



April 17, 2017  
For Immediate Release

**JUNIOR LEAGUE OF PHILADELPHIA AWARDS \$135,000 IN COMMUNITY GRANTS TO COMBAT FOOD INSECURITY; AWARDS PRESENTATION TO BE HELD ON APRIL 20**

*Ardmore, Pennsylvania* – At its Annual Meeting on April 20, The Junior League of Philadelphia, Inc. (JLP) will award grants totaling \$135,000 to five (5) non-profit community organizations. In August 2016, the JLP Board of Directors invited nonprofit organizations working to improve food security and health in Greater Philadelphia to apply for JLP Centennial Grants. More than 35 organizations requested a total of more than \$1.3 million in funding. Grant funds were raised through contributions, primarily from the League's own membership of 850 women, to the JLP's \$1.4 million+ Centennial Campaign for Building Community and through other fundraising efforts of its members. The Centennial Campaign, launched in 2012 and named in celebration of 100 years since the Junior League of Philadelphia's founding, also funded significant renovations to JLP Headquarters.

The Centennial Grant awardees follow:

**Face to Face: \$55,000 award**

- *Mission:* To provide the Germantown, Philadelphia community with a safe environment and practical tools to promote health, wellbeing, and stability
- *Funding Purpose:* To construct a kitchenette in their Children's Center, enabling snack and meal service to children and their parents as well as educational programming for meal preparation

**Methodist Services' Heritage Farm: \$30,000 award**

- *Mission:* To create a sustainable, community-based food system by growing and providing fresh produce and offering hands-on education and life skills to the families they serve in West Philadelphia
- *Funding Purpose:* To refurbish their farm stand, hire a seasonal educator, and create a community garden with Methodist Services residents

**People's Emergency Center: \$20,000 award**

- *Mission:* To nurture families, strengthen neighborhoods, and drive change in West Philadelphia
- *Funding Purpose:* To reinstitute Eating Well Cooking Workshops, a six-week program of three-hour classes that teach adults healthy cooking, with the goals of experiencing the connection between healthy eating and healthy living

**Community Center at Visitation: \$15,000 award**

- *Mission:* To provide a safe place for community outreach, continued education, and recreation among the diverse community of Kensington, Philadelphia
- *Funding Purpose:* To stock their food pantry with a wide variety of typically out-of-budget healthy food items and to extend pantry hours to include weeknights

**MANNA: \$15,000 award**

- *Mission:* To prepare and deliver nourishing meals and counsel to those battling life-threatening illnesses in the Philadelphia region, empowering individuals to battle illnesses and improve their quality of life
- *Funding Purpose:* Procurement of a freezer for their new headquarters

**Press Invitation to Centennial Grant Presentation Event on April 20:**

Members of the press are invited to attend the Centennial Grant presentation event on April 20, 2017 at 7 p.m. at the Philadelphia Marriott West (111 Crawford Ave, Conshohocken, PA). For more details and to R.S.V.P., please contact Sara Grossman, JLP Vice President of Marketing and Communications, at [Marketing@JLPhiladelphia.org](mailto:Marketing@JLPhiladelphia.org).

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**About The Junior League of Philadelphia, Inc (JLP):**

Founded in 1912, the Junior League of Philadelphia is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable. The JLP is also a member of the Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI), with 292 Leagues globally.

**About the JLP's Apple a Day Health Living Initiative™**

The Junior League of Philadelphia's *Apple a Day Healthy Living Initiative* focuses on improving food security and health in Greater Philadelphia. Through partnerships with organizations such as Coalition Against Hunger, Face to Face, Greener Partners, Main Line Health System, MANNA, Philabundance, and Share Food Program, the JLP seeks to FEED the community: Facilitate increased access to fresh and healthy food; Educate individuals about the connection between healthy eating and healthy living; Empower individuals to become advocates for their own health; and Distribute fresh and healthy food in areas classified as food deserts.

**JLP Public Relations / Media Contact:**

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