

The Junior League of Tulsa has many different programs to help women in transition. This support and assistance deals with many different stages of a woman's life including the transition from high school to additional educational programs. While staying true to its mission of promoting voluntarism, the Junior League eases this transition through financial assistance.

Each year, the Junior League of Tulsa awards scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 to two graduating high school seniors in the Tulsa area who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment to volunteerism as well as to academics. This year's JLT Scholarship Committee awarded the 2004 Founders' Scholarships to Miriam Blankenship and Barbara Moschovidis at the Junior League

heart breaks for the children living in those apartments, growing up in that environment." She goes on to add, "I've made a commitment to make a difference in the lives of those children, doing whatever I can to keep the kids at those apartments from becoming the adults at those apartments. The kids, in their childhood ways, have loved me, and that's been the miracle of volunteering."

Clearly, none of us want to

Seniors, she arranged a series of events at several local senior centers, in which students from the Speech and Debate team at her high school performed prose and poetry readings, skits and entertaining speeches.

The Founders' Scholarship is intended to reward the future volunteers – but it is clear that there is nothing "future" about Barbara's accomplishments or her commitment to volunteerism. Barbara plans to continue her volunteer activities at the University of Tulsa in the fall and will major in International Business.

The Scholarship Committee received applications from 48 very deserving high school seniors. According to committee chair, Kathy Raschen, "We were thrilled with the response of qualified applicants applying for the scholarship. It is

KEEPING *the* WHEELS of VOLUNTARISM SPINNING THROUGH FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

annual meeting on May 6. Miriam Blankenship is a 2004 graduate of Union High School. In addition to maintaining a grade point average of 4.0, she has spent innumerable hours volunteering in the Tulsa community with organizations such as John 3:16, Fellowship of Christian Athletes, and her church. Over the summer she spent countless hours mentoring children in a north Tulsa neighborhood. In her application essay, Miriam wrote,

"When I listen to the news, I hear about shootings, about rape, about drugs and violence in the apartment complexes of north Tulsa and I know it's true, because I've seen it. My

imagine the world's future without the service of individuals like Miriam. Miriam plans to attend Master's College, a small private Christian college in California, in the fall. She will work toward a double major in English and Biology with a minor in Biblical Languages.

Barbara Moschovidis recently graduated from Booker T. Washington High School. Barbara maintained a 4.4 GPA while remaining extremely active in her school's National Honor Society, Girl Scouts and Youth Leadership Tulsa. Barbara received the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest honor in Girl Scouting, for planning and implementing a fifty-hour service project. Entitled, Showstoppers for

wonderful so many young women are committed to our community and participating with a hands-on approach to voluntarism." Based on the applications, the committee narrowed the field to six finalists, who were interviewed by a panel of sustaining members. Kathy notes, "Our sustainers were a dedicated and delightful panel of judges that included Judy Cairl, Mary Fitzpatrick, Karen Fraser, Judy Ingraham, Debbie Grillot and Pat Leikam. They faced the difficult but rewarding task of selecting this year's Founders' Scholarship recipients." Both the scholarship recipients and the panel of judges are to be commended for "a job well-done." ❶