**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Tracy Buckles, FTAAAD, 423-722-5109  
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**FTAAAD Hosts Free Screening of “Alive Inside” Documentary About Music and Dementia**

**JOHNSON CITY, Tenn.**— The First Tennessee Area Agency on Aging and Disability (FTAAAD), the Tennessee Commission on Aging and Disability (TCAD) and Alzheimer’s Tennessee invite you to join us for an uplifting cinematic exploration of music’s ability to combat memory loss in people living with dementia.

Join us on Friday, January 6, for a free screening of the award-winning documentary “*Alive Inside*” at Memorial Park Community Center, 510 Bert Street, Johnson City. The movie will begin at 1:00 pm, but come early for light *Hors D’oeuvres* provided by Visiting Angels Tri-Cities. Admission is free and is open to the public.

Filmmaker Michael Rossato-Bennett uses his camera to reveal the uniquely human connection we find in music and how its healing power can triumph where prescription medication falls short. Earning the 2014 Sundance Audience Award, “*Alive Inside*” follows social worker Dan Cohen on his quest to bring personalized music to nursing homes. Upon hearing songs from their past, seniors with dementia are suddenly able to find a joyous sense of self that was once lost.

As of 2020, 55 million people around the world live with Alzheimer’s and other forms of dementia; a number which is expected to reach 75 million by 2030, according to the World Health Organization ~~(WHO)~~. The Alzheimer’s Tennessee website shows that more than 120,000 Tennesseans and 5.4 million Americans overall have Alzheimer’s or another form of dementia. This film is a valuable reminder that even if someone with dementia doesn’t communicate often, they’re still alive inside.

This screening is part of FTAAAD’s *TN M.I.N.D.S.* (Music Intervention Navigating Dementia Symptoms) program, which is part of *Dementia Capable TN*. TN M.I.N.D.S. is an intervention designed to benefit individuals living with dementia and their caregivers. The program builds on the evidence-based *Powerful Tools for Caregivers* program by adding an individualized music component for individuals living with dementia.

For more information on the special viewing or dementia resources, please contact Tracy Buckles (tbuckles@ftaaad.org), (423)722-5109 or Tracey Kendall-Wilson (tracey.kendallwilson@TNalz.org), at (423)330-4532.

**About First Tennessee Development District Area Agency on Aging and Disability**FTAAAD’s mission is to improve the quality of life for older adults and adults with disabilities who live in the eight counties of Northeast Tennessee by advocating, setting policy, identifying local needs, providing services, coordinating resources, and providing information to promote a continuum of care which supports independence, choice, and empowerment for those we are committed to serve. For more information, call 423-928-3258 or visit [www.ftaaad.org](http://www.ftaaad.org)

First Tennessee Area Agency on Aging and Disability 3211 N. Roan St. Johnson City, TN 37601 423-928-0224 ftaaad.org