easterseals
Northeast
Central Florida

5-1-18

To whom it may concern,

My name is Dorothy Lefford, I am an occupational therapist, and I serve as the Vice President of Clinical Services with Easterseals Northeast Central Florida. Easterseals provides for children and adults with varying disabilities with a mission to change the way the world see's disabilities. Easterseals has been providing services in our community since 1950 and Nationally Easterseals affiliates are located in 74 different locations. We pride ourselves in developing programs and services to meet the ever-changing health care needs unique to our community. We are committed to clinical excellence and continuously strive to learn and maximize our client's strengths to enable them to meet their goals and engage in fulling lives.

Keiser University and Easterseals have collaborated in several ways since 2009. We serve as an internship site for Keiser's Occupational Therapy Assistant students and we have been fortunate to employ several of the graduates over the years. The students have also been collaborating as volunteers with Easterseals to learn about occupational therapy serving children in a group setting in a variety of afterschool inclusion programs within Volusia County for the past four years. Additionally, The OTA students continue to be a very active group of students in which their Student OTA Association (SOTA) have participated in a variety of community events hosted by Easterseals to include: World Autism Day, Community Holiday parties, Disability Awareness walk (Easterseals Walk with Me Annual Event) and our most recent and newest event, "Over the Edge" which was co- sponsored with the NASCAR Foundation.

I personally enjoy the partnership with Keiser's OTA teachers as their dedication to education and success of their graduates is commendable. I have served on the University's Advisory board for the OTA program since 2009 at the Daytona Beach Campus. I enjoy working with the dedicated teachers and Keiser support staff, as they are always welcoming and appreciative of the community partnership we have developed over the past nine years. They always appear enthusiastic and are open to creative ideas to meet the learning needs of their students. It has been a pleasure working with Keiser University and we value their partnership locally.

Thank you,

Dorothy Lefford, OTR/L
Vice President Clinical Services
Easterseals Northeast Central Florida
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