



Brett Taylor, BTaylor@JastL.org, District Manager

Junior Achievement Chosen by Staples Associate to Receive \$3500 Grant

Junior Achievement in the Wabash Valley Nominated by Local Associate to Receive Staples Foundation Grant

Terre Haute, IN (12/1/2017) – Junior Achievement in the Wabash Valley has been awarded \$3,500 by the Staples Foundation, the private charitable arm of Staples, Inc., through a program called *2 Million & Change* that allows Staples associates around the globe to direct more than \$2 million in donations each year.

“Junior Achievement in the Wabash Valley hopes to reach 5,000 students in 10 Wabash Valley counties this year and, thanks to the continued support of Staples and our Advisory Board Member Cathy Hutchison, we are able to fund these goals.” –Brett Taylor, District Manager, Junior Achievement in the Wabash Valley.

Created in 2012, the *2 Million & Change* program is a philanthropic initiative which allows Staples associates around the world to direct funding to non-profit organizations focused on academic education or job skills. The program encourages local community engagement by awarding larger grants to organizations where associates are highly engaged in volunteering or fundraising – up to \$25,000 per organization.

In 2016, Staples awarded more than \$2.3 million in grants to 1,000 local organizations in support of education and job skills programs, including job readiness for homeless individuals, career exploration for high school students, academic scholarships, mentoring and more.

“Staples is committed to giving back to the causes our associates are passionate about,” said Regis Mulo, chief human resources officer, Staples, Inc. “The *2 Million & Change* program helps associates make an even greater impact on the organizations they support in their local communities.”

About Junior Achievement in the Wabash Valley

Junior Achievement in the Wabash Valley joined with Junior Achievement of Greater St. Louis on July 1, 2016 after serving West Central Indiana and East Central Illinois for 52 years. Under JA of Greater St. Louis, JA in the Wabash Valley encompasses 10 counties in Indiana and Illinois. The partnership presents many exciting opportunities for growth in the Wabash Valley and many new opportunities for its students. For more information, visit www.juniorachievement.org/web/ja-gstlouis/wabash-valley.

About Junior Achievement of Greater St. Louis

Junior Achievement of Greater St. Louis (JASTL) was founded in 1943. Encompassing 78 counties in Missouri, southern Illinois, and Indiana. JASTL served over 164,000 K-12 students in 801 schools during the 2016-17 school year. JA programs are offered in parochial, private, and public schools and education centers throughout the St. Louis Metropolitan region, with satellite operations in outlying areas. For more information, visit www.jastl.org.

About Staples Community and Giving

Staples contributes to educational and job-related community efforts with a primary focus on disadvantaged youth, from literacy and mentoring to career skills development, through in-kind and monetary donations and grants from Staples Foundation, the private charitable arm of Staples, Inc. Through its community and giving efforts, Staples has helped thousands of organizations around the world. For more information, visit www.staples.com/community.