FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Lauren Brennan, Public Relations
713-838-9050 ext. 374
LBrennan@eastersealshouston.org

Breaking the Fear Barrier with Businesses and People with Learning Differences
Students from Easter Seals Greater Houston’s High School/High Tech Programs
Gain Valuable Work Experience through Montgomery County Mock Interview Days.

HOUSTON (May 9, 2016) – Did you know that only 56% of students with a disability graduate from high school? Imagine how difficult it would be to get a job without a high school degree. Easter Seals Greater Houston, the leading local non-profit provider of services for individuals of all ages with all types of disabilities, is striving to address this situation by helping students with disabilities overcome learning barriers through job training, mentoring programs and summer internships.

Easter Seals Greater Houston is excited to be holding our annual city wide Mock Interview Day in Montgomery County with the help of Rand Harrison with the Sheriff’s Office, Stephanie Davenport-Montgomery County Treasurer, Phil Grant with the Montgomery County District Attorney’s Office, Hector Forestier- Willis City Manager, Blayne Vackar with Keller Williams and more on Friday, May 13th at the North Montgomery County Community Center from 8:45am-noon. Lucky students participating are from Montgomery, Magnolia, Magnolia West, and Porter High Schools.

Past participating students have gained valuable employment and interview skills through this work experience working with corporate community volunteers on their interview skills. Most of our high school students have been told they would never work or be independent, but after practicing new social and job training skills they show great potential. Many past clients have proven those who thought they would never be able to work independently wrong. These students now have a resume to show employers, have participated in a real job interview, have worked a six-week paid internship, and as a result will stay in school and enter either trade school or college.

Kelley, a graduate of the High School High Tech program from four years ago who has cerebral palsy is proud to have just recently graduated from University of Houston with honors with her teaching degree, and even prouder to have a full time position as a special-ed teacher. She is also thankful for the opportunities and inspiration the Easter Seals Houston program gave her.

To volunteer, contact Carmen Phillips at CPHillips2@EasterSealsHouston.org.
About Easter Seals Greater Houston:
Easter Seals Greater Houston, Inc., a United Way Agency, is a non-profit corporation established to provide comprehensive services to individuals of all ages with all types of disabilities and their families. As the only local organization providing a broad range of comprehensive services to individuals and families affected by disabilities, Easter Seals of Greater Houston operates: Early Childhood Intervention; Respite Services; Toy/Tech & Play Groups including BridgingApps™; High School/High Tech; Home of Your Own; Therapy Services; The Caroline School, A Day Program; Camps and Case Management; Transition Services; Adult Services, and Veterans Services. For more information about Easter Seals Greater Houston, visit www.eastersealshouston.org or visit us on Facebook and Twitter (@eastersealshou).

About High School High Tech:
High School/High Tech a program of Easter Seals Greater Houston, is a community-based partnership of parents, educators, rehabilitation professionals and business representatives working together to encourage students with disabilities to explore the fields of science, engineering and technology. Only 56% of students with disabilities graduate from high school. High School/High Tech was developed to address this situation. Most individuals with disabilities have not had the encouragement, role models, access and stimulation to pursue challenging technical careers or courses of study.