

# **TESTIMONIALS**

# How the Rural Solutions program helped me

Thank you to our partners, for your collaboration to positively impact lowa's farmers with disabilities.

## **Greg Corkery**

**Delaware County** 

"Without the technological assistance from Easterseals, I couldn't have continued to farm. I am so thankful to continue to do what I love."



#### Kaleb Groenenboom

Mahaska County

"I was bound and determined to be a farmer; I was going to figure out how to get it done one way or another.

Easterseals Iowa provided the connections and



resources that allowed me to get funding for a side-by-side ATV. Before that, it could be difficult getting around in the mud, snow and ice. I'd have days if I'd fall, it'd put me out for the day."

### **Russell Boseck**

**Cass County** 

"I wanted to continue farming as my livelihood and contribute in a meaningful way in my community.



I wouldn't have my operation and be where I am today if it weren't for the staff at Easterseals Iowa."

#### **Renae Beebout**

Monroe County

"More than anything, Easterseals Iowa Rural Solutions gave me confidence to pursue my dream farm operation with goats and kune kune pigs.

I may have given up without their advocacy and support."



### **Ryan Kennon**

Chickasaw County

"Before I could think about getting in and out of my tractor, I had to find a way to get into my house in a wheelchair. This was the first step that Easterseals and I took to get me back on the farm."



### **Brenda Codney**

Pottawattamie County

"These adaptations enabled me to still be functional as a wife, a mother and a grandmother. Before the lift and stairs, I wasn't able to get out of the house. They



enabled me to be part of the community."

#### Carol Mack Mitchell County

"Easterseals provided us with equipment and resources that were not available through anyone else. They truly cared and regularly checked in on us. We always knew they would know a solution or would work to create one."



# Norman Sawyer

Scott County

"Thank you, Easterseals Rural Solutions for advocating for funds on my behalf to maintain and expand my organic beef farming operation."



### Mike Nissly Hardin County



Mike has always enjoyed an active lifestyle. In May of 2018 he was on a bike ride with his brothers and a cousin in Minnesota. When he thought he was going to hit his brother's rear tire, he pushed his brakes too hard, causing him to lose control and hit a tree.

The progress Mike has made since that accident just a year and a half ago is amazing. Mike adapted to a wheelchair soon after the accident. At 59 years of age, Mike wanted to continue his life-long career as a farm manager and accountant. With the support of Easterseals Iowa and Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services, modifications were made to Mike's rural home in Iowa Falls as well as his historical office in downtown Iowa Falls.

Mike wanted to serve his customers as well or better than before his accident, so with the help of Easterseals and IVRS he obtained a van with hand controls, a lift and a GPS system. He also obtained a flying drone, which required training and mastery—as the drone is so large it's

registered with the Federal Aviation Association. An Action Track Power Chair supports Mike in accessing fields to better evaluate sod drainage and crop conditions to complete reports to his customers.