

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: July 14, 2025

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Associated Bank Awards Grant to Junior Achievement of Wisconsin for Financial Education Programs

WAUSAU, WIS. – Junior Achievement of Wisconsin (JA) announced today an Associated Bank donation of \$40,000 awarded to support K-12 financial educational learning experiences throughout Wisconsin. JA programs provide young people the knowledge and skills to own their economic success, plan for their future and make smart academic and economic choices.

The \$40,000 gift will support JA's suite of skills-based learning programs across Wisconsin's many rural, urban and suburban communities. JA is the world's largest organization providing entrepreneurship, career and work readiness and financial literacy education supported by local volunteers.

"Our local offices across the state depend on the support of community-focused businesses like Associated Bank," said Julie Granger, President of Junior Achievement of Wisconsin. "We're proud to have the confidence of Associated Bank as we work with business leaders, educators and community partners to ensure each new generation is prepared for whatever comes next."

"At Associated Bank, we believe financial literacy is a cornerstone of long-term economic stability and success," said Michael Johnson, Sr. Vice President – Commercial Banking with Associated Bank and Junior Achievement of Wisconsin Board member. "By investing in youth and the communities we serve, we're helping to build a stronger future and are proud to support Junior Achievement of Wisconsin in their mission to empower the next generation with the tools and knowledge they need to thrive."

<u>Contact JA today</u> to learn how to support Junior Achievement or volunteer for one of Junior Acievement's in-class programs, special events or speaking engagements.

About Junior Achievement

Junior Achievement is the world's largest organization dedicated to giving young people the knowledge and skills they need to own their economic success, plan for their future, and make smart academic and economic choices. JA learning experiences are delivered by corporate and community volunteers and provide relevant, hands-on lessons that give students from kindergarten through high school knowledge and skills in financial literacy, work readiness, and entrepreneurship. Additionally, Junior Achievement is expanding its reach to 18-to-25-year-olds to provide young adults with critical life skills. Since 2021, more than 14,000 Junior Achievement volunteers have taught JA life skills to 340,000 Wisconsin students. For more information, visit Wisconsin.ja.org.