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## Junior League of Indianapolis announces cancellation of in-person Holiday Mart Fiftieth annual fundraising event was to take place in November

**INDIANAPOLIS** – The Junior League of Indianapolis (JLI) announced the cancellation of an in-person Holiday Mart due to the lingering impact of COVID-19. The popular event welcomes nearly 150 vendors and thousands of shoppers each November at the Indiana State Fairgrounds.

"Holiday Mart is not only our signature fundraiser, it's an annual tradition for many," said JLI president Patrice Dawson. "Canceling was not a decision we took lightly. But the health, safety and well-being of our members, merchants, shoppers and supporters is our utmost priority."

The four-day shopping event typically features a variety of central Indiana vendors and is completely planned, produced and staffed by JLI volunteers. Funds raised are used to help JLI fulfill its vision of being a catalyst for lasting change in the lives of children and their families in the community. Last year, JLI awarded \$125,000 in grants to area nonprofits preparing students for academic success.

"Now, more than ever, it is important to be united in community and remain in service to each other," said Dawson. "We plan to offer other opportunities to engage with and support JLI and our mission in the coming months."

Since March, JLI has turned its focus to providing support to those impacted by COVID-19, including donating funds for emergency food insecurity relief and an emergency shelter program. Click <u>here</u> to learn more about JLI's COVID-19 response.

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## **About Junior League of Indianapolis**

JLI 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.

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