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The Junior League of Springfield Awards Two \$250 Discretionary Grants to Local Organizations

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., November 17, 2017 – The Junior League of Springfield (JLS) recently awarded two discretionary grants in the amount of \$250 each to Southeast Springfield Rotary’s program ‘Don’t Meth With Us!’ and the non-profit organization Nightlight Christian Adoptions.

Current JLS President, Mary Kromrey, says “In addition to the hundreds of trained JLS women volunteers giving their time to our community, the JLS discretionary grant program provides another outlet for us to give back to local programs and organizations. We are grateful that JLS is able to further our impact by supporting organizations that focus on the well-being of women and children.”

Southeast Springfield Rotary’s program ‘Don’t Meth With Us!’ began in 2010. Springfield 5th grade students are given presentations on the consequences of experimenting with the highly addictive drug known as meth. Each student receives a t-shirt, wristband and pencil with the anti-meth logo & message, and a bookmark pledge card of what they will say if asked to try meth. JLS funds will be used to continue the success of this program in Springfield.

Nightlight Christian Adoptions is a national, non-profit, Hague accredited, licensed adoption agency that counsels pregnant women and arranges adoptions. More than 2,000 domestic adoptions, 1,700 international adoptions, and 550 embryo adoptions have been completed by Nightlight. Many of the clients whom they serve struggle with various life challenges such as extreme poverty, homelessness, substance abuse, incarceration, and domestic abuse. Nightlight aims to decrease instances of child abuse and neglect by reaching out to women in need of their services. JLS funds will be used for presentation materials at fairs and local events to reach potential clients. By utilizing the funding provided by JLS, Nightlight hopes to increase the community’s awareness of their counseling program for pregnant women.

During the 2017-18 League year, the JLS will award approximately \$2,000 in discretionary grants. Discretionary Grants can be requested from JLS by any organization by submitting a written request to the League outlining the opportunity and how the JLS grant will be applied to meet the outlined need. Requests are presented to, evaluated by and awarded from the management team on a monthly basis. Email your grant request to jls@jlspringfield.org. Previous grant

recipients have included: the Springfield Public Schools Foundation, Diaper Bank of the Ozarks, and Ozarks Food Harvest.

About the Junior League of Springfield

The Junior League of Springfield 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 Springfield reaches out to women of all races, religions and national origins who demonstrate an interest in and a commitment to voluntarism. Its purposes are exclusively educational and charitable.

Since 1959, the Junior League of Springfield has contributed more than \$4 million and more than 1.3 million hours of volunteer service to the Springfield community. For more information, please visit the Junior League of Springfield website at www.jlspringfield.org.