



**Tellico Community Foundation
News Release**

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A PLACE FOR OUR PLACE

An adult day center serving Loudon and Monroe counties took a step towards becoming a reality on Thursday when the Tellico Community Foundation (TCF), an affiliated fund of the East Tennessee Foundation (ETF), awarded one-acre of land to Our Place, the not-for-profit advocating building the facility.

The deed transfer was completed at the corner of Tennessee State Route 444 and Tennessee State Route 72 in Tellico Village where the planned adult day center will be built. More than 70 invited donors and supporters of the three organizations attended the event with many using the zoom conference application.

The one-acre plot is part of a 4.7-acre parcel gifted to the Tellico Community Foundation in December, 2019 with an assessed valuation of \$920,000. The TCF land acquisition paralleled discussions Sue Newman, founder of Our Place, was having with various people about starting an adult day center. Newman's late

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husband, Joel, was progressing through the final stages of dementia. Like many families confronted with this terrible illness; she had been frustrated by the lack of adult support programs in the immediate area.

Her conversations included Joe Beyel, chair of TCF. An idea was born: TCF would donate up to one-acre of its gifted land to Newman's fledgling charity, if she could raise \$200,000 to start building the facility.

Spurred by the fund-raising challenge, Newman and her friends formally organized and found a major sponsor in the First Baptist Church of Tellico Village. Thanks to the church's generosity coupled with hundreds of contributions from Tellico Villagers and others in the area the goal was achieved by late September.

"The Tellico Community Foundation is delighted to award this one-acre of land to Our Place and help Sue Newman and her organization start the process of building an adult day center," commented Beyel. "Support for seniors is one of the areas of emphasis for TCF's grant-making."

The land transfer was facilitated by the East Tennessee Foundation. "Thoughtful giving for stronger communities and better lives is our focus at ETF," said Michael McClamroch, ETF president and chief executive officer. "ETF was pleased to provide the technical and legal assistance to make this transaction happen."

Newman was excited. "Today is a momentous occasion as we cross an initial hurdle on the path toward building a legacy for our community. The Our Place Board thank the Tellico Community Foundation, the East Tennessee Foundation and the hundreds of people in Tellico Village, Loudon and Monroe counties that have supported the vision of an adult day center"

Construction of the Our Place facility is expected to begin in the spring of 2021.

Photo Mike McClamroch, president and chief executive office, East

Caption: Tennessee Foundation and Joe Beyel, chair, Tellico Community Foundation complete the transfer of an acre of land to Sue Newman, founder, Our Place for construction of an adult day center.

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