



# The Lily Pad



## Easter Seals West Alabama



National Founding Sponsor



### Mark your Calendar – Saturday, October 3rd

Easter Seals West Alabama would like to invite the West Alabama community to join us on Saturday, October 3, 2009, at Riverwalk Park East at the corner of Jack Warner Parkway and Hackberry Lane for our 3rd annual Walk With Me event. In addition to the 1.5 fun walk, this year we are adding a 5K run. Registration for the run begins at 8am with a 9am registration for the walk. After the event sit back relax and enjoy refreshments, children's activities—fun for the entire family!

*"Last year, I decided to take part in an Easter Seals walk ... I've also volunteered with an Easter Seals children's therapy program and I've seen the adults that go to the vocational program too. Easter Seals is a very special program, and I'm honored to be a part of it!" ~ Carly, age 13*

We hear comments from Walk With Me participants like Carly all the time. They come away from an Easter Seals Walk With Me event knowing they've helped a great cause ... and they have fun walking with their family, friends and co-workers. You can too!

*Walk With Me* unites thousands of people in a common cause - to provide help and hope for individuals and families living with disabilities. Proceeds from *Walk With Me* support local Easter Seals services for children with disabilities including medical rehabilitation (physical, speech, and occupational therapy).

### Our Honorary Ambassadors

When you register for *Walk With Me*, you won't just receive the typical race number, wrist band, or t-shirt. You will be partnered with an Easter Seals honorary ambassador - a person with a disability who has benefited from Easter Seals services. So come walk with Hayden, Makana, Charity, Ruth and Omari.

**Hayden**, age 3, came to Easter Seals in October 2006 when he was 17 months old. He has Wolf-Hirschorn Syndrome and cortical-visual impairment.

**Charity**, age 6, has Rett Syndrome and receives Occupational & Speech Therapy from Easter Seals.

**Makana** came to Easter Seals in 2004 when she was 2. She has Down Syndrome & hypothyroidism.

**Ruth**, age 4 has Agenesis of the Corpus Callosum, blindness, diabetes and a speech-language delay.

**Omari**, age 6, has Autism Spectrum Disorder. He receives speech therapy for a language delay and occupational therapy for sensory issues.

For information on becoming a team captain, to create a team, join a team or donate, visit [www.walkwithme.org/tuscaloosa](http://www.walkwithme.org/tuscaloosa) or call 759-1211 ext 229.

### Summer 2009

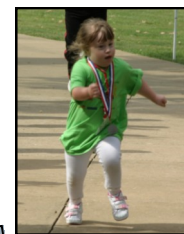
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### 2009 Walk With Me Ambassadors



Omari



Makana



Hayden



Charity



Ruth

## 2009 Spring Gala . . . A Blooming Success!!

The Easter Seals Spring Gala was held on April 18, 2009 at the Bryant Conference Center. The Board of Directors, volunteers, and staff of Easter Seals West Alabama would like to thank the West Alabama community for your tremendous support of this fundraiser. Your willingness to sponsor the event, purchase tickets, and donate items for the auction helped us generate a net revenue of \$57,000 for our children's therapy programs. Your West

Alabama neighbors lead improved lives because of the programs *you* help make possible.

A Preview Party was held prior to the Gala for our sponsors, followed by The Spring Gala, which was attended by over 300 people and featured dancing to the sounds of Groove Daddy, Live and Silent Auctions, a mock casino with Black Jack, Roulette, and Texas Hold Em' Poker. The auctions

featured trips, art, gift baskets, jewelry and more.

There are over 60 volunteers that work hundreds of hours to make this event a success. We could not do it without their support. A special thank you to Marilee Brown-Wells and Patricia Weaver, Chairpersons. We look forward to seeing you next year at the Bryant Conference Center for Easter Seals Spring Gala 2010!!

### Honorariums

Peggy Abney  
Bradley Clements

### Memorials

Joe Phifer  
Bill McFarland  
Geneva Webster  
Virginia Deloach

### *Diamond Partners*



Mercedes-Benz

ALABAMA ONE  
Credit Union



Ben Lee, Director of Marketing, Alabama One Credit Union with Loie Robinson, Administrator of Easter Seals West Alabama



Don Rankin, Account Manager of CBS Channel 42, with Loie Robinson, Administrator of Easter Seals West Alabama

### *Gold Partners*

The Alabama Child Caring Foundation of Blue Cross & Blue Shield  
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BFGoodrich Tire Manufacturing Co.  
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Martin V. Selman  
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The Warr Group/Morgan Stanley  
R.L. Zeigler  
WVUA-7

### *Silver Partners*

Bank of Tuscaloosa  
Cadence Bank  
Chandler & Associates  
DCH Health System  
GAF-Elk Corporation  
Eric & Katherine Heslop  
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas P. Hester  
Jim Myers Drug, Inc.  
Jim Walter Resources  
Kiwanis Club of Tuscaloosa  
The McAbee Construction Foundation  
McFarland Mall Ltd.  
Organizational Development & Design, Inc.  
Rosen, Cook, Sledge, Davis, Shattuck & Oldshue, P.A.  
Reese Phifer Jr. Memorial Foundation  
Loie Sears Robinson  
Tuscaloosa Ballroom Dance Club  
Mark & Patricia Weaver



# Easter Seals Alabama Has Their “Day on the Hill”

Easter Seals Alabama visited Alabama legislators on the Hill February 26th in an effort to educate them about services provided by the organization. This is their third consecutive year.

Presentations of artwork completed by children and a symbolic check depicting the \$17.3 million that was returned to the economy by assisting people living with disabilities in finding employment in industries across the state during the 2008 fiscal year, were presented to Gov. Bob Riley and Lt. Gov. Folsom, Jr.

Easter Seals Alabama is comprised of 8 community rehabilitation programs which served over 20,000 children,

adults, and families throughout the state and the well-known Camp ASCAA in Jackson’s Gap. “We are proud to be a service provider of rehabilitation programs for children and adults living with disabilities, and we lend support to their families, as well,” stated Lynn Stokley, CEO of Easter Seals



*Easter Seals’ mission is to provide exceptional services to ensure that children and adults with disabilities or other special needs have equal opportunities to live, learn, work, and play in their communities.*

## Who’s New



Marc Wilson is a graduate of The University of Alabama at Birmingham with a Master of Science Degree in Occupational Therapy.

Marc grew up in Chicago, Il, moving to Alabama in 2001 to attend Alabama State University in Montgomery where he received his bachelors in Psychology,

with a minor in Sociology. Marc has a special interest in pediatric occupational therapy.

We are very honored and privileged to have Marc as our full time pediatric Occupational Therapist.



in Advertising and a minor in marketing.

A native to Tuscaloosa, Jennifer has been married to Rob Davis since 2007, and stays very

active in the community. Jennifer is stepping into the role of administrative assistant.

Easter Seals welcomes both of them!

Jennifer Goode Davis is a graduate of the University of Alabama with a major

## Did you know....

that Easter Seals offers vocational services to people seeking employment? We serve an eight county area of West Alabama including: Bibb, Fayette, Greene, Hale, Lamar, Pickens, Sumter and Tuscaloosa. We specialize in evaluating consumers’ strengths and needs, accommodating functional limitations, and offering vocational preparation leading to

employment.

Our goals are to assist individuals with a disability to recognize and market their skills, and to help you hire a qualified employee.

Let us assist you with:

- Job and Task analysis
- Pre-screen employees

- Follow-up services
- Possible Tax credits
- Job coach services
- Vocational Evaluations

*Let us help you find  
qualified workers*

## Easter Seals West Alabama

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## Message From the Administrator

- Loie Sears Robinson

On April 4<sup>th</sup> Easter Seals West Alabama, with assistance from Tuscaloosa's Child Abuse Prevention Services, coordinated the first Hale County Summit for the prevention of abuse and neglect of children with disabilities. The Summit, sponsored through a grant from the Children's Trust Fund of Alabama, attracted over 100 participants. Eighteen agencies providing services in Hale County were represented along with eight experts on subjects ranging from autism to communicative disorders. Children's Rehabilitation Service provided free hearing screenings, while children's activities were provided to allow parents time to attend individual seminars and to

network with service providers. Easter Seals is committed to collaboration and expanding services in our eight county area. Thank you Children's Trust Fund for helping our outreach efforts.

*Loie S. Robinson*



Left to Right: Ronny Johnston, Director of Vocational Services; Allan Knox, Job; Willie Johnson, Educational Development Center for ADRS



Information and services that were offered that day