



LEGISLATIVE ACTION REQUEST

EASTERSEALS IOWA SAVES TAX PAYER DOLLARS WHILE PROVIDING REQUIRED SERVICES

- The average daily cost for Easterseals to provide a respite care for a client is \$120.00 compared to the average daily cost of \$888.20 for institutional care. (Source: <https://www.thegazette.com/health-care-medicine/resident-counts-drop-but-costs-increase-at-iowas-six-state-run-institutions/>)
- The average monthly cost for Easterseals to provide intermittent supported community living for a client is \$1,452.37 compared to the average monthly cost of \$26,646.00 for institutional care. (Source: <https://www.thegazette.com/health-care-medicine/resident-counts-drop-but-costs-increase-at-iowas-six-state-run-institutions/>)
- Easterseals Iowa Vocational Program clients earned \$1.5 million in taxable wages for the state last year. The 2022 unemployment rate for Iowans with disabilities was 7.4% compared to the entire state, which was 3.5%. (Source: <https://www.iowadatacenter.org/application/files/4217/2054/2826/IowanswithDisabilities2024.pdf>)
- In fiscal year 24/25, Easterseals Iowa will leverage public/private partnerships to fundraise \$1,296,500, with 93 cents of each dollar that comes into the organization spent directly on mission delivery. Even with these efforts, Easterseals is budgeted for an operational loss of \$1,246,670.
- At time of publication, Easterseals Iowa had 312 individuals on a waitlist for necessary services due to lack of workforce.

2025 LEGISLATIVE ACTION REQUESTED

1. Investment of \$8.5 million to the Medicaid system. Specifically, rate increases for the following programs: Respite, Intermittent Supported Community Living, Job Coaching, and Job Development.
2. Implementation of a schedule for rebasing HCBS rates every other year and publishing updates.
3. Maintain \$230,000 in funding to the Easterseals Iowa Rural Solutions program within the Agriculture and Natural Resources budget to continue providing supports and services to Iowa farmers and farm family members with disabilities.

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