund, volunteering, or registering a participant - contact Patty Balbach, 812-479-1411 x268.



Programs & Services provided by the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center and its divisions

The Easterseals Rehabilitation Center is an indispensable resource for more than 5,600 area children, adults, and families affected by disability. We see the whole person, and we strive to provide the highest quality services, empowering each individual to achieve their goals and dreams.

- **Therapeutic Evaluations and Services for all ages**
 - Physical therapy & orthotics
 - Occupational therapy
 - Speech/Language therapy
 - Audiology
- **First Steps Provider for children under 3**
 - Physical therapy
 - Occupational therapy
 - Speech/Language therapy
 - Audiology
 - Developmental therapy
- **Psychology testing & counseling**
- **Mental Health Community Outreach**
 - Support Groups (Bipolar Disorder & Suicide Grief)
 - Mental Health Training Programs (QPR & Mental Health First Aid)
 - Resource Connection
- **Early Care & Education and Preschool for children of all abilities at the Easterseals Early Learning Center**
- **Augmentative & Alternative Communication (AAC)**
- **Warm Water Aquatics**
 - Aquatic therapy
 - Aquatic exercise & fitness classes (independent or assisted)
 - Swim lessons
- **Assistive Technology Services**
 - Wheelchairs and custom mobility devices (power & manual)
 - Drivers Rehabilitation
 - Home, school & work site adaptations
 - Custom equipment modifications
 - Portable and stationary aluminum ramps
- **Employment Services**
 - Horizon Industries (organizational employment)
 - Community Employment services & supports
- **Residential Support**
 - Group Homes
 - ASPIRE adult day services



Thank you to our 2024 Ambassadors!

Sage Hawkins

Evansville, IN

Sage Hawkins embraces challenges, fueled by determination, positivity, and support from the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center. Sage has cerebral palsy and Easterseals has been a part of her life for as long as she can remember.

From her childhood desire to join friends in activities to her goals for independence in high school, Easterseals has provided unwavering assistance. Sage has achieved many of her ambitions, including earning her associate degrees in social work and psychology, and enjoying her independence in her own apartment. Now she is pursuing a bachelor's degree at the University of Southern Indiana, with hopes to start a career as a healthcare social worker aiding individuals with disabilities. Sage continues building strength and stamina in Easterseals therapy, and assistive technology experts assist her with needs for enhanced mobility and independence.



Eleanor Daywalt

Newburgh, IN

In 2016, Adam and Elizabeth Daywalt learned their daughter Eleanor would be born with spina bifida. They were determined to place no limits on Eleanor's future goals. They soon found the support they needed at Easterseals. Eleanor's journey began with a therapist visiting her at home, helping her learn to crawl, stand, and walk. At 3, she continued therapy at the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center, where her progress soared. Now 8, Eleanor loves the weekly sessions with her therapist. She finds joy in therapy activities like trampolining and ball games. Easterseals has been instrumental in realizing Eleanor's "no limits" dream. Today Eleanor explores tennis, horseback riding, cheer, dance, and swimming. She continues gaining not just physical stamina but also greater confidence and limitless joy.



The Easterseals Rehabilitation Center's **mission** is to make profound, positive differences in the lives of local people with disabilities every day, and to change the way our community defines and views disability.

Our **vision** is a community in which all individuals and families are accepted, valued and included, and have equal opportunity to achieve their goals, dreams and aspirations.

GIVE, VOLUNTEER, AND SHARE THE MISSION!

eastersealsrehabcenter.com



EastersealsRehabCtr



EasterSealsSWIN



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EasterSealsSWIN1



eastersealsrehabctr

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