

## IMPACT ON CENTRAL AND SOUTHEAST OHIO

Winter 2018

### Engaged in Their Community

#### Mt. Vernon Adult Day Program Actively Engaged in Community

Our Adult Day program in Mt. Vernon, Ohio has seen great growth and is increasing their presence in the Mt. Vernon community.

#### Community Interaction

In the last several months, our Adult Day program in Mt. Vernon has been experiencing growth as they spread the word about Easterseals and our program in Knox County. Our Adult Inclusion Coordinator, Michael-Ann Cox, is committed to engaging the community with individuals in our program.

"I feel that community inclusion and engagement is important as it helps with building relationships, fosters creativity, helps maintain and fulfill our life's purpose and provides individuals with choosing their life's journey", says Michael-Ann.

Providing enrichment while supporting an individual's independence is something we strive for daily at Easterseals.

The Mt. Vernon community has been very receptive to the program and has donated needed arts and craft supplies or raffle items for community events. Mt. Vernon High School, and their librarian, Keith Cawrse, have been instrumental in helping us maintain our Little Free Library and have provided great reading material for our individuals.

The program hosts monthly community events that are free to the public and people of all abilities. Each event provides dinner, various activities, and the opportunity to interact with Easterseals families and staff.

The program has also added several new recreational items such as games, a floor piano, a badminton set, cornhole and several other fun and engaging activities that everyone seems to really enjoy. With the new direction, our program in Mt. Vernon has gained 6 new individuals since the end of July 2017, including an individual with Alzheimer's disease.

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**"Providing enrichment while supporting an individual's independence is something we strive for daily at Easterseals."**



*Casey, an individual in our Adult Day Program, enjoying her day with Michael-Ann Cox, our Adult Day Inclusion Coordinator.*

# Adult Day Program Visits Elementary School

## South Point Individuals Read to Elementary School Students

Two individuals in our Adult Day program in South Point, Ohio visited South Point Elementary School and read to the first grade students.

### Community Inclusion

Easterseals offers adults with disabilities the opportunity to live, learn, work and play as a vital member of their own community. Community outings and activities help our Adult Day individuals remain actively engaged in their community.

Jonathan and Dustin had the opportunity to visit South Point Elementary School and read to the first grade class.

When asked about his experience reading to the students, Jonathan said, "I liked seeing the little kids faces and they listened really well.

I would go back and do it again in a heartbeat."

Community inclusion and engagement is important as it helps an adult with disabilities build their social and emotional skills. It also helps them feel included in their community.

The students at South Point Elementary also benefitted from the experience as it develops an understanding of self and others, and encourages respect for the feelings and rights of other individuals, regardless of their ability.

Dustin said, "It was awesome to read to the kids." Our staff strive to provide activities such as this on a daily basis to ensure that individuals in our program have the opportunity to engage and



*Jonathan reads to first graders at South Point Elementary.*

thrive in their community. Activities include trips to historical parks and memorials, tours of the Sheriff's office, delivering food to a local food pantry, playing bingo with seniors, meals at restaurants, musicals at local schools, and much more.



*Dustin reads to the first grade students at South Point Elementary School.*

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**Community outings and activities help our Adult Day program individuals remain actively engaged in their community.**

# BMW Financial Services Partnership

## BMW Financial Services Volunteers Time and Raises Support for Easterseals

Easterseals is fortunate to work with local corporations who volunteer their time to our organization. One of those corporations is BMW Financial Services located in Hilliard, Ohio.

### Corporate Volunteers

The partnership began in 2016 when David and Jennifer McIntyre introduced Easterseals to BMW Financial Services. Jennifer sits on our Board of Directors and David works in IT at BMW. The McIntyre's are passionate about Easterseals' mission as their son Cole, attended summer camp when he was younger.

Shortly after the introduction, BMW employees began volunteering their time through their Community Involvement program. BMW encourages active citizenship and believes it is

important to give back to their community. BMW allows employees to give at least one day a year to volunteering in the community without taking vacation time.

Over 80 BMW Financial Services employees volunteered their time in 2017. They helped with a variety of tasks such as assisting our teachers on field trips, passing out candy for our Halloween parade, stuffing envelopes, setting up for events like Romancing the Grape and Milk & Masterpieces, spreading mulch, and stuffing race bags.

### Corporate Support

In addition to volunteering, Easterseals has been fortunate to be a recipient of BMW's quarterly jeans days. BMW employees can make a donation to a designated charity to wear jeans to work. In 2016 and 2017, Easterseals



*BMW Financial Services volunteers take a break and play in the ball pit.*

was the designated charity for the fourth quarter of the year. In 2016, they raised \$11,245 and in 2017, they raised \$15,410. In total, they have donated \$26,655 and numerous hours of time.

We are honored to be selected again for their fourth quarter jeans days in 2018 and look forward to having them volunteer for various projects this year.



## Romancing the Grape Ohio's Premier Food and Wine Tasting

Join us Saturday, April 28, 2018 for Central Ohio's premier food and wine tasting, Romancing the Grape. Guests enjoy a variety of over 100 fine wines and culinary delights from Columbus' finest restaurants. The event also includes an impressive silent auction and live entertainment.

Purchase tickets: at [www.RomancingtheGrape.org](http://www.RomancingtheGrape.org)

# Ways to Make an Impact

## Ways to Get Involved and Show Your Support

### Ways to Give

**Donate:** make a contribution online, over the phone, or mail us a check:

Attn: Development Department  
3830 Trueman Ct.  
Hilliard, OH 43026

**Donations made to this address stay 100% local here in our community.**

**Shop at Kroger:** Register your Kroger Plus Card in the Community Rewards program in support of Easterseals. Our ID is 80979.

[www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com)

**Shop on Amazon:** Shop on smile.amazon.com and designate Easterseals as your Amazon Smile charity. Easterseals will receive a portion of the purchases you make on Amazon.

### Volunteer

**At an event:**

**Romancing the Grape** – assist with set-up, silent auction, and wine pouring.

**Clays for a Cause** – assist with registration, raffle, and set-up.

**Bag Stuffing:** Help us stuff race goody bags throughout the year for Ultrafit-USA races.

**Office:** Assist with mailings, filing, etc.

### Join us at an Event

**Romancing the Grape** – April 28, 2018

Enjoy fine wines and culinary delights from Columbus' finest restaurants in the exclusive Huntington Club of Ohio Stadium.

**Purchase Tickets:** [www.RomancingtheGrape.org](http://www.RomancingtheGrape.org)

**Clays for a Cause** – September 21, 2018

Take aim at our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Clays for a Cause at Cardinal Shooting Center in Marengo, Ohio.

**Register:** [www.EastersealsCentralOhio.org](http://www.EastersealsCentralOhio.org)

**Turkey Trot** – November 22, 2018

Join us Thanksgiving morning for a 5 mile run or 2 mile walk through Ohio State campus and Upper Arlington.

**Register:** [www.ColumbusTurkeyTrot.com](http://www.ColumbusTurkeyTrot.com)



*Jump right in and volunteer with us!*

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**Easterseals changes the way the world defines and views disability by making profound, positive differences in people's lives everyday.**

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### Contact us!

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### Connect with us!

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