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**Media Contact: Kathryn Tharney, President-Elect**

**The Junior League of Greater Princeton**

**Email:** [**communications@jlgp.org**](mailto:communications@jlgp.org)

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**Junior League of Greater Princeton Announces Grant & Scholarship Winners**

In April, the Junior League of Greater Princeton (JLGP) honored three local high school seniors who received Voluntarism Scholarships. The JLGP awards three $1000 scholarships annually to female high school seniors who have demonstrated a strong commitment to community service and voluntarism. This year’s recipients – Emily Rose Clark of Hamilton, NJ, Allison Aitken of Monroe Township, NJ, and Kelsey and Kylie Amison, of Hamilton Square, NJ, who shared a scholarship award – were chosen from an applicant pool of very accomplished young women. From raising funds for community members and organizations, to donating their time and talent to local and international nonprofits, and mentoring peers and children in their communities, these talented young women are impressive and motivated.

“As a women’s volunteer organization, we are so proud to have the opportunity to recognize young women who demonstrate a commitment to serving their community. They are each outstanding students who are already making a real difference in the lives of others. It is truly inspirational.” says Kathryn Tharney, Community VP for the JLGP.

The League also congratulated recipients of the organization’s Community Grants program, including Womanspace, The Bag Project, Rescue Mission of Trenton, and RISE – Community Action Service Center. These four organizations received grants ranging from $750-$2,050. Grants must be used to help support nonprofit organizations located in the Junior League’s service area. Representatives of each organization received their grants April 20th.

According to Deborah Vogel Brown, Chair of the Grants and Scholarships Program, “It was a pleasure seeing how much great work is being done by such dedicated individuals and organizations in our area. The depth and breadth of applicants we received this year was staggering, making it difficult for our Committee to choose which organizations to provide funding to. It was a difficult decision as well to choose which of the 12 very deserving young women would receive scholarships for college next year. We are extremely proud to support this year’s recipients of the JLGP Grants and Scholarships and we look forward to following their progress this year.”

Womanspace, based in Mercer County, provides a wide range of services to individuals impacted by domestic and sexual violence across the state of New Jersey. Womanspace will use the JLGP grant to purchase materials and hire additional personnel for their Children's Services Program, an integral part of Counseling Support Services focusing on the Domestic Violence Liaison Program, Child Advocacy, and the Children's Therapy Program.

The Bag Project provides babies and children in Mercer County who have been removed from unsafe homes, are entering foster care or have become part of the shelter system, with a duffel bag filled with age-appropriate basic necessities, comfort items, and a blanket as they transition to a safer environment. Many of these children are not getting their basic needs met during this time of transition. The Bag Project will purchase close to 80 bags with the JLGP grant.

The Rescue Mission of Trenton will use the JLGP grant to help fund its Emergency Shelter Services Program. Each year, a minimum of 200 single, homeless women receive Emergency Shelter Services, including access to case management, which links clients to benefits, healthcare services, and housing opportunities. At a daily rate of $26, the JLGP funds will provide 38 shelter stays this year.

RISE –Community Action Service Center used the JLGP grant to purchase arts & crafts materials, sports equipment and first aid supplies for their 2017 Summer Camp. The RISE Summer Enrichment Program offers up to 125 students in grades K-12 the opportunity to develop their math, art, reading, science and language arts skills and strengthen their social skills.

The Junior League of Greater Princeton is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. The Junior League of Greater Princeton focuses its efforts on the needs of women and children in Mercer and Bucks counties as well as the surrounding areas. Women over the age of 21, committed to voluntarism, regardless of race, religion or national origin are welcome as members. The Junior League of Greater Princeton is part of the Association of Junior Leagues International, which includes 293 Junior Leagues in the United States, Canada, Mexico and Great Britain. For more information please visit www.jlgp.org.