

# SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2025 6PM - 11PM

# CRYSTAL BALL 2025 Committee

## HONORARY EXECUTIVE CORPORATE CHAIR

Theresa Hopkins-Staten

### **EVENT CO-CHAIRS**

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### **EVENT VICE-CHAIRS**

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Jocelyn Bellsle
Tara Costanzo
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Rachel Landau

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Amanda Pihi

Flora Pretashl

Robin Sharp

Dear Friend of Easterseals,

Easterseals Capital Region & Eastern Connecticut will host the 38<sup>th</sup> annual Crystal Ball on March 22, 2025, at Riverview in Simsbury, CT. Our event has grown to be one of the most prestigious charity events in Greater Hartford. This memorable evening will include dinner, dancing, live and silent auctions, and an impactful program. Our annual signature event is attended by hundreds of corporate executives, the medical community, local, state, and national elected officials, and prominent members of the community.

At Easterseals, we are committed to our mission of leading the way to 100% equity, inclusion, and access for people with disabilities, families, and communities. For over 75 years, funds raised have enhanced quality of life and expanded local access to healthcare, education, and employment opportunities for individuals. Easterseals serves all ages and all stages of life-- from autism & dementia services to medical rehabilitation and career development programs, day support services, social enterprise businesses, veterans' services and more.

The continued success and growth of our organization is crucially dependent on the contributions made by our friends – it takes a team!

The Easterseals Crystal Ball has a long history of raising critical funds to support Easterseals' programs. As always, we have an exceptional committee, with our Honorary Executive Corporate Chair, Theresa Hopkins-Staten, President, Eversource Foundation and Vice President, Corporate Citizenship and Equity; and our Committee Chairs Angela Nelson (CVS Health, Executive Director, Supply Chain Compliance, Systems and Technology), and Gia Oei (Cornerstone Building Brands, Vice President, Corporate Communications and Culture).

As you know, organizing an event this size requires a team effort from our friends in the community. With the generous contributions of organizations and individuals like you, this event has grown to be one of the most prestigious charity events in Greater Hartford. We hope you will consider supporting Easterseals' mission and the people we serve by donating an auction item.

Attached is a donation form for your convenience. With your ongoing support, we can continue to advance our mission, change more lives, and challenge attitudes and perceptions about people with disabilities and their POTENTIAL. Easterseals is an organization that recognizes that our differences are our strengths! Now, more than ever, we need your support—Will you join the Easterseals Crystal Ball Spring Fling efforts --- where teamwork comes alive?

For more information, please do not hesitate to contact us at <a href="mailto:events@escrec.org">events@escrec.org</a> or at 860.270.0600 x155.

Our warmest thanks,

2025 Crystal Ball Committee

Tax ID #: 06-0662138

Easterseals Capital Region & Eastern Connecticut • 100 Deerfield Road • Windsor, CT 06095 860.270.0600 • www.easterseals.com/Hartford

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# **Easterseals History & Impact!**

Incorporated in 1948, Easterseals Capital Region & Eastern Connecticut had humble beginnings in a small space on Franklin Avenue in Hartford with two paid staff, a handful of dedicated volunteers, and essential equipment contributed by various service clubs, foundations, and corporations. The organization, initially called the Hartford Community Workshop, had a primary caseload focused on treating patients with tuberculosis which later evolved to rehabilitation services for individuals with disabilities. From these simple beginnings, the organization has grown exponentially to become one of the primary providers of vocational and rehabilitation services, as well as veterans' services in the state.

Some milestones reached along the way include:

- The incorporation of the Hartford Easter Seal Rehabilitation Center on Franklin Avenue in Hartford in 1948.
- In 1954, Easterseals expanded to a larger, more prominent Harford location on Holcomb Street.
- In 1976, Easterseals invented the HeadLite, a firefighting headlamp designed and produced in an Easterseals sheltered workshop program and manufactured by the organization for over 20 years.
- In 1983 the organization was certified as a Comprehensive Outpatient Rehabilitation Facility, a designation the organization continues to hold today.
- In 1991, Easterseals moved to its current location on Deerfield Road in Windsor, Connecticut and its building maintenance service, currently known as EnviroClean, was developed to train and employ people with significant disabilities.
- In 1998, to better reflect the growth of the services and geography served, the organization changed its name to Easter Seals Greater Hartford Rehabilitation Center.
- In 2008, EnviroShred was founded as an Easter Seals Social Enterprise Business.
- In 2009, as a result of the reorganization of some Easterseals affiliates in Connecticut, the
  organization took on programs and services in Eastern Connecticut, and subsequently changed its
  name to Easter Seals Capital Region & Eastern Connecticut, which was changed again in 2017 to
  reflect the national branding of Easterseals from two words to one.
- In 2018, Easterseals Capital Region & Eastern Connecticut began providing transitional housing to veterans in need at its Rocky Hill location.
- On Veterans Day in 2021, Easterseals Veterans Rally Point, a national model and center of excellence opened to serve veterans, active-duty military, guard, reserve, and families.

Today, the organization's mission continues to be centered around inclusion, recognizing that our differences are our strengths. Easterseals provides a wide range of medical and career development services for individuals of all ages with disabilities. Life-changing services include job training, adult day support, social enterprises, medical rehabilitation, autism services and a dementia diagnostic center serving individuals and their families annually across 155 Connecticut towns. Easterseals Veterans Rally Point is a much-needed holistic center of excellence serving veterans, active duty, guard, reserve, and their families.





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Business / Donor Name - Please print information abo	ve as you would like it to appear	in the event program and all adv	vertising material.	
Contact Name	Title	Title		
Street	City	State	Zip Code	
Phone (Work/Cell)	 Email			
Auction Donation Solicited by:				
RESTRICTIONS: Restrictions specified be	elow    No Restriction	s		
Fair market value of donation: \$	ires the donor to provide documentati	on of the value of in-kind donations.)		
_	nation must be picked up	Please make a certificate fo	or item	
Authorized Donor's Signature		 Date		

Mail/Email forms and items to Easterseals Crystal Ball at events@escrec.org or

Easterseals Capital Region & Eastern Connecticut, 100 Deerfield Road, Windsor, CT 06095

Please direct questions to Debbie Dylan, Easterseals Auction Coordinator at Events@escrec.org or at 860.270.0600 x155.

AUCTION DEADLINE FOR BIDDING PLATFORM: Friday, February 28, 2025

This donation becomes the property of the Easterseals Capital Region & Eastern Connecticut Philanthropy Department and will be used to its fullest fundraising capacity.

Proceeds will help support Easterseals and the patients and families we serve. Easterseals reserves the right to combine the donation with other items, if necessary. Thank you!

Easterseals Capital Region & Eastern Connecticut Tax ID #: 06-0662138