

Easterseals TN

ALL ABILITIES. LIMITLESS POSSIBILITIES.

Easterseals Tennessee Supported Employment program provides job training, customized job opportunities, and competitive job placement.

Kayleigh and her mother have always enjoyed spending time together. They like to exercise, cook, and cheer on the Tennessee Vols. A few years ago, Kayleigh expressed her desire to socialize more often and meet new people. Her mother agreed Kayleigh would benefit from constructive activities and building friendships outside the home. After researching opportunities, Kayleigh began participating in the Day Services program at Easterseals Tennessee. She thoroughly appreciated the interaction and enjoyed the time spent with the staff and her new friends.

Within a year of receiving Day Services at Easterseals, Kayleigh realized she had huge goals she wanted to achieve. She expressed the desire to find employment as she felt it would help her personal growth by adding to her responsibilities, increasing her socialization, as well as the satisfaction of earning a paycheck. She received assistance through Easterseals Tennessee's Supported Employment program where she participated in job skills training, a job search, the interview process, and then successfully became employed at Goodwill Industries. Five years later, Kayleigh is working a full-time schedule with minimal support from the Easterseals Tennessee staff.

Throughout the years, Kayleigh has greeted customers, organized clothing on the racks, and is now processing the intake of donated items. Kayleigh comments frequently how much she enjoys assisting customers and being part of the Goodwill team. Her coworkers state Kayleigh never meets a stranger. Her Easterseals Tennessee job coach has noticed Kayleigh is becoming more self-reliant and is gaining confidence.

Recently, she advocated for herself and arranged her own job transfer to another Goodwill site closer to her home. As a dedicated employee, Kayleigh has not missed a day and has enjoyed making new friends while learning new job responsibilities. Her latest goal is to independently commute from home to her job site without staff assistance. With Kayleigh's perseverance, there is no doubt she will achieve this goal.

Kayleigh's accomplishments are proof inclusion and access change lives.



Always wearing a smile, Kayleigh enjoys the camaraderie and every facet of her job responsibilities at Goodwill.

Autism Therapy Center Now Open in Brentwood

Easterseals TN is thrilled to announce the opening of a new therapy center in Brentwood. The location supports center-based Applied Behavior Analysis (ABA) for children 18 months to five years and community-based ABA for children five years and older.

As an example of the value of ABA, one five-year-old boy has shown exciting progress with his communication skills since beginning services in November. Initially, he was frequently having tantrums and exhibiting self-injurious behavior. After just a few sessions, his mom reported these behaviors had decreased due to his newly learned communication techniques. ABA staff are currently working to expand his ability to communicate even further and are watching his personality blossom as he continues to learn and grow!



Registration For 2024 Easterseals TN Camps Is Open

Looking for fun, fitness, and making new friends? Do you enjoy recreational activities and exploring the outdoors?

Learn more at: <https://www.easterseals.com/tennessee/our-programs/camping-recreation/>.

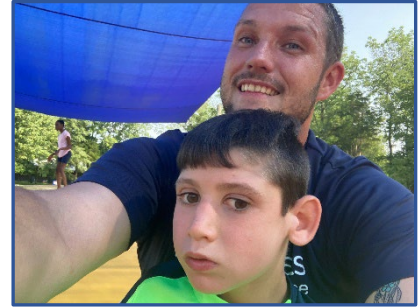
Sessions fill quickly, so register as soon as possible.



One on one counselors provide fun and activity that sparks individual interests and needs.



Campers race each other as they soar down the twin ziplines high above camp.



The Kangaroo Jump allows campers to jump and bounce while building friendships.

Recent Events



Kathy Simone, Chief Employment and Services Officer, lodged nearby so she could safely transport staff to and from their work sites.



Staff support enabled Daniel to continue his daily routine.



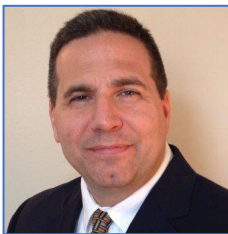
William was given the opportunity to enjoy wintry weather due to staff on hand.



Rest Area Attendant Cory came equipped to stay on shift 4 days to ensure travelers had a safe place to rest.

During the recent snowstorm, the dedicated staff of Easterseals Tennessee kept the 24/7/365 operation fully functional ensuring the quality and continuity of services for those supported. In addition, the TDOT rest areas maintained by Easterseals Tennessee staff remained open to provide shelter for weary travelers.

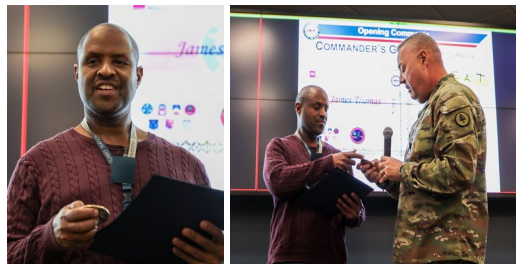
President and CEO Corner



Tim Ryerson, President and CEO

The mission of Easterseals Tennessee is to make profound positive differences in the lives of people with disabilities as they learn, work, and play in their communities. Staff strive to make an impact daily for those supported and assist them in meeting personal goals. As the front page story shared, many are making their dreams a reality.

James, pictured below, is achieving much success and proving that hard work and determination can lead to accomplished goals. James works as a custodian at the Joint Force Headquarters in Nashville. In January 2024, Tennessee's Adjutant Major General Warner A. Ross II recognized James for his exemplary service to the facilities and his willingness to help others. Thank you James for making a difference!



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