



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
 Contact: Lauren Pope, 816-912-4190

## AREA TEENS SUCCESSFULLY COLLECT 40,000 FOOD ITEMS FOR AREA HUNGRY THCF Youth Advisory Council's Held Their Fifth Annual Food Drive To Support Area Nonprofit



**EASTERN JACKSON COUNTY, MO (April 23, 2018):** Students in the 160+ member Truman Heartland Community Foundation (THCF) Youth Advisory Council's Fill Those Trucks event successfully collected more than 40,000 food items on Saturday, April 21. This marks the fifth year that YAC students have successfully organized the 8-hour food to benefit residents of their communities.

It's great to see teams of students from our area high schools come together for a common goal. Typically, when these schools come together, it's focused on competition. Our program gives them a rare opportunity to work together as one big community team to support great nonprofits in our area like Community Services League, Lee's Summit Social Services and Raytown Emergency Assistance Program.

**About Youth Advisory Council:** Truman Heartland Community Foundation's Youth Advisory Council is a program to involve young leaders in changing the future through the power of philanthropy. YAC has grown to a council of more than 160 student leaders committed to improving the lives of children and young people throughout our Eastern Jackson County community. YAC is represented by the following area high schools: Blue Springs, Blue Springs South, Center Place Restoration, Fort Osage, Grain Valley, Lee's Summit, Lee's Summit North, Lee's Summit West, Raytown, Raytown South, Truman, Van Horn and William Chrisman.

Learn more about YAC on our website: <http://www.thcf.org/Initiatives-Impact/Youth-Advisory-Council>

**About Community Services League (CSL):** Founded in 1916 by a group of local women including Bess Wallace Truman, CSL is a non-profit organization striving to promote economic stability by offering emergency assistance, employment services, housing counseling, and other resources to families in need. CSL operates at 10 locations with the main office and two outreach offices in Independence, plus offices in Blue Springs, Buckner, Grain Valley, Lee's Summit, Oak Grove, and Raytown. CSL is a United Way Agency and a 501(c)(3) organization as designated by the IRS.

**About Lee's Summit Social Services (LSSS):** For more than 20 years, Lee's Summit Social Services has been assisting low-income, elderly and disabled persons in its service area. LSSS is a nonprofit organization promoting economic stability by offering emergency assistance, life skills and goals, and other resources to families and individuals in need. LSSS is a United Way Agency and a 501(c)(3) organization as designated by the IRS.

**About Raytown Emergency Assistance Program (REAP):** Founded in 1982 to raise funding for utility assistance in the Raytown area, Raytown Emergency Assistance Program is a nonprofit organization striving to promote economic stability by offering emergency assistance and a variety of resources to Raytown families in need. REAP is supported by the city of Raytown, civic and school organizations, businesses, churches, and many individuals who give time, resources, and finances. REAP is a United Way Agency and a 501(c)(3) organization as designated by the IRS.

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*Truman Heartland Community Foundation (THCF) is a public charity committed to improving area communities by promoting and serving private giving for the public good. Founded in 1982, THCF serves the region with assets of nearly \$45 million and annual grants surpassing \$3 million. THCF serves individuals who, through their private giving, wish to support the public good and helps them do it in the most tax-wise and effective manner. Through the Community Foundation, donors can set up their own family foundations, scholarship funds, field of interest funds, endowment funds, charitable gift annuities and many other charitable vehicles, which utilize shared resources of the Foundation to maximize the impact of their philanthropic dollars. In addition to donor services, the Community Foundation provides asset development for nonprofit organizations, awards grants to nonprofits, assists organizations in planned giving and serves as a leader in addressing community issues. For more information on charitable giving, visit [www.thcf.org](http://www.thcf.org) or call THCF at 816.836.8189.*