MATTERS

Annual Report of the Junior League of Jackson



2019 - 2020







Vision

The Junior League of Jackson will make a measurable impact by enriching our community through building partnerships and inspiring shared solutions.

Purpose

The Junior League of Jackson is a charitable organization whose purpose is to improve the quality of life of those in our community.

Diversity and Inclusion Statement of Purpose

The Junior League of Jackson is dedicated to comprehensive diversity and inclusion. The League is committed to having a membership that reflects the rich diversity of the communities it serves. The League welcomes and values the unique backgrounds and perspectives of all members and endeavors to be an environment in which no member will be advantaged or disadvantaged because of race, religion, national origin, or any other real or perceived differences. We are confident that diversity and inclusiveness within our League will enhance the quality and reach of our programs in the community.

2019-2020 JLJ Matters Editor: Erin Kiker Co-Editor: Jessica Kruger Visit JLJackson.org for the latest JLJ updates Contact us 601-948-2357 info@jljackson.org 805 Riverside Drive, Jackson, MS 39202 f juniorleagueofjackson @juniorleagueofjackson @juniorleagueofjackson @JLJacksonMS



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF JACKSON STAFF

Front row, left to right: Madeline Leung, *Graphic Design* and *Communications Coordinator*; Beth Allgood, *Executive Assistant* **Back row, left to right:** Michelle Lewis, *Business Manager*; Lisa Lester, *Controller*

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Letter From the President



Welcome to the 2019-2020 edition of Matters, the Annual Report of the Junior League of Jackson! We are honored to share a glimpse into the remarkable impact our members have made this year as hands and feet in service to our local community, especially as we faced the uncertainties caused by a global pandemic.

Poet Emily Dickinson once wrote, "I dwell in possibility." The Junior League of Jackson is a shining example of what can happen when women work together to unlock the possibilities. The possible includes countless community projects and in-League placements, three successful Fund Development businesses, a healthy endowment fund, and two signature projects (the Children's Cancer Center now known as Children's of Mississippi and the Mississippi Children's Museum)-all implemented with excellence. We are a mission driven, member focused organization of women united by our interest in building better communities and cultivating the next generation of women as community and civic leaders. We offer unique opportunities for personal growth through comprehensive leadership development and training, community service, and lifelong friendships and connections. We thrive through our membership's diverse backgrounds, interests, and experiences.

During our seventy-nine year legacy of collaborating with non-profit partners in the Jackson metropolitan area, the Junior League of Jackson has addressed urgent community needs through meaningful programs and initiatives. Our well-trained volunteers support local community partners through coalition building, innovative service opportunities, and signature direct service programs. Our focus areas include early literacy, children's health, and social development, with an overarching goal of improving the high school graduation rate in the Jackson area. Our League pours into and supports our community because we know that together, we are stronger.

This widespread community support is possible through the hard work of our volunteers in planning and hosting three large fundraising events each year, as well as through the generous support of our corporate sponsors. The fundraising efforts of Mistletoe Marketplace, Junior League Jumble, and Touch A Truck® Jackson directly support the mission of the League, including more than 30 community projects and initiatives manned by more than 50,000 volunteer hours. The \$1.3 million raised by these businesses this year will ensure that we can continue to deepen our impact and transform our volunteers into civic leaders.

As I reflect on this League year, I am amazed at how much we have accomplished and how quickly the time has flown by. To those who support us and help us advance our mission, I thank you. To our members, I will forever cherish all we have done to support each other and to improve our shared communities, despite the most challenging of circumstances.

It has been my great honor to serve our League and to see firsthand the many ways in which our members have unlocked the possibilities in our community and with each other this year. We hope that you enjoy reading about the dedicated work of our volunteers, and that you, too, are inspired to unlock the infinite possibilities that abound!

With warmest regards,

LaKeysha Greer Isaac

President

2019-2020 Junior League of Jackson



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Front Row (left to right): Adriane Louie, Placement Chair; Staci McNinch, President-Elect; LaKeysha Isaac, President; Ellie Word, Membership Vice President

Second Row (left to right): Allison Simpson, *Operations Vice President*; Missy Heidelberg, *Treasurer*; Katie Browning, *Fund Development Vice President*; Kacey Matthews, *Member-at-Large*; Erin Pickens, *Training and Organizational Development Vice President*; Beth Hansen, *Sustaining Advisor*

Back Row (left to right): Donna Josey, Sustaining Advisor; Melanie Hataway, Sustaining Advisor; Susan Rockoff, Community Vice President; Julia Wise, Secretary; Jaime Stein, Treasurer-Elect; Dana Wilson, Communications Vice President; Elizabeth Paine, Nominating Chair



COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Holmes Adams, Adams and Reese, LLP

Katie Blount, MS Department of Archives and History

Stephen Brown, Education Services Foundation

John Damon, Canopy Children's Services

Tracy DeVries, Women's Foundation of Mississippi

Sister Karina Dickey, St. Dominic Health System

Rabbi Matt, Dreffin Goldring/ Woldenber Institute of Southern Jewish Life Thea Faulkner, JPS Partners in Education
Guy Giesecke, Batson Children's Hospital
Wesley Goings, Telapex, Inc
Von Gordon, William Winter Institute
Wilson Hood, JWH Holding
Edith Kennedy, BankPlus
Valerie Linn, Magnolia Speech School

Kurt Metzner, Baptist Health Systems
Candie Simmons, Regions Bank

Judge Latrice Westbrooks,

Mississippi Court of Appeals

Neddie Winters, Mission Mississippi

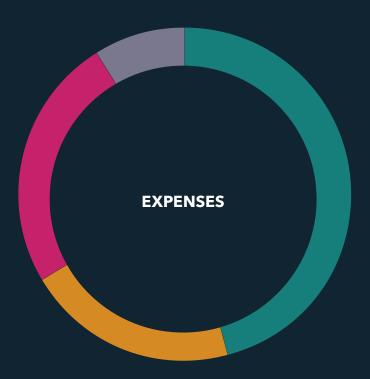
JUNIOR LEAGUE OF JACKSON

statement of Activities



REVENUE

Contributions	\$7,928
Fees	\$21,856
Interest and Dividends	\$25,058
Membership Dues and Fines	\$131,389
	\$27,751
JL Jumble	\$52,665
Mistletoe Marketplace 2018	\$1,136,469
Touch A Truck® Jackson	\$65,687
Realized and Unrealized Gain on Investment	(\$10,899)
Assets released from Restrictions	(\$1,818)
TOTAL REVENUE AND SUPPORT	\$1,457,904



EXPENSES

Program Services	\$569,402
Membership Development	\$254,458
	\$304,918
Fundraising and Development	\$108,959
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,237,737
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$220,167 \$3,699,521 \$3,919,688

JLJ By The Numbers

DIRECT CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY

\$735,000

COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE DONATIONS

\$58,600

COMMUNITY DISCRETIONARY DONATIONS

\$11,300

50,000 VOLUNTEER HOURS

X

25.43
IRS RATE

\$1,270,000

TOTAL 2019-2020 VOLUNTEER IMPACT



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF JACKSON IS THE 6th largest Junior League out of 291 JUNIOR LEAGUES IN 4 COUNTRIES

NEARLY
2.400
MEMBERS
TOTAL

50,000

VOLUNTEER HOURS
CONTRIBUTED TO SUPPORT
OUR COMMUNITY



UP TO 175 PROVISIONAL MEMBERS EACH YEAR MORE THAN 750 ACTIVE MEMBERS ALMOST 1,500 SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Community Impact

- EARLY LITERACY
- · CHILDREN'S HEALTH
- · SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

9,000

HOURS OF LEADERSHIP TRAINING FOR JLJ MEMBERS EACH YEAR

Unlock of the Possibilities

Our Mission

The Junior League of Jackson is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

A Tew of Our Recent Accomplishments:

923 CHILDREN IMPACTED BY JLJ SUMMER PROJECTS

1.020 PAIRS OF NEW UNIFORM PANTS AND SHORTS DONATED TO JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

5,400 BACKPACKS FILLED WITH FOOD GIVEN TO STUDENTS TO TAKE HOME OVER THE WEEKENDS AND HOLIDAYS

480 BACKPACKS FILLED WITH SCHOOL SUPPLIES GIVEN TO JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

2018 RECIPIENT OF THE DIVERSITY & Inclusion Award FROM THE ASSOCIATION OF JUNIOR LEAGUES INTERNATIONAL

over \$1.3 million







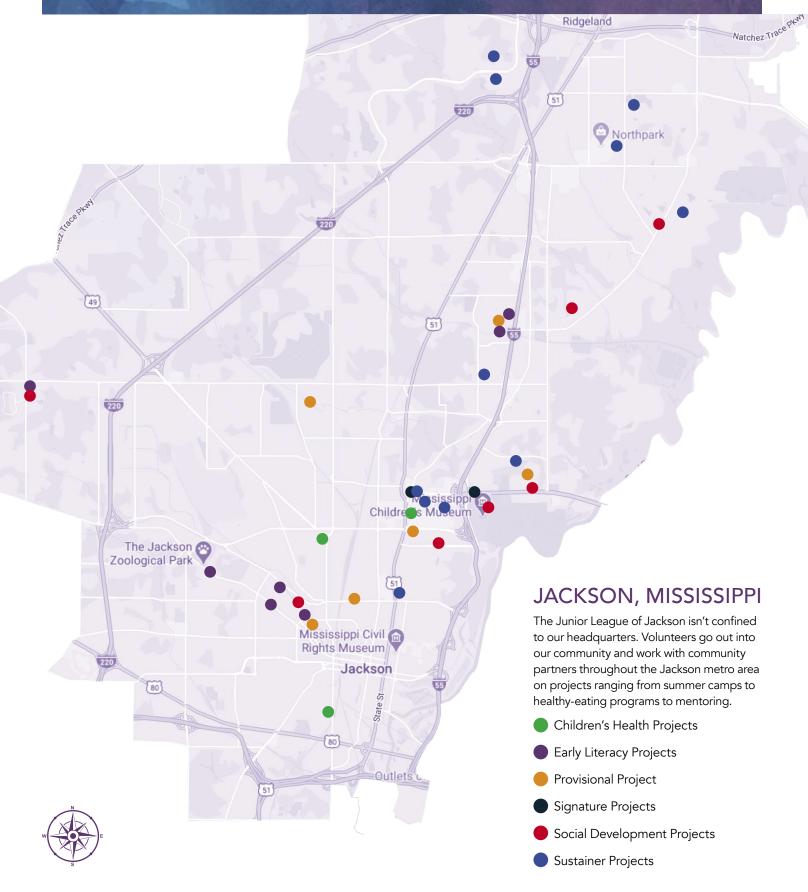
100%

OF OUR FUNDRAISING STAYS IN METRO JACKSON

\$3.4 million

IN GRANTS AWARDED TO OTHER NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS SINCE 2013

Community Projects Map



Community Projects

EARLY LITERACY

Arts in Motion

Budget: \$13,145 Volunteers: 14 Chair: Leigh Taylor

Co-Chairs: Jennifer Heard and Sarah Ulmer

BGCCM Library Makeover Project

Budget: \$11,100 Volunteers: 20 Chair: Torri Martin Co-Chair: CC Allgood

Camp Connections

Budget: \$19,025 Volunteers: 15

Chair: Jennie Eichelberger Co-Chair: Sarah Dill

Helping Hands

Budget: \$8,070 Volunteers: 27 Chair: Liz Densmore Co-Chair: Yolanda McElroy

I Read More With My Buddy

Budget: \$4,920 Volunteers: 12 Chair: Libby Fulton Co-Chair: Kristi McHale

JPS Summer Camp

Budget: \$14,015 Volunteers: 20

Chair: Virginia Hollingsworth Co-Chairs: Angela Bass and Nicole Hand

Our Reading Family

Budget: \$10,250 Volunteers: 11 Chair: Lacey Bergin Co-Chair: Kristen Doty

The Language of Art

Budget: \$8,100 Volunteers: 27 Chair: Whitney Harris

Co-Chairs: Hope Marsh and Lori Beth

Watkins



SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Arts Explosion Camp

Budget: \$12,860 Volunteers: 14 Chair: Karley Ditto Co-Chair: Kim Rogers

Camp JLJ

Budget: \$7,685 Volunteers: 12 Chair: Thea Black Co-Chair: Wesley Josey

Girls Rule! Accepting, Caring, Empowering (G.R.A.C.E.)

Budget: \$9,270 Volunteers: 20 Chair: Michelle Simon Co-Chair: Morgan Harris

Imagination Celebration Summer Camp for JPS Children

Budget: \$12,375 Volunteers: 23 Chair: Eden Travis Co-Chair: Kristen Reynolds

Making Connections, Rewarding Success – CARES Inc

Budget: \$13,860 Volunteers: 23

Chair: Mary Kathryn Rainey Co-Chair: Tyler Jeter

Sensory Fun and Learning

Budget: \$3,390 Volunteers: 18 Chair: Bethany Gough Co-Chair: Kate Boerner

The McClean Fletcher Center

Budget: \$4,970 Volunteers: 37 Chair: Heather Mims Co-Chairs: Ann Forster and Sarah

Herrington

CHILDREN'S HEALTH

E3: Educating Empowering and Engaging

Budget: \$46,280 Volunteers: 42 Chair: Allison Young

Co-Chairs: Casey Farmer, Stacie Hanson, Marcee Helms,

Elizabeth Ring

Midtown Backpack and School Pantry Program

Budget: \$59,025 Volunteers: 34 Chair: Sarah Sterling

Co-Chairs: Elizabeth Barloq and Kristin Lindley

R.E.A.C.H.

Budget: \$8,150 Volunteers: 34 Chair: Pamela Franklin Co-Chair: Susan Stringer

PROVISIONAL

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY OF SERVICE

Canopy Children's Solutions - CARES Center Murals We Will Go Ministries - Fountain on Farish Jackson Public Schools - Beautifying Partners in Education Department

JLJ Cares - Restocking Classrooms

Institute of Southern Jewish Life - Literacy Block Party Stewpot Community Services - Beautification and

Organization

Budget: \$31,800 Volunteers: 160 Chair: Kimberly Hardy Co-Chair: Anna Thames





SUSTAINER

FEED-A-FAMILY

Budget: \$2,100 Volunteers: 6-8 per meal Chair: Sue Russ

JOYFUL NOISE

Budget: \$6,825 Volunteers: 50 Chair: Victoria Clark

ROCKIN' MAMAS

Budget: \$3,220 Volunteers: 5 Chair: Dee Gex

Signature Projects

JUNIOR LEAGUE FULFILLS PLEDGE OF \$1 MILLION TO THE CAMPAIGN FOR CHILDREN'S OF MISSISSIPPI

Good financial stewardship has added up to the Junior League of Jackson fulfilling its \$1 million commitment to the Campaign for Children's of Mississippi nearly two years ahead of schedule.

The League announced its \$1 million commitment to helping complete the pediatric expansion at the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) in November 2017, and with a goal of satisfying that commitment by May 31, 2021. The nonprofit organization's donation includes its initial \$400,000 gift in May 2017. The Junior League then pledged another \$600,000, bringing its total commitment to \$1 million.

The \$180 million children's hospital expansion, which is on schedule to open in fall 2020, will more than double the square footage dedicated to pediatrics at UMMC. It will include 88 private neonatal intensive care rooms where

parents can bond with their babies as they grow stronger and healthier.



"We are proud to not only fulfill our commitment to Children's of Mississippi, but to also fulfill that obligation earlier than anticipated," said LaKeysha Greer Isaac, president of the Junior League of Jackson.

The west wing of this new neonatal intensive care space, including 22 private rooms, each with a private bath, will be named in honor of the Junior League of Jackson and in recognition of its history of supporting UMMC and its pediatric arm, Children's of Mississippi.

The tower also includes additional state-of-the-art operating suites and larger private pediatric intensive care rooms, matching the skills of surgeons and specialists at Children's of Mississippi. An imaging center designed with children in mind will be a first for the state's only children's hospital.

An outpatient pediatric specialty clinic will offer collaborative care across disciplines, with convenient parking available in a 517-space parking garage nearby. The tower will also be a new home for Children's of Mississippi's Children's Heart Center.

Over the years, hundreds of league volunteers have helped in projects including "Rockin' Mamas," which continues to bring cuddles to babies in the neonatal intensive care unit, and R.E.A.C.H. (Recreation, Enrichment and Activity for Children's Health), which serves up snacks and activities to Children's hospital patients.

"The league prides itself on the dedication and commitment of its members, our fundraising efforts, and strong financial leadership," Isaac said. "These efforts, combined, have allowed us to continue to focus on our mission, which is to improve the lives of those in our community."



CHILDREN'S CANCER CENTER AT CHILDREN'S OF MISSISSIPPI

In 1986, the Junior League of Jackson initiated a \$2 million fundraising campaign to build the Children's Cancer Center at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. This was the League's first signature project, and in 1989, the fundraising goal was reached and groundbreaking ceremonies took place for the 20,450 square-foot facility adjoining the Children's Hospital. The clinic was completed and dedicated on May 15, 1991. Almost twenty five years later, Junior League volunteers continue to spend time with the pediatric cancer patients and their families through JLJ's R.E.A.C.H. (Recreation, Enrichment and Activity for Children's Health) program.



MISSISSIPPI CHILDREN'S MUSEUM

In 2003, the Mississippi Children's Museum became the Junior League of Jackson's second signature project with its \$1 million financial commitment and a dedicated 70-person committee of League volunteers to see the project to completion. Thanks to JLJ perseverance, impetus, direction, fundraising help, and volunteers, the museum opened its doors in December 2010. T MCM is a first class facility built to provide a unique and exciting educational experience that ignites and inspires a thirst for discovery, knowledge, and learning in all children.

Community Project Stats

Arts Explosion Camp

- 280 books donated in one week
- First project field trip to Mississippi Museum of Natural Science for 60-70 children

ARTS IN MOTION

- Donated 9 books to Mission First
- Served kids 10 meals the week of camp, 500 meals total
- Each of the 50 campers made 12 art projects each using 2D art, 3D art, and computer art for a total of 600 art projects

E3: Educating Empowering and Engaging

- 550 hours worked
- Over 875 meals served

GRACE

- Provided assistance for 20 girls
- Attended 4 field trips
- Served over 20 meals

JPS Summer Camp

- 245 art projects created
- 60 backpacks donated with back to school supplies
- 10 meals served and 51 take home bags of non-perishable food given out

Making Connections, Rewarding Success

- Over 100 welcome bags donated
- 300 plus hours of service donated
- Provided funding for several area field trips
- Provided numerous 'wish list' items requested by students

Public Schools Mini Grants

- o Presented over \$103,000 in mini grants to JPS schools in September
- Hosted reception for teachers and principals selected to receive grants
- Project has awarded more than \$2 million to JPS teachers since its inception in 1988

Feed-A-Family (Sustainer)

- League provided the meal entrées and gifts for Halloween, Valentine's Day, Easter, and Mother's Day
- Volunteers provided donated side dishes
- Provided meals for rotating number of families in 16 available rooms at the Ronald McDonald House

Joyful Noise (Sustainer)

- 25-30 volunteers at each performance
- Visited 40 senior living facilities
- Spent 1.5 hours at each facility each time
- Rehearsed new music 1.5 hours twice weekly

 Revues include: The Roaring Twenties!, Lights, Camera, Action! (songs from Hollywood), Swing! (Songs from the 1940's), The Sensational Sixties!, The Best of Broadway!

Rockin' Mamas (Sustainer)

- Averaged 2-4 hours a week rocking and nurturing babies in the NICU
- Provided each baby in the NICU with a handmade blanket and baby booties
- Served breakfast to the NICU staff in September
- Provided Christmas cookies, snacks, and Christmas blankets to volunteer services and families during the first week of December
- Distributed crib soothers and books in May for the cribs in the NICU and provided catered meals for staff





The Women's Leadership and Advocacy Series supports the advancement of women in leadership including board service, elected and appointed offices, foundational and advanced leadership skills, and advocacy. Participants in this series developed tools to achieve, maintain, and maximize their impact as leaders while recognizing and celebrating the strengths of women and applying strategies for success. The WLAAS facilitated events for women in leadership roles and emerging leadership roles to energize, educate, and empower, to develop potential, and to improve their communities through voluntarism, effective action, and leadership.

The WLAAS hosted a series of events during the 2019-2020 League year. The Committee kicked off in August with a training held in partnership with the Women's Foundation of Mississippi, titled "She's on Board", a leadership program for ALL Mississippi women interested in board service. Attendees were given led through strategies to help them succeed and lead in the boardroom. Excellent speakers covered all aspects of board service including the duties and responsibilities of a board member, an introduction to nonprofit finance, things to consider before joining a board, and a panel discussion about different paths to leadership.

In September, WLAAS hosted Ready to Run® in partnership with Stennis Institute for Public Service at Millsaps College. Ready to Run® is a non-partisan campaign training program to

encourage women to run for elective office, seek an appointed office, work on a campaign, or get involved in public life in other ways. Participants were able to network with other women across the state and learn more about developing a campaign, community engagement, fundraising, launching the groundwork for public service, working or volunteering on a political campaign, media training, and more.

On Tuesday, January 21, 2020, WLAAS hosted "Capitol Day: Coffee and Contacts" at the Mississippi State Capitol. The event was an informative discussion between Mississippi's state legislators, government relations specialists, and JLJ members on important topics related to the League's Impact areas. Participants included: Lieutenant Governor Delbert Hosemann, Speaker Philip Gunn, Sen. Walter Michel, Rep. Shanda Yates (JLJ member), Rep. Debra Gibbs, Rep. Chris Bell, Rep. Ronnie Crudup, Rep. John Hines, Rep. Jill Ford, Tara Mounger (JLJ member), and Camille Scales Young (JLJ member). Additionally, the League and its leadership were formally recognized by both the House and the Senate.

The culmination of events for the WLAAS was a Women's Leadership Summit scheduled for April 24, 2020. The original plan for this all-day event was designed to provide an empowering professional experience for women seeking to renew, refine, or re-envision their lives. The day would feature networking opportunities, dynamic presentations from

notable Mississippi women, and a luncheon with keynote speaker Kelly Wynne Ferguson, founder and CEO of Kelly Wynne, LLC. Due to COVID-19, the in-person event was cancelled and instead the Committee released a condensed virtual training featuring Kelly Wynne Ferguson, founder and CEO of Kelly Wynne, LLC and Dr. Michelle Owens, OBGYN, The University of Mississippi Medical Center.

The Women's Leadership and Advocacy Series was led by Leanne Stamper, chair, and Zonzie McLaurin, co-chair.

"Serving as the chair of WLAAS has been nothing short of a challenging, yet humbling, experience. I was able to serve with some wonderfully talented women across all walks of life. We were able to put on some fantastic events! Although we had to make a difficult decision to cancel the Leadership Summit due to COVID-19, the Committee jumped into action to plan a digital platform for a mini-summit for the members of JLJ. I could not be prouder to serve with this resilient and strong group!"

- Leanne Stamper, Women's Leadership and Advocacy Series Chair









Fund Development Businesses

Keystone Fund • Mistletoe Marketplace • Junior League Jumble • Touch A Truck® Jackson



The Junior League of Jackson operates three fund development businesses: Mistletoe Marketplace, Junior League Jumble, and Touch a Truck® Jackson—as well as a permanent Keystone Fund. The funds raised by these businesses allow the League to implement its mission through more than 30 community projects and initiatives. These funds also provide crucial support for the League's signature projects: the Children's Cancer Center at the Blair E. Batson Hospital for Children and the Mississippi Children's Museum.

"Members of our League serving in fund development placements gave energy, time, and talents to ensure the success of our JLJ businesses," said Fund Development Vice President Katie Browning. "I am extremely proud of our Steering Committees, full placed volunteers, and general membership for not only executing our goals but also for working together across project lines as a cohesive fund development cohort to support the overall mission of the League."



KEYSTONE FUND

The Keystone Fund serves as the keystone for JLJ projects yet to come, and is literally something to build upon for the future – not only for the future of the Junior League of Jackson, but for the future of each life the League will touch. It ensures that permanent funding exists to support the League's work. The ultimate objective is to grow a fund that will be substantial enough to help support the League in the event of a decline in sponsorships or a shortfall in the League's fund development businesses.

The Junior League of Jackson hopes to steadily grow the Keystone Fund through tax-deductible donations and tax-wise planned giving, including gifts made to the Keystone Fund through wills and estate planning. While certain giving levels have been designated for special recognition, there is no minimum donation. Gifts of any size are welcomed and appreciated!

A donation to the Keystone Fund is an ideal gift in honor of Active or Sustaining members

or for others whose lives have been touched by the Junior League of Jackson. Gifts made in honor of a birthday, anniversary, as a memorial, or during the holiday season will not only honor the person who is recognized, but will also support meaningful projects in our community. Donations can be made to the Keystone Fund online at www.jljackson.org or by contacting the Keystone Fund at 601-948-2357.

2019-2020 KEYSTONE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

LaKeysha Isaac President

Staci McNinch President-Elect

Missy Heidelberg

Jaime Stein Treasurer-Elect

Katie Browning
Fund Development Vice President

Meredith Aldridge Immediate Past President Lori Sanders Community Trustee and 2019-2020 Chair

Walter Neely Community Trustee Jeff Wilson Community Trustee

Margaret Cupples Community Trustee

Tish Hughes Community Trustee





CHAIR: Brenda Hayes-Williams

CO-CHAIR: Jennifer Boydston Johnson

YEARS AS FUND DEVELOPMENT BUSINESS: 39

FUN FACTS: Raised \$1.26 million

Number of Friends of Mistletoe: 516

Number of Merchants: 151

Number of General Admission Tickets: 13,777 Number of Special Events Tickets: 10,068

VOLUNTEER HOURS: 10,000+

NUMBER OF CORPORATE SPONSORS: 120

JUNIOR LEAGUE JUMBLE

CHAIR: Dawn Jones

CO-CHAIR: Catherine Stolzfus

YEARS AS FUND DEVELOPMENT BUSINESS: 6

FUN FACTS: Raised \$40,000

Jumble Gives: Pile O' Pants: 1020 uniform pants

given to JPS

Gowns for Girls: 100 evening gowns given to community partners Luggage of Love: 25 pieces of

luggage donated

Coats for Kids: 90 Coats for Kids given

to community partners

Over 2,600 attendees

30,000 square feet of space with over 22,000 pieces

of merchandise

All unsold merchandise donated to community partners

VOLUNTEER HOURS: 2,000

NUMBER OF CORPORATE SPONSORS: 37

TOUCH A TRUCK JACKSON

CHAIR: Abby Brann

CO-CHAIR: Rashida Warren

YEARS AS FUND DEVELOPMENT BUSINESS: 7

Raised \$52,000 in donations **FUN FACTS:**

Converted to a virtual event following

pandemic-related cancellation

Volunteers read children books in the Virtual Literacy Tent to online viewers on social media

9 guest readers in the Virtual Literacy Tent reached

13,674 viewers

At time of cancellation, 1,336 elementary students and chaperones had registered for Field Trip Friday

VOLUNTEER HOURS: 3,000

NUMBER OF CORPORATE SPONSORS: 51 corporate sponsors and

exhibitors







KEYSTONE FUND DONORS

Angelia Smith Anna Crawford Barbara Austin Barbara Brunini Beth Hansen Beth Murray Betty Smithson Brenda Hayes-Williams Bridgette Davis Carlen Blevins Caron Blanton Charlotte Dunbar Charlotte Seals Cheryl Miller Christina Morris Dawn Gnam Dawn Jones Devin Hart Donna Knight Eleanor Taylor Elizabeth Creekmore

Elizabeth Kendall Ellen Collins Emily McVey Erica Reed Frances Jean Neely Gay Drake Geri Smith Gerre Moak Gina Adams Haley Claxton Heather Haik Heidi Noel Helen Craig Helen Moffat Holly Buchanan Jaime Stein Jan Townes Jane Gerber Jane Smith

Janet Scott

Jeanne Moak

Jeanne Werne Jennifer Powers Jennifer Rogers Jill Pierce Jolynda Halinski Joyce Cannada Judy Rosenblatt Julia Matthews Julia Wise Kathleen Mitchell Kathryn Gift Kathy Gibson Keri Henley Kimberly Crowder Kimberly Hardy Kysia Geary Lacey Bergin LaKeysha Isaac LaTonia Buchanan Lauren White Laurie Cutrer

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Hampton Inn & Suites -

Haven Curated Home

Heather and Trey Ward

Ridgeland

Heidi Noel

Helen Trewolla

Sharon Estess Sharon McCreery Sharon Rhoden Stacey M. Buchanan Staci McNinch Stella Gray Sykes Stephanie Daniels Stephanie Nix Sue Allen Tate Susan Duke Susan Jones Susan Rockoff Susan Weems Suzannah McGowan Tish Hughes Valerie Linn Virginia Mounger Whitney Emrich

2019 MISTLETOE MARKETPLACE DONORS

1996 Mistletoe Marketplace Steering Committee 2008 Mistletoe Marketplace Steering Committee 2014 Mistletoe Marketplace Steering Committee 2015 Mistletoe Marketplace Steering Committee 2016 Mistletoe Marketplace Steering Committee 2018 Mistletoe Marketplace Steering Committee 2019-2020 Junior League of Jackson Board of Directors 2019 Mistletoe Marketplace Steering Committee 2020 Mistletoe Marketplace Steering Committee 47blooms 4Top Catering Academy of Kung Fu Adams and Reese LLP Aisha Nyandoro Aleesha Moses Hudson All Hands Create Allilia L. Price Allison and Jack Muirhead Allison Bohon Allison Cruse Allison Williams Altitude Trampoline Park Amanda and Nathan Wells Amelie and Johnny Black American Medical Response (AMR) Amy Taylor Andrew and Stephanie Brown Angelia Mikel Brown

Ann and Clav Purcell Ann Carter, Inc. Anna Crawford Anna Griffin Callender Anne and Mike Dulske Anonymous April May Arco Avenue Artwork by Ann Seale DBA Ann

Ashley and Christie Ogden Ashley Hall Ashley Jolly Ashley Patterson Avani Khatri Marya Babalu Tapas & Tacos

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Blair M. Kossen Blue Delta Jeans Co Brad and Sharon Estess **Bradley Arant Boult** Cummings LLP Brenda Hayes Williams Bridal House By Woo Brown's Fine Art & Framing, Brunini, Grantham, Grower & Hewes, PLLC **Buffalo Peak Outfitters** Burr & Forman LLP C Spire Caitlin Hayden Cameron and Susannah Albriton Camp Skyline Ranch for Girls Campbell's Bakery Cardan Enterprises Carla Lewis Carlyn M. Hicks Carole Richardson Caroline and Ashley Hollowell Caroline Bobinger

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Halle Knox

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Annual Meeting

The Junior League of Jackson's Annual Meeting was held on May 12, 2020. For the first time in the League's history, the event was broadcast over a livestream with over 600 members viewing it in real-time.

The annual event celebrated the work done by the League over the past year, with the following presentations given by board members:

Improving our Community through the Effective Action and Leadership of Trained Volunteers:

Susan Rockoff, Community Vice President

Promoting Voluntarism and Developing the Potential of Women:

Erin Pickens, Training and Organizational Development Vice President

Successfully Raising Funds to Fulfill Our Mission:

Katie Browning, Fund Development Vice President

As is tradition, at the end of the meeting, members watched the passing of the gavel from 2019-2020 President LaKeysha Greer Isaac to 2020-2021 President Staci Tomkins McNinch. While past presidents were unable to be physically present due to social distancing measures required by COVID-19, a touching video featuring past presidents was shown just prior to the gavel pass. Both Isaac and McNinch gave remarks to the membership, celebrating the 2019-2020 year and setting forth a vision for the 2020-2021 year.

The event also honored the Amalie Fair Robinson Sustainer of the Year, Charlotte Harness Seals. Named in honor of the first president of the Junior League of Jackson, the Sustainer of the Year Award annually recognizes a Sustaining member who has visibly made a difference in the community through leadership and voluntarism. A past president of JLJ, Charlotte's faithful service has continued as a Sustainer. She has served as Sustaining Advisor for the Fund Development Council and Board of Directors, and most recently as a Mistletoe Marketplace Sustaining Advisor in 2019-2020. The award was presented by Sara Williams, Sustainer Steering Committee Chair.



Provisional Class

Chair: Kimberly Hardy **Co-Chair:** Anna Thames **160** Provisional Members

Each year, the Junior League of Jackson invites women to join its ranks. A new member's first year is called her Provisional year and is designed to provide an educational overview of the League, its mission, and its approach to service. Guided by a group of experienced League members, Provisionals attend a series of training sessions and also serve our community through introductory community projects.

"The Day of Service was a wonderful event to collaborate with our community partners and community volunteers. Our Provisionals had an opportunity to directly impact the Jackson community of all ages through beautification projects, playground makeovers, restocking classrooms, and service to remember the importance of the National Day of Service." - Kimberly Hardy, Provisionals Chair

UNLOCKING THE POSSIBILITIES FOR SERVICE

PROVISIONAL PROJECT DAY OF SERVICE

On January 20, 2020, the Junior League of Jackson and the 2019-2020 Provisional class hosted "Unlocking the Possibilities of Service," a series of half-day service projects in the Jackson area. Specifically designed to coincide with Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service events nationwide, the Junior League invited our members, partners, and supporters to connect with each other and our shared community through service.

In partnership with Canopy Children's Solutions, We Will Go Ministries, Jackson Public Schools, the Institute of Southern Jewish Life, and Stewpot Community Services, this Day of Service is designed to harness the strength the Junior League has in connecting volunteer resources to specific needs. From restoring a playground to painting murals, participants had a variety of opportunities to make a positive impact in the lives of our community's children and youth. The service projects for this year's Day of Service included:



BEAUTIFYING PARTNERS IN EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Volunteers had the opportunity to paint several large murals in the Jackson Public School building where the Partners in Education (PIE) department is located. These murals will serve to inspire the partners and students who visit the facility to participate in its programs.



FOUNTAIN ON FARISH WE WILL GO MINISTRIES

Junior League volunteers worked to improve an existing playground by restoring playground equipment, performing maintenance, and painting interactive games on a concrete area in the playground. This work took place at We Will Go's main location on Farish Street



RESTOCKING CLASSROOMS JLJ CARES

Volunteers organized a collection of supplies to help JPS teachers restock their classrooms with basic needs. Supply bags were provided to elementary, middle, and high school classrooms. This project took place at the Junior League of Jackson Headquarters.



LITERACY BLOCK PARTY INSTITUTE OF SOUTHERN

JEWISH LIFE

Volunteers helped host a Literacy Block Party for the Springboard to Opportunities service area and beyond. The Block Party consisted of literacy-based activities for children and adults.



CARES CENTER MURALS CANOPY CHILDREN'S

SOLUTIONS

Volunteers helped design and create murals for the walls of the CARES Center at Canopy Children's Solutions. These murals consisted of positive and encouraging quotes that will aim to reinforce feelings of

value and personal

worth for those who

visit the facility.



BEAUTIFICATION & ORGANIZATION STEWPOT

COMMUNITY

SERVICES

Volunteers helped coordinate the beautification and organization of various areas at Stewpot, including the food pantry, HeARTworks, landscaping/grounds,

the Children's area

and many more. The

day culminated with a

panel of inspirational

speakers.

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Enduring Impact

The Junior League of Jackson is a volunteer organization consisting of women committed to improving and enriching the community by supporting appropriate services and opportunities that provide better health, education, welfare, and safety for all children and youth. We do this by building partnerships with community organizations and by working together to develop solutions and concepts to improve the quality of life of those in our community.

The Junior League of Jackson endorses an Issue Based Community Impact Model for the selection and evaluation of all community projects. This model requires the League to identify a small number of critical community needs, and to place its volunteers and project funds exclusively or primarily in those areas, in order to maximize the League's effectiveness in improving the community.

The League has identified the following community needs:

Early Literacy Children's Health Social Development



IMPROVE THE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION RATE IN THE JACKSON METRO AREA



area use strategies that provide access to nutritional foods and benefits of healthy eating and being physically active.



EARLY LITERACY

focused on exposing elementary school students to language and



SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

area employs strategies designed to improve problem solving and coping skills and build self-esteem in children and

THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF JACKSON MISSION

The Junior League of Jackson is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

Training and Leadership Opportunities



COMMUNITY ROUNDTABLES

This year, we held two community roundtables. Our fall roundtable, Finding the Formula for Funding: Insider Tips for Grant-Writing Success, featured a panel of experts from local non-profits, grant-making foundations and corporations. Panelists shared information on finding grant opportunities, formulating grant responses, relationship building, and the myths behind grant creation. Our goal through this roundtable was to help move wish-lists and ideas to executable results.

Let's Slay Together: Creating a Culture of Collaboration was the title of our April Community Roundtable. Katherine Wintsch, author of Slay Like a Mother, spoke to our community partners, supporters, and members in the League's first-ever Zoom webinar. Her inspiring discussion focused on what is stopping us—women with amazing potential—from slaying the dragon of self-doubt and taming the critical inner voice that prevents us from being our best selves. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, much of the discussion focused on strategies for self-care and building healthy habits in the most unusual and unique circumstances. Her thoughtful presentation is still available for you to watch on your member homepage.

"The events were excellent, with many participants implementing strategies immediately for success." - Carole Richardson, Community Outreach Chair

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION TASKFORCE

The Diversity and Inclusion Taskforce, led by Chair Ashley Wicks, was made up of a diverse group of women—both Active and Sustainer—with a variety of League experience. The taskforce goals were updating the JLJ Cultural Competency Guidelines, creating a diversity workplan, and reviewing policies related to admission to JLJ—specifically those regarding admission related age requirements. The taskforce successfully completed all tasks, and their recommendations were adopted by the Board of Directors.

"Diversity and inclusion can be challenging because we must reflect on who we are and our own perspectives, but it also can be quite enriching because it gives us the opportunity to see how amazing and varied others are and at the end of the day, how much we have in common." - Ashley Wicks, Diversity and Inclusion Chair



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EMERGING LEADERS

This year's Emerging Leaders class consisted of 18 members who will improve communities through effective leadership and training as volunteer leaders within the Junior League of Jackson in years to come. Throughout the year, each member committed to serving Metro Jackson and surrounding communities through facilitating projects such as the Jackson Public Schools Mini Grant program and the JLJ Cares Day of Service Project. In addition to creating and facilitating integral League projects, members also completed the Emerging Leaders 2019-2020 Curriculum. Topics covered included Diversity & Inclusion, Finance and Governance, Growing People and Teams/Project Management, Crucial Conversations/Conflict Management, and Servant Leadership.

"I was able to stand on the foundation of women who came before me, therefore women who come after me will be able to tell her story while building upon a solid foundation. Our goal was to create and enhance membership experience that will continue to elevate The Junior League of Jackson to greater heights. Members expressed appreciation for input from current and former leaders throughout the league in providing guidance for those interested in leadership positions."- Melissa Clark McCoy, Emerging Leaders Chair



COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

Even though our 2019-2020 year-round community projects ended sooner than planned, our volunteers had a distinct and lasting impact on the children and families in our community.

In the light of the COVID-19 pandemic, JLJ's members were temporarily unable to volunteer in person beginning in mid-March 2020. However, through the unexpected, the League was able to continue supporting our community by providing much needed resources through our two community funds. The Community Discretionary Fund (CDF) was established to allow us to respond to unexpected community partner needs, while the Community Assistance Fund (CAF) was established to allow JLJ to respond to funding requests received from the community. We encouraged interested community partners and other qualifying organizations to apply for funding by completing the brief applications and this year provided \$58,600 in emergency funding to our community partners so

"The future may be uncertain, but one thing I do know is that our volunteers are motivated, caring, and incredibly hard-working women. We unlocked so many possibilities, and we will continue to make an impact in our community."

Susan Rockoff, Community Vice President

they can continue to feed children and provide other much-needed services during this time.

Much of the end of year discussion focused on strategies for self-care and building healthy habits in the most unusual and unique circumstances. At our April Community Roundtable—the first-ever JLJ Zoom webinar—Katherine Wintsch spoke to our community partners, supporters, and members. Her inspiring discussion focused on what is stopping us—women with amazing potential—from slaying the dragon of self-doubt and taming the critical inner voice that prevents us from being our best selves.





"My husband and his PICU coworkers were so thankful for their meal this week!!"

"Thank you! From a 2N/COVID nurse at UMMC."

"One of my very best friends works at UMMC as a RN with COVID patients, she was so thankful!"







FEEDING THE FRONT LINE

With in-person meetings suspended, the Junior League of Jackson reallocated over \$12,000 in budgeted funds to support our local healthcare workers and first responders. With these funds, JLJ was able to provide meals to frontline workers and our friends at University of Mississippi Medical Center, Children's of Mississippi, Mississippi Baptist Medical Center, St. Dominic Hospital, the VA Medical Center, Central Mississippi Medical Center, Merit Health/River Oaks, Merit Health/Canton, Jackson Police Department and Jackson Fire Department.

A special thank you to Fresh Cut Catering & Floral and the Mangia Bene restaurant group for partnering with us by facilitating food prep and delivery!

"Interacting through virtual means has been such a blessing, allowing us to connect. And holding meetings over Zoom has allowed us to continue League business and fellowship. We have seen each other at our worst—no makeup, messy hair, stressed out, crying jags, laughter—it has run the full gamut, and has been a balm to my soul."

Ellie Word,

Membership Vice President

LEAGUE OPERATIONS

While the League year did not end like we had imagined, it has really shown how much JLJ's members truly support one another and our community. The spring is always a busy time for League business but with COVID-19, it took on a completely new virtual form. While the world slowed, JLJ ramped up, continuing with League operations, important meetings, and planning Fund Development Businesses by holding meetings and even retreats via Zoom.

We also dedicated ourselves to providing members with digital resources and learning opportunities during this crisis. A comprehensive listing of COVID-19 resources with topics such as managing well-being, managing remote work, learning how to use Zoom and more was provided to each member on her member homepage. In addition, our private Facebook group for members was expanded to allow increased engagement from members.

"I am so proud of the work of the Touch A Truck® Jackson Steering Committee! They were able to foster relationships with Corporate Sponsors and maintained those connections through a crisis in order to help sustain the future of the event. They went virtual with a huge online presence to thank our supporters and spread the word that the event will be back and better than ever!" Katie Browning, Fund Development Vice President

Our virtual presence extended to our final Fund Development business of the League year. We had to make the hard decision to cancel in person activities for our beloved Touch A Truck® Jackson event. This decision, although a difficult one to bear, protected the health and safety of our community, friends, families, sponsors, and membership. The Touch A Truck® Jackson Steering Committee didn't let the cancellation stop them from reaching children. They spearheaded the first Virtual Literacy Tent. Broadcasted over Touch A Truck® Jackson's Facebook page, the Virtual Literacy tent featured 9 guests reading their favorite children's books, from "Truck Stop" to "Pinkalicious." The event's videos were viewed over 13,670 times! Talk about a virtual impact.

You can still view this Virtual Event at https://www.touchatruckjackson.com/virtualliteracytent.





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