



Easterseals = Independence

Starting a new experience sometimes can be nerve-wracking, but, it didn't take long for Emily to fall in love with the environment, the staff, new friends and, of course, the dance parties at the Easterseals program she attends each day. Any nervousness quickly faded and Emily's mom, Julia, has watched her grow into a more independent woman thanks to the skills she is learning at Easterseals.

"Easterseals has made Emily more confident, independent and assertive," Julia says. "She communicates more and expresses herself more. She has learned to approach people if she wants to communicate. "It makes me feel good when she comes home and signs 'friends' and 'dance.'"

Julia knew Easterseals would be a perfect fit for her adult daughter since they helped Emily when she was just a baby through Children's Therapy services.

"I don't know what my life would look like without Easterseals. It helps the individual grow more independent while away from their parent," Julia says. "I know I can count on and trust Easterseals... that it is a safe and happy place to be. They help Emily grow, not just cognitively, but socially."

"Easterseals gives her the highest quality of life, taking her out into the community and helping her to develop her social life," Julia says. "We want to protect our children but you have to let them learn. Easterseals has helped me see that our kids are stronger than we realize."

Easterseals Delaware & Maryland's Eastern Shore offers a range of services, including children's therapies, assistive technology, recreational camping, day programs for adults with physical or intellectual disabilities, and respite services for caregivers. To learn more about how Easterseals helps children and adults with disabilities, call 1-800-677-3800 or visit www.de.easterseals.com.