



## JUNIOR LEAGUE OF MILWAUKEE

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Alissa Leischer Remm, President, Junior League of Milwaukee

414-289-9242

[media@jlmilw.org](mailto:media@jlmilw.org)

### **Junior League of Milwaukee announces Centennial Anniversary Community Partner**

*Safe Home Environment will receive both monetary and volunteer support*

**MILWAUKEE, WI** (February 1, 2017) – The Junior League of Milwaukee selected the *Safe Home Environment* program as its Centennial Anniversary Community Partner. “Each year, Aurora Health Care’s Safe Mom Safe Baby program helps hundreds of pregnant women who live in an abusive environment,” said Mark Huber, Sr. Vice President at Aurora Health Care. “We are grateful for this partnership with the Junior League of Milwaukee and look forward to together strengthening our commitment to the health and well-being of women in our community.” This partnership will allow the Aurora Abuse Response program *Safe Mom, Safe Baby* to add safe housing at Mercy Housing’s St. Catherine Residence to its wrap-around services for expectant mothers threatened by domestic violence.

Abused pregnant women are 40% more likely to deliver a pre-term or low birthweight infant requiring extended or resource-intensive care in the hospital. When domestic abuse or intimate violence during pregnancy occurs, the child of a pregnant woman is at high risk for poor birth outcomes. With high housing costs across the Greater Milwaukee area, it is difficult for moms to find a safe place they can afford on their own and as a result many stay with their abusers or with friends and family members.

Since the Junior League of Milwaukee began in October 1915, its members, solely or with partners, have created various programs or organizations that are integral to Milwaukee or were precursors to today’s important community organizations. A few of these organizations include: the Blood Center of Wisconsin, Curative Care Network, the Teen Transition program with Kids Matter, Inc., and The Parenting Network.

“We are humbled by the incredible mission of *Safe Mom, Safe Baby* and excited to support the new *Safe Home Environment* program” said Alissa Leischer Remm, president of the Junior League of Milwaukee. “Our members are honored to be able to provide help to these women and to offer hope during a dark time in their lives.”

The Junior League of Milwaukee will support the program through volunteerism and a total financial commitment of \$100,000 that will span four to five years. This new service model of coordinated care is one that, once proven, could be a model replicated in communities across the country.

**About Junior League of Milwaukee**

The Junior League of Milwaukee (JLM) 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. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable. JLM focuses its community efforts in the areas of education, health, and nutrition of women and children in the greater Milwaukee area. To learn more about JLM, please visit <https://www.jlmilw.org/>.

###