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Easter Seals Celebrates National Down Syndrome Month with Walk With Me Ambassador

HOUSTON (October 1, 2019) Statistically 1 in 792 people are born with Down syndrome, and there are approximately 6,000 people living with Down syndrome in greater Houston. Currently, Easter Seals Greater Houston (ESGH) is serving 10 times the number of clients per the statistic through its 12 programs. October is Down Syndrome Awareness Month and Easter Seals Greater Houston is celebrating by spreading the word about its mission to provide Help, Hope and Answers to ensure that babies, children and adults with all types of disabilities and their families can receive the services they need to excel.

Easter Seals offers multiple life changing programs based in education, health, and human services. Their goal is to ensure that they provide the tools, programs, services, community and education necessary to stay with clients throughout their lives and to ensure that they reach their fullest potential – every step of the way. Children and adults alike with Down syndrome are benefiting from ESGH Early Childhood Intervention (ECI), Caroline School, playgroups, BridgingApps, Adult Program and more. Easter Seals also uses this time to announce their 2020 Walk With Ambassadors!

Meet Mica, Mica was born in December of 2016 with Down syndrome. Initially, his parents had a lot of questions in mind regarding how Mica would progress and what he would be able to accomplish. These questions led them to proactively enroll Mica in Easter Seals Greater Houston’s Early Childhood Intervention Program at one month old so he could receive physical, speech, and occupational therapy. Over the past three years, Mica has made significant progress. He is now able to sit up, crawl and walk by himself. His speech, comprehension, and self-help abilities have significantly grown and he has morphed into a social butterfly. His family has thoroughly enjoyed working with Easter Seals’ therapists, and is extremely thankful for their knowledge, professionalism and dedication to helping Mica reach his milestones.

Serving alongside of Mica as we celebrate all of our clients are ambassadors Robert and Meagan. Robert was born prematurely and diagnosed with cerebral palsy and significant global developmental delays. He is a student at The Caroline School where he is thriving. Meagan was diagnosed with Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP) as a newborn which caused her to lose sight, she also has hearing loss in her left ear. Meagan is a part of the ESGH Transition to Employment Services Program, which provides transition services for youth ages 16-27 with autism and mental health conditions. Join the ambassadors with the 4,000 people that participate in Walk With Me, a non-competitive 5K or shorter family fun walk, on Saturday, April 25, 2020, at the Houston Zoo to raise awareness and resources for Easter Seals Greater Houston.

Over 65% of the families ESGH serves have a household income below $28,000 due to medical bills & care-giving issues. Funds raised by its events, partnerships & sponsorships are very important in helping the agency continue its 72+ year tradition of providing low cost, high quality services to over 12,500 families with children with disabilities, in Harris & surrounding counties.

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 veterans as well as 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; 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).