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## West Park Named 2023 Municipal Youth Council Community Service Contest Winner

Youth Council recognized by Florida League of Cities for volunteer service projects

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**TALLAHASSEE, FL** – The **Florida League of Cities** (FLC), the united voice for Florida's municipal governments, announced the **City of West Park Youth Council** as one of three winners of the 2023 Municipal Youth Council Community Service Contest. The annual competition showcases community service projects performed by municipal youth councils that successfully address specific needs in their local communities.

Municipal youth councils are special councils that typically serve as advisory boards to local governments. They are composed of high school students within the city and are sometimes referred to as youth corps, teen advisory boards or mayor's youth councils.

"It is inspiring to see our future leaders taking action and making a positive impact in their communities," said **FLC President Jolien Caraballo**, **Vice Mayor** for the **City of Port St. Lucie.** "The Florida League of Cities is proud of the work these students are doing to support and improve their cities. On behalf of the League, congratulations to this year's contest winners!"

The City of West Park Youth Council hosted a hygiene product collection to assist youths experiencing homelessness in Broward County. Youth Council members collected items such as moist towelettes, feminine products, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, face wipes, shampoo and body lotion. Each member contributed by donating at least five items and collecting items from family members, neighbors and friends. Youth Council members created and posted flyers throughout offices and city parks. They also placed several donation boxes at these sites. All donations are hand delivered to local shelters run by the Children's Home Society of Florida – Broward. The Youth Council plans to continue the collection and make donations to other shelters in the area.

The City of Alachua Youth Advisory Council and the City of Fort Pierce Youth Council were also named winners in the statewide competition. Contest winners will receive a trophy and be featured by the League's award-winning magazine, Quality Cities (QC), as well as on the League's website and social media outlets.

For more information on the winning projects, visit <u>flcities.com/youthcouncils</u>.

Founded in 1922, the Florida League of Cities is the united voice for Florida's municipal governments. Its goals are to promote local self-government and serve the needs of Florida's cities, which are formed and governed by their citizens. The League believes in "Local Voices Making Local Choices," which focuses on the impact citizens and city leaders have in improving Florida's communities. For more information, visit <u>florities.com</u>.