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For Immediate Release

Spring for Abilis Raises \$525,000 *Gala Raised Funds in Support of New Initiatives at Abilis*

GREENWICH, Conn., May 9, 2023 -- **Abilis**, the nonprofit organization providing services and support to more than 800 individuals with special needs and their families, is pleased to share that its annual Spring for Abilis Gala raised more than \$525,000 in support of new initiatives at Abilis. The Gala evening, which was held at the Woodway Country Club in Darien, Connecticut, featured celebrity emcee and entertainer **Billy Blanks Jr.**, who performed an incredible opening dance number with the students at **The Dance Pointe** in Greenwich. Music was provided by **ETA Music**. As part of the Gala event, Abilis hosted an online **Giving Garden** for supporters to provide much needed necessities for the Abilis residences and day programs, as well as educational items for its Birth to Three Program through The Therapy Center at Abilis.

“Everyone was so thrilled to be back in-person for our annual Spring for Abilis Gala,” said Amy Montimurro, CEO and president of Abilis. “The support for Abilis and all that we do to support the more than 800 individuals with disabilities and their families, throughout Fairfield County, was incredible to see. Families attended the Gala with their adult children whom we support. New supporters of Abilis came and were so excited to learn more about what we do. We really couldn’t have asked for a better evening.

This year’s 2023 Spring for Abilis Gala co-chairs were **Barbara Goldsmith** of Darien, Connecticut, and **Leslie Smith Clarke** of Westport, Connecticut. Both Barbara and Leslie are mothers of young adults who are provided with residential and day supports at Abilis. They truly understand the importance of the work that Abilis does throughout lower Fairfield County and are excited to support the organization in such a meaningful way. Funds raised at the 2023 Spring for Abilis event will support new initiatives at Abilis.

Special thanks to Spring for Abilis sponsors Holland & Knight, DARCARS Automotive Group - Lexus of Greenwich, Infiniti of Greenwich and Lexus of Mt. Kisco, Cathy and Lou Paglia, Bibi & Marty Clarke, Barbara and Rick Goldsmith, Fran and Mitch Cohen, The Leslie Clarke Team, GIII Apparel Group, the Halper family, Cheryl Vitali and James Shapiro, Susan Riley, Alice & Ron Stuart, Connecticut Pharmacy, New England Total Energy, Patricia & David Kelley, Linda & David Gortz, Paycom, Alera Group, the Keith Johnson family, Diane & Ken Corba, and to the Spring for Abilis partners AmFund and Greenwich Magazine/Moffly Media.

Abilis is a 501c3 non-profit organization that supports more than 800 individuals with disabilities and their families from birth through the senior years. Founded in 1951, Abilis is a leader in providing meaningful support to the community in Fairfield County, Connecticut, in towns including Darien, Greenwich, New Canaan, Norwalk, Stamford, Westport and Wilton. The

organization has a long-standing reputation for individualized, high-quality supports. For more information, visit www.abilis.us, or follow on Facebook [@Abilis, Inc.](#), Instagram [@abilis us](#) or Twitter [@Abilis](#).

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