



# Legacy Society



**taking on disability together**

## **Dear Friends,**

Today and into the future, Easterseals Midwest is working hard to meet the ever growing need for our services. Each year we aim to serve more individuals and families who need our support to live full, active lives and participate completely in all life has to offer.

Within this booklet you will find information on how you can make a lasting impact on these efforts by becoming a member of the Legacy Society. The Legacy Society is an important part of our effort to ensure Easterseals Midwest will be here now and into the future for individuals and families with developmental disabilities who need our services.

Legacy Society members are supporters who have made a commitment to improving the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities by including Easterseals Midwest in their will or estate plans. Your commitment today will touch the lives the people we serve forever. I hope you will consider joining me in this truly remarkable and dedicated group.

Your membership comes with special recognition and a number of additional benefits, all of which are outlined in this booklet. And not least, your legacy gift will ensure your wishes and values continue to make an impact well into the future.

To become a member of the Legacy Society, simply fill out and return the card enclosed in this booklet.

Thank you for your support of individuals with developmental disabilities and Easterseals Midwest. Together, we are improving lives and making our community a more inclusive place to live, work, and play.

With gratitude,



Wendy Sullivan  
Chief Executive Officer



## **Easterseals Midwest helps individuals with developmental disabilities—including autism—learn, live, work and participate in our community.**

For nearly 100 years, Easterseals Midwest has been the indispensable resource for people and families impacted by disabilities. Today, we continue to make a major, positive, life-changing difference in the lives of people and families facing today's disabilities.

From early childhood education and in-depth autism programming, to job training and community living support, Easterseals Midwest helps people with disabilities and their families address life's challenges and achieve personal goals.

More than 4,500 individuals and families count on us each year for services that help them learn, live, work, play and participate in a community that values their contributions. We continue to depend on caring families and friends in our community to make our work possible.

**Thank you for being a part of this important work.**

## **A Legacy Gift**

As an Easterseals Midwest supporter, you have demonstrated your personal commitment to our work through your generous annual giving. Now, we ask you to consider making a special gift—a Legacy Society gift made through your estate plans.

Families throughout our community depend on Easterseals Midwest to be there for their loved ones today and into the future. Your Legacy Society gift will ensure that your personal and philanthropic interests and wishes are recorded and protected.

**Will you join us?**





PAST  
PRESENT  
FUTURE  
FOREVER

## **Joining the Legacy Society**

The Legacy Society recognizes donors who ensure Easterseals Midwest's future by naming us in their will or estate plans. Legacy Society gifts provide a foundation of future support for the full range of Easterseals Midwest's services—**from community living and autism services, to early childhood education and employment services.**

Legacy Society donors receive quarterly updates from our CEO, Wendy Sullivan. They are also invited to all Easterseals Midwest major donor events and are given special recognition in our annual report.

# Getting Started

**Estate planning does not need to be cumbersome or complicated.**

**Here are four easy steps to help you get started.**

1. Gather information about your assets, including any retirement funds, bank accounts or real estate.
2. Think about the people and organizations that matter most to you and how you would like to provide for them.
3. Consider who can serve as your executor.
4. Meet with a professional. If you do not have an attorney in mind, the local chapter of the American Bar Association can make a referral.



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FUTURE  
FOREVER



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**FUTURE**  
**FOREVER**

## Your Options

Most Legacy Society members make their gift through a will, but there are many ways to make a planned gift. Charitable gift annuities and charitable remainder trusts have immediate tax benefits, and can offer you, as the donor, income for life.

Another option is to name Easterseals Midwest as a beneficiary of your retirement plan, IRA, life insurance policy, or bank or brokerage account. Like a bequest, these gifts will help to ensure that Easterseals Midwest can meet the needs of future generations.

These gifts are easy to implement, and are often a tax-wise strategy for donors. Plus, you will enjoy the pride and peace of mind that comes with leaving a legacy gift that will benefit this and future generations. Contact your plan or policy administrator for a change of beneficiary form to name Easterseals Midwest in your retirement and life insurance accounts.

**To name Easterseals Midwest in your estate plans, you will need the following information:**

Legal Name: Easterseals Midwest  
Address: 11933 Westline Industrial Drive  
St. Louis, Missouri 63146-3203  
Telephone: 1.800.200.2119  
Tax ID: 43-0979927

## **We are counting on you.**

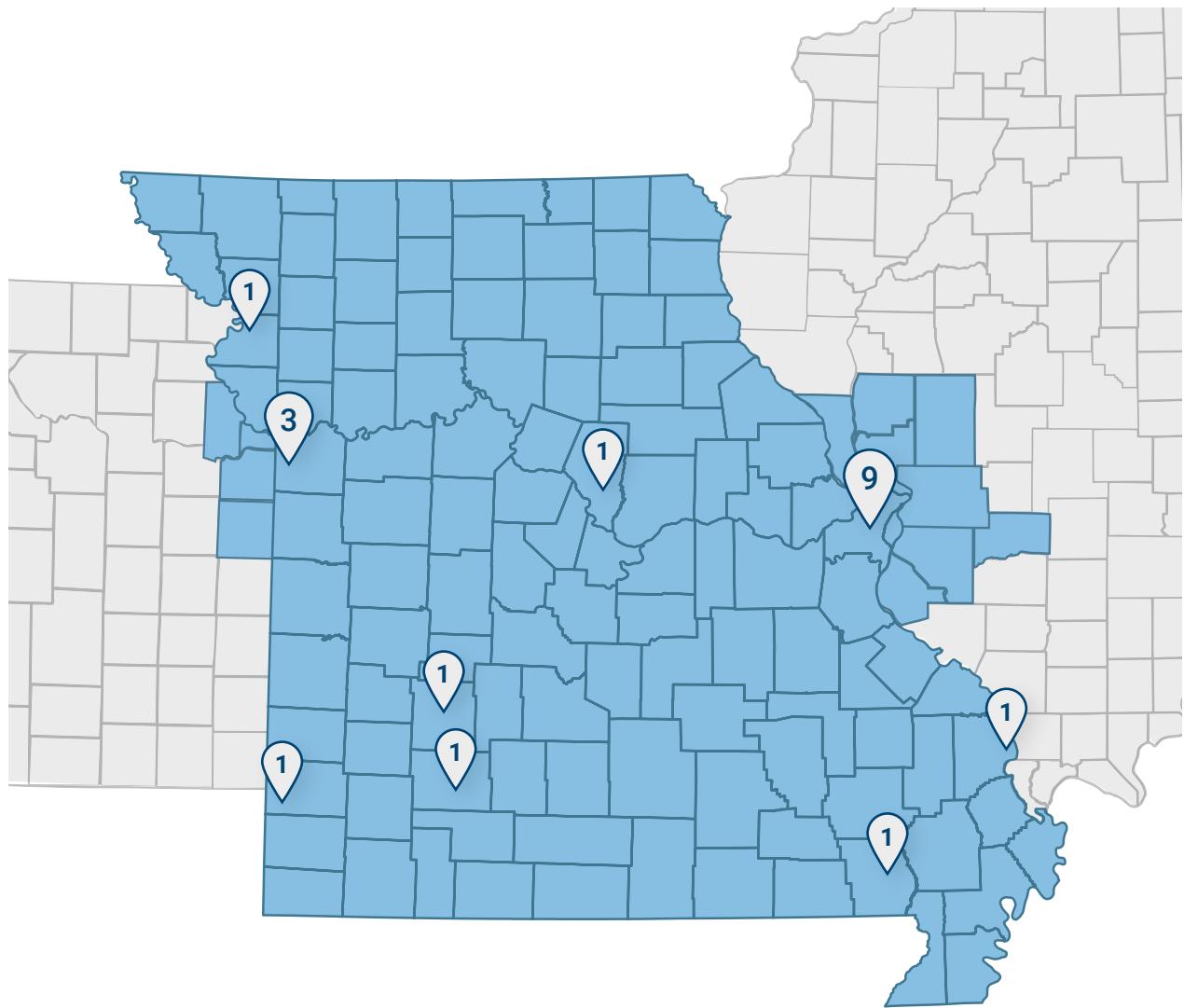
Your past support has helped us get to where we are today. Please join our Legacy Society by making a planned gift. It will make all the difference.

Legacy Society gifts ensure that Easterseals Midwest's services will be here for those we support for generations to come.

Thank you for your consideration.



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## Easterseals Midwest Service Areas

- Bolivar
- Cape Girardeau
- Columbia
- Joplin
- Kansas City – 3 Locations
- Poplar Bluff
- Springfield
- St. Louis – 9 Locations
- St. Joseph

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**FUTURE**  
**FOREVER**

**I'm ready to make a difference.**

- I have already included/I am planning to include Easterseals Midwest in my will or other long-range plans.
- Please have a gift planning representative contact me to discuss the best gift option for me.

Name(s)

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Address

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City

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State

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Zip Code

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Area Code/Phone Number

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Best Time to Call

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Email

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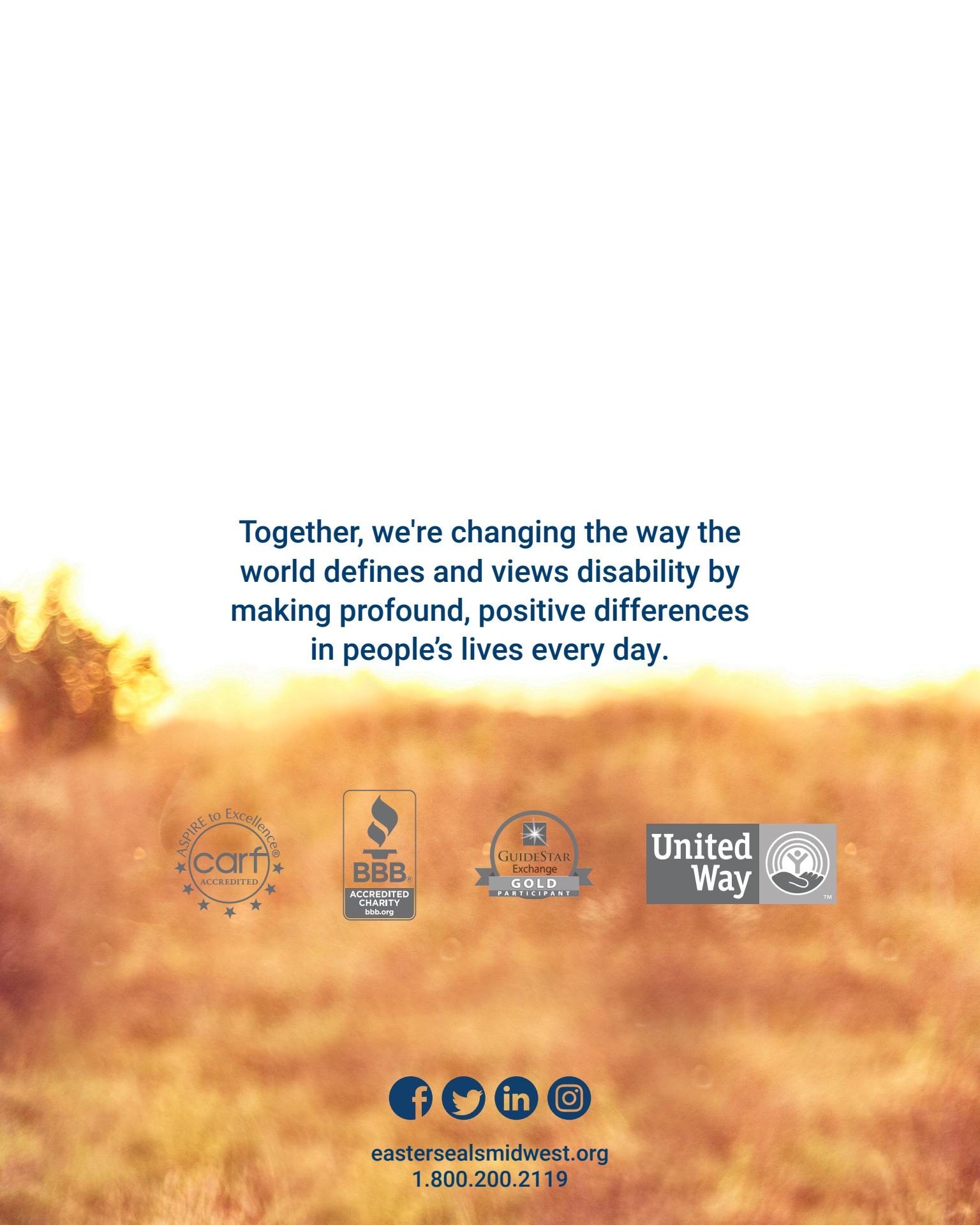
**Thank You!**



If you would like to read a copy of our most recent annual report, which describes our programs, please call the Office of Development at 1-800-200-2119. Our federal tax I.D. number is 43-0979927.

This brochure is for general purposes only, and is not intended as legal or financial advice. Individual financial situations vary, and Easterseals Midwest recommends that each person considering a planned gift consult with his or her own financial and/or legal advisor.

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**Together, we're changing the way the world defines and views disability by making profound, positive differences in people's lives every day.**



[eastersealsmidwest.org](http://eastersealsmidwest.org)  
1.800.200.2119