

Union

# Easterseals NJ receives \$3.29 million grant from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

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**By Community Bulletin**

Easterseals New Jersey received a two-year \$3.29 million grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

The grant is designed to increase access to mental health services for hundreds of individuals in Union County with severe emotional distress. It will also apportion funds to support the wellness of essential mental health workers and staff members who care for individuals in the CenterPath Wellness clinics, a counseling service center affiliated with Easterseals NJ.

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The grant will help Easterseals NJ provide expanded services to 500 to 700 children and adults over the course of two years, along with mental health workers.

“Few populations are more critical to serve than our young people, especially those struggling with severe mental health concerns. We are here to serve them, and this generous grant allows us to significantly expand the breadth and scope of our services,” said Easterseals NJ CEO and

president Brian Fitzgerald. “Through this grant, SAMHSA is also acknowledging that the essential workers who help these individuals need mental health services as well, so they can do their jobs at the highest level each and every day. For these reasons, our gratitude for this SAMHSA grant is profound.”

Through this grant, it is expected that Easterseals NJ will be able to “significantly increase access to services for children and adults with severe emotional distress and support the wellness and recoveries of those individuals, especially given the lack or limitations of those services due to COVID-19.” The grant will support CPW’s need for technology, marketing of services, and training. The funding will also enable Easterseals NJ and CPW to promote its services to its local provider networks.

For more information on Easterseals New Jersey and its statewide disability services, visit <http://www.eastersealsnj.org/> For more information on the nonprofit CenterPath Wellness and its services, visit <https://www.mycenterpath.org/> or call 908-756-6870.

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