

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Junior Achievement of Wisconsin Shines the Spotlight on Local Volunteer** *Shawano Teacher Provides Behind the Scenes Support for Junior Achievement Programs*

**SHAWANO, WISCONSIN** – Any successful non-profit operation that uses volunteers needs behind-the-scenes support to dot the i's and cross the t's. That is the role Kathryn Beres fulfills for Junior Achievement (JA) in Shawano County. For the past year, Kathryn has donated her time to help coordinate JA financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and career readiness programs for Shawano students. In addition to her duties as a Business Instructor at Shawano High School, Kathryn recruits community volunteers and coordinates the delivery of classroom materials used by JA volunteers in the Shawano School District.

“As a teacher, I have had the great pleasure to see the connections students make with JA volunteers who so generously give their time and expertise. Students benefit from learning real world scenarios from business experts in our community, practice leadership skills by volunteering their own time to teach JA to elementary students, and are challenged by participating in JA scholarship competitions,” said Kathryn. “I have seen the excitement, pride, and growth students get from JA programs. That’s why I am passionate about doing what I can to help Shawano students experience all the great things JA brings to the classroom.”

Kathryn supports JA programming because it is a way for students to connect with volunteers and get excited about local job opportunities. In addition, many Shawano high school students choose to become JA volunteers and teach elementary school kids how to use money wisely and how communities thrive when people give back and help others to succeed.

Kathryn graduated with a business degree from UW-Madison and has worked for the State of Wisconsin Department of Children and Family Service and for Brown County in the Finance and Human Resources Department. She completed graduate courses at Concordia University and received her license to teach high school business education. She has been a teacher in the Shawano School District for 6 years.

Junior Achievement of Wisconsin has provided financial literacy, entrepreneurship, and career readiness programming to Shawano County students for more than 18 years. Through partnerships with corporate volunteers, educators, and local donors, JA fulfills its vision for a world where young people have the skillset and mindset to build thriving communities. Over the past 5 years, the Wolf River Area Office of Junior Achievement of Wisconsin has used a dedicated core of nearly 270 volunteer mentors to serve 6,889 students in Shawano County.