

# Mission Possible



Autumn 2024

## News & Stories

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### Thinking Local, Acting Big



*Ribbon cutting for Easterseals NH's Champlin Place, a independent living community for adults age 62+ located in Rochester, NH.*

At Easterseals NH, we put our community first by providing hands-on, life-changing support for Granite Staters of all abilities, incomes, and stages of life. We are deeply connected to our community and driven by the people we serve.

“I have a connection to the mission and the purpose here,” noted President and CEO Maureen Beauregard, drawing personal inspiration from her sister, who used Easterseals NH’s programs as a child. “I’m in the building where my sister learned to walk.”

Easterseals NH focuses on direct, tailored services and programs to serve the diverse needs of 16,000 children, adults, seniors, military personnel, and veterans annually. With a commitment to inclusivity and a vision of dignity for all, Easterseals NH strives to help people of all abilities learn, work, and play with independence. Support for Easterseals NH stays local and allows us to help New Hampshire residents live their best lives.

To read more about Easterseals NH’s mission and work, check out WMUR’s Story Studio at <https://storystudio.wmur.com>.

[Read More Here](#)

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## Former BOD Chairman to be Honored at Annual Celebration

Easterseals NH & VT will present Matthew Boucher with the Eugene Van Loan III Leadership Award. Named in honor of former Board Chairman Eugene Van Loan III, this biennial award is given to an individual who represents a longstanding commitment to our agency’s values. Matthew will formally receive this award at our [Annual Celebration Breakfast on Thursday, November 7](#).

Matthew has served on our Board since 2012 and was Chairman from 2018 to 2020. He was the final Board Chairman during Larry Gammon’s 47-year tenure as President & CEO, and also presided over the search committee that welcomed Maureen Beauregard in 2019.

With his financial background, Matthew led us through several periods of institutional crisis, including the height of the Covid-19 pandemic, when he oversaw weekly finance task force meetings. Matthew is also a proud advocate of our programs and mission. His son, Sebastian, continues to receive our services today.



*Matthew Boucher, former BOD Chairman and Eugene Van Loan III Leadership Award recipient.*

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## Community-Based Services Home Undergoes Complete Renovation

We're excited to share the news that Spruce Keys, one of our more than 20 Community-Based Services homes across New Hampshire, has undergone a complete makeover!



*Spruce Keys, a newly renovated Community-Based Services home located in Manchester, NH.*

The three-month project has created a modern, comfortable living space for nine women whom we serve in our Community-Based Services program, which helps adults with intellectual disabilities and acquired brain injuries achieve stability, well-being, and fulfillment through a variety of services. “These individuals receive the extra help they need, like transportation to work, from our dedicated staff of 27 on a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week basis,” says Renee Fisher, our Senior Vice President of Long Term Supports and Services. “With this new home, Easterseals NH no longer requires a rental property, which costs \$54,000 annually to rent.”

The Manchester, New Hampshire, residence features three, 3-bedroom units complete with modern kitchens and laundry rooms. Renee gives a quick tour of this newly refurbished property in a short video, which you can view by visiting the link or clicking the button below <https://youtu.be/4nJ1vJIUs08>.

[View Video Here](#)

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## From Student to Teacher

Javauna’s story at our West Side Early Childhood Center of Excellence in Manchester, New Hampshire, began long before she joined Easterseals NH & VT.

While studying Educational Behavioral Science at Concord Regional Technical Center in New Hampshire, Javauna realized her passion for child care and sought work in the field. She started at the very place that shaped her childhood. “I found that Easterseals NH was hiring for an Associate Teacher,” Javauna explained.

Javauna attended child care at the West Side location as a toddler and thought working there might be an excellent opportunity to explore working in early childhood education. She joined the team as a Child Care Assistant, and from the moment she arrived, she knew it was the right place for her.



*Javauna (left) facilitates playtime with children in the West Side Early Childhood Center of Excellence in Manchester.*

“I loved the teachers and how they interacted with the kids,” she said. “I honestly love it. I just love seeing the kids grow. I look forward to coming to work every day.”

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## **Did You Know There Are Lots of Ways You Can Support Easterseals NH?**

There are many ways you can help us elevate all abilities. While cash is the most common, you may not be aware of the advantages of donating other assets. Consider these options:

- **Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs) or Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCDs):** A qualified charitable distribution allows individuals who are 70 ½ years or older to move up to \$105,000 per

year from their individual retirement accounts directly to their favorite charity without it affecting their taxable income.

- **Gifts of stock:** The option to donate securities is good for people who purchased stock over a year ago and, therefore, may be subject to long-term capital gains.
- **Donor-advised funds (DAFs):** A donor-advised fund, which is like a charitable savings account, allows you to recommend how much and how often a donation is made.

Learn more about these and other ways to give at <https://eastersealsnh.org/ways-to-give>.

Give Today

## Easterseals VT Over The Edge: The Power of Neighbors Supporting Neighbors

Easterseals VT's Over the Edge event raised \$22,000 for its programs and services, 31 participants braved the North Barre Manor rappel for Vermont neighbors.

Among those who participated was Jakobie, a youth who utilizes Easterseals VT's Post Permanency Services; serving families formed by adoption or guardianship to help meet the child's needs, increase family stability, and locate community resources. Jakobie's family has utilized Easterseals VT services for eight years, following his adoption by his great-grandmother, Brenda.

Jakobie's rappel sparked his interest in trying activities like zip-lining and bungee jumping. "I loved going over the edge, and I look forward to doing it again next year," shared Jakobie.

**SAVE THE DATE** — Over the Edge for Easterseals VT will be back at the North Barre Manor on **Saturday, July 26, 2025!**



*Jakobie as he began his descent down the North Barre Manor.*

## Upcoming Events

Our 2024 events season may be winding down, but there are still a couple of upcoming opportunities for you to get involved with us in making a difference for people of all ages and abilities!

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## Easterseals NH & VT Annual Celebration

Thursday, November 7

Join us as we gather with our many donors, volunteers, and partners to thank you for your support of our agency's successes over the past year! In addition to breakfast and peer-to-peer networking opportunities, we'll also provide exciting updates on our strategic plan and share information on the many ways you can support Easterseals NH & VT!



## Veterans Count Nashua Salute Our Soldiers Gala

Saturday, November 16

Join us for an unforgettable evening honoring our local military community with a cocktail reception and a delicious surf and turf dinner. All proceeds will support service members, veterans, and their families of our Veterans Count program.



## Who We Are & What We Do

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### **Look for New Hampshire in the logo!**

Easterseals New Hampshire elevates people of all abilities. We serve the diverse needs of approximately 16,000 children, adults, seniors, and veterans each year. We provide services throughout New Hampshire, and our programs cover areas like early intervention, autism, intellectual and developmental disabilities, adult day and in-home care, behavioral health, housing, and substance use disorders.

**We help people in New Hampshire live their best lives.** So please, when thinking of supporting Easterseals, look for the NH in the Easterseals logo to be sure that your financial support stays in your community, enabling us to foster inclusion, respect, and dignity for all.

If you have any questions, reach out to [infonh@eastersealsnh.org](mailto:infonh@eastersealsnh.org). Like what you read in our newsletter and want to support our efforts? Visit <https://eastersealsnh.org/donate> today.

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Easterseals NH, 555 Auburn St, Manchester, NH 03103, United States