



2024 ANNUAL REPORT



all abilities. limitless possibilities.

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Dear Friends,

Each year, we're honored to share the impact you help us make across the Midwest for adults and children with disabilities and their families. And each year, we're grateful to be able to say we've given more parents the skills needed to communicate with their child for the first time; we've helped more young adults start their career path; we've given more adults the tools to live independently; and we've advocated for more support for our team and those we serve. This past year is no different.

This Annual Report celebrates all we've achieved over the past fiscal year. It is our way of thanking you for your continued support and highlighting everything you have helped us



Wendy Sullivan
Chief Executive Officer
Easterseals Midwest

accomplish. It also illustrates how our life-changing programs are needed now more than ever. More than one in four Americans currently live with a disability. With your support, we can continue leading the way to 100% equity, inclusion, and access for all.

As you read the 2024 Impact Report, know our accomplishments, victories, and the lives we change are because of you. Join us in continuing to provide help and hope for the thousands who rely on us. Thank you for your support of people with disabilities and Easterseals Midwest. Our mission would not be possible without you.



Corey Hamilton
Board Chairperson
Easterseals Midwest



2024 at a Glance

At Easterseals, we're changing the lives of people with disabilities by enriching education, enhancing health, expanding employment, and elevating community. Here's a look at where that led us over the past year.

6,453

INDIVIDUALS

The number of individuals receiving our services continues to grow, totaling 6,453 people enrolled in our programs.



92%

SATISFACTION RATING

Our stakeholders reported a 92% overall satisfaction rating last year.



647

NEW EMPLOYEES

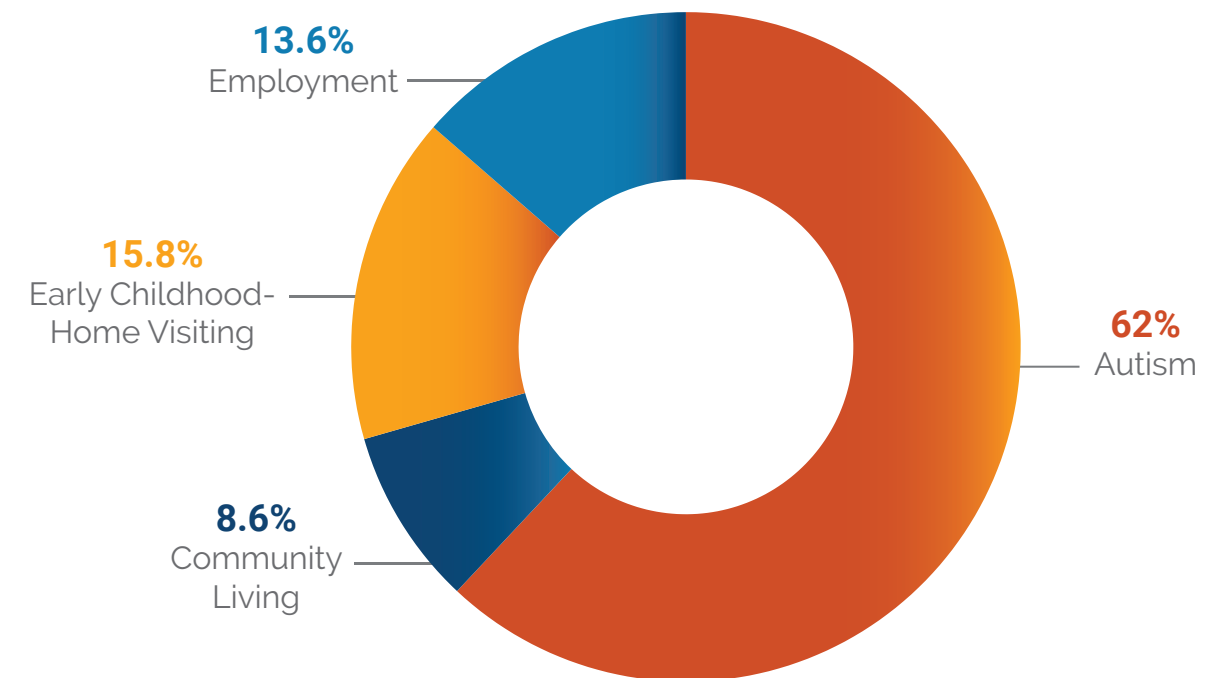
We added 647 skilled employees to our team, helping us support more people with disabilities than ever before.

\$2 million

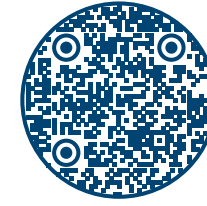
RAISED

In FY2024, our generous donors helped us raise more than \$2 million for life-changing disability services.

INDIVIDUALS SERVED BY PROGRAM



Our Services



To learn more about everything Easterseals does, scan the QR code to the left.

Autism Services

Today, around 75 million people across the world are diagnosed with autism. That's why Easterseals is there for children and adults with supportive services like caregiver training and education, family navigation, therapies and assessments, respite and social groups, social skills training, and more. We offer a full scope of services designed to help people diagnosed with autism through every stage of life.

Employment Services

Having a career you're proud of is an important part of most everyone's lives. It is also an important aspect of independence - a gateway to being able to support oneself. That's why we provide an individualized approach to develop the skills, confidence, and experience necessary for people with disabilities to find and keep competitive employment.

Early Childhood - Home Visiting Services

A child's environment and social experience is crucial as their brain develops within the first three years of life. That's why we support safe, nurturing home environments for children of all abilities by supporting the entire family.

Community Living Services

At Easterseals, we support people through every stage of life. For adults, this often means helping them gain the independence to live in a home of their own and support themselves. Whether someone requires one hour a week or 24/7 care, we meet them where they are.

Health Home Services

Easterseals' Health Home Services aim to connect people with disabilities to high quality, consistent health care. In partnership with the Missouri Department of Mental Health, Division of Developmental Disabilities and Compass Health Network, Easterseals' Health Home Services provide health management to assist individuals with meeting their health and wellness goals while ensuring they get the care they need.



meet the williams family

ENRICHING EDUCATION



At just a year and a half old, Robert's parents noticed that something seemed a little different with their son. Robert wasn't meeting the milestones that his peers were reaching, and he seemed to be having a hard time expressing his feelings. They knew something wasn't right, so they began looking for a solution.

"We had no way of knowing how to help him or what he needed in that moment," Robert's father, Robert Williams Jr. said.

"That feeling of helplessness for your son – it's not a good feeling."

That's when the Williams family found Easterseals.

"We chose Easterseals because we felt like it was the right fit for our son. We felt like his personality was still able to shine," Robert's mother, Kaylin, said. "Robert could still be

Robert, and he could still get the services that he needed and the support that he needed."

Robert began receiving Applied Behavior Analysis Therapy, where he and his family worked with Easterseals' Behavior Analysts on communication to empower Robert to express his needs and wants in a healthier way. What started as simple pointing soon turned into sign language and now Robert is able to speak.

"Watching Robert be able to be able to communicate and be more confident in himself is nothing short of amazing, honestly," his father said.

““ The support of Easterseals has really meant everything to us. ””

-Kaylin Williams



Financials

Revenue

	%
● Autism	11.9
● Community Living	77
● Home Visiting	1.7
● Employment	9.3

	\$
● Autism	\$12,119,394
● Community Living/HH	\$78,478,372
● Home Visiting	\$1,783,578
● Employment	\$9,518,842
Subtotal	\$101,900,186

● Programs	\$101,900,186
● Special Events & Contributions	\$2,031,037
● Nonfinancial assets	\$179,306
● Miscellaneous Income	\$75,528
Subtotal	\$104,186,057

Expenses

	%
● Autism	13.9
● Community Living	75.4
● Home Visiting	2
● Employment	8.5

	\$
● Autism	\$11,362,734
● Community Living	\$61,668,960
● Home Visiting	\$1,707,689
● Employment	\$6,988,939
Subtotal	\$81,728,322

	\$
● Programs	\$81,728,322
● Management & General	\$11,575,148
● Special Events	\$247,113
● Fund Development	\$1,151,091
Subtotal	\$94,701,674

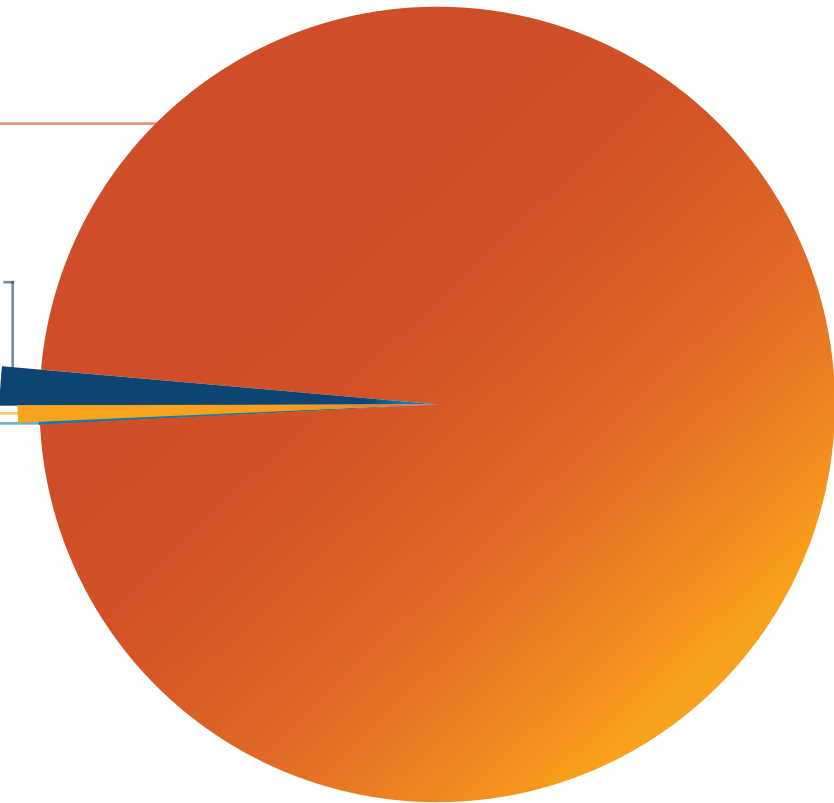
Revenue

Programs —
97.8% | \$101,900,186

Special Events & Contributions —
1.9% | \$2,031,037

Nonfinancial assets —
0.2% | \$179,306

Miscellaneous Income —
0.07% | \$75,528



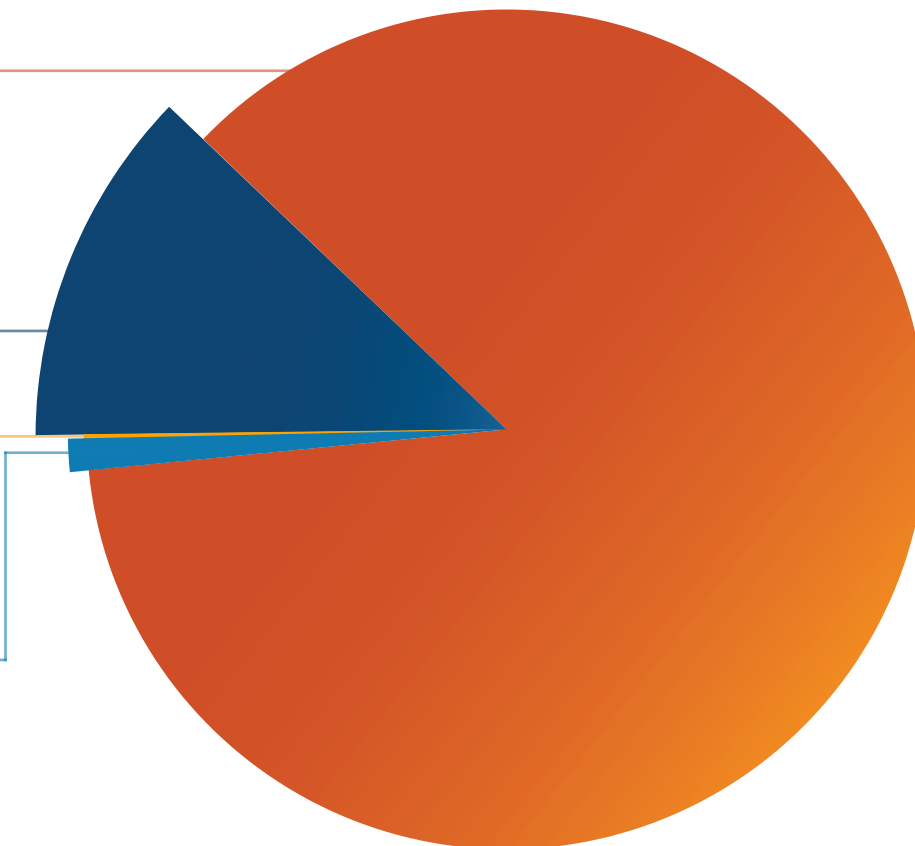
Expenses

Programs —
86.3% | \$81,728,322

Management & General —
12.2% | \$11,575,148

Special Events —
0.3% | \$247,113

Fund Development —
1.2% | \$1,151,091



meet karen

ENHANCING HEALTH



At just 42 years old, Karen was living in a nursing home because of her disability. Years of being inactive in that setting left Karen on oxygen 24/7. It made her unable to participate in the activities she enjoyed. It took away her independence.

But thanks to a strong network of supporters advocating for Karen, she was able to enroll in Easterseals Community Living Program. Karen worked with her Easterseals team to develop individual living skills that would allow her to move into a home in the community with some roommates.

"Karen became a lot more physical and did a lot more activities than she was doing," Teressa Harris, Karen's Direct Support Professional with Easterseals, said. "I think she was very happy to get out of the nursing home."

With her newfound independence, Karen was able to take back control of her life. Karen set goals with her team to improve her health and wellness. They worked on skills like cooking meals at home and adding in exercise to her routine.

Soon, she no longer needed to take her oxygen tank with her everywhere and she increased her mobility. Thanks to these changes, Karen has been able to go on trips, practice new skills, and live a more independent, fulfilling life.

“Anybody should go to Easterseals because they really care about you and I love Easterseals.”

-Karen



Investing in our Team

Our team of dedicated employees makes our work possible. That's why we're committed to investing in them and supporting them in every way possible.



1,619

TEAM MEMBERS

We employed 1,619 team members in FY24.

Employee Council

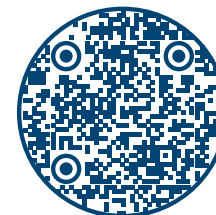
We created an Employee Council to cultivate a culture that values all people and allows us to work as a team, learn from each other, and create a strong community.

Management Training Program

We introduced an updated Management Training Program in FY24, ensuring new supervisors and managers are prepared for success.

We even gave away a car to one of our deserving Direct Support Professionals during Direct Support Professionals Appreciation Week!

Watch the Video!



meet michael

EXPANDING EMPLOYMENT

When Stacy learned her son Michael was diagnosed with autism, she explored the vast amounts of information available to help her son live his best life.

“We learned about a lot of different resources but they weren’t as consistent as Easterseals,” she said. “Consistency is always my number one thing when I recommend Easterseals.”

Michael is very loving and caring, a “people pleaser” his mom calls him.

“He’s transitioning from teenage version of Michael to adult version,” she explained. So when exploring career opportunities, the team at Employment and Community Services in Kansas City took that into consideration.

“Our services are very individualized and customized,” Abigail Whitney, Program Director at Easterseals Midwest, said.

Gaining employment empowers individuals to be independent, widens their social network and to the community, and improves their self-worth. People with disabilities are two times more likely to be unemployed than people without disabilities.

“We all as human beings need to find a place of employment that is beneficial, that is meaningful,” Abigail said. “We want that same experience for the individuals we support.”

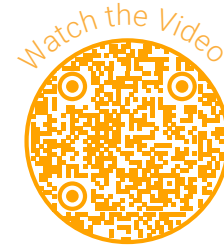
Our Employment Services team met with Michael to create a customized plan to help him find his first job.

“We want their first job experience to be a great job experience, and not just their first job,” Abigail said.

While Michael and his mom have leveraged our services for years, Stacy is particularly grateful for the Employment and Community Services teams. She recognized how parents may try to explain to their child that they should gain independence and get a job, but actually having a program to do that is helpful.

“My goal for Michael ultimately is for him to be as independent as possible, as self-sufficient as possible, be able to live in the community and take care of himself.”

Now, Mike is gainfully employed at a local restaurant where he can serve others and socialize with coworkers and guests.



“Consistency is always my number one thing when I recommend Easterseals.”

-Stacy, Michael’s mom



Philanthropy & Advocacy

You made a difference this year!

Your support made a huge difference in the lives of people with disabilities in FY24.

Here's how you helped us make an amazing impact.



981

NEW DONORS

981 people gave to our mission as a new donor

\$2 million

RAISED

More than \$2 million was raised thanks to the generosity of our community

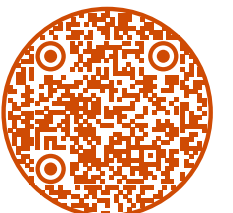
More donors than ever before took part in a philanthropic group of Easterseals

- 97 Women's Giving Collective members
- 45 Leadership Circle members
- 373 President's Circle members

But you didn't just support us through generosity. You helped us stand up and make our voices heard, advocating for and with the disability community.

- More than 500 emails were sent to legislators in support of the disability community
- 250 new advocates took action for the first time with us
- A grassroots network of more than 2,000 advocates made their voices heard

Check out how we made a difference in Jefferson City, Missouri!



meet jay

ELEVATING COMMUNITY

Life at the nursing home was dull, boring, and limiting for Jay. He dreamed of independence and having his own space where he could do what he wanted to do.

“I chose Easterseals [because] the background of the Easterseals, the mission statement, and just the overall warmth that I felt from the incoming communities,” he said.

Independence was of course a key factor for Jay, and so was having a team who supported him. He wanted a place with 1:1 staffing and a community who would help him further his independence.

Nicole, his Direct Support Professional with Easterseals, explained, “He really enjoys getting his own space and doing his own thing. He didn’t really get to do much of that before.”

Jay shared what it was like for him when he finally moved into Easterseals. “I felt more energetic because I had more freedom,” he says. “I felt I could do a lot more for myself.”

Nicole explained he is thriving now. “He gets a say in what he gets to do, what he likes to do, what he wants to do. He gets to be himself.”

In addition to socializing with his roommates and going on outings to his favorite stores and restaurants, Jay also values advocacy. Soon after he moved in, he joined the Springfield Individual Engagement Committee and enrolled in a six-week program through the Missouri Division of Developmental Disabilities called Project STIR (Steps Towards Independence and Responsibility). The program helps empower people with developmental disabilities to learn leadership skills in making decisions about how they live their lives.

“It was a very good program,” he says. “I learned a lot about my rights. I feel this is beneficial for other people to take the course to learn more about their rights. It reassured me that I am in a very good place.”



“When I moved in to Easterseals, I felt free.”

-Jay



Geographic Territory



To learn more about Easterseals Midwest, visit easterseals.com/midwest or contact us at 1-800-200-2119 or info@esmw.org.

CONTRIBUTION FORM

You can help make a profound difference in the lives of people with disabilities.

DONOR INFORMATION

Name _____

Phone _____ Cell Home

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

GIVING OPTIONS

Gift Amount \$ _____

Make this a reoccurring monthly donation

With a gift of \$1,000 or more, you will become a member of the President's Circle.

Check Enclosed (Please make payable to Easterseals Midwest)

Please charge my credit card
(Visa, Mastercard, Discover, and American Express accepted)

Credit Card Number _____

Exp. Date (MM/YY) _____ CVV Code _____

Email _____

SEND COMPLETED FORM TO

Easterseals Midwest
Attn: Office of Development
11933 Westline Industrial Dr.
St. Louis, MO 63146

DONATE THROUGH OUR WEBSITE



*Please use the following information to make a gift of stock, and use this form to notify us of the gift:

U.S. Bank N.A. 10 N. Hanley Road
Clayton, Missouri 63105

DTC#2803 | Account# 080017738600 | Tax ID# 43-0979927

You may receive an appeal from Easterseals National headquartered in Chicago, Illinois, which supports national advocacy programs, research, administration and international programs. A gift to Easterseals Midwest supports programs, educational programming, and advocacy in our local community.



Leadership

EASTERSEALS MIDWEST BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Tec Chapman, *Chief Program Officer*

Laurel Taylor, *Chief Human Resources Officer*

Maulik Trivedi, MD, FACEP, *Medical Director*



CARF International is the gold standard in accreditation and provides an objective, peer-to-peer approach to their accreditation reviews. Easterseals has been continuously accredited at the highest level possible for the past 35 years. We were the first organization in Missouri to receive accreditation for our Autism Services and have approximately 15 different service lines across every region of the state reviewed each survey. The survey process is rigorous and involves a cadre of surveyors specializing in administration and programs speaking with a wide array of stakeholders, visiting every program site, and reviewing documentation to assess evidence of more than 1,400 standards each visit.



Leading the way to **100%** equity, inclusion,
and access for people with disabilities,
families, and communities.



easterseals.com/midwest | 1.800.200.2119