

## IMPACT ON CENTRAL AND SOUTHEAST OHIO

Summer 2018

### Easterseals Teams Up with Buddy Ball

#### Baseball for All!

Easterseals is proud to be a team sponsor of the 2018 Buddy Ball League of Grove City, a baseball league for children and adults with disabilities.

#### Team Players

At Easterseals, it's important to us to give back to the special needs community. Because we share the same values as Buddy Ball, we are proud to be a Team Sponsor of the league that removes barriers for individuals with disabilities.

Not only did our organization sponsor a team, we also provided volunteer "Buddies" for an adult league game. Members of our staff had the great opportunity to be a Buddy for our Easterseals team in the Buddy Ball adult league. The league relies on volunteers to be a "Buddy" at each game. Buddies assist athletes with batting, catching, throwing, and running the bases.

Our staff enjoyed volunteering, making new friends, and giving back to the community. We also had the opportunity to catch up with some old friends. Two of the Buddy Ball Easterseals' Team players are like family to us, as they each came through our programs as children.

It's important to us to support individuals with special needs, even if they no longer receive services from Easterseals. This is important to

us because we want individuals to succeed in life and have the same opportunities as everyone else. We value our partnership with Buddy Ball and other special needs organizations because we all share the same goal in helping those with disabilities overcome challenges and gain independence.

To learn more about Buddy Ball, view the game schedule, and how to volunteer as a Buddy, visit: [www.gcdreamfield.com](http://www.gcdreamfield.com).

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**"At Easterseals, it's important to us to give back to the special needs community."**



*Easterseals staff members volunteering as Buddies at Buddy Ball.*

## Adult Day Olympians

### Adult Day Program Participates in the Lawrence County Special Olympics

Easterseals' Adult Day Program in South Point participates in the Lawrence County Special Olympics.

#### Special Olympics

Easterseals' was honored to be a part of the 2018 Lawrence County Special Olympics at South Point High School on May 10.

Adults from our program were invited to participate in the games which included several track and field competitions.

The mission of Special Olympics is to provide year-round sports training and competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. It gives them opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy, and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills, and friendship with their families, other Special Olympic athletes,

and the community.

"Our individuals really enjoyed participating in the Special Olympics competition", said Cheryl McNeal, Adult Inclusion Coordinator, "we strive to give them opportunities to get out into the community, have fun, and interact with others."

Participating in activities such as Special Olympics, contributes to the physical, social, and psychological development of the athletes. Through successful experiences in sports, they gain confidence and build positive self-image which carries over into their daily lives at home, at work, and in the community.

Our Adult Day program in Lawrence County offers adults with disabilities the opportunity to live, learn, work, and play as a vital member of their own community. We provide therapeutic



*Jonathan representing our Adult Day Program in the opening ceremony of the Lawrence County Special Olympics.*

programming, life skills, and the support necessary to remain actively engaged in Lawrence County. Our individuals have the opportunity to regularly interact with people of all ages and ability levels through regular activities and community events.



## Easterseals Team Medal Count:

**15 Gold Medals**  
**10 Silver Medals**  
**11 Bronze Medals**

*Our Adult Day Program in South Point participates in the Lawrence County Special Olympics.*

# Summer Camp

## Preventing the Summer Slump

Easterseals is gearing up for another fun summer with our campers in our Offsite Summer Camp at West Franklin Elementary in Columbus.

### Summer Learning Loss

At Easterseals we know how to have fun during the summer but also how to prevent the “summer slump” when kids sometimes find themselves forgetting the school routine and losing academic skills and knowledge they learned during the school year.

Our Summer Camp strives to prevent this from happening by structuring the day to be similar to a school schedule, but in smaller time increments. We also strive to help children retain what they learned during the school year by including academic skills such as math,

science, and reading into camp activities.

These skills are incorporated into weekly themes such as super hero week, carnival week and more. This way, the academic activities are fun but still help children retain the knowledge they gained during the school year.

Our camp days are filled with other fun, hands-on activities like arts and crafts, group games, outdoor play, and self-directed play time. This structured setting is designed to make sure that campers don't lose the progress they've made in school the previous year.

Weekly themes give campers the chance to learn about the world around them and to explore through creative



*Campers at our Offsite Summer Camp plant flowers and learn about how plants grow.*

play. Our camp is provided to children with and without special needs at our office in Hilliard and at a school in the Southwestern City School district. The camp is funded by the Franklin County Board of Commissioners and Department of Job and Family Services.



## Romancing the Grape

Thank you to all who attended!

Over 800 guests joined us for Romancing the Grape on Saturday, April 28 at Ohio Stadium. Guests enjoyed fine wines, culinary delights from local restaurants, and live entertainment. The event raised over \$100,000 for Easterseals' programs and services.

**Save the date for next year: Saturday, April 27, 2019**

Purchase tickets: at [www.RomancingtheGrape.org](http://www.RomancingtheGrape.org)

# Ways to Make an Impact

## Ways to Get Involved and Show Your Support

### Ways to Give

**Donate:** make a contribution online, over the phone, or mail us a check:

Attn: Development Department  
3830 Trueman Ct.  
Hilliard, OH 43026

**Donations made to this address stay 100% local here in our community.**

**Shop at Kroger:** Register your Kroger Plus Card in the Community Rewards program in support of Easterseals. Our ID is 80979.

[www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com)

**Shop on Amazon:** Shop on smile.amazon.com and designate Easterseals as your Amazon Smile charity. Easterseals will receive a portion of the purchases you make on Amazon.



### Join us at an Event

**Wing Extravaganza – August 8, 2018**

Rule 3, Pickerington, OH from 6-9pm

Join us for a night of family fun including a wing eating competition, dinner, bounce house, live music, raffles, and more!

**Register for wing competition at:**  
[www.EastersealsCentralOhio.org](http://www.EastersealsCentralOhio.org)

**Touch a Truck – August 9, 2018**

3830 Trueman Ct., Hilliard, OH from 5-8pm

Explore police cars, fire trucks, and more!

**Admission and exploring vehicles is free. Tickets will be sold for bounce house and snacks.**

**Clays for a Cause – September 21, 2018**

Take aim at our 4th annual Clays for a Cause at Cardinal Shooting Center in Marengo, Ohio.

**Register:** [www.EastersealsCentralOhio.org](http://www.EastersealsCentralOhio.org)

**Turkey Trot – November 22, 2018**

Join us Thanksgiving morning for a run or walk through Upper Arlington. Every participant receives a pumpkin pie!

**Register:** [www.ColumbusTurkeyTrot.com](http://www.ColumbusTurkeyTrot.com)



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**Easterseals changes the way the world defines and views disability by making profound, positive differences in people's lives everyday.**

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### Contact us!

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### Connect with us!

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