

May 29, 2014

Des Moines Business Record Woman of Influence

To Whom It May Concern:

I am excited to support the Nomination of Sherri Nielsen, CEO of Easter Seals Iowa, as a Business Record Woman of Influence. Until my retirement earlier this month, I worked closely with Sherri from the beginning of her tenure as Easter Seals CEO. Polk County Health Services is Polk County's mental health and developmental disability services department, and we contracted with more than two dozen agencies in the Des Moines area to provide services to support persons with disabilities in living full lives in the community. Under Sherri's leadership, Easter Seals maintained the highest standards of service, enthusiastically pursued new and creative ways of working with consumers, maintained high satisfaction levels by both the consumers of services and their family members, and achieved high outcomes in our annual independent evaluations of service outcomes. Whenever we had a consumer in crisis, Easter Seals could always be counted on to offer respite and temporary support at Camp Sunnyside—an indicator of Sherri's "do whatever it takes" attitude.

I support naming Sherri Nielsen a Woman of Achievement.

Sincerely,



Lynn D. Ferrell  
Executive Director (Retired)