

Meet Our 2017 Walk With Me Ambassadors



Elliott **TEAM ELLIOTT**

Elliott is a beautiful and very happy 6 year old boy who is a true blessing to his family and those who know him. At the age of 3, Elliott was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder. He has blossomed tremendously since his start with Easterseals' Applied Behavioral Analysis therapy in March of 2016. Elliott's family couldn't be happier that they now have a

son who has the words and resources to give them a stronger vision of what his sparkling little eyes see. Elliott is very similar to his peers as he loves to play with his sisters and friends. He particularly enjoys swimming, running, reading, jumping, watching movies, playing Angry Birds and Star Wars and the list goes on.



Ani **ANI'S AVENGERS**

Ani was adopted from a Bulgarian orphanage when she was 5 years, 10 months old. She has refused to allow an autism or impaired cognitive delay label define her; instead, Ani's warm spirit and dynamic personality have become her trademarks. Ani interned at Children's Hospital through Easterseals' Project Search program last year and is now

employed part time at Children's in the CORE lab. She is a Special Olympic athlete having medaled in several sports; in addition, she's involved in Best Buddies and enjoys giving presentations and speeches. In her spare time, Ani sings and plays the guitar and the drums. She is an enthusiastic dancer and is always looking for a willing partner! Ani is a true inspiration!



Jason **THE WILD WEST WALKERS**

Jason is a mild mannered young man with Down Syndrome. His speech is difficult to understand but that doesn't slow him down! During his time at Easterseals, Jason trained and worked for LillyWorks Catering where he improved his skills in food preparations and kitchen help. Thanks to his training at Easterseals,

Jason passed the safety certification requirements for his current job with Aramark. Jason enjoys working in the kitchen at Waukesha West High School and uses an iPad with text-to-speech software to help him communicate easier with his co-workers. He is currently living independently with two roommates and a caretaker that visits in the evenings. Jason likes spending time with friends, going to movies and social dances.



Megan **ROCKIN' MONKEYS**

Megan is a kind hearted senior in high school. At the age of 16, she became pregnant and heard about Safe Babies Healthy Families (SBHF) through her public health nurse. Megan's SBHF case manager supported her throughout her pregnancy and helped prepare her for the birth of her beautiful son, Jeremiah. Her case manager continues to act as a

life coach to help Megan build her mothering skills and works with Jeremiah on his development skills. Through SBHF, Megan is awarded "baby bucks" that are used to purchase diapers, clothing and other baby items. Megan very much enjoys spending time with her family and friends and loves watching Jeremiah grow. She looks forward to attending nursing school after graduation.



TJ **BIG DREAMS**

TJ is an energetic child with an active imagination and a huge personality. He was diagnosed with Myelocystocele, which is a rare form of Spina Bifida, at birth. It was determined that he would never crawl, walk, run, or go to the bathroom on his own. Since participating in the Birth to Three program at Easterseals, TJ has met all of his developmental milestones

with flying colors! Some of his favorite activities include running, climbing, and riding a tricycle.



Trever **TEAM TREVER**

Trever is an engaging and friendly 8 year old who loves the zoo, waterparks, church and Old Country Buffet! Diagnosed with Autism, Trever began intense Applied Behavior Analysis therapy at Easterseals in the summer of 2014. Prior to therapy, he had behavioral issues with transitions and boundaries and delays in social skills, speech and communication. He has since

made remarkable progress in all these areas! He is able to transition from one place to another with no behavioral issues, has full conversations and is able to express all his needs. Trever now receives compliments for being so kind, friendly and well behaved! Trever's family is grateful that Easterseals has helped change their lives.



Walk with a “Porpoise”!



Join us on Wednesday evening, **June 28th at 5pm at the Milwaukee County Zoo** for our 11th annual Walk With Me and help create a world of possibilities for children and adults with disabilities.

Last year, more than 500 people walked to increase awareness about Easterseals and helped us raise **over \$98,000** to fund local vital programs! Because of this amazing support, we were able to help more than **800 children** have the best start possible during critical development years through therapy, summer camps and home visits from case managers; provide more than **400 individuals** with disabilities opportunities to have meaningful jobs; ensure that over **1100 adults** are engaged in their communities through day services, recreation and case management; and touch the lives of over **12,000 individuals and their families** in Southeast Wisconsin. We are so grateful for this support!

[Register Online Today - walkwithme.org/milwaukee](http://walkwithme.org/milwaukee)

For More Information, Contact:

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Lace up your walking shoes today!