



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
THE ORANGES AND SHORT HILLS
Women building better communities®

Junior League of the Oranges and Short Hills Donates 451 Complete Thanksgiving Meals to Families in Orange, NJ

With Photos:





Caption:

Administrators from the Orange Public School District; Hon. Dwayne D. Warren, Esq., Mayor of the City of Orange Township; the Orange High School ROTC, and members of the Junior League of the Oranges and Short Hills delivering 451 Thanksgiving Meals for families in Orange, NJ.

Area: December 2, 2019. The Junior League of the Oranges and Short Hills (JLOSH) expands its annual Thanksgiving Basket Program to help support more families facing food insecurity in Orange, New Jersey.

Together with its community partners, including Saint Barnabas Medical Center and RWJBarnabas Health, Kings Food Markets, Dun & Bradstreet, local businesses, and area schools, JLOSH donated 451 complete Thanksgiving meals to families in Orange – a basket record for JLOSH. 436 Thanksgiving meals were donated to the Orange School District for distribution to identified families and 15 meals were given to Family Assistance Resources Center (FARC) for families who recently sustained a residential fire.

JLOSH's annual Thanksgiving Basket Program aims to provide a complete holiday meal to families facing food insecurity by supporting those with children on the Free or Reduced Lunch Program in the Orange Public School District. Through these collective efforts, 451 families received these baskets, helping to feed more than 2,700 individuals.

"What the Junior League brings to the Orange community especially this time of year is a true blessing. The parents are just overwhelmed with the generosity. It's really special to be able to provide these nutritious meals to the students and to bring this to these households. I'm speechless at times to be part of this ongoing partnership," said **Tyrone Dorsey**, Manager of Food Services, Orange School District. "The Junior League has been partners with our school district since 2012, supplying our students and the community with dental supplies, nurses' pantry items, winter gloves, books, backpacks with school supplies, and so much more. Our students and their families are very appreciative for what they receive from the Junior League."

"We are thrilled to once again support so many families and help them to have an easier Thanksgiving this year in Orange," said **Isabelle Felix**, President of the Junior League of the Oranges and Short Hills. "We are grateful for all our partners that supported this annual effort, especially Saint Barnabas Medical Center and RWJBarnabas Health, Kings

Food Markets and all our area schools who recognize the food insecurity needs in our communities and support our efforts to reduce the dramatic effects many children may experience when they don't have enough food to eat.”

“For the sixth consecutive year, we have had the privilege of partnering with the Junior League of the Oranges and Short Hills (JLOSH) on the Thanksgiving Food Drive. This year was especially gratifying as we donated 451 complete meals to Orange families, reaching approximately 2,706 individuals in the Orange School District. A special thank you to our employees, Livingston PBA, Moxie, Mission Fitness, Fit 36, Livingston Bagel, Supreme Bakery and Sodexo for making this event so successful.” **Margie Heller**, Vice President, Community Health and Global Strategic Partnerships, Saint Barnabas Medical Center and RWJBarnabas Health.

Each basket included a whole frozen turkey, roasting tin, stuffing, mashed potatoes, yams, two vegetables, cranberry sauce, gravy, and dessert. The JLOSH Thanksgiving "trimmings" collection brought in over 3,300 packaged and canned goods. In turn, JLOSH also donated several boxes of additional items collected to the Interfaith Food Pantry of the Oranges, a member of the MEND interfaith network of food pantries, as well as to the Orange Township Fire Department.

JLOSH would like to thank the many Friends of JLOSH for generous donations and its 2019 Basket Community Partners for making this year's basket program possible! A special thank you to Saint Barnabas Medical Center and RWJBarnabas Health for providing 95 turkeys, hundreds of nonperishable items and securing desserts for each basket. We also thank Kings Food Markets for donating 300 turkeys. Thanks to ShopRite for donating 10 turkeys this year and to Maplecrest Moves Charities for providing its van to help transport turkeys and to U-Haul in Orange for the discounted 15-foot box truck that allowed JLOSH to transport all 451 baskets.

We are also very appreciative of Dun & Bradstreet who provided critical support by driving for Thanksgiving meal sides with its employees. We also thank, barre3 Livingston, Livingston Bagel, Supreme Bakery, The Wright Group NY, Sodexo, Maplecrest Moves Charities, Christ Church Nursery School, Jefferson Elementary School, Marshall Elementary School, Millburn Township Elementary and High Schools, and Friends of JLOSH for their individual and tremendous support and donations this year.

The Junior League of the Oranges and Short Hills is an organization comprised of women developed as civic and community leaders creating lasting community impact. To learn more about JLOSH, visit JLOSH.org or find it on Facebook.

Release Ends