



LEAFLET

A Publication of the Junior League of Raleigh | Winter 2017



Three Wake County charities benefit from Junior League of Raleigh event

For the Junior League of Raleigh (JLR), supporting our local community means providing trained volunteers to support programs and projects, offering training services to the community and to our members and providing financial support to nonprofit partners. One of JLR's signature annual financial gifts comes through the Legacy Fund.

Funded through proceeds from the League's largest annual fundraiser, A Shopping SPREE!, the Legacy Fund recognizes nonprofits offering services to women and children in the Wake County community. The Legacy Fund has awarded more than **\$175,000** in grants to nonprofit agencies since its launch in 2004.

Legacy Fund recipients are selected from a competitive pool of applicants who are nominated by JLR members or are recommended by partners and community friends. Nominees range from organizations supporting infants and young mothers to groups supporting youth development through music to partners serving the community through food, housing and healthcare services.

The 2016 Legacy Fund Award recipients offer diverse services to Wake County. **Haven House**, **Transitions LifeCare** and **Carroll's Kitchen** each offer unique perspective and support to our community. "We are proud to contribute a portion of funds raised at A Shopping SPREE! to these deserving charities," said JLR President Rebecca Ayers. "Haven House, Transitions LifeCare and Carroll's Kitchen all work toward our mission at the Junior League of Raleigh to lift up children and women here in our community."

Shannon Walters, director of development with Haven House, accepted the Legacy Fund Award.

"Haven House Services is grateful to the Junior League of Raleigh for its generous support of our efforts to change outcomes for struggling youth and their families in Wake County," Walters said. "With the help of the Junior League of Raleigh's Legacy Grant, Haven House's Outreach Center will host more than 1,200 visits this year from homeless and street-dependent young adults needing a safe place to access food, hygiene supplies, crisis counseling, skill-building courses and/or case management. In addition, more than 150 at-risk youth will have the opportunity to participate in our Second Round program, which uses boxing, weight training and other forms of exercise to teach youth self-discipline, team work, leadership and build a foundation for a lifetime of health, fitness and positive community involvement."

Leslie-Anne Nixon, senior major gifts officer at Transitions LifeCare, explained how the Legacy Grant will benefit local youth at Transitions.

"Transitions GriefCare programs for children and teens provide a connection with others of similar age who have experienced a loss through death, help them understand they are not alone and provide strategies in coping with their grief," Nixon said. "Camp Reflections is an annual, weekend day camp for children and teens who have experienced the death of a loved one. Grief-related activities - music, arts and crafts and games - are led by trained facilitators. Here, participants have the opportunity to connect with

other kids and families who have experienced a loss, better understand grief, find safe and creative ways to give voice to feelings and thoughts about their grief, nurture memories, build self-confidence and self-worth and take time to play, laugh, cry and feel a sense of normalcy."

Jim Freeze, executive director of Carroll's Kitchen said, "We are thrilled to receive the Junior League of Raleigh's 2016 Legacy Grant! Our mission is to provide good food to our customers and job training for women looking for an opportunity to get back on their feet after facing challenging circumstances such as homelessness, domestic violence or human trafficking. But what we ultimately aim to do is empower the women to see themselves as truly beautiful and valuable individuals. It's an empowering message for them to see customers come again and again to buy the food that they pour their hearts into. And in the same way, it's an empowering message to us as an organization to receive support from such a great group like the Junior League. Being a recipient of the Legacy Grant communicates to us that you believe in our mission and that we, as a community, believe in the women of Carroll's Kitchen!"

Applications for the 2017 Legacy Fund will open in June 2017. If you are interested in receiving notification when the application opens, please email grants@jlraleigh.org. As Helen Keller so aptly stated, alone we can do so little; together we can do so much!





ARMOUR “GREAT MOMS” AWARD

HOSTED BY THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF RALEIGH

There are great moms - and then there is Lea Martin. Lea Martin has worked with the Greater Raleigh police department for over fifteen years, as well as being a single mother to three beautiful girls, one of whom has special needs. Armour and Food Lion, with help from the Junior League of Raleigh, surprised Martin with a celebration for all that she does for her girls and her community. On September 13, the organizations presented Martin with **\$2,500** in free groceries from Food Lion as a part of the Great Moms Campaign.

The Junior League of Raleigh (JLR) hosted this special event at the Julia Jones Daniels Center for Community Leadership (CCL). The building was full of Raleigh police officers, representatives from Armour Meats, Food Lion and Smithfield Foods and members of the media, all ready to surprise Martin. Raleigh Police Chief Cassandra Deck-Brown helped present the award to Martin. JLR prides itself on being a community organization focused on strengthening women, so hosting this celebration was a perfect fit. “This is what the CCL was meant to be used for,” said JLR President Rebecca Ayers. “The JLR has a mission to bring together the community and the CCL is a

tangible way that this was met.”

Raleigh police officers, like Martin, put their lives on the line every day for the safety of others. In her time with the department, she has contributed with positions ranging from drug enforcement, gang officer and now patrol officer. She also is the department’s go-to special events coordinator, handling

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all races within the city. After a hard day at work, Martin still finds time for her daughters. She coaches T-ball, participates in carpools to dance classes and so much more. Martin, a single mother, makes sure her daughters’ needs are met both physically and emotionally. She works hard to balance time with each daughter individually, as well as together as a family. Movie nights at home seem to be a favorite activity in their house! Martin wants to teach her daughters important qualities like how to be responsible,

caring, loving, tough and hardworking. She demonstrates these qualities to her daughters through her own actions every day, and makes personal sacrifices to ensure her daughters are cared for. Martin was surprised in front of her family, friends and coworkers to be recognized as a great mother, and a leader in the community.

The Great Moms Award campaign is held monthly for amazing moms across the country. They must demonstrate greatness in their communities and in their personal lives at home. These moms often go without the praise they deserve, and this campaign’s goal is to recognize these special moms for all they do. Martin is one of fifteen moms overall who have been recognized for these above-and-beyond accomplishments. Her coworkers nominated her for the award. Martin was incredibly humbled by the nomination and the award, and said she is extremely appreciative that people care this much about her and her family.

If you know of a way JLR can use the Julia Jones Daniels Center for Community Leadership to partner with community leaders, contact the CCL at 919-787-7480.



InterAct and JLR Join Forces for Safer Futures

The Junior League of Raleigh (JLR) is thrilled to announce a new partnership with InterAct of Wake County. For more than 85 years, JLR has served at-risk women and children in Wake County. A partnership with InterAct is a natural fit for continuing to evolve our service to the community, supporting women and children affected by domestic violence.

As the only provider of comprehensive domestic violence and sexual assault services in Wake County, InterAct provides a 24-hour crisis line, group and individualized therapy and sexual assault kit collection. Through these services, InterAct helps save and rebuild lives by securing safer futures for individuals and families in the community. Nationally, more than half of all domestic violence shelter residents return to their abusers. Last year, more than **90 percent** of InterAct's shelter residents did not return.

Together, InterAct and JLR will help reach almost **49,000** Wake County residents yearly. 8,200 of those are direct victims of

domestic or sexual violence. JLR is currently supporting the children's group therapy sessions. JLR volunteers help facilitate weekly children's group sessions with a focus on topics such as anger management, good touching, healthy relationships and dating.

InterAct hosts events around holidays to ensure that families receiving services through the organization have access to everyday, normal activities for their children and are supported during difficult life transitions. The annual Trunk-Or-Treat festival, held during late October, offered children the opportunity to select their Halloween costume and then trick or treat through a safe area with cars decorated in different themes. From Spiderman and Minions to Frozen and the JLR's own Mickey Mouse-themed car, children delighted in the sights and treats of this special event.

The annual Holiday Bazaar is a truly magical way to kick off the holiday season. Through generous donations from individual and corporate donors across the community, InterAct hosts a truly special shopping event

that allows moms and children to shop for their children for the holidays. The care with which each parent lovingly selects gifts for their children and the selflessness they display in thinking not only of their family, but also other families in need, is the true embodiment of a season of giving. Children have the opportunity to select a gift for their parent and enjoy crafts and games while mom shops. For JLR volunteers, serving as elves during the 2016 Holiday Bazaar was the merriest gift of all!

Ninety cents of each dollar invested in the InterAct goes directly back into their programs. If you would like to make donations to help in supporting InterAct you may do so at one of the following locations:

Pass It On - Raleigh; 1012 Oberlin Road; Raleigh, NC 27605, 919-865-1601

Pass It On - Fuquay-Varina; 309 South Main Street, Fuquay-Varina, NC 27526, 919-557-8020.

A PARTNERSHIP TO FIGHT HUNGER

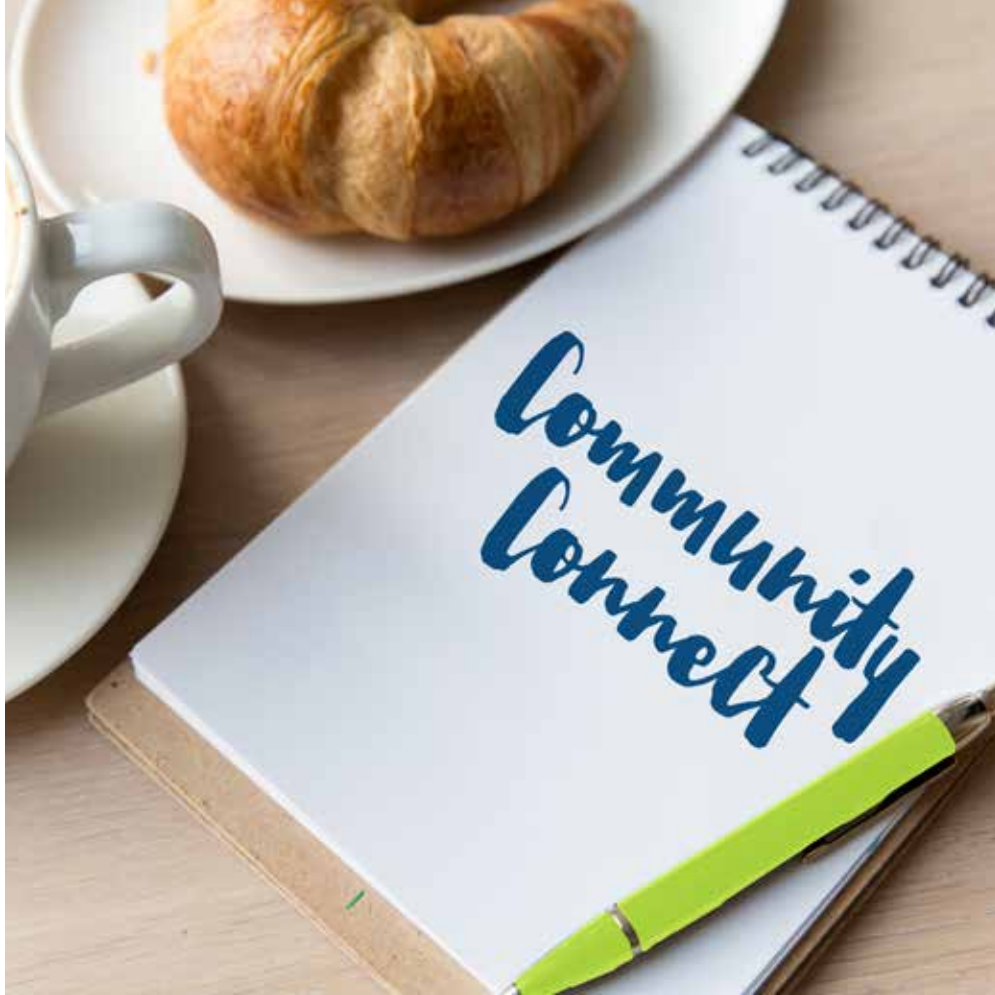


Food for thought: Over the last year, approximately **650,000** people in **34** counties of central and eastern North Carolina did not have enough food to eat. In 2016, the Junior League of Raleigh (JLR) responded to this community need by partnering with the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina. Through this partnership, almost two million people now have nutritious meals that give them a chance at maintaining a healthy lifestyle.

On Wednesday evenings at the Food Bank's new 108,000 square foot facility, JLR women work diligently to organize and distribute fresh food to those in need. 7,109 pounds of sweet

potatoes bagged into 5-lb bags. 14,400 pounds of cucumbers packed and shipped to support disaster relief trucks supporting Hurricane Matthew victims. 515 meals supported in a single hour of JLR-focused fundraising. 164 relief boxes packed and ready to support people during the holiday season.

The numbers are staggering. **1 in 7** Americans are hungry. They are the employed, the young and the old, our neighbors and our friends. Together, we are making an impact. For more information about The Food Bank of Eastern and Central North Carolina, visit <http://www.foodbankcenc.org>.



COMMUNITY CONNECT OFFERS FREE TRAINING FOR NONPROFIT LEADERS

A key tenant of the Junior League of Raleigh's (JLR) mission is being a training resource, both to our members and to the community we serve. Community Connect is one of our training services available to the nonprofit community. Community Connect offers networking breakfasts, roundtable discussions, panel discussions and featured speakers to nonprofit partners at no cost.

From social media and marketing to fundraising and volunteer engagement, Community Connect offers community partners a forum to learn and share together. Leveraging speakers and panelists from the local and statewide

nonprofit community, this training program is a unique opportunity to learn from peers and invest in yourself.

The JLR offer Community Connect events on a monthly basis. Events are held over breakfast on Fridays at the Julia Jones Daniels Center for Community Leadership. To sign up to be added to our invite list for future programs, or to RSVP to Community Connect events, please email communityconnect@jlraleigh.org.

Together, we can collaborate, learn and reuse knowledge to improve ourselves, our organizations and ultimately our community!

COMMUNITY IMPACT



The Junior League of Raleigh's Rebecca Ayers and Jennifer Reel accepted the #SharethePieFace Challenge, supporting the partnership between Alliance Medical Ministry and StepUp Ministry via SharethePieRaleigh.



The Junior League of Raleigh is proud to celebrate our 15-year anniversary of the League's partnership with Heritage Park by supporting the Winter Wardrobe Roundup. JLR is collecting new and gently used outerwear for children ages 5-16 who do not have adequate outerwear for Raleigh's winter months.



Junior League of Raleigh members supported 117 families through the SAFEchild Angel Tree event this holiday season.

THE BEST GIFTS GIVE BACK

For more than 30 years, the Junior League of Raleigh (JLR) has hosted its annual A Shopping SPREE! event – a shopping extravaganza to kick off the holiday season. Considered the area’s premier and most original shopping event, the annual fundraiser showcases more than 100 regional and national exhibitors for thousands of shoppers seeking the latest in fashion and home décor trends, unique gifts and holiday merchandise.

But A Shopping SPREE! is much more than a shopping event. It is a signature fundraiser for the Junior League of Raleigh. Proceeds from SPREE! fund grants that support community partners, provide dollars to support the Julia Jones Daniels Center for Community Leadership and community projects and ultimately allow JLR to continue to impact Wake County.

JLR President Rebecca Ayers knows that A Shopping SPREE! has come to be an annual tradition for Triangle shoppers, but

says for the League, SPREE! means we can offer more to local programs the League supports. “As our largest annual fundraiser, money raised at SPREE! gives another evening of tutoring to a local student or fills the backpack of a child in need with food they might not otherwise have.”

SPREE! has also become a place where the more than twelve thousand visitors each year can experience some of the best of our local community. Local schools and nonprofits offer guest performances throughout the event. The café offers shoppers an opportunity to learn more about JLR community programs while enjoying daily meals featuring local recipes. Diners can purchase cookbooks that feature the menus they enjoy, with one hundred percent of sales going back to JLR and its community programs. And holiday presents shoppers purchase just feel better when you know that your gifts give back.

For the first time in 2016, a new event at A Shopping SPREE! offered an exclusive, high-end fashion show to raise money for a local nonprofit volunteer center, **Couture for a Cause** benefitting Activate Good. Guests enjoyed a fashion show featuring custom couture outfits inspired by local causes. Activate Good is a nonprofit volunteer center, connecting individuals, groups and companies to volunteer needs with nonprofits around the Triangle and activating volunteers to help charitable causes in our local community.

The Junior League of Raleigh has donated more than \$2.5 million and more than 237,000 volunteer hours to programs and projects that impact youth in our community. We look forward to seeing you at our 2017 A Shopping SPREE! event where together, the best gifts will continue to give back!



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**50
YEARS**

This year the Boys & Girls Clubs of Wake County is celebrating their 50th anniversary, marking half a century of giving children a safe place to play sports, do homework and surround themselves with positive peers and adults. The Junior League of Raleigh is proud to support this need-worthy organization. Funds from past N.C. Governor's Inaugural Ball events helped to fund the Brentwood Boys & Girls Club.

MEET THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF RALEIGH 2016-2017

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QUESTIONS? WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU. 919-787-7480



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