

JUNIOR LEAGUE of JACKSON

# The Impact

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the 2nd edition of *The Impact*, an e-newsletter for the Junior League of Jackson's Corporate Sponsors. The purpose of this newsletter is to keep you informed of how your contributions to the Junior League of Jackson allow us to make a positive difference in the Metro-Jackson area. In this edition, we are showcasing the League's year round community projects. Projects that because of your generous support allow us to impact the lives of thousands of children in the areas of early literacy, health, nutrition, teenage pregnancy support, and social and emotional well-being. From this e-newsletter, I hope that you will gain further insight into just how meaningful and crucial your help is to the League in meeting our mission of promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and most importantly improving our community. As JLJ celebrates our diamond anniversary, we thank you for your donations of dollars and services that will allow us to continue to make an impact for the next 75 years and beyond!

Gratefully,  
Charlotte A. Seals, President



The 2015-2016 League-year marked the 75th anniversary of the Junior League of Jackson. Special 75th events throughout the year included: the "Legacy of Light" toast honoring past presidents and past Mistletoe chairs at the 35th annual Mistletoe Marketplace Preview Party, and the January 26 JLJ Capitol Day which comprised of a morning press conference and proclamation reading in the House of Representatives. A 75th Anniversary Exhibit Wall was constructed to display JLJ projects, events and milestones in a permanent exhibit within League headquarters. The Wall

(Left) Members of the 2015-2016 Board are pictured at the Old Capitol Museum for a champagne toast on the occasion of the League's 75th anniversary.



2015-2016 JLJ President Charlotte Seals with 1968-1969 JLJ President Dean Morris Alexander.

was unveiled at a press conference on May 10. The 75th Anniversary Committee also presented "legacy gifts" in the form of community grants and requested donations to League community projects and partners to include: Book Buddies, JPS Mini Grants, Old Capitol Museum, Operation Shoestring and more.



# JUNIOR LEAGUE JUMBLE

THE ULTIMATE RUMMAGE SALE

## 2015 JUNIOR LEAGUE JUMBLE

On February 18-20, the former Kroger on County Line Road opened its doors for the second annual Junior League Jumble. The event-packed weekend began with a Reveal party on the evening of Thursday, February 18, followed by a Friday morning Peek and Purchase, and culminated with General Shopping on Friday and Saturday. Truly the ULTIMATE Rummage Sale, the Jumble included furniture, appliances, home decor, adult and children's clothing and so much more! This fund development and community project currently has 50 volunteers who work year-round to collect, sort,

and stage all member donations to the Jumble. These donations help raise money to support the mission of the Junior League of Jackson, as well as make items available at an affordable price to our community. A HUGE thank you to the 2016 Jumble corporate sponsors who provided event space, storage, and moving expenses. Without you this event would not have been such a success! Thank you for your generous support of Jumble...the ULTIMATE rummage sale!





## SCHOOLS ARE A PRIORITY

Each year, the Junior League of Jackson participates in a number of year-round projects, such as the JPS Mini-Grants Program, Book Buddies, and the Midtown Backpack Program, which benefit the children and youth of Jackson Public Schools.



**Kimberly Hardy,**

2015-2016 Book Buddies Chair, said of the project:

*“This year we worked with 2nd & 3rd grade students at Oak Forest Elementary. We targeted students that were reading below grade level. Each week throughout the school year, a JLJ volunteer spent about 30 mins with groups of 2 students. The volunteers read to the students and gave the students time to read out loud. We tried to find books that sparked the students ‘interest, such as Junie B Jones, sports, and summer vacation. The students really looked forward to seeing the volunteers each week.”*



## MEETING THE NEEDS IN OUR COMMUNITIES

The Junior League of Jackson identified five key community needs for its 2015-2016 projects: early literacy, teenage pregnancy prevention and support, nutrition, physical activity, and social and emotional wellness. League members volunteered in thirteen year-round projects, including the Wholesome and Healthy initiative, the McClean Fletcher Center for grieving children, and REACH Day and Night events at Blair E. Batson Children's Hospital.



*(Left) JLJ "Wholesome and Healthy" project volunteers worked weekly to mentor children in Operation Shoe-string's After School Program on physical fitness, healthy diets, and dental health. One special activity was when volunteers taught the participants the importance of nutrition and water by helping them plant and care for flowers that the children would take home.*

*(Above) JLJ member Allison Rhodes plays with a young patient at Blair E. Batson Children's Hospital as a part of the League's REACH Night program. REACH Night volunteers played games, danced, and painted with young children and youth throughout the year at the hospital. Allison said that JLJ volunteers were often able to provide listening and supportive ears to the parents of these young patients as well.*

*"The McClean Center is a place for grieving, yes, but it is a happy place for children to go and be with others going through what they are going through. You feel loved and cared for when you walk through the door."*

*JLJ member Beth Murray  
On the McClean Fletcher Center*





## 2016 TOUCH A TRUCK®

2016 Touch A Truck® Jackson rolled in to Trustmark Park in Pearl on Friday & Saturday, April 15 - 16, 2016, with over 45 vehicles, construction equipment, and exhibits for children to CLIMB, EXPLORE and TOUCH. The event kicked off with a wet but fun Field Trip Friday on April 15. Twenty-five schools with almost 2000 students registered to attend. The "wheelie" good time continued on Saturday, April 16 with our Big Wheel VIP event beginning at 8:30 am and continuing through general admission. Because of the generous support of our Handy Helpers, 2016 Touch A Truck® Jackson sponsored over 700 students for Field Trip Friday. With the help of First Lady Deborah Bryant and our corporate sponsors, we rolled in to Spann Elementary School in Jackson, McNeal Elementary School in Canton and Walton Elementary School in Jackson with "mini" Touch A Truck® Jackson events. We honk our horns and give a big THANK YOU to all of our 2016 Touch A Truck® Jackson corporate sponsors! Your support and participation helped make our third year a success.

