



# EMORY VALLEY CENTER

MAXIMIZING HUMAN ABILITIES

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**PRESS RELEASE**

## **Community Garden located at Emory Valley Center's Caldwell-Thompson Building**

The Oak Ridge Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Class of 2017 recently designed and built a Community Garden for Emory Valley Center. The group chose to build a raised-bed garden at Emory Valley Center for their class project and dedicate the garden in memory of Dr. Gene Caldwell, a local pediatrician and citizen of Oak Ridge who helped raise the funds for Emory Valley Center's new Caldwell-Thompson Building.

**"I'm incredibly proud of what the 2017 Leadership Oak Ridge class has been able to accomplish here,"** Leadership Oak Ridge Project Manager Dionne Harper said. **"We set a significant goal and far exceeded our own expectations in creating something meaningful and beautiful for Emory Valley Center and the Caldwell family. This project has certainly left a lasting impression on each one of us. We'd like to thank everyone who helped make it happen."**

The Leadership class worked to develop and execute a plan for the garden. They utilized fundraising for the project as well as donations of materials and labor to make their vision a reality. Navy Junior ROTC cadets from Oak Ridge High School assisted with the build.



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**“Emory Valley Center appreciates being chosen by the Oak Ridge Chamber Leadership class as their community project,”** said Jennifer Enderson, Emory Valley Center President. **“The Community Garden will benefit the people we support in a variety of ways and we look forward to seeing it flourish.”**

**Emory Valley Center** has been meeting the needs of people with intellectual, developmental and physical disabilities in the East Tennessee community for **63 years** and currently provides a wide variety of services including: Community Integration, Education, Employment, Family Assistance, Pre-Vocational Training, Residential and Senior Services. **This support reaches more than 1,400 adults and children on a monthly basis in 16 East Tennessee counties.**

To learn more about Emory Valley Center and their programs and services, visit [www.emoryvalleycenter.org](http://www.emoryvalleycenter.org) and like them on facebook for program and event photos at [www.facebook.com/emoryvalleycenter](https://www.facebook.com/emoryvalleycenter) .