

## easterseals Rehabilitation Center

### 2020-2021 ANNUAL REPORT

## Reflections of 2021 and the 75-year history of Easterseals Rehabilitation Center

In 1946, largely in response to the polio pandemic ravaging the country at the time, Evansville leaders worked together to provide rehabilitation services locally. That is how our organization was born. The current Covid-19 pandemic and the surge of the Delta variant brings us full circle. Now, 75 years later, we continue to ensure that Tri-State residents have access to the highest quality rehabilitation services right here in Southwestern Indiana. Perhaps that start during a pandemic created a culture of resilience and determination that has served us well during the current one.

With the surge of the Delta variant, 2021 hasn't progressed as any of us had hoped, and it's put a bit of a damper on celebrations of Easterseals' 75th anniversary. We've overcome the challenges, giving us even more reason to celebrate: in the last 12 months more than 5,000 children and adults made 35,000-plus visits for physical therapy, occupational therapy, audiology, speech and psychology services. We've provided thousands of days of support in the work center, community employment, day services, and much, much more.

We're proud families we serve have received the support they need to be more independent and achieve their goals and dreams. Especially noteworthy throughout 2020 and 2021: the Easterseals' Early Learning Center NEVER CLOSED, allowing parents to continue working, knowing their young children were in a safe, educationally rich environment. Group Home and Community Living Services provided 24-hour-a-day care, despite the unprecedented staffing challenges all businesses are facing.

Clearly, the leadership and support from this community were crucial in 1946 and they are every bit as important in 2021. They've been the key to our success for the last 75 years. For that we thank you and we celebrate each and every one of you. Happy 75th Anniversary!

John Raisor, Board Chair





Kelftet

Kelly Schneider, President/CEO

### GIVE, VOLUNTEER, AND SHARE THE MISSION!

eastersealsrehabcenter.com



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# Easterseals celebrated its 75th year of serving the community with a symbolic ribbon cutting at the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center in July 2021.

Featured speakers and participants included (front row left to right): Easterseals President/CEO Kelly Schneider, Indiana Lieutenant Governor Suzanne Crouch, Evansville Mayor Lloyd Winnecke, Board Member Emeritus John Schroeder, and Board Member Wayne Kinney.



Tri-State children and adults received services through Easterseals in the past fiscal year.

As **Ritzy's Fantasy of Lights** has grown into a major Easterseals fundraiser AND beloved holiday event for the Tri-State, there's been a growing challenge–where to securely store 70 elaborate light displays! The problem was solved by extremely generous donors, businesses, labor organizations, and volunteers. **After months of teamwork and dedication, a new display storage building now stands near Garvin Park!** 





#### Independence

ABC25 / CW7 **Bullen Trust** City of Evansville Endowment Fund **Crescent-Cresline-Wabash Plastics** James R. Duncan Trust Early Learning Indiana Easterseals National (MacKenzie Scott Matching Fund) G.D. Ritzy's Holiday World International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 16 James R. & Adelaide H. Duncan Foundation 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

### Easterseals provided



therapy sessions for Tri-State children and adults in the past fiscal year! (That's in the middle of a pandemic!)

#### Empowerment

Ascension St. Vincent Evansville Berry Global Henry F. Koch Charitable Foundation Higginbotham Trust Kenny Kent Chevrolet Lamar Advertising Old National Bank Winkler, Inc. WOW Internet•Cable•Phone

#### Opportunity

Deaconess Health System & Women's Hospital Holiday Management Foundation Thomas & Evelyn Ingle Trust Kemper CPA Group Koch Foundation LemonAid Stand Edward W. Love Foundation Phi Gamma Delta Teamsters Union Local 215 Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Indiana Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation Mother Bear Charitable Foundation United Way of Henderson County

#### Dignity

Atlas World Group CenterPoint Energy **D-Patrick Ford** El Charro & El Patron Epic Insurance Midwest Fifth Third Bank Fraternal Order of Police Lodge #73 Happe & Sons Construction Harding Shymanski & Co. P.S.C. Horse Shoe Bend Carriage Company Kaiser Aluminum Lester E. Yeager Charitable Trust Mead Johnson Nutrition / Reckitt Benckiser McMahon Exterminating Co. "Pete" Romain Cross Pointe Auto Park Shoe Carnival United Companies West Side Nut Club Working Distributors

#### Ability

Acclaim Graphics Acosta Sales & Marketing Alliant Mechanical Services Anthem Blue Cross & Blue Shield ARC Construction Bengert Family Giving Bristol Myers Squibb Bunzl Castle High School Data Mail Diamond Valley FCU Dole Fresh Vegetables Easterseals provided **24,090 days** of services in a group home setting and **8,675 days** of adult day services.

#### Ability cont.

Edward Jones-Jim Back Ellis Park Racing **EN Engineering Evansville Bicycle Club Evansville Teachers FCU Evansville Winsupply** Federated Group Frito-Lay Hearing & Speech Associates Heritage Federal Credit Union Houchens North Foods, LLC НуТор Jarvis Food Equipment Jasper Engines & Transmissions Kahn Dees Donovan & Kahn Kraft Heinz Laroy Tax Service Legence Bank Lensing Building Specialties Lewis Bakeries Mondelez International Mutual of America Paul's Pharmacy PC Quest Red Spot Paint & Varnish **Roebling Photographics** Schneider Financial Skanska South Central Incorporated Specialty Food Group, Inc. Spurling Properties Square Yard Carpet St. Wendel School Sterling Industrial, LLC Superior Van & Mobility The Diamond Galleria Thrasher Boyd Insurance Agency Tropicana Evansville **U-Vet Animal Clinic** Vanderburgh Medical Alliance

Includes gifts received 9/1/20-8/31/21

We provided **8,295** community living services days.







The Easterseals Early Learning Center, Evansville's only fully-inclusive early childhood program, earned accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children in April 2021. NAEYC is the world's largest organization working on behalf of young children. Less than one-tenth of all child care centers, preschools, and kindergartens nationwide achieve this quality level!

In July 2021, ABC 25 presented an exciting six-hour Easterseals Telethon, live from the therapy gym. For the 44th consecutive year, ABC 25/CW 7 produced and aired the show at NO COST to Easterseals, allowing ALL money raised to provide essential therapies and inclusive early education! Many thanks to sponsors, donors, volunteers, staff, individuals we serve, the Eyewitness News team, and all who helped Easterseals reach a "final tote" exceeding \$900,000. We provided **28,800** children's early care & education days and **9,900 days** of therapeutic preschool!



# Programs & Services provided by the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center & 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

#### Mental Health Community Outreach

- Support Groups (Bipolar Disorder & Suicide Grief)
- Mental Health Training Programs (QPR & Mental Health First Aid)
- Resource Connection
- 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

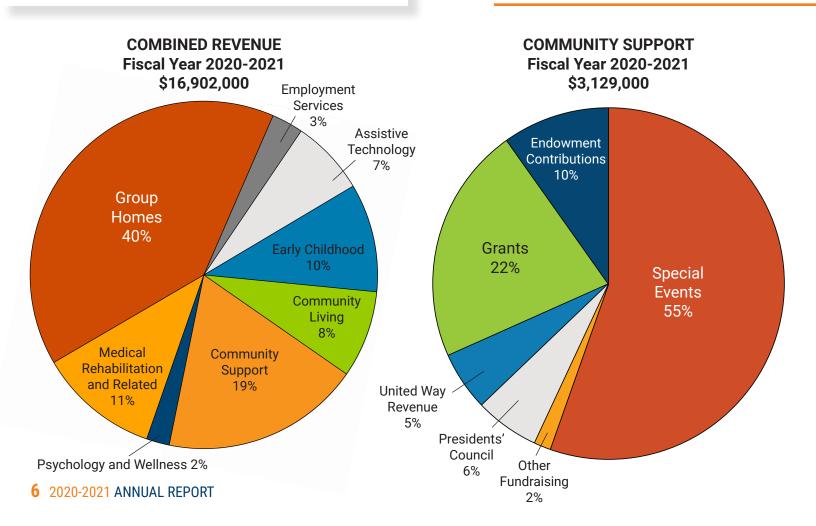
- Horizon Industries (organizational employment)
- Community Employment services & supports

#### • Residential and Community Supports

- Group Homes
- Community Living Services (waiver)
- ASPIRE adult day services

### Easterseals provided **1,259** community employment

### days and **4,016** organizational employment days.



# **Easterseals Presidents' Council**

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

#### Independence

Wayne & Beth Kinney Marilyn O'Daniel Dilip Patel John C. & Diane Schroeder

#### **Empowerment**

Maribeth Claassen Niel & Karen Ellerbrook Charmie Guagenti Mike & Carol Hull Leonard Keller Dr. Spencer & Sarah Kuper Dave & Darlene Robinson Larry Simon Tim & Jan Swickard

#### **Opportunity**

Maurice & Cherie Berendes Dr. Chris Chacko Joe & Betty Elpers Patty Mitsos Irene Rechnic Eric & Lisa Thompson

#### Dignity

Anonymous Tim & Sharon Bray **Bob & Jennifer Bromm Betty Charlier** Drs. Jack Deppe & Shari Barrett Leigh Gallian Jeff & Leanne Happe **Bill Harris** Fred & Cindy Heseman Joe & Jo Ann Jarboe Bob & Jeri Kenning Leslie & Colleen Kiesel Daniel & Katie Lappe Sara J. Miller Jim & Becky Sandgren Scott & Leigh Schroeder Tim & Amy Spurling Tom & Julie Welden

#### Ability

Anonymous Amy & Randy Abbott Gene Aimone Dr. Terry & Jean Alvey Harriet Anderson Kyle & Ashley Babcock Bob & Patty Balbach Josh & Amy Barron Randy & Linda Becker Jeff & Maureen Bell

Bengert Family giving Joe & Donna Beuligmann **Rick Bonenberger** Dean & Karen Bosler Anne & Brad Boyd Al & Cathy Bragin Scott & Holly Branam James & Lindsey Burczyk Ryan & Julie Burczyk Mary Ann Campbell Dr. Rebecca & Paul Carey Nathan & Alexandria Cobine Karen Daniel Jon & Diane David Mike & Laura David Guy & Cindy Davis George & Davena Day Donna Decker **Roger & Kristine Deig** Larry Downs & Suzanne Crouch Dr. Mike & Judy Dukes JP & Alli Engelbrecht Derek & Becky Faughn Marty & Syd Finney Jeff & Lisa Fisher Sandy Ford Jim & Mollie Francis Susan Fuller Brian & Lee Anne Gatewood Josh & Katy Gilberg Jon & Martha Goldman Nick & Michele Graham Rodgers & Daniele Greenawalt Jim & Connie Gries Chad & Katie Grunow Tony & Jill Hall John & Donna Hamilton Brian & Karli Hape Jason & Christina Harlow **Bill Harris** Dan & Kim Hermann Randy Hobson Mark Hughes Chris & Andrea Imes Gil & Marcia Jochem Bob & Lisa Jones Brent & Sandy Junge Doug & Debbie Kanet Angela Kares Brant & Stephanie Kennedy Burt & Madeline King Pam Kirk Shelley Kirk & Mark Fischer Kathy Kleindorfer Bob & Cynthia Koch Larry Laroy

Daniel Linthicum Donna Lounsbery Dennis & Colleen Martin Brad & Lisa Mathis Marion & Ruby McDowell Eugene McNabb Eric & Sara L. Miller **Rick Mills** Pete & Carrie Mogavero Brad & Lynn Muehlbauer Glen & Ann Muehlbauer Jim & Mary Kay Muehlbauer Bob & Janet Naas Bill & Tracy Norman Jeff Nunn **David Papariella** Joe & Leah Parker Dan & Holly Parod Taylor & Jenny Payne Denny & Cassie Quinn John & Jill Raisor Ray & Janet Raisor Ruth Richmond James & Diane Riddle Greg & Jamie Risch Ron & Connie Romain Rick & Laura Roop Jerry & Beth Schilling Jeff Schimmel Rusty & Melissa Schimmell Brad & Kelly Schneider Mike & Laurie Schopmeyer **Richard & Patrice Schroeder** Joann Schwentker Dr. Richard & Laurie Seals Jeff & Amy Spurlock Jackie & Lisa Stinson-Smith Tom & Diane Stone Charley & Pookie Storms Jerry & Laura Terhune Matt & Diane Theby Jim & Becky Tilley David & Sara Trockman The Trockman Family Dr. Matt & Catie Tucker Darren & Lisa Verkamp Linda White Kyle Wininger Jim & Darlene Woodard Drs. Bill & Mona Wooten

# **2021 Board of Directors**

John Raisor, Board Chair

Scott Albin Maurice Berendes Rob Bingham Scott Branam Geoff Gentil Katy Gilberg Michele Graham Paul Green Chad Grunow Brian Hape Denny Hargett Carol Hull Doug Kanet

Sara Miller Curt Molander Dana Myers Bill Norman Dan Parod John C. Schroeder Scott Schroeder Ken Smith Spencer Tanner Matt Theby Anne Thrasher Boyd Brian Williams



## Our Mission:

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.

# Thank you to our 2021 Ambassadors!

### **Evan Carter**

When Evan Carter was born with severe to profound



hearing loss, his mom Diamond knew exactly where to turn. Diamond had been born with the same condition, and Easterseals was already an important part of her life. She had no doubt that the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center would help Evan, too.

While he was still a baby, Evan received hearing aids, audiology services, and specialized speech

therapy from Easterseals. First he learned sign language, and by age 2, Evan was talking. He made even more progress while attending the Easterseals Early Learning Center, where he reached important developmental and educational goals.

Now 10 years old, Evan is outgoing, social, and is an excellent communicator! In his ongoing therapy sessions, he's focusing on advanced language skills to help him succeed in fifth grade and beyond.

"I want him to be successful in his journey like mine," Diamond said. "With Easterseals, we overcome any challenges that come our way!"

### Sandy Ford



Sandy Ford's relationship with Easterseals started when she was a 3-year-old with cerebral palsy. Sandy took her first steps at the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center and she's been reaching goals ever since.

After surgeries as a teen, Sandy learned to walk again with help from Easterseals. She also gained the

confidence to drive, attend college, and become a nurse.

When Sandy was in her early forties, her son was born. She faced extra challenges as a mom with a disability. Easterseals helped Sandy adapt and learn new ways to care for her little boy.

In her fifties, Sandy had surgeries for cancer and back problems, resulting in chronic pain. She discovered the warm-water therapeutic pool at the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center. She calls the pool her own private heaven.

Sandy enjoys time with her grandchildren, travel with her husband Richard, and exercise with her Easterseals pool friends. With YOUR help, she has reached lifetime goals as an RN, homeowner, wife, mother, grandmother, friend, and now as an active retiree.

During the past year, Evan and Sandy shared their stories and the Easterseals mission with Tri-State residents! Many thanks to them and their families!