

2008



ANNUAL REPORT EASTER SEALS WEST ALABAMA

Easter Seals' mission is to provide exceptional services to ensure that all people with disabilities or special needs and their families have equal opportunities to live, learn, work and play in their communities.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN AND ADMINISTRATOR

Change...that is a word we have heard and experienced many times this past year. There is a change in our national leadership that made history; our economy has gone through a change not seen in most of our lifetimes. At Easter Seals we have not been immune to change. In February we had to temporarily close our transportation program



David Hays Lucie S. Robinson

due to a change in revenue source. Our excellent team of staff and leadership is knowledgeable and proactive and was ready to lead the way during this unpredictable time. As a result, in October we were awarded transportation funding from the state and once again our vans and buses are taking people to work.

In the Outpatient Program, our OT Kids Program adapted to new challenges when the Johnson & Johnson funding period ended. The Johnson & Johnson team mentored us well, and we are ready to spread our wings and fly. Faced with the challenges of identifying new funding sources to keep this necessary program going, we applied for and received several grants. We believe this program will continue to grow and be successful to meet the special needs of children in our area. This year a new contract was added to serve children with OT needs in the Tuscaloosa City School System. The Outpatient Program continues to expand both in-house and serving patients at Bryce Hospital, Harper Geriatric Center, and Alice Kidd Intermediate Care Facility.



The Vocational Program experienced change with staff retirements and budget constraints. Working with our partner, the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services, our qualified and dedicated staff continues placing people into competitive employment in these tumultuous economic times.

In addition, Easter Seals West Alabama held five successful fundraisers this past year. Together these events generated over \$140,000 for our programs.

Easter Seals West Alabama continues to adapt to changes in the economic climate and will continue to look for funding opportunities and innovative ways to serve our consumers.

2008 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Loie Sears Robinson
Administrator

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

Reid Holley, Chairperson
Richard Key, Vice-Chairperson
Rosalind Holloman, Secretary
Barney Cargile, Ph.D., Treasurer
Ward McFarland, Member-at-Large
Dawson Christian, Member-at-Large Emeritus
Catherine Murphy Payne, Honorary Member

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Lynne Stokley, CEO
Easter Seals Alabama, Inc.

Tommy Hester
Immediate Past Chairperson

Lisa Alford
Alabama Department of
Rehabilitation Services

Anna Bend Coats
Consumer Liaison

DIRECTORS

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J. Michael Whitten
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Cordell Wynn, Ph.D.



*Easter Seals "aspires to assume responsibility and to discharge a duty. . .
To be instrumental in effecting good. . ." Edgar F. Allen, 1922*

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

OUTPATIENT REHABILITATION PROGRAM

The comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation and treatment programs provide a wide range of services including physical therapy, occupational therapy for children and adults, speech/language therapy, and audiology and hearing services. Medicare, Medicaid, and most private insurances are accepted.



VOCATIONAL SERVICES

This community-based program offers individuals with disabilities the opportunity to demonstrate their ability to deliver high quality work to companies in the community. We specialize in assessing consumers' strengths and needs, accommodating functional limitations, and offering vocational preparation leading to employment.

TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

This unique program provides rides to work or job training for people with disabilities and other low-income consumers who meet eligibility requirements. The program is made possible through a grant from the Alabama Department of Transportation with matching funds from the Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services and the Alabama Department of Human Resources.



SOCIAL SECURITY REPRESENTATIVE PAYEE PROGRAM

This program manages funds for over 200 people with disabilities who are receiving social security payments. We ensure that the consumers' basic needs for food and shelter are met and that their household bills are paid in a timely fashion enabling them to live independently in the community.

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT AT-RISK-YOUTH PROGRAM

Funded through the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs, this program serves youth age 16-21 who are at risk due to aging out of foster care or dropping out of school. The goal is to assist youth in increasing academic levels and obtaining employment.

*"Your life and mine shall be valued not by what we take,
but by what we give." Edgar F. Allen, 1922*

FUNDRAISING ACTIVITIES

Members of the Volunteer Steering Committee, Board of Directors, and staff extend our heartfelt appreciation to the West Alabama community for your continued support of our fundraising activities. Your generosity makes a positive *difference* in the lives of children and adults with special needs in West Alabama.

In 2008 we hosted the Spring Gala at the Bryant Conference Center as our 26th year Mall Ball tradition continues in a new and exciting format. We would like to thank Ward McFarland and Sandra Baker for their continued support and for hosting the preview party for our sponsors.

TUSCALOOSA'S PREMIER CHARITABLE EVENT—THE SPRING GALA

Thank you 2008 Gala Supporters

DIAMOND



PLATINUM



Mercedes Benz



GOLD

ABC 33/40
Alabama Power Company*
Alagasco
Andres & Lemley, LLC
BFGoodrich Tire Manufacturing Co.
Banks Quarles Plumbing Heating
& Cooling, Inc.*
Bryant Bank
The Caring Foundation of Blue Cross
& Blue Shield
Dunn's Wholesale Auto Sales, Inc.
Four Points Hotel

Mr. & Mrs. James E. Holloman*
JVC America, Inc.
Jim Myers Drug, Inc.
Organizational Development & Design, Inc.
Results Advertising
Riverhill
Mr. & Mrs. Martin V. Selman
Southland National Insurance Corporation*
Todd Media
The Warr Group/Morgan Stanley*
R.L. Zeigler, Inc.

**Indicates member, Board of Directors*

EASTER SEALS WALK WITH ME

The Board of Directors, volunteers, and staff of Easter Seals West Alabama would like to thank the community for your overwhelming support of our second annual *Walk With Me* fundraiser held on September 20th at Riverwalk Park East.

Coach Patrick Murphy did an extraordinary job as our honorary chairman. He engaged the softball team, assistant coaches, and athletes and coaches from gymnastics, swimming, diving, basketball, rowing and other sports. Their enthusiasm and spirit for the cause made the morning fun and the walk seem easy. We appreciate every one of our sponsors and walkers. Thank you to the Tuscaloosa Fire and Rescue Squad, Tuscaloosa County Sheriff's Department and the Tuscaloosa Police Department for ensuring the safety of our participants. Each of you makes a difference in our community.



Thank You

2008 WALK WITH ME CORPORATE SPONSORS



Rosalind Hoffoman



Rosen & Harwood P.A.
Attorneys at Law

AMERICA'S
CREDIT UNION



Alagasco
THE FUTURE COMPANY



FRIENDS

Alpha Chi Omega
Bud's Best Cookies
Coca-Cola Bottling Company
Cypress Inn
Food World
Fun Factory
Lambda Chi Alpha

Phi Sigma Kappa
Publix Supermarkets
Spanky's
Tuscaloosa Blueprinting & Reprographics
Tuscaloosa Civitan Club
Winn-Dixie



WEST ALABAMA MEMORIES HOLIDAY ORNAMENT

Our fourteenth annual ornament design featured the Capitol Ruins. The limited edition series honors Southern beauty and tradition found in historic landmarks in West Alabama. We are grateful to artist Dan Rountree for donating his rendition of the “Capitol Ruins” for our 14th annual ornament design. Dan, an Alabama native since 1977, is most known for his stunning watercolors. He has taken classes with some of the finest artists in the United States. Yet none of them have influenced his work as much as Joan Potter. Dan traveled to Santa Fe to study with her. Over the years, their friendship has grown with many trips to Santa Fe and Joan coming to Alabama to teach a workshop. Dan works out of Rountree Studio in Northport, Alabama.



RV PARKING

Easter Seals offered RV Parking in the parking lot for the second time during the 2008 football season. The facility could accommodate 21 spaces and the lot sold out. Thank you to Mike and Gwen Stewart for their hard work to ensure the success of this fundraiser. Call 759-1211 ext. 229 or visit our website at www.eastersealswestal.org to find out more or to reserve your space for the 2009 football season.

HOUNDSTOOTH BRICK SALE

Doug Nelson, owner of the HoundsTooth Sports Bar, donated the bricks from the original HoundsTooth when the building was demolished to make way for a larger place. Easter Seals West Alabama, with the help of United Way volunteers, cleaned the bricks, numbered them and placed engraved plates on them which read, “The Original HoundsTooth–1988-2008.” Mr. Nelson signed the bricks to authenticate them. For a donation of \$25 you can own a piece of the Tooth. Local artist, Chris Powell, did a pen and ink drawing of the Original HoundsTooth, which is available for \$15. Call 759-1211 for more information.

AWARDS-LOCAL AND STATE

EASTER SEALS WEST ALABAMA

The Easter Lily Award-A Symbol of Hope: *Nicholas Mendle*
Presented to consumers who have met or exceeded their employment goals. Tuscaloosa County

The Circle Award-Receiving in Order to Give: *Linda Creek*

Business of the Year: *Hudson's Dirt Cheap*
Presented to a business or industry for hiring people with disabilities.

Staff Member of the Year: *Lottie Parker*

Volunteer of the Year: *Corporal Mark Weaver*

Community Partnership Award:*Dr. Susan McKim*

**Most Referrals from the Alabama Department of
Rehabilitation Services**
Joyce Alexander & Monica Gardner

EASTER SEALS ALABAMA

Gold Award: *Peggy McCollum*

Special Recognition Award: *Corporal Mark Weaver*

ALABAMA ASSOCIATION OF REHABILITATION FACILITIES

Meritorious Service Award: *Catherine "Woodie" Payne*

Communications Award: *Results Advertising*

Special Recognition Award: *Dr. Carolyn Crow*

Club of the Year Award: *Tuscaloosa Civitan Club*

President's Award: *Loie Sears Robinson*

GRANT AWARDS RECEIVED IN 2007-08

Alabama Department of Economic & Community Affairs
Alabama Department of Human Resources
Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services
Alabama Department of Transportation
Community Foundation of West Alabama
Tuscaloosa Civitan Club
The Exchange Club of Tuscaloosa
The Junior League of Tuscaloosa



SERVICE REPORT

Department	Physical/ Occupational Therapy	Speech Language & Audiology	Vocational Rehabilitation	Transportation	WIA Youth Grant	Social Security	Support Services
Age:							
0-17	172	132	36	13	11	7	85
18-64	115	12	319	202	29	199	31
Over 65	215	44	1	1	0	26	0
Total	502	188	356	216	40	232	0
Sex:							
Male	239	103	174	69	27	131	55
Female	263	85	182	147	13	101	61
Race:							
Black	181	99	163	164	31	132	65
White	317	88	193	50	9	100	50
Other	4	1		2			1
Total Served	502	188	356	216	40	232	116
Grand Total Served							1,650

Closed in employment through Vocational Services:

School-to-Work Program: 15

Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Partnership Program: 86

Volunteer Hours: 3,785

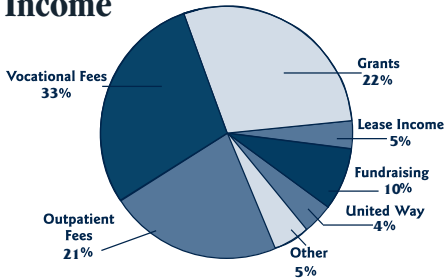
SERVED BY COUNTY

Bibb .....	.30
Fayette .....	.33
Greene .....	.12
Hale .....	.22
Lamar .....	.48
Pickens .....	.42
Sumter .....	.12
Tuscaloosa	1,382
Other .....	.69

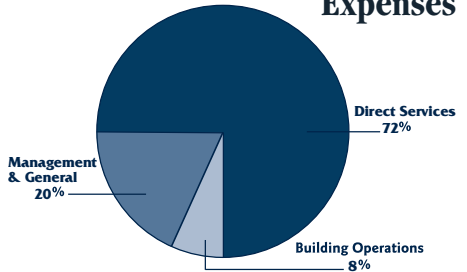
SERVED BY DISABILITY

Physical .....	.470
Behavior .....	.7
Mental Retardation .....	.199
Substance Abuse .....	.105
Mental Illness .....	.240
Learning Disability .....	.235
Speech .....	.132
Visual .....	.4
Hearing .....	.53
Socio/Economic .....	.190
Other .....	.15

Income



Expenses



"I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the community, and as long as I live it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can." George Bernard Shaw

Easter Seals West Alabama celebrates its friendship with individuals, corporations, and foundations, who understand the impact of their gifts. They see the value of their contributions and know how children and adults with disabilities respond to the exceptional services their generosity makes possible. Easter Seals volunteers and donors say that giving makes them feel good. Easter Seals' efficient use of their contributions also is an important factor when making the decision to support Easter Seals' vision and the innovative services and programs that make it possible for people with disabilities or other special needs to live, learn, work and play in their communities.



WAYS YOU CAN GIVE TO EASTER SEALS WEST ALABAMA

GIFTS OF CASH

Simple...with immediate benefits to you and the children and adults we serve

GIFTS-IN-KIND

Donations of products or services

GIFTS OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

Gifts of personal property such as vehicles, wheelchairs etc.

GIFTS OF REAL ESTATE

Gifts of land, buildings and homes can significantly impact our programs

GIFTS OF STOCK

Special gift and tax benefit opportunities for entrepreneurs and business people

GIFTS OF SECURITIES

The gift of stocks, bonds, and other securities saves taxes twice

PLANNED GIFTS

Securing your future and ours through wills, trusts, and estate planning

2008 DONATIONS, MEMORIALS & TRIBUTES

EQUIPMENT

Ms. Leslie Dawson
Mr. Fred Klug
Ms. Loie Sears Robinson
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Rust
Mr. & Mrs. Shane Sears

DONATIONS

Altrusa Foundation
Asulikit Club
Mr. Mal Beavers
Ms. Brenda Benefield
Ms. Lillian Black
Ms. Dawn Brasfield
Mrs. Florence Crawford
The Credit Union of Alabama
The Community Foundation of
West Alabama
Exchange Club of
Tuscaloosa Foundation, Inc.
Ms. Laurie Ganon
Dr. Rebecca Harvard
Mr. Robert H. Rust
The Junior League of Tuscaloosa
Moundville United Fund
Mrs. Catherine Murphy "Woodie" Payne
Ms. Regina Sealy
Miss Grace Sears
Ms. Lesley S. Selman
Mr. James Sledge
Ms. Tara Sullivan
Tuscaloosa Area Hospitality Association
Tuscaloosa Civitan Club

IN MEMORY OF:

Ms. Esther "Kay" Guin
Dr. & Mrs. Jay Lindly

Mrs. Juanita Leigh
Ms. Paula Quarles

Mrs. Mary Verdie Johnston
Dr. & Mrs. James E. Morris, Jr.

Mrs. Louise Richardson
Ms. Paula Quarles

Mr. Henry J. Zeringue, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Roy T. Gregg, Jr.
Ms. Loie Sears Robinson

IN HONOR OF:
Priscilla & Raymond Griffin
Ms. Paula Quarles



EASTER SEALS WEST ALABAMA

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MEMBER AGENCY OF THE UNITED WAY OF WEST ALABAMA

PARTNERSHIPS AND AFFILIATIONS

Easter Seals

Easter Seals Alabama, Inc.

Alabama Association of Rehabilitation Facilities

The University of Alabama

Department of Communicative Disorders

The University of Alabama

College of Communication and Information Sciences

The University of Alabama

College of Education

Program of Rehabilitation Counseling

Alabama Department of Economic & Community Affairs

Alabama Department of Transportation

Social Security Administration

Federal Transit Administration

Tuscaloosa Transit

West Alabama Regional Commission

Alabama Department of Human Resources

Tuscaloosa CareerLink

Public Relations Council of Alabama

Tuscaloosa Area Hospitality Association

Workers Compensation Association

Child Abuse Prevention Services

Mayor's Advisory Council

ACCREDITED BY

*Commission on Accreditation
of Rehabilitation Facilities
since 1971*

PROGRAMS

APPROVED BY

Alabama Department of
Public Health

Alabama Department of
Rehabilitation Services

Blue Cross/Blue Shield

TRICARE

Medicare

Medicaid

Most Private Insurances

*We serve eight counties in
West Alabama: Bibb, Greene,
Lamar, Sumter, Fayette, Hale,
Pickens, and Tuscaloosa.
Easter Seals West Alabama is a
private, nonprofit organization
associated with the state and
national Easter Seals
organizations. Services are
rendered regardless of age,
race, color, religion, creed,
gender, national origin,
disability, marital status,
Veterans' status, or
ability to pay. Easter Seals
West Alabama is an equal
opportunity employer.*