

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Fall 2017

Easterseals invites elementary and preschool teachers to utilize Tools 4 Teaching presents "Easterseals HOP-N-ING!" New doll will help kids understand that some disabilities aren't visible.

Kids have fun at school *and* learn valuable life lessons with Tools 4 Teaching presents "Easterseals HOP-N-ING!" The week-long disability awareness program can be used at no cost by elementary school teachers any time during the school year, or year-round for preschool and other groups.



Materials include a curriculum guide and five dolls with disabilities. The dolls' stories help students develop a better understanding of people with differing abilities. This year, a new doll named James, who depicts a child with autism, joins four other dolls with more visible disabilities.

Easterseals staff can present HOP-N-ING information to groups, classes, or in an assembly setting. Groups can also tour the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center to see how our services enable people with disabilities to live, learn, work, and play independently.

After learning about disabilities, children help to change lives *and* win prizes by collecting pledges for each hop completed during a 3-minute HOP-N-ING. Money raised provides therapy for local kids and adults.



If you are a teacher, parent or grandparent and want to get your school involved, contact Alexandra Jarvis at 812.474.2348 or ajarvis@evansvillerehab.com.

Special thanks to title sponsor Tools 4 Teaching and to sponsors Deaconess-Riley Children's Services, St. Vincent Hospital for Women & Children, and Cold Stone Creamery & Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory.



Reserve your spot for "Passion for Fashion!"

Join local Easterseals Child Ambassador Miah Dillingham (left) at our annual style show and luncheon Nov. 9 at Holiday Inn Airport. Proceeds fund life-changing therapy services! Details on page 4.

Easterseals services help 4-year-old Zoie listen and learn.

A bird sings outside and 4-year-old Zoie Sims pauses from her playtime to listen. A bird's song is just one of many sounds that are new to Zoie, who received hearing aids through the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center earlier this year.

Zoie, the happy and observant daughter of George and Stacey Sims, was born with Down syndrome. Easterseals audiologists identified a slight hearing loss, as well, and began evaluating Zoie's hearing regularly. Over time, they determined that hearing aids could help Zoie understand directions, learn more effectively, and reach developmental milestones.

Zoie is still working up to full-time use of her hearing aids, but her family can already tell a difference. In addition to hearing birds and interacting more with her parents and teachers, Zoie is reacting more to music. "She loves music and is becoming more physical with it, moving to the music and not just listening," said Stacey.

"I could never give them back what they've given to our kid."

-Stacey Sims



Four-year-old Zoie Sims visits her audiologist Christine Griffiths at the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center.

Zoie's walking has also improved by leaps and bounds, thanks to custom orthotics from the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center. Lower leg splints provided stability as she learned to walk. "She recently graduated from splints and just has special inserts in her shoes to stabilize her arches and ankles," Stacey explained.

"Receiving services from the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center has just been a great experience," Stacey said. "Everyone is so welcoming and supporting. I could never thank them enough."

New monthly giving program makes an ongoing difference!

Easterseals recently introduced a local monthly giving program and we invite our friends to be a part of it. Joining our new *Ability Alliance* is the easiest and best way to help ensure that the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center is *always here*—and that we can *always* provide therapy for local kids and adults who need our help.

Regularly scheduled monthly gifts from a debit or credit card or directly from a bank account allow us to focus precious resources on *changing lives*, instead of mailing donation requests and invoices. And it's convenient for donors, too!

To sign up or get more details, text "alliance" to 27126; visit ESRCenter.com; or contact Laura Terhune at 812.437.2627 or LTerhune@evansvillerehab.com.



Mark your calendar for coming events to help Easterseals! Visit @EastersealsSWIN on Facebook for details.

Saturday, Oct. 21, 1-4pm: Children's Day at Newburgh Civitan Zombie Farm. \$5/person. Fully accessible for kids of all abilities! 5466 Vann Rd., Newburgh. Special thanks to sponsors Newburgh Civitan, Nick Nackery, Bounce About Funhouse, 103GBF, 99.5 WKDQ, MY 105.3FM, and 106.1 KISS FM.

Thursdays & Sundays through Oct. 31, 6-6:45pm: "No-scare" tours of Newburgh Civitan Zombie Farm for children or the faint of heart. \$1 of each \$5 admission will be donated to Easterseals!

Thursday, Nov. 9, 11:30am-1pm: "Passion for Fashion" Style Show & Luncheon at Holiday Inn Airport. [Details on page 4.](#)

November 23-Jan. 1, Ritz's Fantasy of Lights drive-through light show in Evansville's Garvin Park. 5pm nightly. Closed to vehicles Nov. 29 for "Bright Lights for Easterseals" run/walk. [See article on page 3.](#)

Ritzzy's Fantasy of Lights will shine Nov. 23-Jan. 1

Popular 5K run & family fun walk returns Wed., Nov. 29!

Ritzzy's Fantasy of Lights—a beloved holiday tradition that raises therapy funds for Easterseals—will again brighten Evansville's Garvin Park nightly from Thanksgiving (Nov. 23) through New Year's Day (Jan. 1). *On Nov. 29 ONLY, no vehicles will be admitted, as we welcome runners and walkers to our "Bright Lights for Easterseals" event!*

The 24th annual drive-through display features 62 elaborate scenes. Many are animated to give the illusion of movement. **More displays will be transformed with LED lights this year, so the event will shine brighter than ever!**

Hours are 5-9 p.m. Sun.-Thur. and 5-10 p.m. Fri. and Sat. Tickets are available at the gate OR in advance from any Ritzzy's in Evansville. Admission per vehicle remains at the same affordable price: Up to 6 people \$7; 7-14 people \$10; 15 or more people \$25. Visitors may choose a horse-drawn carriage ride (weather permitting) for \$30, which includes admission; no reservations are needed.

Major sponsors are Ritzzy's, IBEW Local 16, NECA, Teamsters Local 215, Electrical JATC, WEHT Local/Local 7 WTVW, Evansville Courier & Press, Lamar Advertising, 104.1FM-WIKY, HOT 96, 93.5 DUKE FM and WABX.

Tickets are great holiday gifts for friends, family, employees, and customers! Tickets are just \$7 each at the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center (3701 Bellemeade, Evansville) or any Ritzzy's in Evansville.

Discounted tickets (50 or more) are available for businesses and organizations. Choose 50 tickets for \$337.50 (retail value \$350), or 100 tickets for \$650 (retail value \$700). Tickets are available for as little as \$4 each, depending on quantity!

For information and to order discounted tickets, contact Alexandra Jarvis at 812-474-2348 or ajarvis@evansvillerehab.com.



Enjoy "Bright Lights" Run/Walk WEDNESDAY, NOV. 29! On that night ONLY, Ritzzy's Fantasy of Lights will be closed to vehicles and open to runners, walkers, strollers and wheelchair users.

A timed 5K run will start at 5:45 p.m. Registration is \$20 (\$25 after Nov. 15) and includes a t-shirt (adult sizes S-XL). Awards will go to the top 2 male and female runners in various age groups. Visit our EastersealsRehabCtr Facebook page for details!

An untimed 1-mile walk will begin at 6:15 p.m. Registration is just \$5 for the walk. (No charge for ages 2 and under, or for paid 5K race entrants.)

"Bright Lights for Easterseals" will be a festive event for all ages and abilities, so bring friends and family! A costume contest will add to the fun!

ALL proceeds will fund therapy! Register at <https://register.chronotrack.com/r/31836>. For details or to volunteer, sponsor, or provide goody bag items, contact race director Rhonda Trail: rhonda_trail@yahoo.com.



The Easterseals Rehabilitation Center is working to change the way our community defines and views disability by making profound, positive differences in local people's lives every day.

Connect with us!

eastersealsrehabcenter.com

P 812.479.1411 • F 812.437.2634



The perfect ensemble: Gorgeous clothes, holiday shopping and making a difference at “Passion for Fashion!”

Make your reservations for our 2017 style show, “Passion for Fashion!” Join emcee Shelley Kirk **Thursday, Nov. 9**, for the 27th annual luncheon event at Holiday Inn Airport on Hwy. 41 N. in Evansville.

Passion for Fashion features a silent auction with jewelry items, massage and “pamper yourself” packages, exercise classes, themed baskets, gift cards from area merchants, event tickets and more. Find something perfect for everyone on your holiday shopping list!

Doors open at 10:30 a.m. for the silent auction. Enjoy lunch at 11:30, and at noon, community models will present fashions from **The Graceful Lady and Graceful Lady Glam** in Ft. Branch. Child models will show off clothing from the **Lollipop Tree Boutique**.

Proceeds from Passion for Fashion fund therapy for local individuals with disabilities. For details and to rsvp, contact Laura Terhune at 812.437.2627 or lterhune@evansvillerehab.com.



- Individual: \$50
- *Friend: \$75
- *Patron: \$100
- Sponsor Table for 8: \$500
- *Sponsor Table for 8: \$650
- *Presidents' Council: \$1,000
- *Benefactor: \$5,000 & up
- *Includes preferred seating and program listing*



Six-year-old Child Ambassador Miah Dillingham will show off her style at “Passion for Fashion!”

Win a \$1,000 unrestricted gift card from The Diamond Galleria!

One lucky entrant will win a \$1,000 unrestricted gift card from The Diamond Galleria! Chances are \$25 each and all proceeds fund therapy. **For each \$25 chance purchased, you receive a \$25 unrestricted gift card from The Diamond Galleria (up to \$100)!** A maximum of 150 tickets are available until Nov. 9 at “Passion for Fashion.” Contact Caylee Elpers at 812.437.2607 or celpers@evansvillerehab.com to buy in advance. **The winner will be drawn at Passion for Fashion, but you do NOT have to be present to win!**

Wesselman's Supermarkets “Golfing Fore Kids” scores big success!

Many thanks to Wesselman’s for a very successful “Golfing FORE Kids!” More than 150 golfers played in the 18th annual scramble at Cambridge Golf Course on Sept. 28. Proceeds exceeding \$55,000 will help to underwrite approximately 1,150 therapy sessions for people with disabilities who couldn’t otherwise afford them!

For information about next year’s event—tentatively set for Sept. 27, 2018—contact Alexandra Jarvis at 812.474.2348 or ajarvis@evansvillerehab.com.

Results for “Cool Car, Cold Cash” sponsored by Old National Bank.

A total of 3,111 tickets were in our June 20th “Cool Car, Cold Cash” drawing. Proceeds of \$93,570 will help to fund approx. 1,950 therapy sessions! Winner of a new Nissan Sentra or \$15,000 was Mark Adcock, and Mark chose the cash prize. Elaine Pokorney won \$5,000 and Sarah Latham won \$1,000.

Special thanks to some special friends!

- 911 Gives Hope / Guns & Hoses
- CSX “Beyond Our Rails”
- E’ville Iron Street Rod Club
- Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 73
- George Family (Art, Mindy, Alex & Owen)
- Holiday Management Foundation
- Holiday World & Splashin’ Safari
- Mead Johnson Nutrition
- Phi Gamma Delta Hot Tub-a-thon
- Sean Roy Hilt Foundation
- Shine On Express Car Wash
- Team McClintock & the Hight family
- Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Indiana
- TJX Foundation
- United Leasing “Golf Gives Back”
- United Way “Day of Caring” Volunteers
- Vanderburgh Medical Alliance
- Vectren

Occupational Therapy professionals help all ages achieve goals for daily living.

For 100 years, the profession of Occupational Therapy has helped children and adults with disabilities accomplish things they want and need to do every day. At the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center, our experienced OT staff helps hundreds of local people achieve their own goals each year.

Our Occupational Therapy professionals can help children with disabilities learn to grasp toys, print and write, eat a variety of foods, and get dressed without assistance. They may help adults with disabling conditions learn (or re-learn) to prepare meals, do household chores, use a computer keyboard, or drive independently. These are just a few examples of countless goals that can be achieved through Occupational Therapy.

Sessions may include using adaptive equipment such as special eating utensils, dressing devices, reachers, splints, pencil grips, vehicle hand controls, or other equipment.

Evaluations may include visits to a client's home, school or workplace. Occupational Therapy professionals may recommend adaptive equipment and can train clients, family members and caregivers in its use. The primary objective is always to meet the individual's personal goals for living, learning, working and playing in our community.

"Occupational Therapy practitioners have a holistic perspective, in which the focus is on adapting the environment to fit the person, and the person is an integral part of the therapy team."

-American Occupational Therapy Association

Our Occupational Therapists are licensed and most have specialized training in the areas of sensory integration and feeding issues for children. We are certified First Steps providers for infants and children up to age 3.

In most cases, a physician's referral is the first step to an OT evaluation and services. For more details, contact Lee Ann Palombit, OT Director, 812.479.1411 x274 or lpalombit@evansvillerehab.com.



The Easterseals Rehabilitation Center's Occupational Therapy staff helps individuals participate fully in school, at work, at home, and in the community. O.T. staff members are (from left): Janel Gatz, Lisa Ingler, Jill Tolley, Amy Vaughn, Lauren Babb, Linda Dillon, Emily Igel, Lynn Alling, Lisa Hill, LeeAnn Palombit and Rusty Schimmell.

E'ville Iron club members are driven to help Easterseals!

Congratulations and thank you to the E'ville Iron Street Rod Club for an amazing Frog Follies Aug. 25-27! Attendance at the annual street rod show was the best in years, thanks to beautiful weather, community support, and the tireless work of E'ville Iron club members and their families!

The three-day "rod run" at Vanderburgh 4H Center is so impressive, attendees may not realize that E'ville Iron is a small group of local volunteers. Most have been involved for Frog Follies' entire 43-year history!

Why do they continue this huge undertaking, which requires hours, days, and months of dedication? They love cars, yes. But they love our community even more! That's why they donate proceeds to area nonprofits, including Easterseals.

Since E'ville Iron began supporting Easterseals over 34 years ago, the club has donated more than \$1.4 million to the Easterseals Rehabilitation Center! They have funded countless therapy sessions and they make a difference in the lives of local people with disabilities every day!

Mark your calendar now to support E'ville Iron next year! Frog Follies is set for Aug. 24-26, 2018!



Children of all abilities get creative and “Gogh For It!”

Next art workshop planned for December.

Almost 25 children of differing abilities had a great time discovering their creativity at “Gogh For It!” Saturday, Sept. 30. The Easterseals Rehabilitation Center’s first free art workshop was made possible by a grant from the Arts Council of Southwestern Indiana.

Painting was the theme for the afternoon. The budding artists had fun expressing themselves in their own way, and the kids took home their own framed masterpieces.

At the next “Gogh For It!” workshop, participants will create cards using stamps and markers. That event is planned for December. The date will be announced on the EastersealsRehabCtr Facebook page.

Children of all abilities, age PreK-high school, are invited to “Gogh For It!” However, spots are limited to the first 25 who register. To request more details and receive registration information, contact Jaclyn at 812.492.0685 or art@evansvillerehab.com.

