

# May 2026 Newsletter



**Welcome to our May newsletter!** As flowers bloom and summer approaches, we're excited to bring you the latest updates for this month. We're celebrating Foster Care Month, Mental Health Awareness Month, Early Intervention Awareness Month and Military Appreciation Month, along with a few other exciting updates from our programs. Enjoy!

## Foster Care Month Foster Parents

Easterseals PORT Health's Child Placement team helps place more than 270 foster children in loving homes each year. We also train and support foster parents and families to help facilitate the best out-of-home care for foster children of all ages.

We cannot do this work without great foster parents who are willing to open their home to a child. This month, it's our pleasure to highlight four of our incredible foster care parents: Eugene, Courtney, Amanda and Ida. Read their full story at [eastersealsPORT.com/fc2026](http://eastersealsPORT.com/fc2026)



Pictured: Eugene (top left), Courtney (top right), Amanda (bottom left) and Ida (bottom right)



Pictured: Jay, the YCTH nurse

## Mental Health Awareness Month Walkway to Safety

Recently, our Youth Crisis Therapeutic Home (YCTH) launched a meaningful and collaborative project called "Walkway to Safety." Inspired by the Hollywood Walk of Fame, guests are invited to personalize a pavement tile as a tribute to their achievements and hard work during their time at YCTH. This project was spearheaded by Jay, the YCTH nurse, along with youth residents and other members of the YCTH team! Read the full story at [eastersealsPORT.com/walkway](http://eastersealsPORT.com/walkway).

# Insights + News

## Early Intervention Awareness Month (VA)

### Hope and Reassurance

May is Early Intervention Awareness Month in Virginia. Easterseals PORT Health's Early Intervention services help families build the skills and confidence needed to support their child's growth. Read the full story at [eastersealsPORT.com/earlyintervention-va2026](https://eastersealsPORT.com/earlyintervention-va2026).

**"Early Intervention Month gives me the opportunity to reflect on how proud I am of our team and the work we do. We offer families hope, reassurance, resources and partnership."**

*- Emily, Early Intervention Program Manager*



Pictured: Part of our ESPH Early Intervention team



Pictured: Donna and Marlow

## Military Appreciation Month

### Thank You for Your Service

May is Military Appreciation Month! Easterseals PORT Health is proud to honor the military service of our team members. This month we're highlighting two team members from our Outpatient Services team: Donna and Marlow. We extend a heartfelt thank you to all our team members and everyone who has served in the military for duty and commitment to our country's freedom. Read the full story at [eastersealsPORT.com/military2026](https://eastersealsPORT.com/military2026).

# Making An Impact

## Leadership Team Updates

### Welcome Jodi!

"I believe people strategy is business strategy - enabling teams to set direction, build relationships, and create an environment where our employees can do their best work and drive meaningful results."

- Jodi, Chief People Officer



## VA REACH

### Active for Autism 5K

Easterseals PORT Health's VA Regional Education Assessment Crisis Services Habilitation (REACH) was a Silver Sponsor for the Organization for Autism Research (OAR) Active for Autism 5K & Kids Dash for the third year in a row. The team took part in the 5K event on April 19 in Alexandria, VA, showing their support for the autism community!



Pictured: Part of VA REACH's team

# Making An Impact

## AdvaNce Health Together Symposium Rural Behavioral Healthcare

Easterseals PORT Health recently participated in this year's AdvaNce Health Together symposium in Raleigh, NC. During the event, Trillium Health Resources awarded five organizations with Rural Behavioral Health Care (RBHC) funding. Thank you Trillium Health Resources for your continued generosity and commitment to the communities you support!



Pictured: ESPH team members receiving RHBC funding from Trillium Health Resources

## Support Your Neighbors in North Carolina and Virginia!

Easterseals PORT Health is a trustworthy, compassionate partner providing exceptional disability, mental health and substance use services to help our neighbors live their best lives. Purpose, dedication and empathy drive our in-person and telehealth service delivery. Our diverse and inclusive 2,600 member team provides more than 10.2 million hours of meaningful support to 40,200 kids, adults and families in 11,000 home, facility and community locations across North Carolina and Virginia.



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