



# LEGISLATIVE ACTION REQUEST

## EASTERSEALS IOWA CURRENT REALITIES

1. 366 individuals living with disabilities or special needs are currently sitting on referral lists, not receiving the services they need to be successful and/or survive. Additionally, on average, we are forced to turn away 22 per month without even the hope of a referral list placement due to lack of staff.
2. On average, consistently over the past three years, we have 28 open full-time positions that remain open for 58 days on average.
3. In the last three years we have lost 74 team members in Direct Support roles who site "low wages" as their reason for leaving Easterseals Iowa.

## EASTERSEALS IOWA HOME AND COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES BUDGET PROJECTIONS 2023-2024 FISCAL YEAR

HCBS Service Fee **Revenue**

**\$6,621,127**

HCBS Service Fee **Expense**

**\$6,931,978**

## WITHOUT AN INCREASE IN FUNDING, WE CAN EXPECT THE FOLLOWING OUTCOMES

1. Individuals left without services will require more intensive and expensive supports.
2. Parents/caregivers will be unable to go to work due to lack of care for their loved ones and they will drop out of the workforce, further exacerbating the labor shortages.
3. Increases in both hospitalizations and incarceration.
4. Increases in institutional type care such as nursing homes and other non-community based services, which will cost the state far more than HCBS services.

## LEGISLATIVE ACTION NEEDED TO CONTINUE HCBS SERVICES

Increase rates for HCBS/ID, HCBS/BI, HCBS/CMH, and Habilitation  
by 9% and an annual increase per year to match inflation.