

Easterseals Honors Four Partners at Golf Classic

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Easterseals honors four partners—Chinese American Service League (CASL), Catena Solutions, Grant Writers Stacie Pozdol and Angela Wiley, and HUB International Limited—at Annual Golf Classic.

At last year's Golf Classic, we started a new tradition of providing recognition of Easterseals' valued partners. These awards are recognition of the fact that it takes a village to do the work that we do. At Easterseals we could not do what we do without relying upon, calling upon, and partnering with many amazing organizations. So many of our valuable partners are represented in this event; we thank you all.

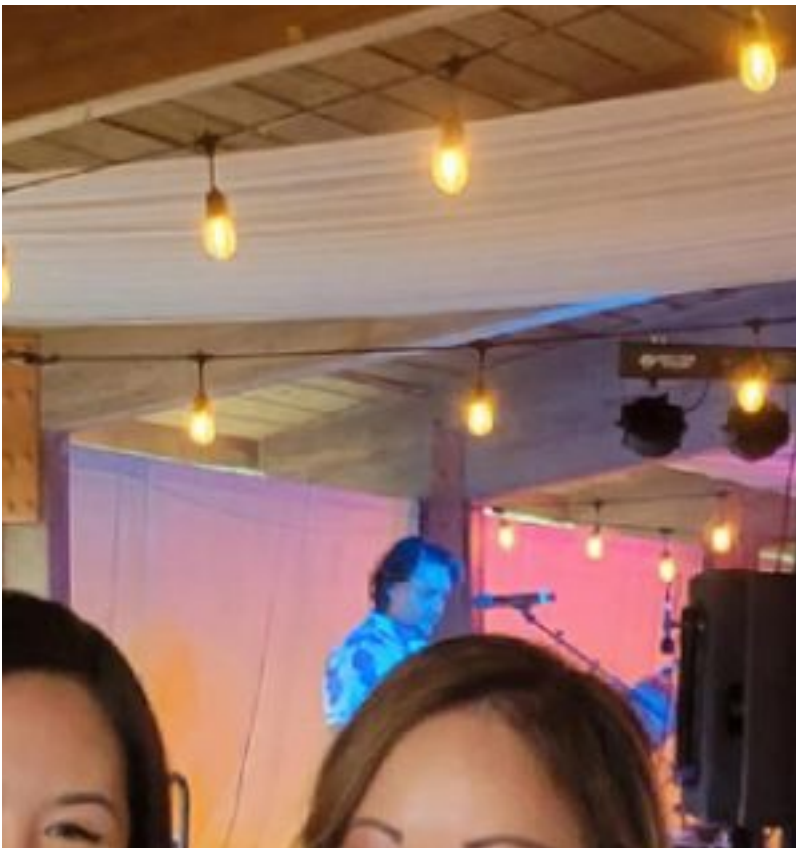
This year, our theme for the partner awards is “investing in our people.” Fiscal year 2023 has been about making transformational, significant investments in our staff and clients. We gave free health insurance to our employees, created a best-in-class Human Resources team, and put a stake in the ground in interrogating our program quality, our services, and as such, investing in those we serve.

We recognize four partners this year under this theme: **Chinese American Service League (CASL)**, **Catena Solutions**, Grant Writers **Stacie Pozdol and Angela Wiley**, and **HUB International Limited**.

See below the comments that our CEO made about each partner at the VIP Corporate Sponsor Reception.

#1 Chinese American Service League (CASL)

"This evening, we recognize one of our Head Start/Early Head Start Partner sites for their successful work in investing in our youngest clients, ages 0-3. This award goes to the Chinese American Service League for being a stand out Head Start provider for Easterseals.



At CASL, quality is depicted in every aspect of the program, and you have a unique ability to take any challenge and make it your strength. The program is welcoming to all and promotes positive relationships between all children and adults to encourage each child's sense of individual worth and belonging as part of a community.

The program goes above and beyond to establish and maintain collaborative relationships with the community and each child's family to foster development in all settings. These relationships are steeped largely in family composition, language, and culture.

Your family-first approach demonstrates how you lead with loving care. CASL is a shining example of what the highest quality early learning program looks like, and we are blessed to be beside you in this work."

#2 Catena Solutions

"We came to Catena Solutions to seek guidance, staffing, and support as we embarked on an operational turnaround at Easterseals. As a part of this turnaround, we entirely rebuilt our Human Resources team and approach from the ground up.



In particular, we would like to recognize Liz Bright and Lindsay Wessels for the key role they have played in providing us with exceptional staff and incredible service. Liz and Lindsay provided us with absolutely stellar talent that was handpicked and matchmade for Easterseals. We have two long-term staff members that came from Cantena and they both have incredible expertise and are a strong fit for the culture, values, and pace of our organization. We have come back to Liz and Lindsay several more times since then to staff two additional shorter-term projects, both of which require a very particular and unique skillset, and they have provided us with numerous additional contractors for those roles whom we value tremendously.

It amazes us how Liz and Lindsay are able to provide such high-quality candidates at lightning-fast speeds, while all the while being just a joy and pleasure to work with. These two are both as brilliant as they are devoted and caring. Thank you so much to Liz and Lindsay and the whole team at Catena Solutions."

#3 Grant Writers Stacie Pozdol and Angela Wiley



"Tonight we recognize our two amazing grant writers. They are as successful as they are mighty. Two grant writers—working only part time—have successfully built a foundation fundraising agenda at Easterseals that has raised between \$500,000-\$1M each year over the past two years. They have brought us new funding sources, filled operational gaps, and helped us to build relationships with foundations that previously did not know about us or our work. Perhaps as importantly is the way they have done their work. Angela and Stacie listen to our staff, they know our programs, they advocate for the importance of our work, and they have given us beautiful words and an articulation of who we are and what we do.

Angela and Stacie, we could not have done our work without you! Thank you for your investment in our people, our programs, and our work."

#4 HUB International Limited

"Over the past three years, HUB has aided us in completely rethinking our approach to health

insurance and other benefits. Our employees expressed that Easterseals health insurance was unaffordable. Given what our employees deserve, given our commitment to caring for them, and given the need to compete in an increasingly difficult labor market, we had a vision of providing our employees with an option for free health insurance. In the fall of 2022, Easterseals was able to do that! This was only possible with the expert advising of the HUB team in close collaboration with Easterseals senior leaders.

HUB also successfully competed for a compensation study for every single position in our 700-staff agency. We used the results of this study to implement a transparent, equitable, market-competitive compensation system. It is not a stretch to say that HUB has contributed to transformational change for our organization and our people.



We would also like to recognize HUB leader Sara Vatch for the key role she has played in helping us

to improve our systems. Sara has patiently worked shoulder to shoulder with our HR team through the most excruciatingly complex issues with our data feeds and been an incredible liaison between Easterseals and all of our benefit providers. She has brought a strategic lens to all she has done, and has taken tasks and work off the plates of our HR team members so they can focus in other areas. She has truly been a member of our team and has contributed in countless ways, through the completion of many time sensitive and essential projects, by bringing her expertise to bear, and by being an absolute pleasure to work with."