



# Easterseals

# TN

ALL ABILITIES. LIMITLESS POSSIBILITIES.



*Garvin's success illustrates the positive impact of Easterseals Tennessee.*

*When Garvin began receiving services through Easterseals Tennessee, he needed total care. Over time and after receiving our ongoing support, he surprised our Chief Services Officer, Brandy, during one of her visits. She recalls seeing Garvin come through the house in a wheelchair, then circle back around in a walker, and next, enter the room with a cane. Lastly, Garvin surprised Brandy by walking on his own, with no equipment. Proud of himself, he thanked the Easterseals Tennessee staff for helping him accomplish such a feat.*

Easterseals TN offers hope and the steps to improving lives.



By Garvin: *The date of my accident was August 2, 2016. I, for some reason, thought it would be a grand idea to pull out in front of a semi-truck, also known as an eighteen wheeler. Seven weeks later, I emerged from the coma I was in. I didn't come to in a hospital though. I came to in Dyersburg Manor, a skilled nursing facility. My injuries consisted of an unknown broken knee, a paralyzed right vocal cord, a contracted right pinky finger, and a traumatic brain injury. I couldn't walk without losing balance without a walker. It's amazing that I'm alive because the doctors basically ran out of options after four days and told my family that it was a long shot that I would even wake up....In pure honesty I don't have memory of that day or the days surrounding. I was 24 years old when this nightmare happened. I am writing at the age of 28, and now living in an Easterseals group*

*home. Doing everyday things are still a challenge due to unintentional tremors...Mostly my left leg gets an urge and feels like it just wants to dance. The tremors are completely random that start with a short-lasting tingle that gets heavier. Riding my stationery bike seems to calm it down...Despite the risk, I believe the fastest way to learn how to do something physical is to do it...So I constantly practice walking around the house with 5 pound weights strapped to my ankles. I also use 2- 10 pound dumbbells, parallel bars, a stationary bike, and a weight bench. I enjoy the people from Easterseals who have been working hard to keep me cared for, allowing my father to work and have piece of mind.*



*Garvin moved completely out of the Easterseals TN program in 2019. He became more self-sufficient and recovered enough to move back in with his father. Although Easterseals TN will miss working with Garvin each day, our staff applauds his success, thankful for the opportunity to have supported such a fine gentleman.*

**Congratulations Ron Samuels!**

**Thanks to all the 2019 Nashvillian of the Year Sponsors!**



On a recent summer evening, over 300 guests celebrated the 2019 Nashvillian of the Year, Ron Samuels, at the Hilton Downtown Nashville. Ron was recognized for his passion for public service, which focuses on K-12 education, economic development, athletics and music, as well as, his banking career achievements. All those present learned about Ron's civic and business endeavors and the vital part he has played in the development of Nashville and its surrounding communities.

In addition, our event recognized the support of our 2019 Nashvillian sponsors, led by Centennial Presenting Sponsors, Pinnacle Financial Partners and the Tennessee Titans. To view all the Nashvillian Sponsors, go to: [www.easterseals.com/tennessee](http://www.easterseals.com/tennessee) select Get Involved, Events – Nashvillian of the Year. Each of these sponsors plays a significant role in contributing to the health and well-being of Easterseals TN campers and other members.

## Adults and children enjoyed the fun, fitness and friendship of Easterseals TN Camp this summer

From the end of May until Mid-August the Easterseals TN campers explored nature, played in the outdoors, and enjoyed one another's company on the grounds of Camp Widgiwagan on Percy Priest Lake. Through our partnership with the YMCA, our youth campers attend camp in an inclusive setting and relish boundless activities whether at Day Camp or Resident Camp. After school begins, our adult campers partake in the surroundings and enjoy many of the same activities, with pontoon boat rides and fireside chats being popular.

During eleven weekly sessions, Easterseals TN enabled 258 youth and adults to discover more about their own abilities through a camp experience. In addition, the families and caregivers of each camper were able to relax and take a reprieve from the 24/7 support of their loved one – a win-win situation for all.



## Recent Happenings

### Metro Codes Golf Tournament



*Ben Johns, 2019 ESTN Youth Rep, engages golfers.*

### HCA Community Day



*HCA Volunteers build an accessible archery deck at camp.*

## President and CEO Corner



*Tim Ryerson, President and CEO*

Volunteerism makes a meaningful impact on Easterseals TN. Construction volunteers, like at the HCA Community Day at camp or fundraising volunteers, like at the Metro Codes Golf Tournament will have an everlasting impact on the mission of Easterseals TN.

Unfortunately the majority of financial donors do not always get to see or even realize the full effect of their support. Hopefully, these quarterly newsletters share some light on the impact.

Thanks to generous annual fund donors, special event sponsors, and the effort of volunteers, the Easterseals TN Board of Directors recently voted to establish an Endowment Fund. This fund will have a continued impact on recreational campers, as well as, members of other Easterseals TN programs.

**The Impact of Community Members**

Whether individuals financially donate directly to Easterseals TN and/or to the Endowment Fund and/or assist with constructing an accessible archery range, the support enables members with special abilities to have more opportunities to hit a bulls-eye or make a hole-in-one.

Thank you for making your impact long lasting. To learn more about volunteer opportunities, a financial gift, or the Endowment Fund, please contact Cathy at 615-292-6640, x-1.

Thank you.

### Mark Your Calendars:

Giving Tuesday	12/03/19
Adult Winter Camp	12/13/19
ARC Festival of Trees	12/05/19
TNCO Legislative Day	2/19/20

### Easterseals Tennessee 2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Perry Moulds, <i>Chairman</i>
Chuck Mataya, <i>Vice-Chairman</i>
Steve Deckard, <i>Secretary</i>
Jeff Bridges, <i>Treasurer</i>
Caryl Atwood
Jeb Beasley
David Beecham
Karen Blake
Lee Molette
Rhonda Phillippi
Steve Zimmerman