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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 7, 2017

### Easter Seals Wisconsin Hosting Annual Neighbor-to-Neighbor Meeting

MADISON, WI – Easter Seals Wisconsin will host the annual AgrAbility of Wisconsin *Neighbor-to-Neighbor Meeting* at the Ben Horstman Farm on Wednesday, April 19. Join us from 10:00 am to noon and network with Easter Seals Wisconsin FARM program and AgrAbility of Wisconsin farmers. During this informal gathering, guests will have the opportunity to learn about the experience of other farmers who have successfully gone through these programs and received accommodations and learned to accommodate their disabilities to help them better operate their farms.

Jeff Kratochwill, Lead Rural Rehabilitation Specialist for Easter Seals Wisconsin, will share information about the Easter Seals Wisconsin FARM program, educating guests on the opportunities that are available to farmers with disabilities. The program helps farmers return to farming after a disabling accident or chronic illness or condition. Rehabilitation specialists visit the farm and help develop a plan to make the changes and adaptations necessary to help the farmer continue to farm.

Kratochwill will also share information about how farmers and the general public can participate in the Calf Project, a fundraiser that directly supports the Easter Seals Wisconsin FARM Program and its clients. This project has raised \$40,000 since its inception. FARM clients Keith Posselt and Jeff Purvis came up with a way to “pay it forward” after receiving assistance from the FARM program. ***If you are a farmer*** who raises beef or dairy cattle, donate the sale price of one calf after raising it for a specified amount of time. ***If you’re not a farmer*** but would still like to contribute, you can donate directly to the FARM program and support your local farmers. Anyone interested in participating in the Calf Project, donating to the FARM program, or learning about our Agricultural Equipment Exchange, please contact Monette Bebow-Reinhard for more information at 608-237-1446 or email [mbebowrei@eastersealswisconsin.com](mailto:mbebowrei@eastersealswisconsin.com).

**Neighbor-to-Neighbor Meeting:** Wednesday, April 19 from 10:00 am to noon at the Ben Horstman Farm located at N5462 County Rd J, Bangor, WI 54614. Please RSVP by April 17 to 608-262-9336 or email [agrability@wisc.edu](mailto:agrability@wisc.edu).

**About Easter Seals Wisconsin:** For over 90 years, Easter Seals Wisconsin ([www.EasterSealsWisconsin.com](http://www.EasterSealsWisconsin.com)) has provided services that help children and adults with disabilities gain greater independence. Easter Seals’ primary services – vocational rehabilitation, respite services, camping and recreation, information and referral, and public education – benefit close to 10,000 individuals with disabilities and their families each year throughout Wisconsin.

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