



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Education

January 27, 2017


TO: Division Superintendents

FROM: Steven R. Staples, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Camp Easterseals

Located in New Castle, Virginia, Camp Easterseals features recreational and therapeutic camp programming for children and young adults with disabilities. Campers have the opportunity to experience activities that include horseback riding, canoeing, swimming, arts and crafts, ziplining, campfires and more. Over 500 campers attend Camp Easterseals every year. The camp is about 45 minutes from Roanoke and it is accredited by the American Camp Association. More information can be found on the attached flyer.

A camp experience can help children make friends, learn independence, build self-esteem, and learn to enjoy the outdoors. More than half of the parents report that their children have maintained friendships made during camp. Parents also report that their children have more self-confidence as a result of the camp experience. One camper explained, "Camp is a time to be with other kids with the same disabilities as me and not be judged. I can be myself!"

For more information about this opportunity and the scholarships, contact Melba Gibbs, Director of Special Events and Federated Giving by phone at (804) 353-2571 or through email at melba.gibbs@eastersealsucp.com. Camp Easterseals' 2017 applications will be ready in February and will be available at <http://www.easterseals.com/NCVA/our-programs/camping-recreation/> .

SRS/MM

Attachment:

- A. [Easterseals Camp Flyer](#) (PDF)