

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **The Junior League of Bergen County - Giving When It Counts**

**Ridgewood, NJ:** Three local charities are now able to make more of a difference in Bergen County thanks to generous donations from The Junior League of Bergen County (JLBC). The JLBC is celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> year by donating \$30,000 to three local charities: **the Volunteer Center of Bergen County**, Woodlea PATH 1 Advisory Board (a part of Children's Aid and Family Services) and Rebuilding Together Bergen County. Each organization received checks in the amount of \$10,000 at the JLBC's Annual Dinner. These grants illustrate the JLBC's continued support for the important work that these charities perform especially during these difficult financial times.

Brought to Bergen County in 1998 by the [Junior League of Bergen County](#), Rebuilding Together Bergen County is one of more than 200 affiliates serving cities, towns and rural communities across the United States. Nationally, in 2008, Rebuilding Together celebrated its 20th anniversary and the repair or renovation of 100,000 homes. This \$10,000 grant to Rebuilding Together was applied toward the renovation of the Shelter Our Sisters home in April 2009; and will continue over the next four years in the form of partial house sponsorships toward the renovations of homes for those in need in Bergen County. Additionally, the JLBC is partially sponsoring Rebuilding's new lead paint education program.

The JLBC's history with the Woodlea PATH 1 Advisory Council began when the JLBC co-founded the Woodlea residence in conjunction with what was then Children's Aid and Adoption in 1973. The JLBC is committed to continued support of the critical initiatives of the Woodlea PATH 1 Advisory Council. The \$10,000 grant to the Woodlea PATH 1 Advisory Council will be used for facility renovations of a special sunroom to be used for quiet study and activity at one the residences.

**The Volunteer Center of Bergen County was founded in 1966 by the JLBC when they were the "go to" organization to match volunteers with volunteer opportunities in Bergen County. As a result the Volunteer Center was born. Successfully operating on its own today, the Volunteer Center's mission is to strengthen the community by connecting people with opportunities to serve. The \$10,000 grant to the Volunteer Center of Bergen County will be used in connection with its Mentoring Moms program which trains volunteers to serve as mentors and role models for isolated and/or overwhelmed mothers referred by the Division of Youth and Family Services and the Welfare to Work Program.**

For each of these commemorative grants, the JLBC has the opportunity for hands-on participation, and looks forward to continued partnership with these impactful organizations.



JLBC President Sarah Beane Ricca (Ho Ho Kus), 75th Anniversary Celebration Chair Stacey Sandler (Mahwah) and Volunteer Center Executive Director Janet Sharma (Cresskill).

*About us: Founded in 1933, the Junior League of Bergen County, Inc. is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable. The JLBC is a member of the Association of Junior Leagues International, which is made up of 293 Junior Leagues in four countries. For more information, visit [www.thejlbc.org](http://www.thejlbc.org).*