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United Fund of Iowa County Grant Assists in Updates to Accessible Playgrounds

Madison, WI – Easterseals Wisconsin recently received a funding award from United Fund of Iowa County to help provide campers of Easterseals Wisconsin a safer area for recreational therapy through the replenishment of playground mulch. Playground mulch ensures safety, increases comfort, provides increased drainage of the area, and reduces noise to create a safe and comfortable environment for the campers as they utilize the fully accessible playgrounds. The fully accessible playgrounds provide campers with recreational therapy and socialization opportunities with other campers.

"Our camps need enough playground mulch each year to provide a 12" depth to ensure a safe and comfortable environment for all campers," states Alex Peters, Director of Camp and Respite Services at Easterseals Wisconsin Camps. "Something as simple as mulch may not seem necessary but for the demographic we serve, it is very important for their comfort and safety. We have five playgrounds located on our property, so it takes quite a bit of mulch to replenish our playgrounds each year."

Many lowa County area residents with disabilities attend Easterseals Wisconsin's Camp Wawbeek, located in Wisconsin Dells, each year. The campers will benefit directly from this generous \$5,000 donation.

Easterseals Wisconsin is renowned nationwide for the excellence of its camping and recreational programs for people with disabilities. Children and adults with physical, cognitive, and other disabilities from around the state make the journey to Camp Wawbeek to spend time enjoying the outdoors in a fully accessible environment. They enjoy activities such as campouts, nature hikes, fully accessible ropes course with zip line, swimming, and fishing.

Nearly 2,000 children and adults are served at Easterseals Wisconsin camps, giving families a respite while their loved ones enjoy therapeutic recreation providing challenges to achieve greater independence.

"We are thankful for the support from UFIC to help us with this laborious project as we prepare for an upcoming summer season at Easterseals Wisconsin Camps," says Alex.

The funding award from UFIC will help allow low-income area children with disabilities to experience the magic of Camp Wawbeek. For more information about attending camp, contact Easterseals Wisconsin at 1-800-422-2324 or visit our website for more information: www.EastersealsWisconsin.com.

About Easterseals Wisconsin: For nearly a century, Easterseals Wisconsin has provided services that help children and adults with disabilities gain greater independence. Easterseals Wisconsin's 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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