

Franklin Tomorrow
Corporate Volunteerism Award Nomination

A Vintage Affair (AVA)

A Vintage Affair is a Williamson County, TN non-profit that was established in 2001 by Ralph Drury. AVA is specifically focused on women and children in Williamson County and raising awareness and money for those in desperate need of assistance. Williamson County is known for privilege, wealth, and safety but there are many in our community who do not experience these luxuries. The Board of AVA has a passion for reaching those underserved women and children. Over the past 20 years, AVA has raised over \$2 million for local organizations.

Each year, the Board selects organizations by application to receive financial support from fund raising events throughout the year. AVA's beneficiaries for 2021 include My Friend's House, FrankTown Open Hearts, Community Child Care Center, High Hopes Development Center, Bridges Domestic Violence Center, and Williamson Medical Center.

AVA hosts numerous events throughout the year to raise money for their beneficiaries; two of the largest events are the Main Event and the Harvest Fest/Grape Stomp. AVA made the choice to postpone their much-anticipated 20th anniversary celebration in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Even though their largest fund-raising events were cancelled, with the effort of the board and supporters, they were still able to provide for their beneficiaries as promised. After cancelling the events in 2020, they redeemed themselves this October - the combined events set a record for the organization by raising \$310,000 in ticket sales, sponsorship, and live and silent auctions.

AVA is led by Founder Ralph Drury, Executive Director Carrie Drury, and Chairman Allie Noah. I would like to nominate Ralph, Carrie, and Allie – and the entire Board – for the Franklin Tomorrow Corporate Volunteerism Award. The combined efforts of the leadership and the Board brought a record-breaking year in fund raising. This organization should be recognized and celebrated for their 20 years and over \$2 million given to our community.

Number of hours volunteered: The collective number of hours that the [28 Board members](#) contribute to AVA is in the hundreds – if not thousands - of hours. This team spent tireless months, days, and hours over the past year planning and executing the two-day events, in addition to meetings and other smaller events.