

IMPACT ON CENTRAL AND SOUTHEAST OHIO

Spring 2018

Easterseals Introduces Chance to Dance

Changing lives eight counts a time.

Easterseals is proud to announce the Chance to Dance program as a service offered to families with special needs.

Chance to Dance

Julie Chafin has always had a love for dancing and a compassion for those with special needs. Wanting to combine her passions and help others, she started the Chance to Dance program in 2013 in Circleville, Ohio.

The mission of Chance to Dance is to make sure the students appreciate the art of movement through rhythmic ability and to use various music as well as imaginative play. Julie strives for her students to enjoy the class and develop a love for dance.

Community Partners

Since starting the program, Julie has relied on community partnerships to maintain the program and keep it completely free to participating families. The Presbyterian Church has provided class space and storage and other individuals and organizations have helped to provide shoes, costumes and instruments. Scarves, shaker eggs, noodle bits, rhythm sticks, balls and bean bags are just a few of the props that are used to help with coordination, movement, and strength.

When Pandora Shaw-Dupras, Easterseals CEO, met Julie, they both knew they needed to partner together to continue providing this program that so many children enjoy.

Now an official program of Easterseals, Chance to Dance will continue to touch the lives of children in Circleville and has great potential to grow and be offered in other communities.

Join us for the Chance to Dance Spring Recital!

Friday, April 27 at 6:30pm
Teays Valley High School
3887 OH-752 – Ashville, OH 43103

"These dance classes provide the opportunity for kids with special needs a chance to dance."



Chance to Dance class ready for their recital in 2017.

Early Intervention Earns Five Star Rating

Five-Star Step Up to Quality Rating Awarded to Early Intervention Program

Easterseals' Early Intervention Program has been recognized as a quality learning and development program by the State of Ohio.

Step Up to Quality

In recognition of a commitment to quality and an ongoing dedication to the learning and development of children, our Early Intervention program has received a Five-Star Step Up to Quality award from the State of Ohio.

Step Up to Quality is Ohio's rating system for learning and development programs such as Early Intervention and Preschool. Participating programs can earn a one to five star rating.

In addition to meeting all standards of a four-star rating,

programs with five stars may also:

- Have lower staff/child ratios.
- Use child assessment results to plan activities that best support learning and development goals for each child.
- Develop plans to support children as they transition to a new classroom or educational setting.
- Work with other organizations within the community to support children and their families.

"Easterseals is proud to be a five-star program", said Lisa McCarty, Early Intervention Manager, "We know that children have approximately 1,892 days from birth until school starts, and every day matters."



Research confirms that the first five years of a child's life has a direct impact on how children develop emotional well-being, in addition to learning and social skills. For these reasons, Easterseals is committed to making the first five years truly count by providing early childhood opportunities to children with special needs.



Our Early Intervention team earns a 5-Star rating from Ohio's Step Up to Quality.

We know that children have approximately 1,892 days from birth until school starts, and every day matters.

The Ability to Love

Everyone has the Ability to Love.

Many times, parents of children with disabilities wonder if their child will ever get married and be able to live independently with their spouse. While every person faces different challenges, everyone has the ability to love.

Finding Love

Regardless of the disabilities and challenges Randy and Barbara face, they have found love with each other and are taking on the world together. Their love story began many years ago when they first met in 5th grade. While they attended different middle schools, they reconnected as friends in high school. After high school, they drifted apart but Randy always knew Barbara was the one for him.

Years later, Randy searched for Barbara on social media where they reconnected. Then their love story picked up right

where it left off. They married in February 2015 in a small, intimate, ceremony at Easterseals Central and Southeast Ohio, where Randy works as a custodian. The whole Easterseals team worked together to provide everything for their special day including an officiant, cake, photographer and decorations. It truly was a magical day filled with so much love for two individuals starting their life together. When asked what their favorite memories of their wedding day are, Randy and Barbara said, "Being together and our vows."

Marriage and Disability

Barbara says what she loves most about Randy is his kind heart, willingness to help people in need, and how he makes her laugh all the time. Randy says he loves everything about Barbara, especially her kind heart.



Randy and Barbara enjoying an evening out together.

To make their marriage work, they say you have to make compromises with each other and talk things out. When we asked what their favorite memories are together, they said, "everything."

Easterseals Blog

For more stories like this and discussions on disability related topics, please check out our monthly blog at: eastersealsohioblog.wordpress.com/



Romancing the Grape Ohio's Premier Food and Wine Tasting

Join us Saturday, April 28, 2018 for Central Ohio's premier food and wine tasting, Romancing the Grape. Guests enjoy a variety of over 100 fine wines and culinary delights from Columbus' finest restaurants. The event also includes an impressive silent auction and live entertainment.

Purchase tickets: at www.RomancingtheGrape.org

Ways to Make an Impact

Ways to Get Involved and Show Your Support

Ways to Give

Donate: make a contribution online, over the phone, or mail us a check:

Attn: Development Department
3830 Trueman Ct.
Hilliard, OH 43026

Donations made to this address stay 100% local here in our community.

Shop at Kroger: Register your Kroger Plus Card in the Community Rewards program in support of Easterseals. Our ID is 80979.

www.krogercommunityrewards.com

Shop on Amazon: Shop on smile.amazon.com and designate Easterseals as your Amazon Smile charity. Easterseals will receive a portion of the purchases you make on Amazon.

Volunteer

At an event:

Romancing the Grape – assist with set-up, silent auction, and wine pouring.

Clays for a Cause – assist with registration, raffle, and set-up.

Bag Stuffing: Help us stuff race goody bags throughout the year for Ultrafit-USA races.

Office: Assist with mailings, filing, etc.

Join us at an Event

Romancing the Grape – April 28, 2018

Enjoy fine wines and culinary delights from Columbus' finest restaurants in the exclusive Huntington Club of Ohio Stadium.

Purchase Tickets: www.RomancingtheGrape.org

Clays for a Cause – September 21, 2018

Take aim at our 4th annual Clays for a Cause at Cardinal Shooting Center in Marengo, Ohio.

Register: www.EastersealsCentralOhio.org

Turkey Trot – November 22, 2018

Join us Thanksgiving morning for a 5 mile run or 2 mile walk through Ohio State campus and Upper Arlington.

Register: www.ColumbusTurkeyTrot.com



Jump right in and volunteer with us!

Easterseals changes the way the world defines and views disability by making profound, positive differences in people's lives everyday.

Contact us!

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Connect with us!

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