

Thank you for sharing 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.

## YOU MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Fall 2019

### You're helping Ariana take big steps toward independence!

Ariana was born facing an uphill battle. Her challenges include a rare genetic syndrome, partial hearing loss, developmental delays, and the effects of a stroke. Now, with your help, this determined four-year-old is taking big steps on her journey to greater independence!

When she began Easterseals therapy, Ariana didn't have the strength or balance to stand. Now, because of your support, she can get up from a seated position and stand independently for more than 30 seconds!

At first, Ariana had to rely on others to carry her or push her wheelchair. You helped her learn to use a walker, and now she's taking steps with a single crutch! She can even ride a tricycle with adaptive pedals during therapy.



It's difficult for Ariana to use her weakened left hand. Because of you, she can now work on puzzles and play with therapeutic toys. Ariana has a great time picking up and throwing objects, and she always laughs during a game of beanbag toss.

Communicating is still a major hurdle for Ariana. With your help, she's learning to use signs to ask for what she wants, and to imitate animal sounds and word sounds. Those are the basics for learning to speak—and she thinks it's a lot of fun!

Ariana has already made amazing progress, and because of your support, she will make even greater strides in the years to come!

THANK YOU for making a *life-changing* difference for Ariana and so many other people in our community!

### Clinical Psychology Interns help to meet critical community needs.



Juliet Aura, Roselia Juan, and Lasheka Allen (l. to r.) began their one-year internships in July.

The Easterseals Rehabilitation Center's expanding Department of Psychology & Wellness is now a training site for future Clinical Psychologists. The first intern class is already helping to meet our community's critical need for pediatric mental health services. Learn more about these highly qualified and dedicated professionals by visiting [eastersealsrehabcenter.com/internship](http://eastersealsrehabcenter.com/internship) and following the link to the 2019-2020 internship class.

### Visit "Inspiration Through Art" & get inspired!

See works by local artists of all abilities at our free exhibit, on display through Dec. 18. Open M-F, 8am-5pm in the main hallway at the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center, 3701 Bellemeade in Evansville. For details or to receive submission info for future exhibits, email [art@evansvillerehab.com](mailto:art@evansvillerehab.com)



## Survey: Our Committed Donors Want to Learn More

### Did you complete our donor survey? **THANK YOU!**

*Here are some important things we learned from you:*

**YOU** know that individuals served by Easterseals receive **compassionate care**.

**YOU** have seen the **results** of your gifts.

**YOU** give to Easterseals because you **personally know someone** who has benefitted from our services.

**YOU** trust that we are **good stewards** of your generosity.

**YOU** consider us a **priority** with your generosity.

**YOU** want to learn more about our **leadership**.

**YOU** want to learn more about our **vision for the future**.

We are very grateful you gave your time and effort to share your opinions and suggestions. Your feedback will help us better serve you and local children, adults, and families!

**Thank you** to all of you who completed our recent donor survey. The survey was sent to a sampling of donors and it was great to hear your feedback! (If you didn't get the survey and want to complete one, please email me at the address below.)

Thank you for your overwhelmingly positive comments and ratings. We are thrilled to know that you see the results of your generosity in the caring and compassionate services Easterseals provides, and that you intend to keep supporting our mission.

We are also grateful for the feedback that you offered telling us that you don't know the current leadership of the organization. We definitely want to fix that, so... this has prompted me to include a short column in our newsletters to tell you about the incredible team that I get to work with every day and to update you on our priority goals.

For this first installment, I'll tell you a little bit about myself. I have been with the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center for 31 years. (Can I convince you that I started when I was 12?) My first job was Manager of one of our eight-bed group homes for people with significant disabilities. I became the Director, overseeing the then eight group homes. (In 2005 we added a ninth group home.) In 1995 I took on the Vice President role for Residential Services and later assumed responsibility for oversight of our Medical Therapy Services, Billing and Medical Records. In 2011, I was promoted to Senior Vice President of Operations overseeing all programs.

I was incredibly fortunate to work directly for Ray Raisor, my predecessor, for more than two decades. I can't imagine having a better mentor. When Ray retired in 2015, I was named President/CEO of this great organization.

After four years, I can honestly say that I love this role. I love telling people about our services. If you haven't been on a tour in the last few years, it's worth a visit—with your help, we've made several changes that we're really excited about!

But most of all, I love the people that I work with. Although there are frequent challenges, the staff at all levels of the organization and the leadership team demonstrate the ability to work together to overcome those challenges. This encourages me every day. It's why I've been here 31 years.

With your generosity, you make a difference for thousands of people every year. I wish you could see firsthand how you, as a donor, make success possible. We can't thank you enough. To schedule a tour, please contact me at 812-437-2612 or at [kschneider@evansvillerehab.com](mailto:kschneider@evansvillerehab.com).



*Kelly Schneider*

Kelly Schneider, President/CEO



**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.**

**OUR VISION is a community in which all individuals and families are accepted, valued and included, and have equal opportunity to achieve their goals, dreams and aspirations.**

### **Connect with us!**

[eastersealsrehabcenter.com](http://eastersealsrehabcenter.com) • P 812.479.1411 • F 812.437.2634



## You give the gift of independence by enjoying Ritzzy's Fantasy of Lights!

You're invited to experience Ritzzy's Fantasy of Lights, where you'll enjoy more than 60 elaborate scenes in a "magical mile of holiday lights" while changing lives for local kids and adults served by the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center!



The drive-through show will brighten Evansville's Garvin Park nightly from Thanksgiving through New Year's Day. This year's event will shine brighter than ever, with at least half the exhibits transformed with LED lights.

### Drive through Ritzzy's Fantasy of Lights! Thursday, Nov. 28-Wednesday, Jan. 1

(except Dec. 4)

Sunday-Thursday 5-9PM

Friday-Saturday 5-10PM

Christmas Eve & Christmas Day 5-10PM

Tickets at the gate, or in advance at any Evansville Ritzzy's or the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center.

Cost per vehicle:

- Up to 6 people - \$7
- 7-14 people - \$10
- 15 people or more - \$25

Discounted tickets are available in quantities of 50 or more for as little as \$4 each, depending on quantity! Contact Carolyn Franklin, 812-437-2607 or cfranklin@evansvillerehab.com.

### Carriage Rides

Horse-drawn carriage rides nightly (except Dec. 4) weather permitting. \$30 for up to 6 people. Kids 5 & under free. No reservations. Gift certificates available. Follow EastersealsRehabCtr on Facebook for details & updates!

Many thanks to all light display sponsors, volunteers, and major sponsors:

Ritzzy's, IBEW Local 16, NECA, Teamsters Local 215, Electrical JATC, ABC 25/CW 7, Lamar Advertising, 104.1FM-WIKY, HOT 96, 93.5 The Lloyd, 107.5 WABX, Evansville Living, and Macaroni Kid.

Special thanks to the EVANSVILLE DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION for their exceptional support!

## Also enjoy Festive Family Fun Nights!

### **NEW! Romain Polar Bear Express!** Courtesy of Romain Automotive Group Selected Mondays - Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23



Ride with Santa on the SUV Limousine party bus as he reads a special story! Small treat for each child. Check eastersealsrehabcenter.com for pricing & boarding location.

### "Bright Lights" 5K Run/1-Mile Fun Walk Wednesday, Dec. 4

Wed., Dec. 4 ONLY, Ritzzy's Fantasy of Lights will be closed to vehicles and open ONLY to runners, walkers, and individuals using wheelchairs or other mobility equipment. Details & link to online registration at

www.eastersealsrehabcenter.com. Special thanks to volunteer race director Rhonda Trail!



### **NEW! Photos with Santa!** Sponsored by Jim Back, CFP - Financial Advisor Edward Jones Selected Tuesdays - Dec. 3, 10, 17



Bring your camera & take your own photos with Santa, & enjoy Ritzzy's cocoa & ice cream, for a small donation to Easterseals. Follow EastersealsRehabCtr on Facebook for details.

### Visit EastersealsRehabCtr on Facebook for details on these events!

Sat., Oct. 19, 1-4pm: Children's Day at Newburgh Civitan Zombie Farm. \$5/person. Fully accessible! 5466 Vann Rd., Newburgh. Thanks to Newburgh Civitan, Nick Nackery, 103GBF, 99.5 WKDQ, MY 105.3FM, 106.1 KISS FM, Heritage Federal Credit Union, All Blown Up, April Stewart-Fryman State Farm, and A-1 Cleaning Service.

Each Thur., Fri., Sat. & Sun. Sept. 27-Nov. 2, 6-6:45pm: "No-scare" tours of Newburgh Civitan Zombie Farm for children or the faint of heart. \$1 of each \$5 admission will be donated to Easterseals!

Thur., Nov. 14, 11:30am: "Passion for Fashion" Style Show & Luncheon, Holiday Inn Airport. See p. 4.

Sat., Dec. 7, 9am: Rotary "Santa Run" 5K run/walk & 1-mile family fun walk to benefit Easterseals, Eykamp Boy Scout Center. \$25 through Nov. 26 (then \$30). Register at runsignup.com/Race/IN/Evansville/RotarySantaRun.

## Kids learn life lessons with Tools 4 Teaching presents "Easterseals Hop-N-Ing!"

Kids have fun *and* learn valuable life lessons with **Tools 4 Teaching presents "Easterseals HOP-N-ING!"** A curriculum guide and five dolls, each with a different story, help kids develop a better understanding of people with differing abilities. A new doll named Khloe recently joined the group, depicting a child who uses a communication device.

The week-long disability awareness program can be used *at no cost* by elementary teachers any time during the school year, or year-round for preschools and other groups.

Easterseals staff can present the HOP-N-ING to groups, classes, or in an assembly setting.

Groups can also tour the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center to see how our services enable people with disabilities to live, learn, work, and play independently.

After learning about disabilities, kids help to change lives *and* win prizes by collecting pledges for each hop completed during a 3-minute HOP-N-ING. Money raised provides therapy for local kids and adults.

**Are you a teacher, principal, parent or grandparent? Want to get your school involved?** Contact Chloe Mayer, [cmayer@evansvillerehab.com](mailto:cmayer@evansvillerehab.com) or 812-474-2348. **Special thanks to title sponsor Tools 4 Teaching** and to St. Vincent Hospital for Women & Children and Cold Stone Creamery & Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory.



## Share our "Passion for Fashion" and make a difference Nov. 14!

Reserve your spot for the Easterseals "Passion for Fashion" style show on Thur., Nov. 14, at Evansville's Holiday Inn Airport. Join emcee Shelley Kirk and change lives for local people with disabilities! Doors open at 10:30am for the silent auction, featuring something for everyone on your gift list. Enjoy lunch at 11:30. At noon, community models present fashions from **The Graceful Lady and Graceful Lady Glam** in Ft. Branch. Child models will show off clothing from **Lollipop Tree Boutique**. For details and to RSVP, contact Laura Terhune, 812-437-2627 or [LTerhune@evansvillerehab.com](mailto:LTerhune@evansvillerehab.com).

- Individual: \$50
- \*Friend: \$75
- \*Patron: \$100
- Sponsor Table for 8: \$500
- \*Sponsor Table for 8: \$650
- \*Presidents' Council: \$1,000
- \*Benefactor: \$5,000 & up
- \*Includes preferred seating and program listing

**Donate \$25 and receive a \$25 Diamond Galleria gift card plus one chance to win a \$1,000 gift card!**

Passion for Fashion

Here's another fun way to make a difference. **Donate \$25 today and receive a \$25 unrestricted Diamond Galleria gift card from Easterseals!** Use the gift card on your next shopping trip, *knowing your \$25 is helping a child say her first words or take his first steps!* PLUS you're eligible to win a \$1,000 unrestricted gift card from The Diamond Galleria! *Donate \$50 to double your gift and underwrite one therapy session!* The \$1,000 gift card drawing will be held at "Passion for Fashion" and you **DON'T have to be present to win. Only 150 gift cards are available** (maximum of 4 per person) until Nov. 14, so hurry! Use the mail-in form or contact Laura Terhune at 812-437-2627 or [LTerhune@evansvillerehab.com](mailto:LTerhune@evansvillerehab.com).

**TO DONATE & ORDER GIFT CARDS BY MAIL:** Send completed form to be RECEIVED BEFORE NOV. 14 to Easterseals, 3701 Bellemeade, Evansville IN 47714. Include credit/debit information or check payable to Easterseals. For each \$25 donation, receive 1 \$25 Diamond Galleria gift card & 1 entry in the \$1,000 gift card drawing! *Give \$50 to fund 1 therapy session & receive 2 gift cards & 2 entries!* Maximum of four \$25 gift cards per person.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Total donation (\$25 per gift card) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W) \_\_\_\_\_ (Cell) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Visa/MC/Discover Card No. \_\_\_\_\_ Expires \_\_\_\_\_

*Openings are now available for new residents!*

## Adults thrive in Group Home environment with a family feeling.

For more than 30 years, the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center's Group Home program has created a home-like atmosphere, offering the highest possible quality of life for individuals with disabilities while providing the safe, caring, comfortable environment families have come to expect and trust.

**The program is now accepting applications for new residents!** *Please help us spread the word to families state-wide!* Many adults with intellectual, developmental and physical disabilities thrive in this nurturing environment with a family feeling! Residents enjoy programs that meet their unique needs and interests, while building confidence and self-sufficiency.

Homes are located in residential neighborhoods in Evansville, Mt. Vernon, and the Newburgh/



*Photo by Bret Roebling*

Chandler area. Transportation is provided to work, day programs, medical appointments, and community activities. Highly-trained staff and health care professionals provide around-the-clock support and get to know each resident personally. *It's a Heart Connection!*

**Group Home residents must be eligible for the program** through Indiana's Bureau of Development Disabilities Services. Easterseals Rehabilitation Center staff can assist families in determining eligibility. Contact Christy Gogel at 812-437-2646 or [cgogel@evansvillerehab.com](mailto:cgogel@evansvillerehab.com) for more details, a tour or a brochure.

## YOU make a difference when you volunteer!

Your time and talent are valuable gifts! Can you help during this upcoming volunteer opportunity? Contact Cydney Quinn, 812-437-2609, [cquinn@evansvillerehab.com](mailto:cquinn@evansvillerehab.com)

### Easterseals All-Cash Raffle Phone-a-Thon

- Feb. 10, 11, 12, 17-20, 5:30-8:30pm
- Easterseals Rehabilitation Center
- Light dinner provided
- Volunteer on the evening(s) of your choice, making reminder calls to past raffle ticket buyers

Find other volunteer opportunities at [www.eastersealsrehabcenter.com/get-involved/volunteer](http://www.eastersealsrehabcenter.com/get-involved/volunteer)

## Thanks to E'ville Iron!

**Congratulations to the E'ville Iron Street Rod Club** for a successful Frog Follies Street Rod Show Aug. 23-25! And many thanks to all E'ville Iron members and their families. **Over the past 36 years, the club has donated more than \$1.5 million to Easterseals!** They make a huge difference in the lives of local people with disabilities. **Mark your calendar** to attend the 2020 Frog Follies on Aug. 28-30!

## Leave a Legacy and create a brighter future!

Many people and organizations pass in and out of our lives. But some remain close to our hearts no matter what comes to pass. Your support of the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center shows that helping local individuals with disabilities is important to you. To ensure our work continues for future generations, you may wish to include a gift to us in your will.

Many of us procrastinate about creating a will or living trust, the document that determines where our money and possessions will go, and *how we will express our values to those we leave behind*. Sometimes people avoid creating or updating their will because they don't know how to begin. Here are a few common questions:

- **I'm committed to seeing the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center continue for generations to come, but I want to make sure my children and grandchildren are taken care of, too. Is there a way to do both?**

There are many ways you can provide for your heirs *and* for Easterseals. You can make a bequest of a percentage of your estate or a specific dollar amount to us, leaving the rest to your heirs. It can also be helpful to leave the most heavily taxed assets, such as retirement plan savings, to us and less heavily taxed assets to loved ones. And there are plans that enable you to leave a legacy to Easterseals while providing for a lifetime income to your loved ones.

- **I've thought about including the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center in my will or living trust but I'm not wealthy. Will my small gift make a difference?**

Whatever you give is greatly appreciated and will make the future brighter for local individuals with disabilities and their families!

- **What if I change my mind?**

We understand that circumstances change. One of the best things about bequests is that you remain in control during your lifetime and can change your mind at any time.

**Feel good about giving to Easterseals!** To learn more or make a bequest, please contact Vice President of Development, Laura Terhune, at 812-437-2627 or [LTerhune@evansvillerehab.com](mailto:LTerhune@evansvillerehab.com).



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## Thank you, United Way and 2019 Day of Caring volunteers!

Many thanks to United Way of Southwestern Indiana "Day of Caring" volunteers from Vectren, One Main Financial, USI Outreach & Engagement, Ivy Tech Community College-Evansville, and United Companies! They made a big impact on Sept. 13 for children & adults served by the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center! To show our gratitude, staff and clients joined in the #GitUpUNITEDChallenge dance! See our footwork & more Day Of Caring photos @EastersealsRehabCtr on Facebook!

