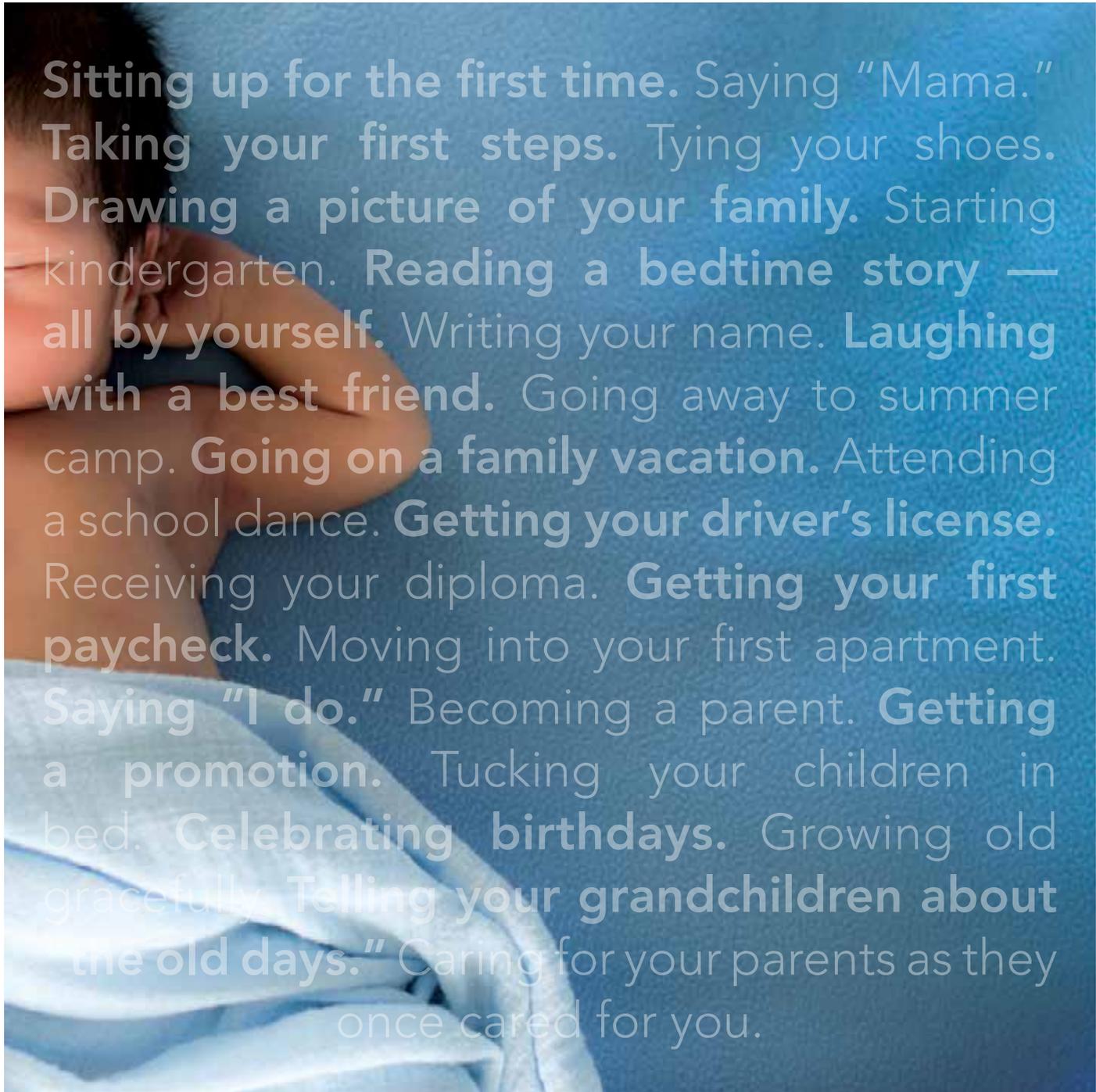


# life moments

EMPOWERED BY EASTER SEALS ... AND YOU



Sitting up for the first time. Saying "Mama."  
Taking your first steps. Tying your shoes.  
Drawing a picture of your family. Starting  
kindergarten. Reading a bedtime story —  
all by yourself. Writing your name. Laughing  
with a best friend. Going away to summer  
camp. Going on a family vacation. Attending  
a school dance. Getting your driver's license.  
Receiving your diploma. Getting your first  
paycheck. Moving into your first apartment.  
Saying "I do." Becoming a parent. Getting  
a promotion. Tucking your children in  
bed. Celebrating birthdays. Growing old  
gracefully. Telling your grandchildren about  
the old days." Caring for your parents as they  
once cared for you.

# life is a series of moments

Some we celebrate. Some define us. Some we take for granted ...  
until life hands us an obstacle, a setback.

Then even small moments are huge, and "ordinary"  
moments become extraordinary.

## **We are Easter Seals.**

We're all about life moments. For nearly 100 years, we've been making them  
happen for people who otherwise might miss out, or get left behind.

We are problem solvers. Dialogue starters. Attitude changers. Systems challengers.

What drives us? We believe life moments should be within reach of everyone,  
regardless of ability or life obstacle.

Today, it's our privilege to support more than 1.8 million people globally in reaching for and  
realizing their goals, dreams and aspirations. But we can't do it alone.

Join us. *Be our partner on this journey.*

“Your life and mine should be valued not by what we take ... but by what we give.”

**Edgar F. Allen**  
*Easter Seals' Founder*

## It All Began with a Life Moment ...

Easter Seals was founded in 1919 by an entrepreneur who had a pivotal life moment. It opened his eyes to a need: to bring children with disabilities out of the shadows.

Today, we continue that legacy by creating pathways to life moments across the whole continuum of life ... for children, adults with disabilities, military veterans, seniors and caregivers.

We're unique in how we pinpoint needs in our communities, and then move into action to help those we serve navigate life's complexities with confidence, whether facing physical, emotional or social challenges.

**We are Easter Seals.**

# our approach snapshot

1

### **We see the whole person**

We take a complete approach — working with the entire family to achieve whole health and, ultimately, whole potential.

2

### **We're driven to achieve**

We're tireless in our commitment to ensuring everyone — regardless of ability or life challenge — has the chance to reach for and realize their potential.

3

### **We pave the way**

We're constantly creating and advocating for new pathways to opportunity.

4

### **We're stronger together**

We have a bold vision for the future — one that demands we celebrate all abilities and collaborate within our communities.

**5 million**  
kids are at risk for a developmental delay, but fewer than 25% get the support they need to succeed.

## Life Moments Start Early

Easter Seals has long supported children and families on their journey to many *first* life moments — first words, first steps, first day of school. We know these early years lay the foundation for every child's overall success.

But too many children never come to us. They never get screened for a developmental delay, disability or autism. Left undiagnosed, they start kindergarten already behind and struggle to keep up —  
in class and in life.

It's a trend that has to end, and Easter Seals is leading the way.





# how we help snapshot

## **Make the First Five Count.**

Because kids learn and grow at different rates, monitoring their development can be confusing. That's why Easter Seals provides child development services, including free access to a comprehensive online screening, to guide all parents through these crucial years. To date, more than 30,000 parents have used the tool, tracking insights on their child's unique development and getting supports when needed.

## **Early intervention and education.**

So what if a child does have a delay, disability or autism? We're a family's go-to. Each year, we serve 90,000 children through our early intervention programs and inclusive childcare. We're the nation's leading provider of early intervention — including physical, occupational and speech therapies, proven to have the greatest impact early in life.

## **A voice for inclusion.**

At local and national levels, Easter Seals is the voice and advocate for inclusion of children with special needs so they have every opportunity in school, recreational programs, college and career preparation, and all areas of community life.

Only 2 in 10

individuals with disabilities are employed.

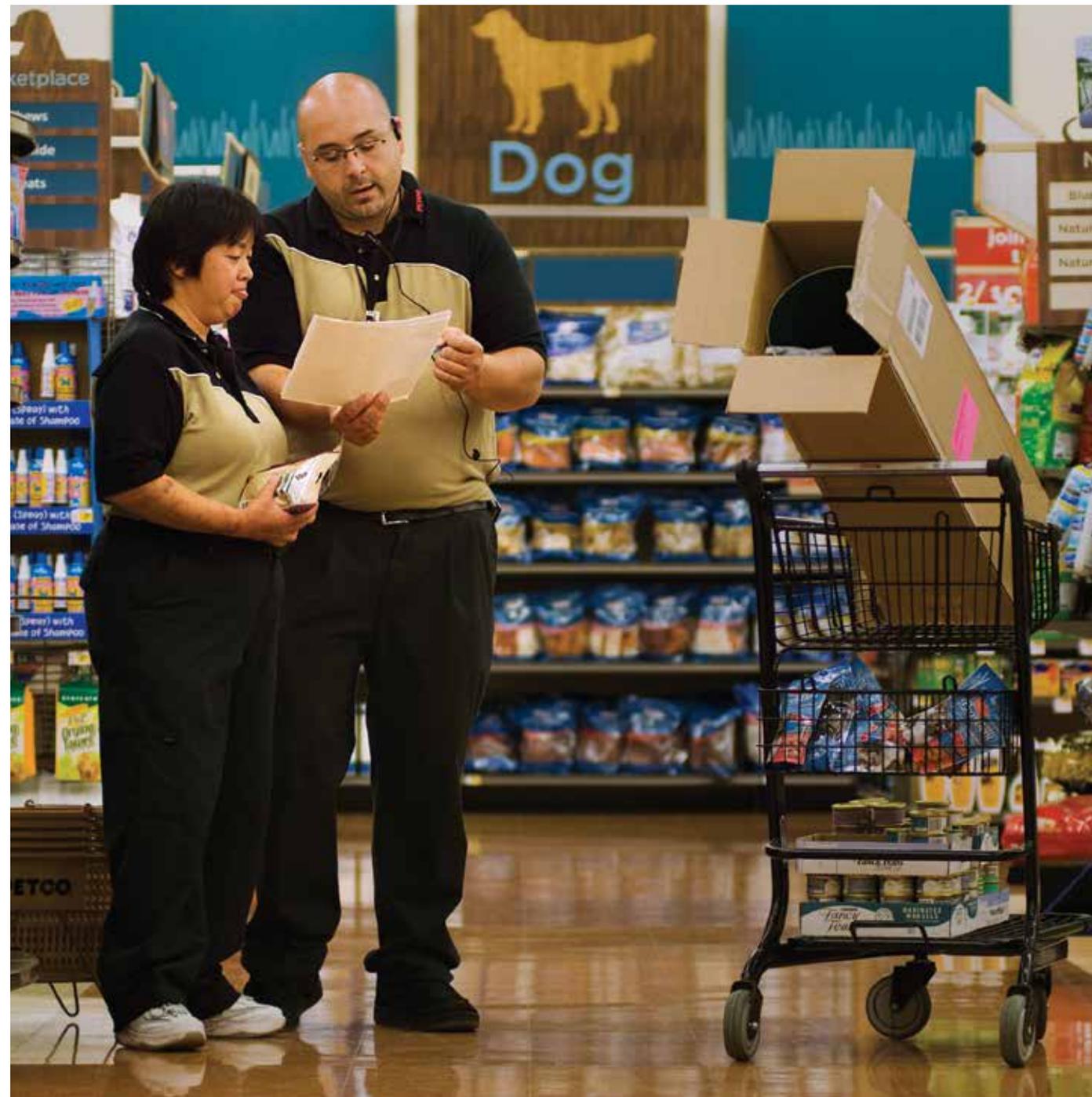
## Life Moments that Bring Independence

Moving from childhood to adulthood can be difficult.

That's especially true if you're a young person with a disability, seeing your nondisabled peers go off to college or work. A job, your own place, friendships, a network and convenient transportation can seem unattainable. You don't feel connected to the community.

But it doesn't have to be that way. Easter Seals knows what happens when young adults have pathways to employment, transportation, community-living arrangements, recreational opportunities, and more.

The possibilities for life moments become endless.





## how we help snapshot

### **Employment services.**

Recall your first paycheck, a pathway to an independent, quality adult life. Through 150 transition planning and employment services, Easter Seals empowers youth and adults with disabilities to successfully seek out and secure meaningful employment. Day in and out, our staff work to identify employment goals for every individual, aligning with personal preferences and building on talents so they can achieve their goals and aspirations.

### **Residential Programs.**

Providing individuals and families with choice — how to find housing, an apartment, a group setting, a personal community with the right supports — is paramount. Easter Seals' 85 residential programs build skills and confidence so young adults with disabilities can live independently in their communities.

### **Transportation Solutions.**

Easter Seals has a long history of supporting individuals with mobility challenges in accessing transportation options so they can go to work, attend college, visit the doctor, pick up groceries and meet friends for coffee. Easter Seals works closely with public transportation providers to develop transportation plans that minimize barriers to community participation.

### **Recreation Opportunities.**

Easter Seals runs more than 186 recreational programs to promote overall wellness, social engagement and fun — from culinary arts and camping, to volunteering and zip-lining, gardening and 5Ks. We pave the way for everyone to be a part of accessible culture, sport and community, and live a more active, healthy lifestyle despite life's challenges.

# 20%

The unemployment rate for the newest generation of veterans (age 18 – 24).

## Life Moments in Transition

You would think as a nation we'd have learned: we can't let another generation of soldiers down. But too many veterans are struggling to adjust to civilian life after returning home from military deployment.

In response, Easter Seals is transforming how our nation supports veterans and military families on the home front — reconnecting with loved ones, neighbors, potential employers, higher education, health/wellness and more.

We know that life moments lost can be regained.





## how we help snapshot

### **A new model for collaboration.**

Easter Seals Dixon Center is streamlining the collective impact of the many organizations that have sprung up nationwide to support veterans.

### **Creating job connections.**

Easter Seals has assisted 185,000 veterans return to work — a critical first step to supporting their families and rebuilding their lives.

### **Changing attitudes.**

Easter Seals is behind a series of groundbreaking public service announcements that use light humor to reinforce veteran's unique skills learned through service and encourage more employers to hire veterans.

### **Caregiver support.**

With one million new caregivers now providing care for post-9/11 veterans, Easter Seals is stepping up. In collaboration with the Department of Veterans Affairs, we've trained more than 25,000 family caregivers — often young spouses facing a life-long trajectory of caregiving — to best navigate their new roles and family experience.

Nearly **66 million**

Americans are caregivers to a child, aging adult, veteran or an adult with a disability.

## Life Moments Cherished

We're facing a caregiver crisis.

As we live longer, more of us are taking on the enormous responsibility of caregiving — often while still needing to work, care for other family members ... and ourselves.

Easter Seals was way ahead of this trend. Anticipating the demographic shifts, we began innovating ways to care for caregivers. So they can better cherish precious life moments with their loved one, and get the supports they need.





# how we help snapshot

## **Adult day care.**

More than 170 adult day programs nationwide provide a safe setting for a loved one while the caregiver works or tends to other needs with total peace of mind.

## **Home health.**

Families need options, which is why Easter Seals home health services offer another level of care — a way to support caregivers and their loved ones who only require assistance with errands or everyday tasks.

## **Respite care.**

The most requested and most beneficial service for caregivers is also the least available and least funded. Respite care offers caregivers an extended break from their responsibilities, while their loved one is cared for in a safe setting. Easter Seals offers 186 programs across the country.

## **New frontiers.**

Our newest focus is on brain health — drawing on our pioneering work in rehabilitation to include training the brain. Aiding recovery from head injury. Staving off dementia and Alzheimer's. Promoting overall mental health and greater wellness. Discovering how to ensure life moments become lasting memories.

# life moments begin here

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## Easter Seals is fueled by a passion

We're champions for all abilities ... for rights  
and resources ... for opportunities to experience the  
kinds of life moments that bring high-fives,  
hugs, cheers — even tears.

What a privilege it is to help people reach for and  
realize their full potential.

**What a joy.**



40,000

VOLUNTEERS

73

AFFILIATES NATIONWIDE

550

COMMUNITY-BASED  
SERVICE SITES

30,000

STAFF MEMBERS



The  
**strength**  
 of Easter Seals

**\$1.5 BILLION IN TOTAL REVENUE**

**ADVOCACY AT BOTH THE FEDERAL  
AND STATE LEVELS.**

**MORE THAN 90% OF EASTER SEALS' REVENUE  
SUPPORTS SERVICES IN THE AREA WHERE  
FUNDS ARE RAISED.**



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# now is your moment

We're redefining the role and responsibilities of communities in helping our neighbors facing physical, emotional and social challenges.  
We're sparking a movement.

Easter Seals, as the champion for abilities, has a bold vision for the future — a vision where we all have the opportunity to thrive and fully participate in our communities nationwide. Turning this vision into a reality demands that we work together as an interconnected community.

You can be a driving force to make more life moments possible for everyone.

Those moments will add up ... and ultimately change *all* our lives for the better.



Contact Us to Learn More at [easterseals.com](http://easterseals.com)



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