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Junior League of Indianapolis awards \$200 thousand to local nonprofits Teachers' Treasures receives largest grant Teachers' Treasures and The Patachou Foundation receive largest grants

INDIANAPOLIS - Ten nonprofit organizations in central Indiana now have more money to support their services thanks to the Junior League of Indianapolis (JLI). JLI awards grant money each December as part of its Community Assistance Grants program.

The Community Assistance Grants are awarded in the amounts of \$50,000, \$20,000, \$10,000, and \$5,000. During JLI's December membership meeting, the grants committee puts forward its top applicants and those nonprofits vie for a \$50,000 grant by taking part in a pitch competition. JLI members then vote for the grant recipients based on whose project best aligns with the JLI's current community impact area: preparing students for academic success.

"We take seriously our obligation to assist community organizations who are providing important services to those in need," said Stacy Payne Miller, JLI president. "Since 1994, JLI has given more than \$1.2 million in Community Assistance Grants, and this year we are awarding more money than ever before."

Teachers' Treasures was this year's top Community Assistance Grant winner. The organization has a store in downtown Indianapolis that obtains and distributes school supplies free to teachers and students in need. The grant from the Junior League of Indianapolis will be used to launch a second store at Northwest Middle School and will fund the distribution of homework kits to students in Marion County.

"The transformational donation from the Junior League of Indianapolis will allow us to build another store, making it easier for more teachers to access school supplies," said Margaret Sheehan, Teachers' Treasures executive director. "The two stores will also supply students with Power Tool Homework Kits in an effort to help teachers address students' lack of at-home supplies. This gift allows our mission to expand and touch more children and classrooms."

Indy Women in Tech and The Villages of Indiana were the other two finalists, and received \$20,000 each from the JLI. Horizon's at St. Richards, Hope Academy, Assistance League of Indianapolis, Paramount Schools of Excellence, Exodus Refugee and the Oaks Academy were the Leagues' \$5,000 to \$10,000 winners.

In addition to the Community Assistance Grants, JLI made an impactful donation of \$50,000 to the Patachou Foundation for a new community kitchen. The Patachou Foundation provides wholesome



meals to food-insecure school children. They currently serve over 31,500 meals to over 1,200 children in the Indianapolis community.

"We are thrilled to receive this money from the Junior League of Indianapolis," said Matthew Feltrop, executive director of the Patachou Foundation. "This donation will allow us to serve even more of the food-insecure children in our community. We look forward to finding more ways to partner with JLI."

Click <u>here</u> to learn more about JLI's Community Assistance Grant program.

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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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Junior League of Indianapolis members present \$50,000 to Teachers' Treasures, Inc.



From left: Stacy Payne Miller, Junior League of Indianapolis President; Jan Need, Junior League Grants Chair; Margaret Sheehan, Teachers' Treasures Executive Director; Maddie Kellner, Junior League Vice President of Community; Patrice Dawson, Junior League President-Elect