



**JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI**
Women building better communities

Media Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**HealthyLivingKC's Fall Health & Wellness Resource Fair Successfully Provides Assistance to
Kansas City Residents In Need**

KANSAS CITY, MO - The Junior League of Kansas City Missouri, in partnership with the Urban Neighborhood Initiative (UNI), held a Health & Wellness Resource Fair, Saturday, October 8th from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at the DeLaSalle Education Center located at 3737 Troost Avenue, Kansas City, MO, which provided assistance to nearly 500 residents.

"The Urban Neighborhood Initiative has been very pleased to partner with the Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri to support the health and wellbeing of residents of our neighborhoods," said Dianne Cleaver, Executive Director, UNI. "The League is very well organized and brings a wealth of volunteers and other resources to these Health and Resource Fairs. We are particularly pleased with the number of flu shots we were able to give to a population more susceptible to suffering significant negative impact from the flu."

With 477 in attendance, 79% of whom were women and children, the free event was a success. During the fair, volunteers provided the participants with free access to:

- 405 bags of food
- 315 free turkey vouchers
- 155 dental screenings and free dental hygiene kits
- 50 cholesterol, blood pressure & glucose combination screenings
- 25 blood pressure & glucose screenings
- 97 flu shots
- 7 pneumonia vaccines
- 20 clinical breast exams
- 300 hats and pairs of gloves
- 200 children's books through the Dolly Parton Imagination Library

Councilman Jermain Reed, of Kansas City's Third District, commented "It's wonderful to hear about the collaboration between UNI, an organization with a robust history of working with residents in the Third District, and the Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri, an organization that is currently focused on improving the health and wellbeing of women and children in the metro. I was happy to attend the HealthyLivingKC fall Health & Wellness Resource Fair, as it fits directly with my goal of empowering all residents of our community."

Building upon the success of the fall event, HealthyLivingKC will host a spring fair on Saturday, May 13, 2017. This event will be free and open to the public with a target audience of attendees living in the boundaries of UNI, from 18th Street to 52nd Street and from Troost Avenue to Prospect Avenue.

For more information, contact Rachel Kabukala, HealthyLivingKC Chair, at 701-367-3567 or rachel.kabukala@gmail.com.

About the Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri

The Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri (JLKCMO) is a 501(c)(3) organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

We accomplish our mission by:

- Providing a motivating and supportive environment that stimulates members.
- Increasing our impact in the Kansas City community by effectively coordinating our resources with community needs.
- Maintaining financial stability through our endowed funds and fundraising events.
- Providing comprehensive training opportunities to develop volunteers to better serve the community.
- Communicating and promoting the organization's mission and historical significance to our membership and the community.

The Junior League reaches out to women of all races, religions and national origins, who demonstrate an interest in and commitment to voluntarism. Our League currently numbers nearly 1,400 strong. We are women who work full-time, part-time and in the home; single women, married women and mothers. We are women who share diverse interests and backgrounds as well as a desire to improve our community through volunteer action and grant-making. Our commitment, has remained unwavering: to develop exceptionally qualified civic leaders who can identify a community's most urgent and pressing needs and address them with meaningful and relevant programs and initiatives that not only improve lives, but change the way people think.

Since 1914, our League has been associated with more than 350 community agencies and organizations. Our members have donated more than \$16.5 million and over 2.3 million hours of volunteer time. League members research areas of need in the Kansas City area and educate the membership and the community about those issues. Currently our focus is Women and Children.

About UNI

UNI works to bring business, government and community organizations together to increase prosperity and improve health, safety and education for current residents of Kansas City's urban core and for generations to come. Our priorities include the following:

Prosperity

- Create more jobs for residents, opportunities for employment at livable wages in the area, and thriving businesses
- Identify education and training opportunities for adults and career development and/or job opportunities for young adults

- Create an access point for a comprehensive approach to asset-building supports and services
- Attract mixed income housing and mixed use development to the area
- Strengthen neighborhood restoration and redevelopment of housing and grounds (steps and sidewalks, for example) and infrastructure (such as curbing and street lighting)

Safety and Health

- Strengthen neighborhood engagement in fighting crime
- Identify and/or create more safe places for recreation and exercise
- Develop more healthy food options
- Provide greater access to technology
- Support the development of community gathering places

Education

- Strengthen the efforts and capacity of parents, community organizations and schools to support school readiness and early learning
- Promote positive child and youth development opportunities for school age children and youth
- Prepare young people for college and careers

Neighborhood/Organizational Partners: Beacon Hill, Blue Hills, Center City, Ivanhoe, Manheim, Boston Heights/Mt. Hope, Squier Park, Wendell Phillips, 49-63/Troostwood, Blue Hills Community Services, Green Impact Zone and NHS (formerly Neighborhood Housing Services).

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