

# Claire's journey

## Finding My Voice

My name is Claire McDonald. I am 5 years old. I live with Cerebral Palsy and Epilepsy. Some of the things my parents were told I may never do was speak or use my right arm.

My parents learned about Easter Seals and we got involved right away.

My first program was music therapy. I got to interact with other kids like me. My parents got to meet other families and, as time went on, we got more involved. We discovered how wonderful it was to be in a place we were made to feel included. No one stared at us or asked questions. We found an extended family that understood our special life.



As I grew, so did my involvement with programs and activities and my family became more active in fundraising. They created Claire's Craft Fair to raise money every year for Easter Seals programs! I am in sledge Hockey which gives me skills of coordination and strength. I love swimming therapy which helps me work my muscles and we have fun. We go to family camp and all kinds of wonderful family events throughout the year. I am still in music therapy. I use both my hands to play instruments now and I found my voice through music....I sing!

If it wasn't for the programs and support of Easter Seals, I would never be able to experience or be included in any of these activities. I have so many friends I have met and grown with! I found a voice I was told I would never have and also use of my arm - all thanks to therapy programs at Easter Seals.



investing  
in the power  
of dreams

how your support  
makes a difference