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## BUDGET UNIT BRIEF – FY 2019

Fiscal Services Division

September 21, 2018



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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 (DALs) and is transferred to the Iowa Easter Seals 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 that are needed for the family to continue the rural way of life.
- Peer support – volunteers that 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 their 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 the Iowa Easter Seals in FY 2012. Since then, the annual appropriation has been \$130,000 from the General Fund.

### Budget Unit Number

0090GA50001

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### More Information

Iowa Easter Seals Rural Solutions: [www.easterseals.com/ia/our-programs/rural-solutions](http://www.easterseals.com/ia/our-programs/rural-solutions)  
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