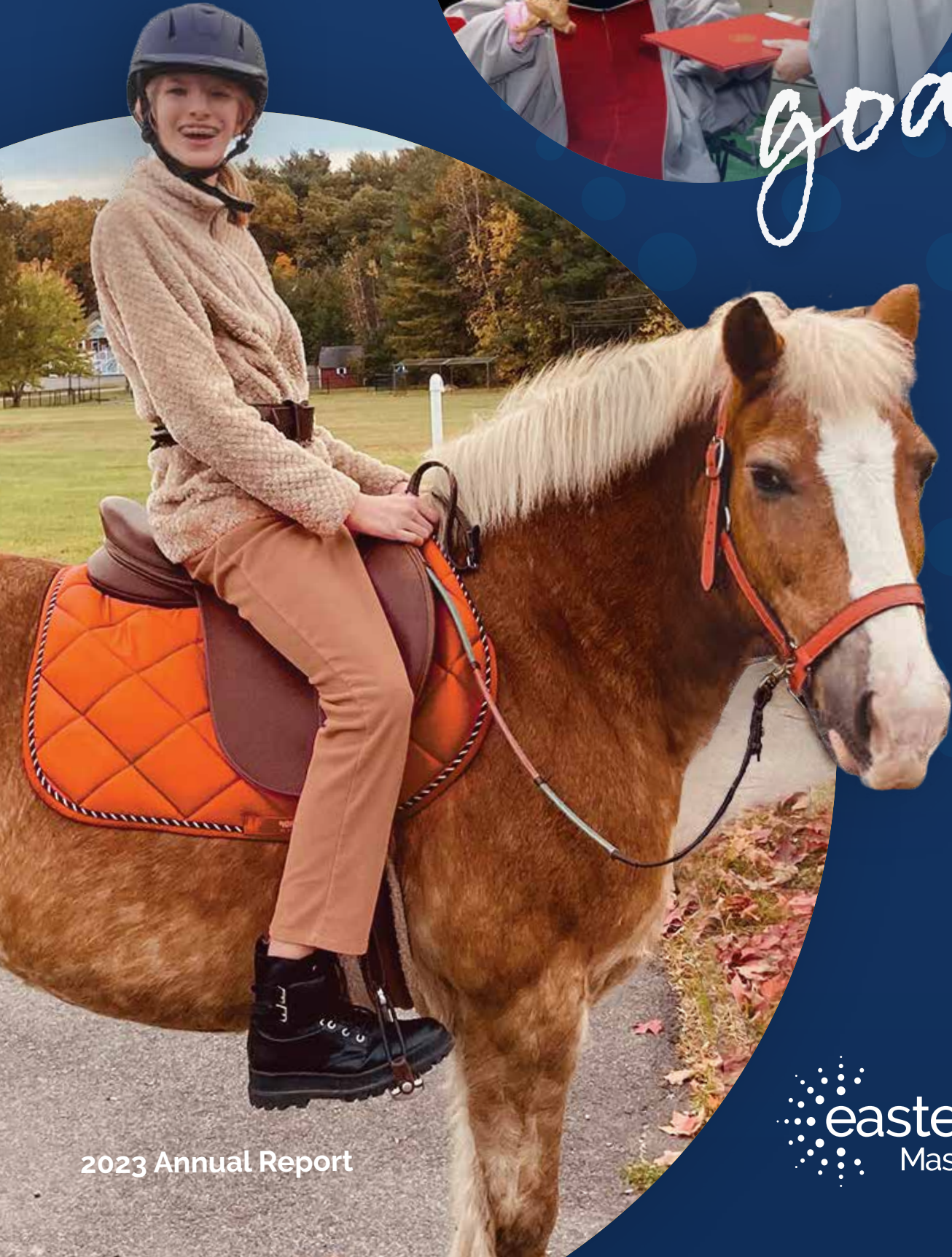


HELPING PEOPLE
REACH THEIR



goals!



HELPING PEOPLE
REACH THEIR

goals!

2023 was another year of excitement at Easterseals Massachusetts! The best way to tell that story is through the stories of those we serve, and we are honored to share some in this Annual Report.

Our mission is very wide in scope and the purpose of our services always comes back to one idea: We are a tool to help people with disabilities meet their goals. Those goals are characteristically diverse as we work with children and adults throughout their lives. That is why our services are as individualized as the people who need them.

The largest endeavor for Easterseals Massachusetts and our clients in 2023 was certainly The Bridge Center. Reviving the campus to provide adaptive horseback riding, Hippotherapy (physical therapy with horses), music, cooking, and so much more, has allowed us to act as hosts for our participants in a way that we previously couldn't. Having a safe environment to push boundaries, learn new skills, and make new friends is something everyone should have equal access to. In many ways, The Bridge Center is a smaller version of the whole organization, and we will continue to innovate and adapt there as we do with all our programming.

In terms of our other programs,

growth continues to be the theme throughout. Our College Navigator Program, which started with only one student five years ago, now serves over 250! College students receiving the tools they need to graduate will help them shoot for higher goals in new careers post-graduation. And speaking of careers, our Employment and Training division has helped more people find, obtain, and most importantly retain employment at higher rates than ever before. Assistive Technology has kept a leadership role in the community, and they continue to expand and adapt services to help clients meet their goals in an ever-evolving world.

These are only a few of the many ways our dedicated team works to serve our clients with your help. This work is only possible thanks to the support of our community volunteers and donors who believe in what we do.

Unfortunately, once again we are left remembering fierce disability advocates who will not be with us in 2024. Judy Heumann, a leader of the Disability Civil Rights movement who was featured in the documentary Crip Camp, passed away in March. In April, we lost Eli Wolff, an Olympian and international advocate for equality for disabled athletes. To conclude

the year, Joe Tringali, who was well known for his decades of disability advocacy leadership in Western Massachusetts, left us too soon. We also remember our dear friend Rick Hoyt who passed away in May at the young age of 61. Rick and his father Dick, who we lost only two years ago, were pioneers for people with disabilities reaching goals that others said were impossible. This was best demonstrated in his motto, "Yes you can!" Rick and his fellow disability rights leaders will be missed by all of us who knew and admired them, and their legacy will go on through the people they touched and empowered to continue their work.

Thank you for reliving some of the highlights of 2023 with me. Seeing the year through our clients' successes motivates me for the year ahead. I know you will feel the same. As always, I am grateful to have your support as we work together to ensure that children and adults with disabilities have equal opportunities to Live, Learn, Work, and Play!

Best Regards,



Paul Medeiros
President & CEO



live
learn
work
play



goal:

"INCREASED
COMMUNICATION
ABILITY; GREATER
INDEPENDENCE"



Allison is a member of the ESMA State Board of Directors who knows the value of our services. She recently achieved one of her most significant goals by publishing her first book, Spirituality Is for Every Body. The book combines her personal experiences with spirituality and disability advocacy. Inspired by her journey and the lack of resources addressing spirituality and disability, Allison's book fills this gap by offering practical guidance and inspiration for others to live more joyful and fulfilling lives. We are grateful that she is donating a portion of her proceeds to ESMA!

Overcoming many barriers, Allison Thompkins is a true example of what perseverance and determination look like. Living with cerebral palsy since birth, she has defied expectations, achieved academic success, and became a leading advocate for accessibility and inclusion. Allison's journey is not just about overcoming physical barriers; it's about embracing spirituality, empowering others, and living life to the fullest.

Allison's introduction to Easterseals Massachusetts (ESMA) and the Assistive Technology (AT) Program came at a pivotal moment in her life. With cerebral palsy, she faces the daily challenges of limited mobility, speech difficulties, and coordination issues. Through ESMA's swimming program and summer camps when she was younger, she discovered a community that embraced her abilities and provided essential support. This early connection laid the foundation for Allison's lifelong partnership with Easterseals, culminating in her access to life-changing assistive technology. AT has been instrumental in Allison's academic and professional pursuits due to each device opening new opportunities. Among her many successes, Allison holds a doctorate from MIT and has served as an economics consultant to agencies around the world.

In her most recent work with ESMA, Allison worked with Jamie M., a Speech and Language Pathologist and Augmentative Communication Specialist in the MRC Assistive Technology Independent Living (IL)

Program. After an initial evaluation, Jamie determined that Allison's outdated eye gaze device caused immense fatigue that impacted her daily life and independence. ESMA helped Allison obtain a new eye gaze communication device, a communication board, and a switch-adapted phone, so she can communicate when having difficulty speaking and have smoother connectivity to both social media and texting. The communication device also enables Allison to control her environment to aid in daily living with things like turning on a lamp and turning up the heat, all by moving her eyes. Jamie explained that Allison uses word and phrase prediction to increase her speed. "She is the most proficient eye gaze user I have ever seen, she is super focused on her goals, and a lot of fun to work with."

ESMA staff continues to play a crucial role in Allison's journey, providing technological solutions, constant support, and encouragement. From securing adaptive equipment for her education and career to finding innovative solutions for her communication needs, ESMA staff members consistently go above and beyond to empower Allison to achieve her goals with confidence and independence. She said, "Over the years, I've worked with a few AT and IL Easterseals staff members, and the level of dedication, brilliance, and passion exhibited by every staff member is unparalleled and a trademark of Easterseals Massachusetts."

Diagnosed with Central Nervous System Lupus and other disabilities, Nicole started losing her vision a few years ago, significantly impacting her day-to-day life and making her goal of earning a college degree more and more challenging.

Nicole was introduced to the Easterseals Massachusetts Assistive Technology (AT) program through her Department of Developmental Services (DDS) case manager. ESMA Assistive Technology Specialist, Victoria C., met with Nicole, identified her needs, and described AT devices that would be useful. Nicole had never heard of many of these devices, and she describes their first meeting as transformative. She became optimistic about regaining her independence and reaching her goal of earning college degrees.

Victoria first identified OrCam MyEye as a solution for reading, object detection, facial recognition, and more. Nicole was able to trial the device by borrowing one from the ESMA Assistive Technology Regional Center and immediately knew this was a perfect solution. In addition to getting this device, other AT provided to Nicole included a laptop with a larger screen and visual impairment features, a larger monitor, an iPad with many accessibility features, and Alexa devices that connected all her technology, helping her stay organized as well as able to communicate with people in other areas of her home.

“The day Victoria brought my new equipment to my home was truly

life-altering,” said Nicole. She added, “Victoria was incredible at identifying my needs and what technology was available to help with those needs.”

With the help of AT along with dedication and hard work, Nicole reached her goal of graduating with a Paralegal Certificate and an Associate Degree in Legal Studies. Along the way, Nicole’s confidence and leadership skills led her to become President of the Delta Alpha Pi and Phi Theta Kappa honor societies, a member of various school clubs, and a recipient of numerous academic rewards. Nicole is passionate about advocating for people with disabilities. She frequently shares her story with others and was a presenter at a DDS Assistive Technology Fair.

Nichole expresses eternal gratitude for Victoria’s guidance in teaching her how to use the new AT devices and that she is now able to enjoy much more independence in all areas of her life.

Although Nicole had achieved significant academic success, she dreamed of teaching disability law one day. This new goal would require a bachelor’s degree in either criminal justice or legal studies. To accomplish this goal, her DDS case manager thought Nicole would benefit from additional support and referred her to begin working with ESMA’s College Navigator program. Her ambition to pursue a career in teaching disability law reflects her commitment to fostering positive change and advocating for people with disabilities.

goal:

**"INDEPENDENCE
AT HOME AND
AT SCHOOL"**



goal:

**"FIND AN INTERNSHIP,
GRADUATE FROM COLLEGE,
AND START A CAREER"**



We are pleased to report that after graduation, Caterina did indeed get a job caring for dogs at a state-of-the-art pet boarding and daycare facility. While putting her heart and excellent customer service skills to use, she enjoys working and playing with dogs individually and in groups to help them have fun and feel safe.

Self-described “animal lover” Caterina Dubois, a 2023 Holyoke Community College graduate, said she needed much more than a passion for helping animals to achieve her education goals and earn her Veterinary Assistant Certificate. Having autism spectrum disorder coupled with other mental health disorders presented Caterina with problems in planning, organization, and comprehension of complex information, especially the science homework assignments related to her field of study.

“High school was difficult,” recalls Caterina. “I was misunderstood and called a rebellious kid who didn’t care about learning. I did not have confidence or hope that college could be a positive experience for me. That all changed when I started the College Navigator Program and worked with Rachael at Easterseals. Suddenly someone really listened to me, wanted to learn about my struggles and help me succeed.”

Caterina is candid talking about her life and future aspirations. She acknowledges that college classes were hard. “Those days when I felt completely overwhelmed, Rachael was always there for me with encouraging words and practical steps that I could take to reduce my stress and better manage my coursework,” comments Caterina. “I would often repeat mantras to myself saying ‘I can do this’, ‘I am going to reach my goal’.”

When Caterina heard classmates talking about internships and what

they were learning firsthand at various veterinary hospitals she would feel envious believing that achievement was beyond her ability. Rachael helped Caterina to think differently and coached her on how to prepare and interview for this opportunity. Caterina went on to land an internship at Manchester Veterinary Clinic in Connecticut and credits College Navigator for her “full college experience.” Caterina says, “This was huge for me. I didn’t think an internship was possible.” Caterina applauds the College Navigator program for her hard-won success and for instilling the confidence to pursue her dreams. For Caterina, this means landing a job as a vet technician where she can use her new skills and knowledge, as well as moving into her own apartment.

ESMA College Navigator Rachael P. echoes Caterina’s sentiments saying, “It was extremely rewarding to see Caterina find success and a supportive environment at Holyoke Community College. Both her confidence and ability to receive and utilize constructive feedback strengthened throughout the year. Upon graduating from the Veterinary Assistant program, Caterina had a more hopeful outlook on the reality of achieving future goals.”

Equipped with her degree, stress-busting mantras, and newfound confidence, Caterina is sure to help many furry friends thrive while living her best life!

When Jeremy's mother, Rose, learned about the Physical Therapy (PT) services available at The Bridge Center, she was excited about the possibilities available to him. She was particularly interested in his potential use of Hippotherapy, which uses equine movement during PT sessions. Jeremy, who is nonverbal Autistic, was ready for additional therapy to work on functional goals such as increasing muscle strength, balance, and flexibility. In addition to those goals, other objectives for Jeremy's therapy were to foster positive interaction with others while ensuring a fun and positive experience.

Jeremy's team at The Bridge Center includes Physical Therapist, Emma S., volunteers Beth and Sharon, and horse, Lucky Lionel. Emma incorporated Hippotherapy into Jeremy's treatment sessions to utilize the rhythmic, multi-dimensional movement pattern of the horse to help him reach his goals. This movement plays a pivotal role in reaching Jeremy's strength and coordination goals and has the added impact of improving self-confidence, executive functioning, self-regulation, and more.

Every week, Jeremy's family watches his sessions from the Observation Room, witnessing his joyful exploration while participating in various Physical Therapy activities both on and off his horse. Since beginning Hippotherapy, Jeremy has undergone a remarkable transformation in self-confidence.

"I am grateful for Jeremy's wonderful

support team at The Bridge Center," Rose said. The team's constant encouragement and consistent routines have helped Jeremy make meaningful gains and growth. Though initially hesitant about wearing a helmet and belt, Jeremy now approaches these tasks with confidence, understanding their role in enhancing his enjoyment of activities. With Hippotherapy, Jeremy continues to make significant progress toward his therapy goals while making additional advancements in improved safety and independence.

Choosing The Bridge Center has proven to be one of the best decisions Rose has made for Jeremy. She cites the nurturing environment, the warmth and inclusivity of the staff, and the wide range of activities beyond Hippotherapy, such as Recreation and Camp, which collectively cultivate personal growth. Jeremy's journey from initial apprehension to pure enjoyment over the weeks and months of Hippotherapy has reinforced Rose's certainty that The Bridge Center is the perfect fit for his ongoing therapy. Rose added, "The collaboration between Jeremy's team and me has been seamless, ensuring we are all aligned in our aspirations for Jeremy's development."

Jeremy's family and ESMA team all agree that the progress he has made is incredible. As he continues with Therapeutic Services at The Bridge Center, Jeremy remains on a path of growth, steadily meeting his Physical Therapy goals while having fun along the way.

goal:

"INCREASED MUSCLE STRENGTH, BALANCE, AND FLEXIBILITY"



goal:

"BUILDING
INDEPENDENCE
FOR MOBILITY AND
COMMUNICATION"



If you ask Sajjona's family what she was meant to do, they reply, "She was born to thrive," and she is doing just that. With their unwavering support and the guidance of Easterseals Massachusetts (ESMA) Rehabilitation Services therapists, she is living, learning, and playing to the fullest.

Sajjona was born with Trisomy 18, also known as Edwards Syndrome. Despite the prognosis that she would not survive more than a few weeks, Sajjona has defied the odds and is now six and a half years old. She is thriving and enjoys activities such as swimming, musical play, and spending quality time with loved ones.

Sajjona works with ESMA Physical Therapist, Tiffany P., on an ongoing basis. Sajjona's mother shared, "Tiffany has such a positive outlook, always focusing on Sajjona's abilities and celebrating her achievements, no matter how small." Tiffany ensures that everything they work on together in their physical therapy (PT) sessions is meaningful and functional. "When I initially began with Sajjona, we started by using the skills she already had and then further developed them, always with meaningful goals in mind."

Since ESMA provides many services directly in the home, Tiffany can consider the household routine and involve family participation in Sajjona's PT sessions. This holistic approach enables Sajjona and her family to learn and practice PT techniques in between scheduled appointments with Tiffany.

Sajjona has reached many goals and has made incredible progress since starting with ESMA in 2022. When Tiffany and Sajjona began working together, Sajjona could sit up without support for only one second. One year later, she could sit on the floor for up to thirty minutes with only intermittent support! Sajjona has developed increased strength and can move in and out of different positions with less support due to the hard work she has put in. Sajjona is now initiating steps with just trunk support, assistance to weight shift, and prompting at the leg, for about 20 feet. With Tiffany's guidance, Sajjona acquired adaptive equipment, including a new stander, gait trainer, car seat, and Rifton Activity Chair. This equipment allows Sajjona to explore her surroundings and participate in different activities independently such as painting and bowling.

In addition to Sajjona's PT services, Sarah V., an ESMA Speech and Language Pathologist, is working with her toward her goals by developing individualized strategies and approaches for improved communication.

Sajjona will continue to thrive and work hard toward achieving her goals while her family, friends, and ESMA therapists will continue celebrating her accomplishments along the way!

Alexander Freeman, an award-winning filmmaker and disability rights activist with cerebral palsy, navigates life with strong determination despite his physical limitations. His journey intersected with Easterseals Massachusetts as a child through his college years and then again as an adult.

Alex started working with ESMA in the seventh grade through partnerships with the Brookline Public Schools and Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC). Then, an ESMA AT Specialist created a modified joystick to move with his chin, and a switch to click with his knee to select letters on an on-screen keyboard. This device opened his world to writing poetry, songs, and scripts, eventually leading him to success in directing documentaries and feature films.

In 2022, Alex was referred to ESMA again through the MRC AT Independent Living Program. He wanted to explore other innovative solutions to use his laptop to communicate and work faster as the joystick was no longer keeping up with the pace of his work. He was set up with a Blue2 switch to navigate his iPhone, using his foot and knee to scan and select items quickly. AT Specialist Kathie S. recognized Alex's resourcefulness and success in using his feet to access technology. She researched existing devices in the market and realized that a specialized product needed to be created. She enlisted the support of fellow AT Specialist, Tiffany M., a Biomedical Engineer. Together, with Alex, they began designing a "foot access floor trackpad." The team developed and tested several prototypes and reached a point where

they needed advanced sensors and coding to allow Alex to use swiping motions for accurate and complete control of his computer. This is when they applied to and were accepted into the 2022 Microsoft Hackathon.

Additional AT Specialists, Microsoft Engineers and Programmers, and Alex, collaborated to produce a groundbreaking innovation tailored to Alex's unique needs, with the idea that this device could be modified to help others needing similar accessibility for independent use of technology. "The idea is to give those with disabilities a new way to use the computer without just using their hands," said Alex.

In February 2023, the team was thrilled to present Alex with the first-generation device, aptly named, "The Free-Man." Alex's excitement grew with each prototype iteration and now with an actual floor trackpad to test, his vision for more control of his computer is nearing reality. "I really like how the Easterseals staff took the time to get to know me and my needs and involved me in the development process to create the right technology," added Alex.

The latest version of The Free-Man is currently being refined with the addition of a Wacom drawing tablet and a stylus sewn into a sock. The device allows Alex to utilize his creativity freely without being limited by physical challenges.

Through ESMA's expertise, Microsoft's help, and Alex's positive outlook and resilience, this story is a testament to the transformative power of technology, paving the way toward a more accessible future for all.

goal:
"ALTERNATIVE WAY
TO ACCESS LAPTOP;
ABILITY TO COMMUNICATE
AND WORK FASTER"



assistive technology (AT)

- 884 **devices** loaned to people with disabilities to help find solutions for communication, education, hearing and vision impairment, and daily living, between the Boston and Worcester **MassMATCH Assistive Technology Regional Centers**.
- 700 **clients** and caretakers trained to learn how AT can improve quality of life, independence, and social participation.
- 112 **Computer Fundamentals Educational Webinars** offered FREE to people affiliated with the **Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission (MRC)**.

- 580 **MRC clients** assisted with laptops and support sessions by our new **Technical Support Center**.
- 8.9K **views** across social media channels for our new **ESMA Tech Connect** videos featuring tips and tricks to advance digital literacy.
- 11 **custom AT devices** created for people with disabilities to help with independent living through our **AT Maker Lab** program.

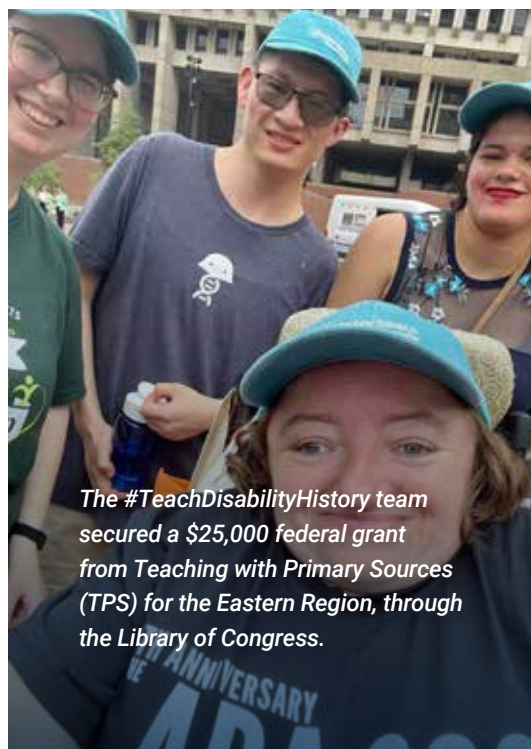
goal:
"PROVIDE SERVICES
THAT UNLOCK EVERYONE'S
FULL POTENTIAL."

2,200 clients

& 12,000+ appointments provided by **AT & AAC Teams** to help people with disabilities expand their independence by using devices to achieve greater access to education, employment, and their communities.



House of Possibilities (HOPe) members volunteered weekly at The Bridge Center, enhancing the campus and gaining transferable vocational skills through tasks like painting and leveling the arena footing.



The #TeachDisabilityHistory team secured a \$25,000 federal grant from Teaching with Primary Sources (TPS) for the Eastern Region, through the Library of Congress.



Our Advocacy Team at a Legislative Roundtable with MetroWest Center for Independent Living to discuss key disability issues.

college navigator

11.2K

hours of 1-to-1 support to **College Navigator Program** students in-person, remotely, or hybrid.

311 students

served since its start in 2018.



youth & recreation

67

teens and young adults with disabilities ages 14-26 from the **Youth Leadership Network** met to focus on self-advocacy and self-awareness.

47

participants engaged in fun safety activities and water games that maximize independence in the water during our **Summer Adaptive Swim Program**.

44

classes for the **Accessible Martial Arts** program allowed participants to stay physically active, learn self-defense skills, and build confidence.

144 participants

across all statewide **Youth Programs**.



34


individuals attended our **B.A.D. and Thrive** mentoring programs events.

16


campers enjoyed **Camp Sno-Mo** overnight camp in New Hampshire.

14

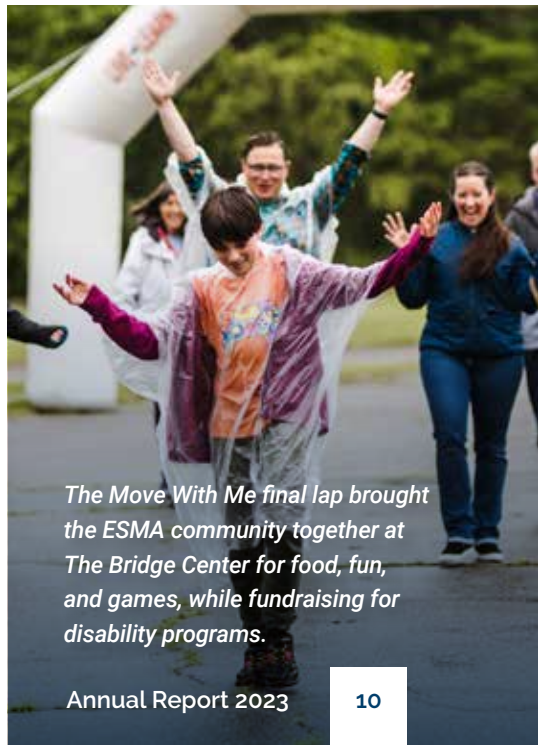
presentations promoting the importance of teaching disability history in schools by our **#TeachDisabilityHistory** committee, led by youth and young adults with disabilities.



ESMA received a \$200,000 grant from the Lloyd G. Balfour Foundation for the College Navigator Program which supports program expansion to serve more students effectively.



The Adaptive Swim Program made waves at Bennett Pool, with nearly 50 attendees enjoying the water! Partnering with DCR Universal Access ensures a safe, inclusive experience for all.



The Move With Me final lap brought the ESMA community together at The Bridge Center for food, fun, and games, while fundraising for disability programs.

the bridge center

159 participants

engaged in services since reopening The Bridge Center in the spring.



125

employees across 9 companies volunteered during **TeamWork Days** to complete dozens of ground and facilities projects.

67

volunteers regularly assisted with grounds and Equestrian Center upkeep and helped facilitate recreational programming.

Massachusetts alternative finance program (AFP)

\$17+ million

total loaned for AT items since the program started in 2005.



936

Financial Loans provided to 600 people with disabilities to purchase vehicles.

\$150K

no-interest **Mini Loans** to purchase AT items less than \$2,000.

1.1K

Long-Term Device Loans since 2017.

employment & transition services

219

MRC clients supported by **Job Development & Placement** services with 35 Individuals achieving their goals and obtaining jobs.

226 students



with disabilities participated in our **Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS)** to develop valuable employment and transition skills in their journey to adulthood.



ESMA was one of three nonprofits to receive \$100,000 from R.H. White Companies, Inc. to celebrate their 100th Anniversary. We are thankful to their employees for choosing us.



Quality Beverage, longtime Mission Partners, invited ESMA to their company softball game at Fitton Field followed by a Bravehearts game. Their employee support helps fuel programs like Accessible Martial Arts.



Our 2nd annual Community Toy Drive was a huge success with many new partners helping! Hundreds of toys were distributed to help families in need across Massachusetts.

rehabilitation

102 community partners

including schools, day habilitation programs, skilled nursing facilities, early intervention agencies, and home health agencies, served by our **Rehabilitation Services & Applied Behavior** programs.



48

patients were provided care at the **Pappas Rehabilitation Hospital for Children** by ESMA staff.

28

students from 20 school districts received services from **Student Service Aides**.

Easterseals Massachusetts provides 22,000 Essential Services to more than 10,000 Individuals statewide each year.



advocacy & community

220 meetings...

hearings, roundtables, and testimonies attended by our **Advocacy Team** to support legislative priorities that advance various issues important to people living in the state with a disability.



325

people employed by **ESMA** during 2023, including temporary summer workers.

289K

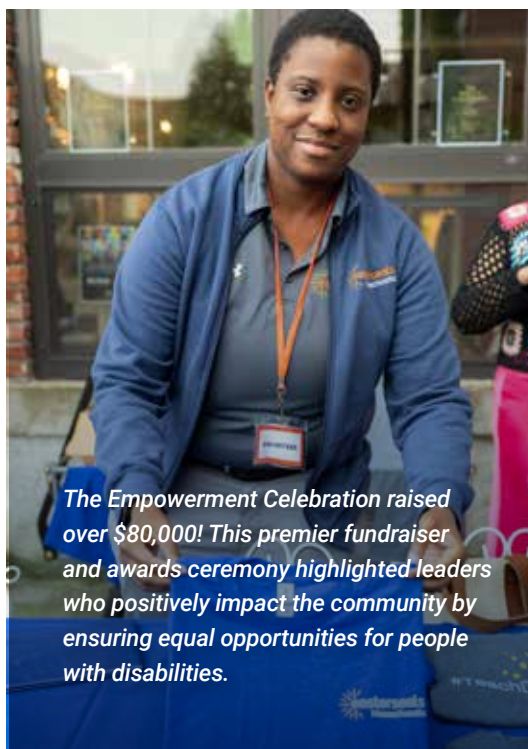
eastersealsma.org page views, up 55%, with **52,587** users, up 60%. The homepage, The Bridge Center, and Careers pages were the most visited.

15.4K

social media fans across 8 channels, an increase of 17%.



ESMA Tech Connect, digital literacy training videos in partnership with Comcast NBCUniversal, began. Assistive Technology Specialist, Elano, shares tips for all levels to maximize technology use.



The Empowerment Celebration raised over \$80,000! This premier fundraiser and awards ceremony highlighted leaders who positively impact the community by ensuring equal opportunities for people with disabilities.



Susan Mitchell was honored for being a dedicated ESMA supporter for over four decades. Through volunteering and fundraising, she inspires others to make a difference.

the bridge center

When we signed on to operate The Bridge Center under the Easterseals Massachusetts umbrella, we were excited for this new chapter in our history. Our confidence was solidly grounded in our mission and nearly 80 years of experience and expertise.

We fired up Team Hoyt's adage - "Yes You Can!" - and began work on our restoration and rebuilding plan for the 22-acre campus. We knew reopening programs at The Bridge Center after a long closure would require significant elbow grease and financial investment to ensure the property was safe for occupancy.

Hundreds of volunteers gave their time and energy to arduous projects, businesses donated thousands of dollars in professional goods and services, and individuals gave generous monetary and in-kind donations. The sum of these efforts multiplied quickly with The Bridge Center obtaining its occupancy permit for two of its buildings. Programming started soon after with the opening of the Equestrian Center for Adaptive Riding and Horsemanship in March, launching Recreation programs during April school vacation, attaining its Physical Therapy facility licensure in April; and receiving an extremely competitive, strategic investment grant of \$250,000 from the Yawkey Foundation in July.

In addition to the overwhelming response to Community Clean Up days, corporate volunteer TeamWork days, community fundraisers, and The Bridge Center Restoring Excellence fundraising campaign, Easterseals Massachusetts was warmly embraced by a community deeply rooted in helping others.

Neighbors from Bridgewater and surrounding communities joined us on campus in October for our first Halloween Trunk-or-Treat celebration. For this event, the property was transformed into a Halloween carnival creating an ideal setting for everyone to have fun and stay safe. It also provided the perfect backdrop to showcase The Bridge Center's completed renovations, introduce our team, volunteers, and herd; and thank residents for their continued support.

In December, The Bridge Center Restoring 2023 campaign officially closed raising \$430,988 in monetary and in-kind donations for campus renovations and inclusive programming for all ages and all abilities. In 2023, through the generous support of our community, 645 participants and visitors made progress on personal goals in a safe and supportive environment; and our staff, volunteers, and herd enjoyed personal growth and fulfillment too.

When ESMA began the work to reopen the campus, we saw endless possibilities and were confident to lead the new beginning. **The truth is, as we saw in 2023, the real magic of The Bridge Center is people –**

passionate people who want to make a meaningful difference in their community. We are immensely grateful to operate The Bridge Center and grateful for those who share our dream of an inclusive world for people of all abilities.



goal:
"SUPPORTING CLIENTS
AND PARTICIPANTS AT
THE BRIDGE CENTER"



2023 mission partners

Easterseals Massachusetts' dedicated Mission Partners have an impact that changes lives. In April, we invited them to join us to unveil our new Mission Partner Wall in our Worcester office. At the event, guests also enjoyed a tour of our headquarters, which included a look inside the innovative Assistive Technology Regional Center.

ESMA launched the Mission Partner Program to grow relationships with corporate leaders who purposefully look for opportunities to work with credible nonprofits and often invest in causes that are important to their employees. We take pride in collaborating with these forward-thinking companies dedicated to fostering positive change in the world.

At the time of the unveiling, we had six Mission Partners. By the end of 2023, that number grew to 10! We extend our sincerest gratitude to the leaders and employees of the organizations listed for their continued support of our mission.



president's council

To view our full donor recognition listings, please scan the QR code:



Thank You! Your passion, belief, and support of our mission made possible the growth and progress featured in this year's report. Our vision of a kind and inclusive world where people with disabilities have equal opportunities to live, learn, work, and play is imaginable thanks to your partnership.

\$25,000 & ABOVE

Anonymous Parent ♥
Ladd & Tammy Lavallee
Robert & Dawn Seiple ♦♥

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Roy & Diane Brazelton
Kirk & Sheila Joslin
Paul Lavallee
Walter S. Skrobot, Jr.

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Joe Bellil & Linda Long-Bellil ♦
Collin Bray ♦
Patricia Davidson
William Malone
Paul & Jennifer Medeiros ♦
Jay White
The Zagroski Family ♥

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Alison Coady ♦
Stephen Connulty
Sean & Susan Flanagan
Spencer Fortwengler
John & Linda Freeman
Kenneth & Carrie Larson ♦
Susan Mitchell

Thomas O'Reilly
Owen Richardson
David Rubin
Harry & Debra Salerno
Anne Schofield ♥
John & Debbie Stevens ♦
Peter & Nicole Wiemeyer ♦

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Charlie Alexander ♥
William Beckeman
Marilyn Belletti
Ann Burke
Burns and Moskos Family
Charitable Fund
John & Jean Childs
James & Nancy Coghlin
Ron Cort ♥
Jim & Kim Dennison ♦♥
Raymond & Paula Doherty
Kevin & Cyndi Forcier ♦♥
Ivor & Barbara Freeman
James & Teresa Friesema ♦
Avery Gray ♦
Scott & Rebecca Gregory ♦
Gloria Guerrero
David & Kathleen Hoffman
Ed & Paula Ivaldi ♥
Richard & Tracy Joslin
Chris & Kathy Kittle ♦
James Knowles
Branch & Elizabeth Lane
Nicole Lavallee
Leslie Leslie ♦
Susan Magee
Kevin Marshall ♥
Kathleen McDermott
Paula McDonald ♦
Elizabeth Merrill ♦
Justin & Adele Morreale

Andrew & Suzanne Murray
Deborah Nurre
Albert O'Neal III ♥
William Oncay
Joseph Rabbitt
Dave & Lorelei Randa ♦♥
Cesar Rodrigues
Peter Roque
Daniel & Anne Sacco
Kimberly Sokol ♦
Christine Thomas
Stephen & Maryjane Walsh
Scott & Susan Whitlock
Nafisa Zafar ♦
Walter & Rose Zydlewski

♦ Signifies Empowerment
Team Member

♥ Signifies The Bridge Center
Restoring Excellence
Campaign Contributor

We are grateful for every contribution generously given in support of our mission and have made every effort to ensure the accuracy of our recognition listings. Please notify us of any inaccuracies and omissions by emailing philanthropy@eastersealma.org.

champions of equal opportunities

We are honored and privileged that the corporations, foundations, and organizations listed below supported Easterseals Massachusetts in 2023. Working together we delivered on our mission and supported critical programs that helped children, youth, adults, and seniors with disabilities reach their goals.

\$100,000 & ABOVE

Lloyd G. Balfour Foundation,
Bank of America, N.A., Trustee
R.H. White Companies, Inc.
Yawkey Foundation ♥

\$50,000 - \$99,999

Laddawn | Berry Global
Flora N. Beggs Trust
The Hoyt Foundation
MassMutual Foundation

\$25,000 - \$49,999

Comcast NBCUniversal
CVS Health Foundation
Decourcey Family Revocable Trust
The George R. Wallace Foundation
The State Street Foundation

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Adelaide Breed Bayrd Foundation
Berkshire Bank Foundation
Constance O. Putnam Foundation
Copeland Family Foundation
W.K. Kellogg Foundation
eCW Giving Foundation
The Fletcher Foundation

Friendly's
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Americo Francisco Fund, Estate
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WRITERS & EDITORS

Kristy Dobson
Davis Fisher
Cyndi Forcier
Charlene Leith
Paul Medeiros
Madeline Mitchell

CONTRIBUTORS

ESMA Administration
& Management Team

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Carissa Decelles

CONTRIBUTING PHOTOGRAPHERS

Kwame Blue
Cindy Conquest (including cover)
Patricia Davidson
Harry Lohr
Amy Reichenback



Our *mission* is to provide services to ensure children and adults with disabilities have equal opportunities to live, learn, work, and play.

**State Headquarters &
MassMATCH Assistive
Technology Regional Center**

18 Chestnut Street, Suite 200
Worcester, MA 01608
508.757.2756

**Boston Office &
MassMATCH Assistive
Technology Regional Center**

89 South Street, Suite 102
Boston, MA 02111
617.226.2640

**Bridgewater Office &
The Bridge Center**

470 Pine Street
Bridgewater, MA 02324
617.737.6658