



Herald-Tribune

Junior League of Sarasota awards grants to five local nonprofits

Saturday

Posted Nov 26, 2016 at 2:19 PM Updated Nov 26, 2016 at 2:19 PM

[Share](#)

The Junior League of Sarasota presented five local nonprofit organizations with a total of \$33,000 in grant money during its General Member Meeting on Oct. 18.

It was the first time since 2007 that the Junior League of Sarasota has awarded community grants.

“The projects selected to receive funds embody some of the greatest needs in our community, which are also basic human needs to which each of us can relate but may be fortunate enough to take for granted,” said Community Grants committee co-chair Erin Christy. “The grants awarded this year will help fund access to reading, provide nutritional meals, arrange respite care for families, empower individuals, and encourage inclusiveness in our community.

“Junior League of Sarasota is proud to support the organizations in tackling these issues and giving everyone the opportunity for a productive and fruitful life.”

More than 110 nonprofits submitted applications, and the following five were chosen to receive grants based on their alignment with the Junior League of Sarasota’s mission and focus on women, children, families, and hunger, as well as the projects’ impact on the community.

Easter Seals Southwest Florida is granted \$5,000 for the Sensory Room project. Embracing Our Differences is granted \$5,000 for the Make-A-Day of It! Program. The Family Network on Disabilities of Manasota is awarded \$5,000 to provide in-home respite care services to multiple families.

Transition Sarasota is awarded \$5,000 for the Suncoast Gleaning Project. Van Wezel Foundation is granted \$13,000 for Art Works for Schooltime-Grade Level Reading Initiative.

“For 60 years, the Junior League of Sarasota is proud to have invested in Sarasota and the local nonprofit organizations that exemplify our mission of improving the community, developing the potential of women, and promoting volunteerism,” Junior League president Britt Riner said.

— *Submitted by Kendra Gemma*