



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
THE ORANGES AND SHORT HILLS

Junior League of the Oranges and Short Hills Donates 306 Complete Thanksgiving Meals to Families of the Orange School District

The Junior League of the Oranges and Short Hills (JLOSH) is supporting vulnerable families with children in the Orange School District this Thanksgiving season. Each year, JLOSH seeks to provide families in need with a happier Thanksgiving. Together with our partners, including Kings Food Markets, Saint Barnabas Medical Center, Dun & Bradstreet, local businesses, and area schools, 306 complete Thanksgiving meals have been donated to the Orange School District for distribution to identified families.

Addressing childhood hunger has been a primary focus within JLOSH's mission of serving children in its service area. JLOSH's annual Thanksgiving Basket Program aims to provide a healthy and wholesome holiday meal to families facing food insecurity by supporting those with children on the Free or Reduced Lunch Program in the Orange School District. Partnering with Kings Food Markets, which donates nearly all the turkeys, JLOSH leverages other stakeholders to drive for all the traditional Thanksgiving sides, including mashed potatoes, stuffing, vegetables, yams, cranberry sauce, and gravy. Through these collective efforts, JLOSH is donating approximately \$6,800.00 worth of food to the Orange School District this Thanksgiving.

“So many families within our service area do not know where their next meal will come from. JLOSH seeks to alleviate this burden for many families this holiday season by giving them the opportunity to enjoy and celebrate a Thanksgiving dinner,” said Rosemary Mattson, President of the Junior League of the Oranges and Short Hills. “We thank our partners, especially Kings Food Markets, Saint Barnabas Medical Center and Dun & Bradstreet who recognize this need in our communities and support our efforts to reduce the trauma many children experience because of threats of food insecurity.”

“We are honored to have donated hundreds of turkeys, valuing about \$4,300, to the Junior League Food Drive this Thanksgiving season, providing dinner to many in the area,” said Judy Spires, Chairman and CEO of Kings Food Markets. “We, at Kings, pride ourselves in supporting the communities we serve each and every day, especially during this time of giving.”

“For the last three years we have partnered with JLOSH and with each year I feel as though our partnership has strengthened. We share common goals and a vision of supporting our communities. This year we are proud to work with JLOSH in contributing time and effort in putting together over 300 Thanksgiving baskets for families in our communities. I would like to personally thank Livingston Bagel, Supreme Bakery and Sodexo for generously donating the desserts to complete the Thanksgiving Baskets! An event such as this is directly aligned with our Social Impact / Community Investment Practice,” said Margie Heller, Administrative Director, Community Health and Outreach, Saint Barnabas Medical Center.

“The Junior League has been partners with our school district since 2012, supplying our students and the community with dental supplies, winter gloves, books, backpacks with school supplies, feminine hygiene products, Pre-K school nurses' pantry supplies, and of course our yearly Turkey Drive and fixings for our students and their households,” said Tyrone Dorsey, Manager of Food Services, Orange School District. “The Junior League has been supportive of our students even outside of our school

buildings. What the Junior League brings to the Orange community is a true blessing. Our students and their families are very appreciative for what they receive from the Junior League."

JLOSH would like to thank Kings Food Markets for its commitment to serving families in need. We are thrilled to partner with Kings each year so that families can enjoy a proper Thanksgiving meal. We also extend our thanks to Saint Barnabas Medical Center for its efforts in securing over 300 desserts for our Thanksgiving bags; a critical meal item for any Thanksgiving and one that JLOSH has not been able to provide in past years. We are also very appreciative of Dun & Bradstreet who provided critical support by donating nearly 275 meal items for our Thanksgiving Baskets. We also thank ShopRite of Millburn, Barre3 in Livingston, the Millburn School District and its Townwide Community Outreach Program, Jefferson Elementary School in Maplewood, West Orange Public Schools, Christ Church Nursery School in Short Hills, Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church in Westfield and Maplecrest Ford Lincoln of Union 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. JLOSH provides service to children living in East Orange, Livingston, Maplewood, Millburn, Orange, Short Hills, South Orange, Springfield and West Orange, and reaches out to women of all races, religions and national origins. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable. To learn more about JLOSH, visit www.jlosh.org or find it on Facebook.

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