

## What is Easterseals?

For nearly 100 years, Easterseals has been the indispensable resource for people and families living with disabilities. Throughout all life's moments – from the extraordinary to the ordinary and everything in between – Easterseals is here to help people and families realize and reach for their full potential.



## Upcoming Events

Strides for disAbility  
October 20

Safe Halloween  
October 1-31 at all  
Baker's Restaurants in the  
Inland Empire

Giving Tuesday  
November 27



Changing the way the world defines and views disability by making profound positive differences in people's lives every day

## George Visits the Beach

In his entire life George had never been to the beach. When Adult Day Services started piloting person-centered services, where staff works to facilitate participants making their own choices about daily activities, George made his wishes known.

"George communicates 'yes' by looking up and 'no' by looking down," Life Skills Coach Maria Juarez said. "He saw a picture of the beach and made it clear he wanted to go."

Staff had been told he could not go out into community due to the size of his wheelchair not fitting on public transportation and concerns about his health. The staff figured out ways to address these challenges and arranged for George to go to the beach—for the first time!



As George looked at the ocean Maria noticed he was crying. "I asked him if he was sad. He (indicated) 'no.' I asked him if he was happy. He (indicated) 'yes.' His tears were joyful. I got emotional too," Maria said. To learn more about our adult day services, go to [www.easterseals.com/southernca](http://www.easterseals.com/southernca)

## YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Start today with a tax-deductible gift to Easterseals Southern California  
Go to [www.easterseals.com/southernca](http://www.easterseals.com/southernca) or call (714) 207-5175

Easterseals Southern California serves 10,000 people with developmental disabilities or other needs at 65 service sites in 10 counties including Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, Imperial, Kern, San Bernadino, Riverside, Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo

- Adult Day Services
- Autism Therapy
- Child Development Services
- Bob Hope Veterans Support Program
- Work First
- Living Options
- Camp



For more than 40 years, campers and volunteers from all walks of life have come together for one magical week of camp. Activities include crafts, hayrides, talent shows, dances, swimming, canoeing, archery, hiking, concerts, storytelling, and a high and low ropes course.

Held at Camp Oakes, an accredited American Camping Association site, Easterseals' camps offer children and adults with disabilities the same excitement and activities available at other camps. A big THANK YOU to our friends at CVS Pharmacy for providing products and volunteering to do makeup and hairstyling for our campers!



## Join the Easterseals Presidents' Council

The Presidents' Council is the premiere giving program that recognizes donations of \$1,000 or more. Presidents' Council members make a difference in the lives of individuals and their families through their support of services that assist people with disabilities to work, live independently, and be active in their communities. Presidents' Council membership also comes with customized benefits. We look forward to you joining our program! For more information call (714) 207-5175.



## *A Bequest Leads to a Discovery*

A former professional horsewoman, dog breeder, rancher, shop owner, and more, Mrs. Wilt, 87, has packed an astounding range of endeavors into nearly nine decades.

"I came out of the womb looking for physical challenge," she says.

Fortunately, Mrs. Wilt found an equally adventurous soul mate. Lu was the quarterback at the college they attended, and she was the fiery redhead. They had 63 years together until her husband passed away in 2013 — a time mostly spent out West, where she says "the mountains were calling me."

Lu was a man who "felt he was on this earth to do whatever he needed to get done," Mrs. Wilt says. She would listen to his stories about once lifeguarding at a camp for children with disabilities.

Lu sent a gift to Easterseals each year, and the couple established a bequest for Easterseals, but Mrs. Wilt was unaware he had any personal connection to our organization.

"Easterseals was always his Number One," she says. "I didn't know why."

Some time after Lu died, Mrs. Wilt received a medallion from Easterseals thanking her for their planned gift and welcoming her into our Legacy Society. Looking at a liking of Easterseals' founder, Edgar "Daddy" Allen, on the medallion, Mrs. Wilt had a revelation. Lu had worked at "Camp Daddy Allen" — that meant the camp had been operated by Easterseals!

"I don't know if he knew the connection," she says, "but I get goose bumps every time I look at that medallion. He was so proud of the camp and the fun and freedom those children enjoyed. I consider this my gift to Lu. He'd be so pleased."



## LEGACY SOCIETY

As a Legacy Society member, you imagine a world beyond the present.

The Legacy Society honors individuals who have included Easterseals in their will, trust or other charitable planned gifts. As a member of the Legacy Society, you find yourself among a circle of friends who are determined to keep the Easterseals mission alive ... forever.

If you are considering a gift to Easterseals in your estate plans, we encourage you to contact our Office of Planned Giving at (714) 201-5027.

## Planned Giving Tips - IRAs

IRA stands for Individual Retirement Account. It is a savings account that allows you to save money for your retirement in a tax-advantaged way. Most people consider IRAs just an investment, but it is more than that. You can keep your stock, mutual funds, bonds and other assets in them and enjoy the benefits gained from them. IRAs can also be used as a charitable tool to start a legacy with your favorite charity.

### Your IRA can help Easterseals NOW

IRA donors that are over 70 ½ years of age have to take a part of distribution from their IRA every year. This is called Required Minimum Distribution or an RMD. You will get taxed on these distributions as income. In the last few years, Congress passed a law that allows IRA holders to direct the RMDs to a charity they support. By doing this, you can avoid income tax and your IRA can be a great source for making a gift to Easterseals.

### Your IRA and Estate Planning

Donors can use their IRA as a planned giving tool. In doing so, they name a beneficiary, much like in life insurance. In most cases, beneficiaries or heirs are the donor's spouse, children or grandchildren. It is then up to them to pay the taxes on their RMDs. However, there is another solution. Since life insurance is not considered a taxable exposure to beneficiaries, the donor can leave his/her IRAs, 401(k)s, 403(b)s, etc. to charity and their life insurance to their spouse and children, thus avoiding taxes. In most situations, it can mean more funds for Easterseals and heirs alike.

*This information is intended to assist you in your charitable planning. It is not legal advice and should not be relied upon as such. Please consult with your attorney or other advisor for professional advice.*



# Strides for disAbility

Strides for Disability | 5K Walk/Run | 3K Family Fun Walk

Registration fee: \$35 | Day of fee: \$40



**REGISTER NOW**  
[easterseals.com/ESSCstrides](http://easterseals.com/ESSCstrides)

Easterseals Southern California's annual Run/Walk honors diversity, promotes inclusion, and shows what disAbility means today! Go to [easterseals.com/ESSCstrides](http://easterseals.com/ESSCstrides) for sponsorship info or contact our Events Department at (714)201-5020

**SATURDAY, OCT 20th**  
**SHORELINE AQUATIC PARK IN LONG BEACH**



1063 McGaw Avenue  
Irvine, CA 92614  
714-834-1111  
[www.easterseals.com/southernca](http://www.easterseals.com/southernca)

## CELEBRATE. DON'T SEPARATE.

Change the way you see disability

[CelebrateDontSeparate.org](http://CelebrateDontSeparate.org)