



Annual Report  
2018-2019

# A message from our Board Chair and our President/CEO

Last year we told you about three big projects for 2019 and we're happy to report all three were completed. The Mitchell Therapeutic Preschool successfully relocated to the Easterseals Early Learning Center, offering those children (age 3-5) many inclusive activities and resources not previously available. Assistive Technology Solutions moved within our main building on Bellemeade and is now located off the back parking lot with direct access to the DME showroom! The Internship in Clinical Psychology Program hit the ground running with its start on July 1.

One unexpected development that has potential for significant impact on the Easterseals Early Learning Center—and community-wide—is the recent closure of the only other early learning program in Evansville that served children with significant disabilities. We are sad to see this because the need is substantial and it is unclear how that need will be fully met in our community. This year, Easterseals provided early care and education for 280 children; 63% of them have some type of special need, and nearly half have significant special needs. The biggest challenge for these services is funding them. Tuition rates, although very high from a parent's perspective, continue to fall well short of covering costs for services, and underwriting is necessary. The closure of the other local program highlighted the need to begin a community conversation about these services and the challenges they face to be sustainable. With leadership from United Way of Southwestern Indiana, we plan to help facilitate this conversation in 2020. Solutions are needed!

**Assistive Technology Solutions** is enjoying their much-improved space and has added staff in Drivers Rehabilitation and Wheelchair Seating and Mobility. Despite the upcoming retirement of long-time employee Tommy Veeck, Senior Assistive Technology Professional, the program is growing.

**The Internship in Clinical Psychology Program** kicked off on July 1, 2019. With the addition of a second licensed psychologist and three PhD level interns, we have quadrupled the capacity of the Department of Psychology & Wellness and are providing high quality assessments and caring, compassionate counseling services. Tri-State families were previously forced to wait up to a year for pediatric psychology services. Easterseals board and staff committed to the development and sustainability of the Psychology Internship Program because we know families in crisis can't wait! Evansville and the surrounding area deserve better. Our friends and neighbors deserve better. Our children deserve better. The program brings highly trained professionals to Evansville to provide services while completing their training. And, studies show that 50% or more of professionals at this level typically stay and work within 60 miles of where they are trained. Your support is helping meet critical needs of families today—reducing wait times to 8-12 weeks—while increasing the number of providers practicing in our area long-term.

**The Easterseals Rehabilitation Center has a proven track record of developing innovative programs and sustaining them.** Your support over the last seven decades has allowed us to address critical community needs time and time again by taking on large projects and developing new programs. Examples include Drivers Rehabilitation and High-Tech Drivers Rehabilitation, Augmentative and Alternative Communication, Complex Seating and Mobility services, Warm Water Pool & Therapy, Group Homes and Community Living Services, Rehab Engineering, Inclusive Care and Education for children of all abilities, Adult Day Services, Comprehensive Evaluations that can include psychology, audiology, speech, physical therapy and occupational therapy, and more. We are proud of these accomplishments and even more excited to partner with our many supporters to sustain these programs, creating positive, lasting impacts on our community while continuing to focus on excellence in our core services, providing over 27,000 hours of therapy last year.

**Sustainability must continue to be our focus.** That means building an endowment that will support general operating needs, allow us to continue to pursue new programs and services and reduce our dependence on our labor-intensive events. Sustainability is the focus of our 2020 fundraising campaign for the expansion of psychology services. Without community support, vital services would fold. And of course, sustainability is not possible without the dedicated work of the over 300 staff of the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center. Staff at all levels of the organization continue to work together to overcome frequent challenges, keeping the mission out in front and displaying the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center's core values: **Excellence, Stewardship, Respect, Commitment & Teamwork.**

If you'd like to see firsthand how you are helping make success possible, please contact Kelly Schneider at [kschneider@evansvillerehab.com](mailto:kschneider@evansvillerehab.com) to schedule a tour.

Wayne Kinney, Board Chair Kelly Schneider, President/CEO





# Highlights from an eventful year

See more photos on page 7



The 42nd annual Easterseals Telethon on ABC 25 achieved a “final tote” exceeding \$1 million for the eighth consecutive year. The station donates 100% of all production and air time for the broadcast. During the show, host Brad Byrd (left) presented a special Easterseals Lifetime Achievement Award to long-time Pacesetter volunteer and former host Brod Seymour for his decades of exceptional support.



The Easterseals Rehabilitation Center’s expanding Department of Psychology & Wellness became a training site for future Clinical Psychologists. Members of the first internship class—Juliet Aura, Roselia Juan, and Lasheka Allen (l. to r.)—are helping to meet our community’s critical needs.



Former Easterseals Adult Ambassador Josh Miller (r.) demonstrated a new driver’s training vehicle with VP of Assistive Technology Rusty Schimmell. The van was donated by Audubon Chrysler and equipped with a wide range of controls through a grant from the Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation.



In December, the Easterseals Early Learning Center was one of only three programs in the state awarded a top prize from Early Learning Indiana in a competition focusing on family engagement.



Donors met the challenge to match a grant from Mattingly Charities for an educational therapeutic sensory garden at the Easterseals Early Learning Center.

# Community Support

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

## Independence

ABC 25/CW 7  
Bullen Trust  
City of Evansville Endowment Fund  
Coldstone Creamery & Rocky Mountain  
Chocolate Factory  
Crescent-Cresline-Wabash Plastics  
James R. Duncan Trust  
E'ville Iron Street Rod Club  
G.D. Ritzy's  
Holiday World  
International Brotherhood of Electrical  
Workers Local 16  
Kreyling Charitable Foundation  
National Electrical Contractors Association  
Midwest Communications: 93.5 The Lloyd,  
104.1 WIKY, HOT 96 FM, WABX 107.5  
Raymond B. Preston Family Foundation  
Shaw Trust  
Tools 4 Teaching  
Townsquare Media: 99.5 WKDQ, 103GBF,  
MY 105.3FM, 106.1 KISS-FM, WGBF-AM  
United Way of Posey County  
United Way of Southwestern Indiana  
Vanderburgh Community Foundation

## Empowerment

Atlas World Group  
Audubon Chrysler Center  
James R. & Adelaide H. Duncan Foundation  
Early Learning Indiana  
Sean Roy Hilt Foundation  
Lamar Advertising  
Old National Bank  
Skanska  
St. Vincent  
United Way of Henderson County  
Wesselman's Supermarkets  
WOW Internet•Cable•Phone

## Opportunity

Accuride Corp.  
Berry Global  
Deaconess Health System &  
Women's Hospital  
Higginbotham Trust  
Holiday Management Foundation  
Thomas & Evelyn Ingle Trust  
Kemper CPA Group  
Koch Foundation  
Henry F. Koch Charitable Trust  
LemonAid Stand  
Lensing Building Specialties  
Edward W. Love Foundation  
Mattingly Charities  
Phi Gamma Delta  
Women's Fund of Vanderburgh County

## Dignity

Alcoa Warrick Operations  
Anchor Industries  
Bussing-Koch Foundation  
D-Patrick Ford  
El Charro & El Patron  
Erik Photographic Studio  
Fifth Third Bank  
Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #73  
Cecil A. & Mabel Lene Hamman Foundation  
Hilliard Lyons–A Baird Company  
Horse Shoe Bend Carriage Company  
Lamasco Bar & Grill  
Mead Johnson Nutrition /  
Reckitt Benckiser  
Mother Bear Charitable Foundation  
Newburgh Civitan Club  
ONI Risk Partners  
"Pete"  
Roebing Photographics  
Shoe Carnival  
Teamsters Union Local 215  
Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Indiana  
Vectren  
West Side Nut Club

## Ability

Acclaim Graphics  
Acosta Sales & Marketing  
Alliant Mechanical Services  
Anthem Blue Cross & Blue Shield  
ARC Construction  
Archon Tech Strategies  
Armour-Eckrich Meats  
Banterra Bank  
BKD, LLP  
Blue Bunny Ice Cream  
Buehler's IGA  
Bunzl  
Castle Community 4-H  
Castle High School  
Data Mail  
DeBra-Kuempel  
Diamond Valley FCU  
Dole Fresh Vegetables  
Donaldson Capital Management  
Edward Jones–Jim Back  
Empire Contractors  
EN Engineering  
Evansville Courier & Press  
Evansville Teachers FCU  
Expressway Dodge•Chrysler•Jeep•Ram  
Eye-Mart  
Federated Group  
Ferguson Enterprises  
Fraternal Order of Police–Indiana  
Frito-Lay  
Garmong Construction Services  
German American Bank  
Happe & Sons Construction  
Harding, Shymanski & Co. P.S.C.  
Hays Companies of Indiana, LLC  
Head's Construction



Hearing & Speech Associates  
Jarvis Food Equipment  
Jasper Engines & Transmissions  
Kahn Dees Donovan & Kahn  
Koorsen Fire & Security  
Laroy Tax Service  
Lewis Bakeries  
Macaroni Kid  
McMahon Exterminating Co.  
Mesker Park Zoo & Botanic Garden  
Morgan Distributing  
Morningside Cumberland Church  
Mutual of America  
Orthopaedic Associates  
PC Quest  
Pepsi Beverages Company  
Red Spot Paint & Varnish  
Reinbrecht Homes  
Republic Services  
Schiff Air Conditioning & Heating  
Security Enforcement  
South Central Incorporated  
Southwestern Indiana Building Trades  
Spectrum  
Spurling Properties  
Square Yard Carpet  
Sterling Boiler & Mechanical  
Superior Van & Mobility  
Team National Hope Foundation  
The Diamond Galleria  
Tri-State Bearing  
Tropicana Evansville  
United Companies  
U-Vet Animal Clinic  
University of Southern Indiana  
Vanderburgh Medical Alliance  
VenuWorks of Evansville  
Winkler, Inc.  
Women's Fund of Warrick County  
Working Distributors  
Wright's Refrigeration  
Lester E. Yeager Charitable Trust  
Ziemer Stayman Weitzel & Shoulders



## Programs and services provided by the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center and its divisions

- 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
- Early Care & Education and Preschool for children of all abilities at the Easterseals Early Learning Center:
  - Milestones Early Care & Education (6 weeks-3 years)
  - LEAD Academy–Inclusive Preschool (30 months-6 years)
  - Dan & Nancy Mitchell Therapeutic Preschool (3-5 years)
- Augmentative & Alternative Communication (AAC)
- Warm Water Aquatics
  - Aquatic therapy
  - Aquatic exercise & fitness classes
  - 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 and Community Supports
  - Group Homes
  - Community Living Services (waiver)
  - ASPIRE adult day services

## 2019 Board of Directors

Wayne Kinney, Chair

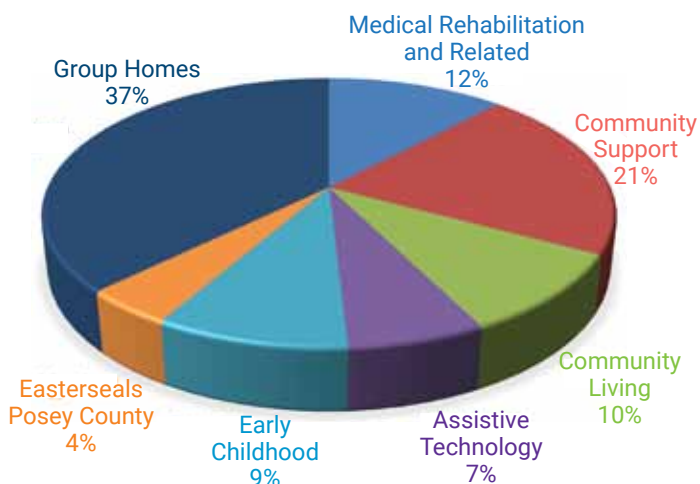
Scott Albin	Brant Kennedy
Ashley Babcock	Sara Miller
Maurice Berendes	Bill Norman
Rob Bingham	Dan Parod
Scott Branam	John Raisor
Stacy Carr	John Schroeder
Todd Chamberlain	Scott Schroeder
Katy Gilberg	Ken Smith
Paul Green	Kim Steele
Brian Hape	Spencer Tanner
Carol Hull	Matt Theby
Doug Kanet	Daniela Vidal



### Combined Revenue

Fiscal Year 2018-2019

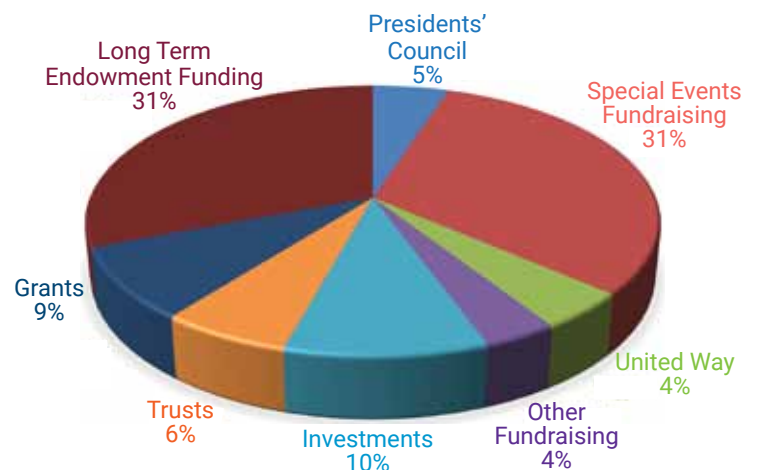
\$17,086,000



### Community Support

Fiscal Year 2018-2019

\$3,569,000



# Easterseals Presidents' Council

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

## Independence

Wayne & Beth Kinney  
John Rosenberg  
John C. & Diane Schroeder

## Empowerment

Betty Charlier  
Mike & Carol Hull  
Leonard Keller  
Luther Oost  
Dr. & Mrs. Spiro B. Mitsos  
Dave & Darlene Robinson  
Tim & Jan Swickard

## Opportunity

Dr. Chris Chacko  
Joe & Betty Elpers  
Dr. & Mrs. Joe Fox  
Bob & Lisa Jones  
Art & Mary Pike  
Scott & Leigh Schroeder  
Norman & Susan Snyder

## Dignity

Anonymous  
Jim & Mollie Francis  
Leslie & Colleen Kiesel  
Maury & Dr. Susan Leinenbach  
David & Donna Lounsbery  
Dennis & Colleen Martin  
Sara Miller  
Jim & Mary Kay Muehlbauer  
Joe & Leah Parker  
Jim & Becky Sandgren  
Tim & Amy Spurling  
Darren & Lisa Verkamp

## Ability

Anonymous  
Amy & Randy Abbott  
Gene Aimone  
Dr. Terry & Jean Alvey  
Harriet Anderson  
Kyle & Ashley Babcock  
Bob & Patty Balbach  
Ken & Julia Balbach  
Josh & Amy Barron  
Randy & Linda Becker  
Brent & Cindi Beeler  
Jeff & Maureen Bell  
Maurice & Cherie Berendes  
Joe & Donna Beuligmann  
Dean & Karen Bosler  
Al & Cathy Bragin  
Scott & Holly Branam  
Alan & Sharon Braun

Bob & Jennifer Bromm  
Ryan & Julie Burczyk  
Ron Christian  
Maribeth Claassen  
Doug & Karen Daniel  
Jon David  
Mike & Laura David  
Guy & Cindy Davis  
Drs. Jack Deppe & Shari Barrett  
Bruce & Kathy Dockery  
Mark & Terry Dow  
Larry Downs & Suzanne Crouch  
Dr. Mike & Judy Dukes  
JP & Alli Engelbrecht  
Marty & Syd Finney  
Jeff & Lisa Fisher  
Tim & Kay Flesch  
Susan Fuller  
Leigh Gallian  
Bob & Dr. Deborah Goldman  
Jon & Martha Goldman  
Dr. Myles & Anne Grant  
Jim & Connie Gries  
Tony & Jill Hall  
Jason & Christina Harlow  
Angela Harper  
Bill Harris  
Dan & Kim Hermann  
Fred & Cindy Heseman  
Glenn & Judy Heseman  
Bob & Amy Hisch  
Veleria Hobgood  
Randy Hobson  
Chris & Andrea Imes  
David & Diane Jaquess  
Joe & JoAnn Jarboe  
Gil & Marcia Jochem  
Brent & Sandy Junge  
Doug & Debbie Kanet  
Brant & Stephanie Kennedy  
Bob & Jeri Kenning  
Burt & Madeline King  
Pam Kirk  
Shelley Kirk & Mark Fischer  
Kathy Kleindorfer  
Bob & Cynthia Koch  
Don Korb  
Jeremy & Kayla Kunz  
Spencer & Sarah Kuper  
Larry Laroy  
Daniel Linthicum  
Marion & Ruby McDowell  
Eric & Sara L. Miller  
Brad & Lynn Muehlbauer  
Bob & Janet Naas  
Alan & Sandy Newman

Marilyn O'Daniel  
David Papariella  
Dan & Holly Parod  
Lue Purtzer  
Denny & Cassie Quinn  
Ray & Janet Raisor  
James & Diane Riddle  
Greg & Jamie Risch  
Ron & Connie Romain  
Rick & Laura Roop  
Jeff Schimmel  
Rusty & Melissa Schimmell  
Brad & Kelly Schneider  
Mike & Laurie Schopmeyer  
Ginny Schroeder  
Richard & Patrice Schroeder  
Joann Schwentker  
Dr. Richard & Laurie Seals  
Larry & Lois Simon  
Ken & Maren Smith  
Jeff & Amy Spurlock  
Jackie & Lisa Stinson-Smith  
Tom & Diane Stone  
Shankar Subramanian  
Jerry & Laura Terhune  
Matt & Diane Theby  
Jim & Becky Tilley  
David & Sara Trockman  
Jeff & Nancy Trockman  
The Trockman Family  
William & Mary Tucker  
Linda White  
Jeff & Laurie Wilmes  
Jim & Darlene Woodard  
Drs. Bill & Mona Wooten  
Betty Worthington





## More highlights from an exciting year...



The 25th annual Ritz's Fantasy of Lights brightened Garvin Park from Thanksgiving through New Year's Day, raising approximately \$160,000, thanks to Ritz's, IBEW, NECA, Electrical JATC, Teamsters, display sponsors, visitors, and other generous supporters.

In May, Holiday World welcomed more than 3,100 children with disabilities to its annual "Play Day" and donated all admissions to Easterseals. The 2019 donation exceeded \$33,500, and brought the 27-year total to more than \$500,000.



It was "Full STEAM Ahead" for learning for kids of all abilities at the Easterseals Early Learning Center, with a special focus on science, technology, engineering, the arts, and math, thanks to Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Indiana.



United Way of Southwestern Indiana "2018 Day of Caring" volunteers made a big impact for the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center. To kick off the recent 2019 campaign and show our gratitude as a United Way partner agency, staff and clients joined in the #GitUpUNITEDChallenge! Visit our Facebook page to see the video featuring folks from our main office, Assistive Technology Solutions, the Easterseals Early Learning Center, and Easterseals Posey County!



Easterseals honored members of the Sean Roy Hilt Foundation with the Changing Lives Award at the 2019 Tribute event in June.



The year's largest special event donation came from the generous E'ville Iron Street Rod Club. Club member Carl Kuebler welcomed Easterseals President Kelly Schneider and Ambassadors Sam Osborne and Michelle Schmitt to the Frog Follies closing ceremonies in August. (Photo courtesy of Evansville Courier & Press)

During the past year, two local Easterseals Ambassadors shared their stories—and our mission—with thousands of area residents. Many thanks to Sam Osborne, Michelle Schmitt, and their families!



### Sam Osborne

When Sam Osborne was born with cerebral palsy, doctors weren't optimistic about his future. They told Sam's parents, Cheryl and Andrew, that he might never stand or walk. When Sam was also diagnosed with a hearing loss, there were fears that he might never learn to talk.

It didn't take long for Sam to prove all of those predictions wrong. But it wouldn't have been possible without YOUR support of the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center! Because of you, 5-year-old Sam is not only walking and speaking; he loves running, dancing, and chatting with everyone he meets.

You made it possible for Sam to celebrate a major milestone in May, when he graduated from the Dan & Nancy Mitchell Therapeutic Preschool at the inclusive Easterseals Early Learning Center. Now he's thriving in kindergarten! Sam continues making great progress through ongoing audiology services and weekly therapy sessions at the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center.

"Sam definitely wouldn't be doing what he's doing now without all the generous people who give to Easterseals," Cheryl said. Every day, Sam is reaching goals that doctors thought he might never achieve. Now it seems that the sky's the limit. And thanks to you, Easterseals will be here for him every step of the way!

### Michelle Schmitt

Michelle Schmitt has always loved being active and spending time outdoors. She was enjoying both in August 2015 when life took an unexpected turn. Michelle was a passenger on a two-person ATV that crashed, causing a spinal cord injury and partial paralysis. Suddenly Michelle couldn't walk. She faced a long road to regain her independence.

After two years of rehab out of town, Michelle discovered the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center right here in Evansville. Because of services you make possible, she and her husband Brock were able to move back home, and Michelle began achieving new goals.

Thanks to your support of Easterseals, Michelle has made dramatic gains in strength and balance. At first she couldn't stand or take steps. Now she can stand up from a sitting position and walk more than 400 feet using a walker!

Michelle is also achieving other goals for independence. After two years away from the workforce, Michelle's progress at Easterseals helped her return to full-time employment as a marketing specialist at Old National Bank.

Michelle is determined to stand independently without support, and to keep walking farther and faster. Because your generosity makes life-changing services possible, Michelle is unstoppable!

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

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.

In the past fiscal year, our staff provided:

- Services for 5,183 **children & adults** from the Tri-State area
- 9,587 **community living** services days
- 27,066 hours of **therapy** services
- 25,905 **children's early care & education** days
- 8,143 **therapeutic preschool** days
- 24,501 days of services in a **group home** setting
- 12,083 **adult day services** days
- 7,752 **organizational employment** days
- 1,748 **community employment** days



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