

When you first meet someone, you ask them their name and the next question most often asked is: "What do you do?" or "Where do you work?"

Having a job is a big part of who we are, a path we have chosen from among endless opportunities. Having and maintaining a job not only gives us a sense of pride, but also the resources to be independent and make choices about how we will save or enjoy all that a paycheck provides.

Easter Seals believes that everyone can work and because of our belief, we work to eliminate barriers to a person's dream of having and maintaining a job. It is also because of this belief that we have expanded our training and employment options for people with disabilities.

Starting with one employment specialist in 2010, we now have 11 - including a designated veteran's specialist. Starting with one employment partner, we now have 75! We have two Project SEARCH vocational training programs offering real-life training for 24 young adults at Children's Hospital of Wisconsin and Waukesha Memorial Hospital, and our commercial services - LilyWorks Catering, Cleaning and Commercial Landscape Maintenance - providing employment and training for 16 individuals along with endless opportunities.

What does this mean?

This translates into meaningful jobs for 53 individuals and the numbers continue to grow. Jobs translate into independence for individuals and economic development for the communities in which they live. However, with a waiting list of 15 job seeking individuals which continues to grow, we are not stopping here! As part of an expansion to our Workforce Training Center, we are building a new adaptive commercial training/catering kitchen and a technology center to provide even more job training opportunities.

We need your help in making the dreams of people with disabilities who want to work a reality. *Please review the details of our exciting expansion on the reverse side.* What we are building today will have a life-changing impact on hundreds of people for decades to come.



With the celebration of our 80th Jubilee Anniversary this year, we have a one-time opportunity through a generous donor to double all gifts made to this project up to \$100,000.

We have reached \$800,000 in our goal of \$1.5 million, and we need your support to help "put us over the top!" Whether you want to help us build our expansion or leave a legacy through our Centennial Fund, your gift will now have an impact for decades to come.

As a long time friend of Easter Seals and the Workforce Training Center, please consider a gift of \$80 to help us realize the benefit of this match and to give people the pride in saying,

"Yes, I have a job!"

Our mission at the Workforce Training Center is to provide job training and employment opportunities for adults with disabilities and support individuals in overcoming vocational barriers that exist because of their special needs.

Building on 50 years of work experience, Easter Seals Southeast Wisconsin is embarking on an expanded vision for training and employment for individuals with disabilities or other barriers.

Our Workforce Training Center provides a balance between center-based training and community-based employment. In addition to the center-based work provided by over 200 participants, we have three social enterprise businesses in catering, cleaning and landscape maintenance.

As part of the expansion to our Workforce Training Center, we have engaged in a Capital Campaign to build a new adaptive commercial catering kitchen. As the only accessible kitchen of its kind in Waukesha County, it will provide specialized training in food handling and preparation, customer service and work ethic, while also providing income for work training participants. The design will also accommodate for two "clean prep" rooms for specialized food product processing, including our own LilyBrew private label coffee. These spaces can also be leased during down time to other individuals producing products, providing revenue for our program. Easter Seals will also benefit by earning income to support its mission, allowing the organization to decrease reliance on government funds.

The addition of a portable, video-equipped chef demonstration area will have multiple training opportunities and benefits, including a teaching area for meal preparation during daily living skills classes, as well as use as rental space for local restaurants and guest chefs for private cooking demonstrations or community events.

Another component of this project will be a state-of-the-art adaptive technology center. This computer lab will give participants opportunities to develop resumes, complete job searches and practice e-mail and other communication techniques to convey work experience to potential employers. It will also serve as a hub to tap into online trainings to improve work skills. The work tables will all be double width and fully height adjustable, allowing for service dogs, wheelchairs or other adaptive equipment. In addition, computers will have screen readers and other adaptive software for those who are blind and/or visually impaired.

For nearly 80 years, Easter Seals Southeast Wisconsin has continued to expand its program offerings to those who need them. To assure that we continue to be innovative and responsive to community needs, the Board of Directors has established the Centennial Fund at the Waukesha County Community Foundation. This fund will provide Easter Seals with the needed reserves for new programs, expansion of existing services or expansion of service areas in the future and will only be released by the Board of Directors to provide resources to respond to emerging community needs in areas of disability services.



Scott
Waukesha County Courthouse



Cal
Children's Hospital Wisconsin



Patrick
Culver's



John
Buyseasons



Les
Wal-Mart