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# JUNIOR LEAGUE OF RICHMOND

**\*\*PRESS RELEASE\*\***

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MEDIA CONTACTS**

Lindy Bumgarner, YMCA of Greater Richmond  
804.474.4437  
[bumgarnerl@ymcarichmond.org](mailto:bumgarnerl@ymcarichmond.org)

Christa Schulenburg, Junior League of Richmond Past-President  
804.643.4886  
[president@jrichmond.org](mailto:president@jrichmond.org)

## **YMCA receives \$250,000 transformational grant from Junior League of Richmond**

Richmond, VA, June 1, 2022 —

The YMCA of Greater Richmond has received a generous new grant from the Junior League of Richmond for \$250,000. The partnership grant supports the YMCA's work in the Woodman West community and will help expand language learning, workforce training, and educational programming for women and children, many of whom are new to the community and country. Located a few miles from the Shady Grove Family YMCA, the Woodman West community offers 200 low-income apartments subsidized by Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The community is home to a diverse population of vulnerable families and individuals, including Afghan and other refugees, and other minorities. Many Woodman West families are unable to meet basic needs. Funding will allow the YMCA to operate a community center in the Woodman West community. "The Junior League of Richmond is thrilled to partner with the YMCA and provide funding for the Woodman West Health and Learning Equity Initiative. Partnering with the YMCA, and this initiative specifically, not only aligns with our focus of Women Helping Women, but also our mission as a whole, developing the potential of women and improving the community through effective action. I'm excited to see this partnership continue to grow and evolve over the coming years

and offer our membership hands-on volunteer opportunities serving the women in the Woodman West community,” said Christa Schulenburg, Junior League of Richmond President.

Through the support of the Junior League, the YMCA will provide empowerment programs such as GED preparation, Driver’s Education preparation, and wellness sessions. The YMCA will also offer youth enrichment programs, including tutoring, STEAM, robotics, swim lessons and Reading Buddies. Wrap-around services will also be provided to assist families with Social Needs Navigation through the YMCA’s Help1RVA system. Abigail Farris Rogers, President & CEO, YMCA of Greater Richmond, stated, “We are honored to partner with the Junior League of Richmond. Their mission work is closely aligned with the YMCA as our cause is to strengthen the foundations of community. Together, this partnership will help to bring equity of health and educational programs and opportunities to the women and families of the Woodman West Community.”

### **About the Junior League of Richmond**

The Junior League of Richmond is an organization of over 700 women committed to the mission of promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. In 2019, the Junior League of Richmond voted to change its community focus area to women helping women within the greater Richmond community. For more information, please visit [www.jlrichmond.org](http://www.jlrichmond.org).

### **About the YMCA of Greater Richmond**

The YMCA of Greater Richmond, a non-profit cause driven organization, operates 17 branches throughout metro Richmond and Petersburg, serving over 200,000 people. Strengthening community is our cause. Every day, we work side-by-side with our neighbors to make sure that everyone, regardless of age, income or background, has the opportunity to learn, grow and thrive. To learn more, please visit [www.ymcarichmond.org](http://www.ymcarichmond.org).

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