



News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 20, 2016
Raleigh, N.C.

CONTACT

Lauren Ross
Easterseals UCP Development Manager
Lauren.Ross@eastersealsucp.org
919-865.8898

**Easterseals UCP Chosen by
Staples Associate to Receive \$1,000 Grant**

Easterseals UCP Selected by Local Associate to Receive Staples Foundation Grant

Raleigh, NC – Easterseals UCP has been awarded \$1,000 by Staples Foundation, the private charitable arm of Staples, Inc., through a program called 2 Million & Change that allows Staples associates around the globe to direct more than \$2 million in donations each year.

This gift ensures that Easterseals UCP has the sustainable resources to provide the quality programs and services that allow children, adults, and families to live, learn, work, and play in their community.

Created in 2012, the 2 Million & Change program is a philanthropic initiative which allows Staples associates around the world to direct funding to non-profit organizations focused on academic education or job skills. The program encourages local community engagement by awarding larger grants to organizations where associates are highly engaged in volunteering or fundraising – up to \$25,000 per organization.

In 2015, Staples awarded more than \$2.5 million in grants to 875 local organizations in support of education and job skills programs, including job readiness for homeless individuals, career exploration for high school students, academic scholarships, mentoring and more.

“For 30 years, Staples associates have been making a difference in their communities around the world,” said John Burke, chief culture officer, Staples, Inc., “We’re thrilled that the 2 Million & Change program lets our associate make an even greater impact on the organizations they are passionate about.”

At Easterseals UCP we work together to help individuals with disabilities and mental health challenges live their best possible life. We provide an extensive array of services because the people we support face a wide variety of challenges. But whether we are teaching a child with cerebral palsy to walk, showing a youth with autism how to make friends, or helping a mom with mental illness manage her recovery- we tackle every challenge through individual improvement, step by step.

About Staples Community and Giving

Staples contributes to educational and job-related community efforts with a primary focus on disadvantaged youth, from literacy and mentoring to career skills development, through in-kind and monetary donations and grants from Staples Foundation, the private charitable arm of Staples, Inc. Through its community and giving efforts, Staples has helped thousands of organizations in 26 countries. For more information, visit www.staples.com/community.

About Easterseals UCP

Easter Seals UCP is a non-profit organization serving the special needs communities in North Carolina and Virginia. Our mission is to create opportunities, promote individual choice, and change the lives of children and adults with disabilities by maximizing their individual potential to live, learn, work and play in their communities.

###