



# The Connection

T W E L F T H E D I T I O N

S P R I N G 2 0 1 5

**Easter Seals Joliet Region, Inc.**  
Serving Will, Grundy, Kendall, Kankakee, Ford & Iroquois Counties

### Our Mission

Easter Seals Joliet Region provides exceptional services to ensure that all people with disabilities or special needs and their families have equal opportunities to live, learn, work and play in their communities.

**Easter Seals Regional Pediatric Center**  
212 Barney Drive  
Joliet, IL 60435  
815.725.2194  
815.725.5150 Fax

**Easter Seals Residential & Social Services**  
991 Essington  
Joliet, IL 60435  
815.741.5531  
815.741.5537 Fax

**Easter Seals Bradley Location**  
521 East North St.  
Bradley, IL 60915  
815.932.0623  
815.928.7334

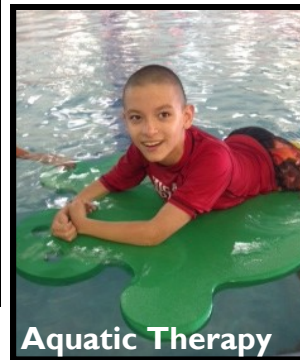
**Easter Seals Morris Location**  
1802 N. Division St.  
Suite 202  
Morris, IL 60450  
815.416.6410  
815.416.6411 Fax

## Summer Therapy Groups

Easter Seals runs a variety of groups over the summer for children with special needs that have both a therapeutic component and a social, recreational side. Summer groups can be a great way to supplement traditional, school year therapies while providing your child with a fun summer experience! The following groups will be offered this summer: The Alert Program: How Does Your Engine Run?, All Kid's Yoga, Animal Action Summer Group, Aquatic Therapy, Art Group, Blooming Buddies, Fun, Fit & Fabulous, Golf for Kids with Special Needs, Handwriting Without Tears, Little Athletes, Phono Group, Preschool Alert Group, Preschool Language Group, and Soccer Shots. For a description of each group, visit [www.joliet.easterseals.com](http://www.joliet.easterseals.com). Summer Therapy Groups start the week of June 15th. **Call 815-725-2194 to register now.**



**Blooming Buddies**



**Aquatic Therapy**



**Preschool Language Group**



**Fun, Fit & Fabulous**



**All Kid's Yoga**



**Golf Therapy**



**Handwriting Without Tears**

**To register,  
call 815-725-2194**

# From the Desk of Debra Condotti, President and CEO



## **Easter Seals – Historical and Relevant A Brand Renaissance**

Easter Seals is positioning itself for its next 100 years by launching a Brand Renaissance. The goal of the initiative is to bring greater relevancy and understanding of the impact we are making as an organization in communities nationwide.

It is an exciting time to be part of Easter Seals. With five million children at risk for a developmental delay but only 25% are getting the help they need; only 2 out of 10 people with a disability are employed; many returning veterans are challenged to find jobs and get situated in civilian life; and nearly 66 million Americans are caring for a child, aging adult, veteran, or a person with a disability . . . the need for our services is so great and the market virtually unlimited.

Easter Seals Joliet Region is working in collaboration with our National Affiliated Network to evaluate, develop, and implement strategies to keep Easter Seals in front of the public. Through research and interviews, we began by looking at our purpose, the core strengths, the essence, the brand behaviors and voice, and the messaging platform of Easter Seals. Next we looked at the clarity of our expression, sharpening key messages, our vocabulary, name, style, and brand architec-

ture. In doing so, these are some of the organizations' confirmed beliefs:

***Easter Seals is the champion for abilities, opening new pathways to opportunity, so that everyone can reach for and realize their potential.***

***At Easter Seals, we take a complete approach working with the whole family to achieve whole health and, ultimately, realize whole potential.***

***We are driven by a tireless passion to champion the people we serve, ensuring that everyone, regardless of ability or life challenge, has the opportunity to achieve.***

***We are experienced, resourceful and ambitious, constantly finding and advocating for new pathways to opportunity, helping the people we serve navigate life's complexity with confidence.***

Easter Seals has a bold vision for the future; a vision where we all have the opportunity to thrive. Turning this vision into reality demands that we celebrate all abilities and work together as one interconnected movement of volunteers, staff, client families, donors, and other constituents. We are excited to participate in this process and will share further updates in the months ahead.

## Gift Connection



Holly Club presents a check for \$5,000 to Caregivers' Support Groups for individuals with dementia/Alzheimer's and other chronic health conditions such as brain injuries.



St. Jude of Joliet Knights of Columbus #10637 present a check to Easter Seals Joliet Region for \$693!



Knights of Columbus Joliet Council #382 donates Easter baskets to our center.



ComEd/Exelon employees volunteer their time painting an Easter Seals residential home in Joliet. Over 70 volunteers were present!

# Celebration of Giving Regional Telethon 2015



The Celebration of Giving Regional Telethon held Saturday, April 18, 2015 exceeded \$180,000! The money raised provides services to over 2,850 children and adults with disabilities that Easter Seals Joliet Region serves annually.

The event was hosted by Jack Daly, Richard Fredrickson, Tricia Simpson, Jim Roof, Bryan Kasprisin, Karyn McCarthy, Kevin McMaster, Larry Johnson, Caroline Portlock, Bonnie Winfrey, Nick Condotti, Dale R. Evans, Lauren McFarland, Valerie Lentz, Sara Gilbert, Tony Allegro, Bill Yohnka, Mike Ruble, Miss Illinois Marissa Buchert and Miss Kankakee County Natalie Swieca .

This event could not be possible without the generous contributions of the following:

## Joliet Area Sponsors:

Tote Board Sponsor: Hollywood Casino  
 Angel Board Sponsor: Bob and Carol Narvick  
 Interview Area Sponsor: Silver Cross Hospital  
 Set Sponsor: Will County Carpenters, Local 174  
 Talent Stage Sponsor: Holly Club  
 Hospitality Sponsor: CliftonLarsonAllen

## Kankakee Area Sponsors:

Event Sponsor: Wendy's All Star Management  
 Corporate Sponsors:  
 NECA-IBEW Local 176  
 Kankakee County Medical Society  
 Knights of Columbus  
 Presence St. Mary's Hospital  
 Riverside Medical Center  
 PNC Bank

## Half Hour Sponsors

*The Phelan Family, Basingers Pharmacy, Edward Jones Investments, KWM Gutterman, NECA - IBEW Local 176 LMCC, First Midwest Bank, Exxon Mobil, Strahanoski/Lickenbrock and ITW, The Horton Group, D'Arcy Motors, AFSCME Illinois Council No. 31, The Crane Fund for Widows and Children, The Condotti Family, Westfield Ford, Spesia & Ayers, and Dr. Michael Cohen - Meridian Medical Associates*

## Phone Teams

*Harrah's Casino, Rotary Clubs, CVS Health, Jonathan's Fans, Hollywood Casino, Catherine's Crew, Easter Seals Foster Care Families, Easter Seals Board, Standard Bank, Kiwanis Club of Joliet, CITGO Lemont Refinery, GFWC IL*

*Federation of Women's Clubs, Joliet Fire, Fraternal Order of Police #58, Kankakee Area Educators, CIGNA, Riverside Medical, Thresholds, Kankakee Elected Officials, and Women of the Moose.*

## A Special Thanks to:

*The Jacob Henry Mansion and The Pritz Family, Abby Thomas Photography, A Cut Above Hair Studio, Kosacks Formalwear, The Prah Family, Tri-Star Martial Arts, Kankakee Valley Park District, Will County Carpenter's Union Local 174, The Daily Journal, Milner Broadcasting, Turk Furniture, Ba Da Bloom Flower Shoppe, Veronda's Music, Bade Appliance Center, Photographic Memories by Anna, the many talent acts, and wonderful volunteers.*



# Upcoming Events - Guns N Hoses: Sunday, August 2nd



Come out and join us as the Joliet Slammers host an Appreciation Night, including a "Guns & Hoses" softball game between members of the Joliet Police Department and the Joliet Fire Department. Watch as they take the plate while battling it out to help benefit Easter Seals Joliet Region on **Sunday, August 2, 2015 at 3pm (gates open 2pm)**. Tickets will be available for \$10 with \$5 from each ticket going to Easter Seals. The \$10 ticket is good for both the Guns & Hoses event and the Joliet Slammers game to follow.

Purchase your ticket at [www.jolietsslammers.com/tickets](http://www.jolietsslammers.com/tickets)

1. Select the game date - Sunday, August 2, 2015
2. Enter promo code: Seals
3. Print your ticket or pick your tickets up at the box office
4. Or to reserve tickets, call Joliet Slammers Box Office at 815-722-2287



Special promotions for this event include **Kids Run the Show** in which the kids will take control of the ballpark. Slammers will have kids staffed to take tickets at the gates when fans enter, kids will have the chance to be in the press box with the radio broadcaster Ryan Piers (to call players at bat, etc), kids can staff the information booths, and help as ushers, etc.

If interested, please contact:

Porscha Johnson, Account Executive  
Joliet Slammers Baseball  
Direct: (815) 651-2037



This event is sponsored by:



**Easter Seals Joliet Region invites you to the American Girl Fashion Show!**

★ **Saturday, November 21, 2015** ★  
**Sunday, November 22, 2015**

The Jacob Henry Mansion Estate - Victorian Ballroom, 15 S. Richard Street, Joliet, IL

**Easter Seals Joliet Region is looking for school age girls (preferably size 6x - 10) to model in the shows.**

★ To find out more about modeling opportunities or attending the shows, please call Teresa Summers (815) 730-2052 ext. 2 or email [dev@joliet.easterseals.com](mailto:dev@joliet.easterseals.com) ★

Tickets are \$40 each (includes show and a meal)  
Tickets go on sale October 1st.

The American Girl Fashion Show benefits children with disabilities served in the Easter Seals Joliet Region.

American Girl Fashion Show is licensed from American Girl Programs, Inc. All American Girl trademarks, names, and characters are trademarks of American Girl, LLC, used under license. All rights reserved.

**Caregiver Support Group**

Easter Seals Joliet Region  
212 Barney Drive  
Joliet, IL 60435



**Tuesdays 11am**

Easter Seals Joliet Region offers a weekly family caregiver support group that provides an atmosphere of understanding and support for family caregivers to explore common difficulties and experiences that come with being the primary caregiver.

You are welcome to join us for a time of education, sharing, caregiver support, and to enjoy the company of other caregivers.

**Brain Injury Support Group**

**Tuesdays 6pm**

Easter Seals Joliet Region offers a weekly support group for persons who have had an acquired or traumatic brain injury. Support groups enable individuals to exchange ideas in a confidential atmosphere where both positive and negative views can be expressed without being judged.



# Golf Outing Sponsorship Opportunities



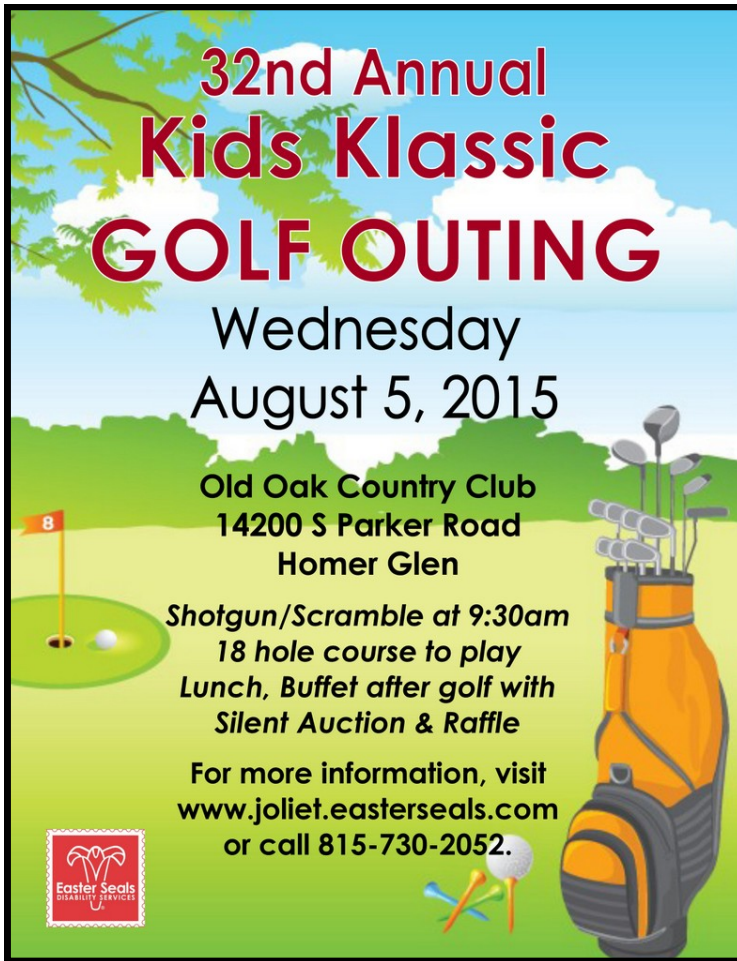
**32nd Annual  
Kids Klassic  
GOLF OUTING**

**Wednesday  
August 5, 2015**

**Old Oak Country Club  
14200 S Parker Road  
Homer Glen**

**Shotgun/Scramble at 9:30am  
18 hole course to play  
Lunch, Buffet after golf with  
Silent Auction & Raffle**

**For more information, visit  
[www.joliet.easterseals.com](http://www.joliet.easterseals.com)  
or call 815-730-2052.**



All sponsorship includes signage at event and in program guide.

<b>Signature Sponsor</b>	<b>HARRAH'S CASINO</b>
<b>Friends of Kids Klassic Sponsor</b>	<b>\$5,000</b>
<i>Two complimentary foursomes</i>	
<b>Hospitality Sponsor</b>	<b>\$2,500</b>
<i>One complimentary foursome</i>	
<b>Welcome Sponsor</b>	<b>\$1,250</b>
<i>One complimentary twosome</i>	
<b>Lunch Sponsor</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
<i>One complimentary twosome</i>	
<b>Dinner Sponsor</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
<i>One complimentary twosome</i>	
<b>Golf Ball Sponsor</b>	<b>\$1,000</b>
<b>Beverage Cart Sponsor</b>	<b>\$500</b>
<b>Bloody Mary Bar Sponsor</b>	<b>\$300</b>
<b>Photo Sponsor</b>	<b>\$250</b>
<b>Cigar Sponsor</b>	<b>\$200</b>
<b>Hole Sponsor</b>	<b>\$125</b>

**Please fill out and return to:  
Easter Seals Development Office  
212 Barney Drive  
Joliet, IL 60435**

Contact Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ golfer(s) at \$175 each

\_\_\_\_\_ foursome(s) at \$700 each (email  
dev@joliet.easterseals.com with names of players)

Please check your level of sponsorship

- |                                                  |         |
|--------------------------------------------------|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Signature Sponsor       | secured |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Friends of Kids Klassic | \$5000  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitality Sponsor     | \$2500  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Welcome Sponsor         | \$1250  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lunch Sponsor           | \$1000  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dinner Sponsor          | \$1000  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Golf Ball Sponsor       | \$1000  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beverage Cart Sponsor   | \$500   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bloody Mary Bar Sponsor | \$300   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Photo Sponsor           | \$250   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cigar Sponsor           | \$200   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hole Sponsor            | \$125   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Buffet After Golf Only  | \$50    |
- I will not be able to attend, but would like to send a donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to support Easter Seals Joliet Region
- I would like to reserve seats for \_\_\_\_\_ additional guests at \$50 each for the buffet after golf.

Payment Information:

- My check is enclosed, payable to Easter Seals Joliet Region.
- Charge my credit card:
- VISA   MC   Discover   Amex
- Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank You!  
For Your Generous Support**



# Your Legacy

Providing for children with special needs through your estate is a wonderful legacy and is easy to do. There are many ways to benefit our families that also provide tax advantages to you and your family today.

As you write or review your will, please consider including a charitable bequest to Easter Seals Joliet Region. The assets you provide are carefully invested, and only the interest is used. In this way, your gift will continue to provide for children and adults with disabilities and their families for generations to come.

For more information on how you can help the very special families served by Easter Seals - even beyond your lifetime - please contact Deb Strahanoski, Easter Seals Development Manager, at 815.730.2052, or visit [www.joliet.easterseals.com](http://www.joliet.easterseals.com).

## Giving Through Living Memorials

Charitable giving is an important tradition for many people. Making gifts for the benefit of others offers a wonderful way to affirm your values and priorities. Honoring a loved one through charitable gifts is often an especially meaningful act of paying tribute to someone special, while assuring that worthwhile values continue to influence the world around us.

Memorial and tribute gifts allow you to thoughtfully remember family members and friends who have been a vital part of your life.

### Memorial Gifts

Marjorie Anderson  
Janet Jacobson  
Olga Janos  
Melvin Mill  
Betty Reils  
Floyd Smith  
Ed Viglia

## Direct Mail Giving

Because both Easter Seals Joliet Region and Easter Seals, Inc. (the national office) conduct direct mail programs in Illinois, some confusion has been expressed over where donated funds go and how are they used. The following information is offered to help donors understand the difference in the two organizations and in their mailings.

Easter Seals Joliet Region's direct mail is small in scale, with only four mailings per year to a donor list of just over 500 persons. All funds raised through these appeals remain right here in Joliet Region, providing direct services to children and adults with disabilities and their families.

**Mailings from Easter Seals Joliet Region are easily identified. They:**

- are mailed from our Development Office at 212 Barney Drive, Joliet, IL 60435
- are printed on Easter Seals Joliet Region letterhead
- include a return envelope addressed to 212 Barney Drive, Joliet, IL 60435
- do not include or offer gifts such as calendars, address labels, note cards, etc

Easter Seals, Inc. the national headquarters, runs a much larger direct mail program, soliciting tens of thousands of Illinois residents. Appeals that originate from or are returned to a Joliet P.O. Box support national headquarters. While Easter Seals, Inc. does provide services to clients here in Illinois, they advocate on a national level for laws and programming to benefit people with disabilities. Their website directs visitors to programs offered by local affiliates. For more information on Easter Seals, Inc., visit [www.easterseals.com](http://www.easterseals.com).

Although steps are taken to prevent donors from receiving mailings from both organizations, some duplication may occur. To be added to or removed from either mailing list, to adjust the numbers of appeals you receive, or to make name and address corrections, contact:

**Deb Strahanoski - call 815-730-2052 or email [dev@joliet.easterseals.com](mailto:dev@joliet.easterseals.com)**

