
BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2024

Fiscal Services Division

July 1, 2023



Ground Floor, State Capitol Building

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515.281.3566

Farmers with Disabilities Program

Purpose and History

The Farmers with Disabilities Program was established by the 2011 General Assembly. The funding for the Farmers with Disabilities Program is appropriated to the Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (DALSS) and is transferred to the Easterseals Iowa appropriation for the Rural Solutions Program.

The Rural Solutions Program assists farm family members and rural residents who have a newly acquired disability. Members of the Rural Solutions Program Team provide resources to rural residents with disabilities. Services provided include:

- Evaluations of the agricultural work site and home living spaces: The team recommends changes needed for the family to continue the rural way of life.
- Peer support: Volunteers who have similar disabilities provide support to others who have recently been disabled.
- Services for all family members: Volunteers provide services to the entire family unit.
- Information and referrals: The team connects the family with other community resources and agencies that can assist with the family's situation.
- Medical equipment loan services: Medical equipment is loaned to the disabled person for a nominal fee.

Funding History

The General Assembly appropriated \$97,000 from the Environment First Fund to Easterseals Iowa in FY 2012. From FY 2013 to FY 2019, the annual appropriation was \$130,000; however, funding came from the General Fund. In FY 2020, the annual appropriation from the General Fund was increased to \$180,000, and the appropriation was increased again to \$230,000 in FY 2024.

Budget Unit Number

0090GA50001

Doc ID 1366787

More Information

Iowa Easterseals Rural Solutions: easterseals.com/ia/our-programs/rural-solutions
LSA Staff Contact: Austin Brinks (515.725.2200) austin.brinks@legis.iowa.gov