



2021

ANNUAL REPORT

Easterseals of Greater Waterbury



A message from our President, Loraine C. Shea



As we began FY 2021 there seemed to be a collective feeling of hope that the pandemic would soon be over and life as we knew it would return. But just a few months into the year, we

unfortunately realized that was not the case. Despite the challenges, we remained steadfast in our resolve to serve the children, adults and the families who participate in our programs so that their needs could be met. With safety protocols continuously in place, our program participants returned to services demonstrating their continued confidence in our organization. We have been successful in returning program participation to near our pre-COVID status.

We took advantage of our capacity to virtually connect with CT State law makers to advocate for increased funding for our programs as well as legislation that impacts the non-profit provider community. For the first time in over a decade, our voices were heard and legislation was passed that increased funding in the Human Services sector.

Our job is not complete in this area, but we bring some momentum into 2022 to continue the important conversations and ensure the needs of individuals living with disabilities are fully supported.

During FY 2021 we demonstrated growth in our Driver Assessment Program, our Residential In-Home Supports Program and our fundraising efforts! Our employees continue to show a level of commitment that amazes me daily and of which I am very proud and grateful.

Thank you to our Board of Directors who continue to be good stewards of our resources and who are unwavering in their support of the organization. With a solid foundation of leadership, employees, volunteers and donors, we approach the upcoming fiscal year with optimism and focus on our mission, and to another successful year of providing limitless possibilities.

Loraine C. Shea
President

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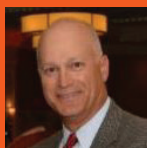
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2021 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

New Adaptive Driver Training Program

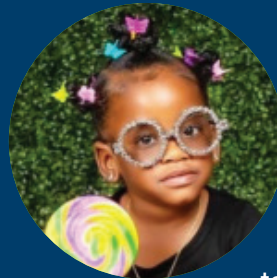
Easterseals Driver Assessment program has been helping individuals to gain back their independence through driving for many years. Individuals with physical, neurological, visual, and/or cognitive disabilities often participate in the program to determine if they can drive, and if so, what tools they may need to drive safely. This year, Easterseals launched Adaptive Driver training as a branch of the Driver Assessment program. Adaptive Driver training teaches proficiency in the use of adaptive driving equipment, including how to operate equipment in a client's own vehicle. Adaptive driving equipment includes devices to aid in the operation of the gas, brake and steering. Training prepares clients to test with the DMV to obtain license restrictions required to drive with adaptive equipment.

In Home Support

On January 1st, Employment and Community Services expanded programming for adults with disabilities by providing In-Home Support services. In-Home Support services consist of a combination of hands-on care, habilitative supports, and assistance with daily living activities provided by a Community Living Specialist in an individual's home or community living setting. This program includes support for participation in community activities, development of life skills and implementation of behavior programs. At the inception of this program, there were only two participants. Currently, the program assists eighteen participants and enrollment is growing. Easterseals has expanded its reach outside of the program setting and into homes to further support the personal goals and independence of the individuals served.

Virtual Programming at ECS

Easterseals is leading the way to full equity, inclusion, and access through life-changing disability and community services. Throughout the pandemic, it was necessary for Easterseals to find ways to continue offering programming for the individuals we serve that were not ready to return to in-person programming. We developed virtual programming to allow people to participate from the comfort and safety of their homes and it has become an essential part of Employment and Community Services programming, helping to ensure everyone remains engaged and included. Virtual programming is ongoing and each week there is a new schedule for individuals to participate in, with 4-5 virtual classes offered per day.



When it was time for 3-year-old **SAYLOR** to go to preschool her Mom, Codi, was nervous about how her daughter would adjust to an unfamiliar setting. As an infant, Saylor was diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy (CP), a condition affecting mobility and posture. On Saylor's first day at Easterseals Children's Academy in Meriden, she waved goodbye and crawled right into school, causing her mother's worries to subside. Saylor's teachers helped her to try new activities and accomplish tasks on her own. Saylor has learned to work on tasks like cleaning up toys and books, which has empowered her to trust herself and strengthen her independence. Codi says, "I wanted the best for my daughter and to have her in a safe place like Easterseals, I am confident that she will flourish". Easterseals Children's Academies and Children's Center provide an inclusive care environment for children of all abilities.

2021 COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Chocolate to the Rescue

In March, Easterseals held its first annual Chocolate to the Rescue fundraiser, raising \$5,780! Fascia's Chocolates of Waterbury, CC's Chocolates of Wolcott, Sweet Maria's of Waterbury and Thompson Chocolates of Meriden each donated 150 different chocolate treats to include in the sweet chocolate sampler boxes given to donors who supported Easterseals.



Grant Funding Provides Essential Support

In Fiscal Year 2021, Easterseals received over \$72,000 in grant funding from Foundations and Organizations in the Greater Waterbury area to support necessary improvements to our programs and services so that we can continue to meet and exceed the needs of individuals and families in our communities facing disability.

CELEBRATING DIVERSITY THROUGH BOOKS

With the generous grant funding from Thomaston Savings Bank Foundation, Easterseals was able to purchase a collection of books that celebrate diversity, differences and inclusion. Books are being utilized in each of our Preschool classrooms and encourage awareness, introduce new vocabulary, and provide opportunities to learn about others.



LOCAL FOUNDATIONS SUPPORT THE CENTER FOR BETTER HEARING IN MERIDEN

Thanks to two local Meriden foundations, Easterseals Center for Better Hearing was able to replace a critical piece of diagnostic hearing assessment equipment used daily for patients receiving hearing care treatment. Easterseals received a \$5,000 grant from the CUNO Foundation and a \$4,600 grant from the Napier Foundation which made it possible to purchase a new Audioscan Verifit 2 Clinical Real Ear Measures (REM). This critical piece of equipment is used for hearing aid fittings and follow up care to assess the sound level in the ear canal and verify the effectiveness of the amplification provided by a hearing aid.



WATERTOWN FOUNDATION ASSISTS EASTERSEALS EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Easterseals Employment and Community Services (ECS) program recently received a \$2,000 grant from the Watertown Foundation to support the purchase of a new wheelchair accessible mini-bus for the Adult Day Program. The foundation's support supplemented funding Easterseals received from a federal grant to replace a bus that was deteriorating. The bus is used to transport program participants to community based recreational, volunteer or daily living activities, such as to a park, post office or grocery store.



In addition to the highlighted support, Easterseals is grateful to the following foundations and organizations for their generous grants to Easterseals, assisting us in achieving our mission:

Comcast
Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut
Connecticut Community Foundation

Ion Bank
The Leever Foundation
MacDermid Alpha

Albert Wadsworth & Helen Clark
Meserve Memorial Fund
Webster Bank

2021 FINANCIAL OPERATIONS REPORT

Year ending August 31, 2021 (with comparable totals for 2020) (unaudited)

OPERATING SUPPORT AND REVENUES

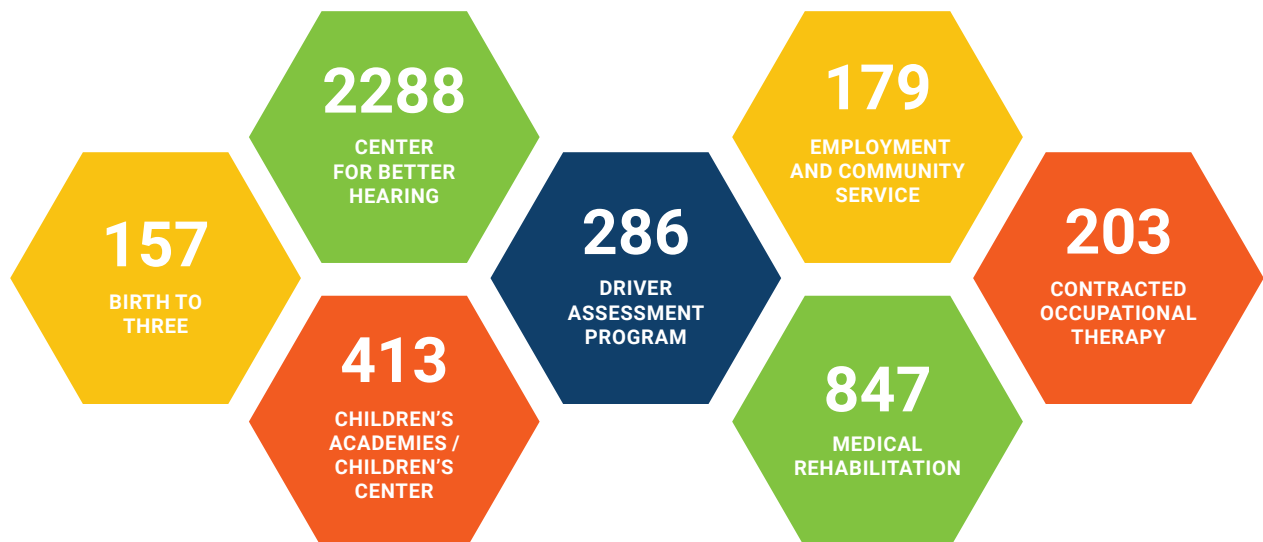
	2021		2020	
Public Support	\$174,375	1%	\$130,684	1%
Vocational Training and Educational Programs	\$9,944,502	75%	\$9,438,373	77%
Childhood Development and Behavioral Services	\$397,482	3%	\$667,557	5%
Medical Rehabilitation Services	\$2,180,219	16%	\$1,917,019	16%
Other Grants & Other Income	\$607,834	5%	\$139,394	1%
	\$13,304,412	100%	\$12,293,027	100%

OPERATING EXPENSES

Staffing, Payroll Taxes and Employee Benefits	\$10,463,458	77%	\$11,375,546	78%
Professional Services and Operating Supplies	\$1,479,474	11%	\$1,674,384	11%
Occupancy and Interest	\$849,382	6%	\$832,127	6%
Transportation Service	\$326,805	2%	\$307,576	2%
Depreciation	\$488,638	4%	\$475,624	3%
	\$13,607,757	100%	\$14,665,257	100%
Net Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	\$(303,345)		\$(2,372,230)	
Community Outreach Programs	\$(136,952)		\$(136,652)	
Forgiveness of (PPP) Loan	\$1,627,400		-	
Net Investment Revenues Gain/(Loss)	\$7,628,034		\$4,783,752	
Combined Surplus	\$8,815,137		\$2,274,870	
Capital Improvements	\$205,250		\$316,357	

In Fiscal Year 2021, Easterseals of Greater Waterbury provided direct services for 4,373 individuals.

Easterseals programs stretch well beyond individuals served directly, touching the lives of parents, family members and friends.



ANNUAL DONORS

A special thank you to our compassionate sponsors, donors and grant funders. Your generous contributions to Easterseals have positively enriched the lives of many children and adults with disabilities and special needs. Easterseals is a non-profit public charity recognized as tax-exempt by the IRS under Section 501(c)(3). The following listing represents donations received from September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2021.

\$10,000 - \$25,000

Connecticut Community Foundation
Harvard Pilgrim HealthCare
United Way of Greater Waterbury

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Comcast
Community Foundation of Eastern CT
CUNO Foundation
The Leever Foundation
Liberty Bank
MacDermidAlpha
Estate of Frederick Ricci
Thomaston Savings Bank Foundation
Treadwell Corporation
Webster Bank, N.A.

\$2,500 - \$4,999

Access Rehab Centers, LLC
Drew Marine International
Ion Bank Foundation
Napier Foundation

\$1,000 - \$2,499

American Copy Service Center
Bank of America
Bozzuto Associates, Inc.
Carmody Torrance Sandak Hennessey LLP
C-B Manufacturing & Tool Company, Inc.
Chittenden Insurance Agency
Cly-Del Manufacturing Co.
Dunkin Donuts/B&Z Management Corp Union
E.S. Metal Fabrication, Inc.
Edward Segal, Inc.
Good Old Boys Tree Service, LLC
Jack and Jennifer Hogan
Litchfield Bancorp
Lorensen Auto Group
Masotti Electric, LLC
The Albert Wadsworth and Helen Clark Meserve Memorial Fund
Mrs. Judith Mirror
OptiCare Eye Health Centers
Resolute Point Private Wealth
Loraine Shea* and Jim Shea
The Schuster Group
Thomaston Savings Bank Employees
Laurin M. Traub Complete IRA
Traver IDC
United Way of Central & Northeastern CT
Waterbury Hospital
Watertown Foundation, Inc.
Mr. Jim Watkowski
We Do Life Together

\$500 - \$999

Berchem Moses PC Attorneys at Law
Mr. Mark Briggs
BSC Services
CC's Chocolates
Children's Academy Meriden
Expeditors International
Fascia's Chocolates
Neubert, Pepe, & Monteith, P.C.
Production Components
Savings Bank of Danbury
The Washington Trust Company
Ventura Law
Weichert, Realtors-Briotti Group

\$250 - \$499

Affordable Powerwash, LLC
Ameritas Retirement Plans
Ametek, Inc.
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Mr. and Mrs. Brian and Natalia Batista
Bill Wildman Floor Covering, Inc
Mr. William Brightly
Broderick Law Firm, LLC
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Mr. William Villano

\$100 - \$249

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a.i. tek Instruments, LLC
Advartec
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The Arthur G. Russell Company
Athena Health Care Systems
Ms. Susan Atkins
Ms. Kristie Balisciano*
Benchmark Senior Living / Village at East Farms
Biondi & Rosengrant, LLC
Edward and Pamela Briggs
Brookside Memorial - The Albini Family Funeral Home
Buckmiller Thurston Mengacci Funeral Home

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Mr. Arthur J. Caisse, Jr.
Jaime Calo*
Carpin Manufacturing, Inc.
Ms. Ellen Carter
Chase Parkway Memorial, Albini Family Funeral Home
Children's Academy East Campus
Children's Academy West Campus
City of Waterbury
Mr. and Mrs. David and Mary Clarke
Carolyn Collins-Smith*
Demsey Manufacturing Co. Inc
Diamond Roofing Specialists
Dibble and Rossi, CPA's
Seth and Glenda* Duke
Dumouchel Paper Co.
Eliassen Group
Dr. & Mrs. Michael and Sheila Elser
Employers Association of the Northeast
Dr. and Mrs. Michael and Ann Feinberg
Mr. David Ferraro
Flash Car Wash
Frankie's Family Restaurant
German Auto Repair, LLC
Mr. Mark Graveline
Mrs. Susan Guarino and Mr. Joseph Guarino
H.D. Segur Insurance
Carmen* and Mark Hall
Harper & Whitfield, P. C.
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J & J Precision Eyelet
Jaci Carroll Staffing Ser., Inc.
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Ms. Marjorie M. Ross
Ms. Susan Salerno
Mr. Charles L. Schwab

We apologize for any errors or omissions from the donor listing. Please contact Elizabeth Szymanoski at eszymanoski@eswct.com with any corrections.

**Indicates employee donation*

David & Leslie Segal
 Sandra and Jack Senich
 Smaller Manufacturers Association of Connecticut
 Mr. Robert Stabile
 Suburban Stationers
 Mr. Robert Sylvester
 Catherine and Richard Szanto
 Elizabeth V Szymanoski*
 The Binding Source, LLC
 The Miranda Team Home Inspectors
 The Next Street
 Tynan & Iannone Attorneys at Law
 United Way of Greater Waterbury
 Valenti Motors, Inc.
 W.H. Pickett Drug Co.
 Waterbury Lions Club
 Waterbury Regional Chamber
 Yamin & Grant LLC
 Dr. Kay Yanagisawa*

\$1 - \$99

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 Ms. Theresa Pavlik
 Mrs. Ruth Penfield
 Dr. Allison Phipps*
 Mr. and Mrs. Chris and Nina Phipps
 Sarah Phipps



Please join us
 in welcoming
**ELIZABETH
 SZYMANOSKI,**

CFRE as Easterseals

Director of Development. If you or
 someone you know is interested
 in donating to Easterseals you can
 contact Liz at **203-754-5141 x 243**
 or email eszymanoski@eswct.com.

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 Mr. Jason Van Stone
 Ms. Melissa Vernola-Krol
 MaryEllen Vollano
 Ms. Nicole Wallerstein*
 Ms. Sarah Zarucha
 Mr. James S. Zoldy, Jr. and Jackie Zoldy

FRAN MOONEY is an avid golfer who sustained a traumatic brain injury from an accident while playing golf. He was in a coma for three weeks and needed therapy to re-learn how to walk and do basic tasks. Once his therapy was finished, there was one thing left for him to accomplish – driving on his own. Fran was referred to Easterseals Driver Assessment program. After his first visit, Fran required some Occupational Therapy to address his functional skills like visual scanning, visual attention, and overall cognitive processing speed to be able to participate in the behind the wheel assessment. After some hard work, Fran tried a second time to pass the driver assessment and he did! Upon completion of the program, Fran said, “This was the last piece that I needed to fit in my puzzle. I am grateful to Raechaell for her knowledge and patience with me. She helped me get my life back”. Fran has returned to work, and is now able to drive on his own.



OUR MISSION

For over 60 years, Easterseals has been a dedicated resource for people and families facing disability. We honor this legacy and embrace our future with a renewed commitment to enhance possibilities for people of all ages and abilities. We're fostering and advocating for environments where everyone is included and valued, making a real and positive impact on people's lives every day. Our high quality programs and services provided throughout Greater Waterbury, Central and Northwest CT communities, include school readiness education, early intervention, rehabilitation services, vocational services, and audiology services. Each year we assist thousands of individuals to reach their potential and to live learn, work and play in their communities.

Birth to Three Program

24 STOTT AVENUE, NORWICH

Center for Better Hearing

22 TOMPKINS STREET, WATERBURY
158 STATE STREET, MERIDEN
690 MAIN STREET SOUTH, SUITE 4, SOUTHBURY

Children's Academy & Children's Center

22 TOMPKINS STREET, WATERBURY – WEST CAMPUS
128 AVENUE OF INDUSTRY, WATERBURY – EAST CAMPUS
172 GRANDVIEW AVENUE, WATERBURY – GRANDVIEW CAMPUS
125 BROAD STREET, MERIDEN – MERIDEN CAMPUS

Driver Assessment Program / Adaptive Driver Training

158 STATE STREET, MERIDEN

Employment and Community Services

400 MAIN STREET, DANBURY
320 SYLVAN LAKE ROAD, WATERTOWN

Lions Low Vision Program

158 STATE STREET, MERIDEN

Medical Rehabilitation Services

158 STATE STREET, MERIDEN

