



# EMORY VALLEY CENTER

MAXIMIZING HUMAN ABILITIES

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Emory Valley Center 2022 Compassion Fundraiser

For Immediate Release - Emory Valley Center was able to hold their 2022 Compassion Fundraiser in April – the first since the pandemic began, with WATE-TV 6's Don Dare as emcee. While attendees enjoyed a catered meal by Take Out Thyme while people Emory Valley Center supports, and their family members shared personal stories about the programs and services that have made an impact in their lives.

After the speakers shared their compelling stories, Auctioneer Bear Stephenson conducted a live Impact Auction, where attendees bid on various needs throughout Emory Valley Center. Auction donations have been distributed across several programs at center, including the Behavioral Health Program, Community Participation, Community Supported Living, Early Intervention, Facilities/Residential Improvements, and Special Olympics.

Several close friends of Bear Stephenson's shared humorous personal stories about him, followed by the presentation of the 2022 Compassion Award, which was presented to Stephenson by Emory Valley Center President Jennifer Enderson, and the 2019 Compassion Award recipient, Ms. Dottie Thompson.

The 2022 Compassion Fundraiser was made possible by the support of ticket purchasers, donors and volunteers, as well as several sponsors and community partners, including Anonymous Donor, Victoria Bowling, Eddie Hair Tire & Auto Center, Leidos, TNBank, WATE-TV6, HUB, UCOR, Dr. & Mrs. Thomas L. Clary, Home Federal Bank, Dr. Alan & Teresa Icenhour, McFarland Pharmacy, MCLinc, ORAU, Pinnacle Financial Partners, Bob & Carol Smallridge, SmartBank, Stephenson Realty & Auction, Judy Stone Wilson/Realty Executives, Take Out Thyme, Workspace Solutions, Inc., ZYP Coatings, Tom Beehan & Kay Brookshire,

Yvonne Dalschen - Photographer, Jim & Becky Dodson, Charlie Hensley, Methodist Medical Center, Ridgeview Behavioral Health Services, and Willow Ridge Garden Center.



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**Emory Valley Center** has been meeting the needs of people with intellectual, developmental, and physical disabilities in the East Tennessee community since 1955, and currently provides a wide variety of services including: Behavioral Health, Community Participation, Community Supported Living, Early Childhood Education, Enabling Technology, Family Support and Workforce Development. **This support reaches more than 1,400 adults and children, monthly in multiple East Tennessee counties.**

To learn more about Emory Valley Center and their programs and services, visit [www.emoryvalleycenter.org](http://www.emoryvalleycenter.org), follow them on Facebook, [www.facebook.com/emoryvalleycenter](https://www.facebook.com/emoryvalleycenter); Instagram, [emory.valley.center](https://www.instagram.com/emory.valley.center) and Twitter [@EVC\\_OakRidge](https://twitter.com/EVC_OakRidge) for program/success stories and photos.