

easterseals Arkansas

December 2017 Newsletter & 2016-2017 Annual Report

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March 1

Fashion Event

*Statehouse Convention Center
Wally Allen Ballroom*

March 21

World Down Syndrome Day

April 2

Autism Awareness Day

May 4

Arkansan of the Year

Little Rock Marriott

May 18-20

Greek Food Festival

*Annunciation Greek Orthodox
Church*

Aug. 18

Walk With Me

Nov. 1

Art & Soul



Easterseals Academy at Riverdale Off to a Great Start!

The start of a new school year typically means new and exciting change. That was especially true this past August when, thanks to the generosity of Lisenne Rockefeller, Easterseals Arkansas began operating The Academy at Riverdale. Mrs. Rockefeller and her late husband, Lt. Gov. Winthrop P. Rockefeller, built the school in 2003.

Located in the Riverdale area of Little Rock, The Academy is a private K-12 school for children with developmental disabilities. It also provides outpatient speech, occupational and physical therapies for students in central Arkansas.

Guiding the enthusiastic teachers and students at The Academy is Director Lisa Clanton-Huffmaster. She comes to

Easterseals from a larger school setting and says one of the things she loves most about The Academy is the student-teacher connection. With a small student-teacher ratio, students receive the individual attention and support they need to realize their full potential.

The Academy focuses on the basics of reading, writing, language, and arithmetic for students who need and benefit from the integration of academics and therapy. "We have something really special here," Lisa says.

Because of the different learning styles of the students, the Academy uses a variety of curricula, including LINKS (Linking Assessment and Instruction for Independence) and STAR (Strategies for Teaching Based on Autism Research). Having access to these curricula allows the Academy to teach functional and social

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The Academy continued...

skills.

Each student has a team of therapists, Lisa notes, to work on specialized needs. Therapy is offered even when school is not in session.

Another unique attribute of the school is the close interaction with parents and guardians. "We see our families every day, and our parent connection group is very involved with events and making sure the students have what they need for a fully rounded academic experience," Lisa shares.

Each school day begins with "the morning circle," where students and staff gather in the atrium to begin the day on a positive note. They use this special time as another learning opportunity. Activities include holiday themes, singing, and announcements. Students then go to their classroom for generalized lessons of the day.

Care is offered before and after school. The school opens at 7:30 am and closes at 5:30 pm. A summer program is also available so students can maintain their skills.

Outpatient therapy accepts payment from a variety of public and private insurance including ARKids 1st, Medicaid, TEFRA and TRICARE.



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Friday, Eldredge & Clark
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Easterseals Happenings



Our 2018 Representatives are, from clockwise, Philip (adult), Kala'Bria (GPCDC), Griffin (child) & Zack (youth).



Allie Sava and Angela Harrison-King of Welsco put on another successful Drives for Disabilities Golf Tournament.



Easterseals adults took 3rd place in the Little Rock Drain Smart contest.



Ed Bucker of THV 11 got a big welcome at the adult center.



Volunteer Gale Robinson makes fabulous weighted blankets.



Zack, Al, LaTravius, Bobby & Michael Joe with Stephen Jones at the Cowboys game.

2016-2017 Financials

Combined statement of support, revenue and expenses for the year ending June 30, 2017

Support:

Contributions and Special Events \$2,268,692

Revenue:

Fees for Services and Program Contracts \$21,005,451
Rental and Other Income \$558,396

TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE

\$23,832,539

Expenses:

Program Services:

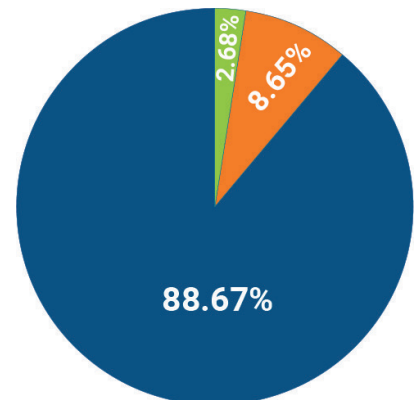
Children's Services \$10,871,997
Adult Services \$8,875,278
Total Program Services \$19,747,275

Support Services:

Management and General \$1,925,435
Fundraising \$596,968
Total Support Services \$2,522,403

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$22,269,678



Programs & Services – 88.67%
Management & General – 8.65%
Fundraising – 2.68%

Number of People Served

Children's Services:

785

Outpatient Therapy and Infant Monitoring 367
Inpatient Children's Rehabilitation 45
Little Rock Preschool 184
Grand Prairie Preschool 47
Outreach: Consultations 142

Adult Services:

607

Butler Adult Living Center 10
Adult Day Development Program 191
Vocational/Employment Program 76
Home Based Services 172
Armistead Village 20
Harold Court 14
Wilson Court 14
Wilson Court II 16
Adult Therapy 87
ACCE 7

Support Services:

19,023

Outreach Training 1,685
Information and Referral Services 8,217
Equipment Loan 147
Parent Consultations 3,232
Faculty/Staff Consultations 5,742

TOTAL

20,415



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If you would like more information about planned giving contact Easterseals Development Department at (501) 227-3700.

Second class of ACCE students in high gear

The University of Arkansas at Little Rock and Easterseals Arkansas commemorated the first graduating class of the post-secondary program that allows students with intellectual and developmental disabilities to have a college experience and prepare for competitive employment.

The first seven graduates of the Academics, Community, Career Development and Employment Program (ACCE) graduated in August with pomp and circumstance. A second round of scholars are busy living the college life, studying and interning in various roles at UA Little Rock.

Important components of the two-semester program include academics, social support, work exploration and job placement. Students learn independent living skills, while working at internships that provide on-the-job experience, career exploration and core employment skills.

The current class includes inspiring students like Kari, who will compete in the in the 2018 Special Olympics USA Games in Seattle next summer. Her specialty is track and field.

