



SINCE 1941

JUNIOR LEAGUE *of* JACKSON
MATTERS

ANNUAL REPORT
2021-2022

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF JACKSON IS THE
6th largest Junior League
OUT OF **297** JUNIOR LEAGUES IN **5** COUNTRIES

OVER
2,300
MEMBERS
TOTAL

55,000+

VOLUNTEER HOURS
CONTRIBUTED TO SUPPORT
OUR COMMUNITY



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

AREAS OF
*Community
Impact*

- EARLY LITERACY
- CHILDREN'S HEALTH
- SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

A FEW OF OUR RECENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

920

PAIRS OF NEW UNIFORM BOTTOMS DONATED
TO JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS

\$1 m

DONATED TO HELP THE CITY OF JACKSON GROW
\$500,000 EACH TO CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AND
TO JACKSON PLANETARIUM

7,200

BACKPACKS FILLED WITH NUTRITIOUS FOOD GIVEN
TO STUDENTS TO TAKE HOME OVER WEEKENDS

10,000

HOURS OF LEADERSHIP
TRAINING FOR JLJ
MEMBERS EACH YEAR

2018 RECIPIENT OF

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION AWARD

FROM THE ASSOCIATION OF JUNIOR LEAGUES INTERNATIONAL

100%

OF OUR
FUNDRAISING
SUPPORTS THE
MISSION OF JLJ

IN 2021, OUR FUNDRAISERS RAISED
OVER **\$1.4 million**

\$4.5 million
IN GRANTS AWARDED TO OTHER
NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS SINCE 2013

MISTLETOE
MARKETPLACE



JUNIOR LEAGUE of JACKSON

JUMBLE

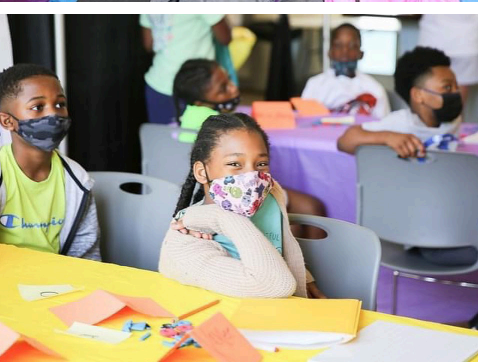


JUNIOR LEAGUE of JACKSON

TOUCH
A TRUCK



JUNIOR LEAGUE of JACKSON



News that Matters **MATTERS**

ANNUAL REPORT
2021-2022

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letter from the *President*



The beginning of the 2021-2022 League year was fraught with unknowns. In fact, the start of the year took a turn with new variants of Covid, the highest case numbers to date, parking garages turned into hospitals, and constantly changing safety protocols. It was chaotic for our members, community partners, families, and friends. This changing landscape meant constantly shifting plans. But what we saw as an organization was an abundance of **resilience**. Our members rolled up their sleeves, used their creativity, and continued to serve. This year didn't look the same, but thanks to the dedication of our members and supporters, I must say that it looked incredible.

During the 2021-2022 League year, we worked to build upon the collective legacy of this great organization. We offered a **hybrid year** that connected our members

so that everyone could participate. This meant that we had virtual and in-person opportunities, and the Board of Directors and leadership teams worked hard to create safe environments while still serving the community. It wasn't easy, but the impact was huge!

We were able to execute and support over thirty community projects and initiatives this year. We packed backpacks full of food for children to take home for the weekend, served meals, stocked pantries, hosted trainings for families, read to students, comforted those in grief, played with those who are sick, and cheered on our front-line workers! We donated books, uniforms, crafts, and supplies. In fact, we donated over **\$30,000 in additional community assistance funds** on top of our project funds.

We also made **two \$500,000 donations** to community partners to help our city grow and support the impact areas of early literature, children's health, and social development. We hosted summer camps both in-person and virtually, held a completely free Community Farmer's Market with 350 attendees, and contributed over **55,000 volunteer hours** to our community partners.

Membership needs were of great importance this year, so we concentrated on training and development opportunities as well as long-range planning. We conducted surveys and received feedback on what our members are looking to achieve with their JLJ experience. We then engaged in a long-term planning effort for the League and developed a new three-to-five-year **strategic plan**.

And if that wasn't enough, we also held three fantastic fund development events: Mistletoe Marketplace, Junior League Jumble, and Touch A Truck® Jackson! This year, we broke the League record for funds raised!

We are grateful for all that we accomplished and for our impact in Jackson this year. We are appreciative of the hard work of our members, the support of our sponsors, and commitment from our partners. As this year comes to an end, I want to say what an honor it has been to serve the Junior League of Jackson. I am so proud of what we achieved and am forever thankful for the continued service to our organization and community.

Sincerely,

Katie Lightsey Browning
2021-2022 President

2021-2022

Community Advisory Council

Ms. Katie Blount

*Mississippi Department of
Archives and History*

Dr. John Damon, Ph.D.

Canopy Children's Solutions

Sister Karina Dickey, OP, Ph.D.

St. Dominic's Health System

Rabbi Matt Dreffin

*Goldring/Woldenberg Institute
of Southern Jewish Life*

Ms. Thea Faulkner

*Jackson Public Schools
Partners in Education*

Mr. Guy Giesecke, FACHE

Children's of Mississippi

Mr. Wesley Goings

Telapex, Inc

Mr. Von Gordon

The Alluvial Collective

Ms. Emily Hoff

Mississippi Children's Museum

Ms. Edith Kennedy

BankPlus

Mr. Kurt Metzner, FACHE

Baptist Health Systems

Ms. Candie L. Simmons

CL Simmons Consulting

Ms. Bobbie Ware

*Mississippi Baptist
Medical Center*

Hon. Latrice Westbrooks

Mississippi Court of Appeals

Mr. Neddie Winters

Mission Mississippi



2021-2022

Board of Directors

Katie Lightsey Browning *President*

Bethany Smith *President-Elect*

Mary Margaret Gay *Membership Vice President*

Amanda Green *Member-at-Large*

Molly Griffin *Placement Chair*

Jane Harkins *Treasurer*

Virginia Hollingsworth *Community Vice President*

Amber May *Secretary*

Emily Pote *Treasurer-Elect*

Allilia Price *Operations Vice President*

Kaitlyn Vassar *Communications Vice President*

Shalon Wansley *Training and Organizational
Development Vice President*

Dana Wilson *Fund Development Vice President*

Julia Wise *Nominating Chair*

Margaret Cupples

Annie Elliott

Ashley Wicks

Sustaining Advisors

Special thanks to the 2021-2022 Matters team:

Cheronda Minor, Matters Chair

Heather Ward, Matters Co-Chair

JL Staff

Beth Allgood

Executive Assistant

Lisa Lester

Controller

Madeline Leung

Graphic Design &

Communications Coordinator

Michelle Lewis

Director of Administration



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.

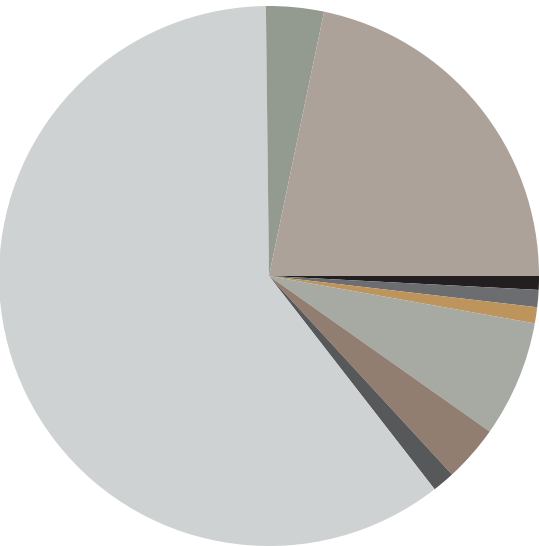
VISION

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.

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES



REVENUE AND OTHER SUPPORT

CONTRIBUTIONS	\$ 15,808
FEES	\$ 19,765
INTEREST AND DIVIDENDS	\$ 18,563
MEMBERSHIP DUES AND ASSESSMENTS	\$ 134,065
MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 65,059
JUMBLE, NET OF DIRECT COST	\$ 25,865
MISTLETOE MARKETPLACE, NET OF DIRECT COST	\$1,161,919
TOUCH A TRUCK® JACKSON, NET OF DIRECT COST	\$ 66,465
NET REALIZED AND UNREALIZED GAIN ON INVESTMENT	\$ 418,576
	<hr/>
	\$1,926,085



EXPENSES

PROGRAM SERVICES	\$ 416,986
MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT	\$ 195,865
GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE	\$ 290,012
FUNDRAISING AND DEVELOPMENT	\$ 108,611
	<hr/>
	\$1,011,474
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	\$ 914,611
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$4,309,498
	<hr/>
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	<hr/> \$5,224,109 <hr/>

JLJ *Commits*



CHILDREN'S CENTER FOR CANCER AND BLOOD DISORDERS

The Children's of Mississippi team is planning an extensive expansion and renovation of the Center for Cancer and Blood Disorders. The goal is to provide Mississippi families with the very best care in a state-of-the-art space dedicated to pediatric cancer and blood disorders, while also providing the technology, equipment, and space for provider training and research.

The original cancer center opened in 1991 as the Children's Cancer Clinic and was the very first signature project of the Junior League of Jackson. The League began a \$2 million dollar campaign in the late 1980's to raise the construction funds ensuring Mississippi would have a state-of-the-art pediatric cancer facility. Now, over 30 years later, we are so pleased to contribute to the renovation of that original facility with a \$500,000 donation. The League is honored to be a part of advancing the family-centric care provided at the clinic. This renovation will provide hope and healing to so many Mississippi children and their families, and this directly aligns with the Junior League of Jackson's mission.

JACKSON PLANETARIUM RENOVATION

The Russell C. Davis Planetarium has been closed since April 2018 due to a roof leak and interior damage but is now scheduled to have its first full renovation in the last 40 years. The Planetarium renovation will ensure that Mississippi has a state-of-the-art facility for our youth and families. It will be a place that fosters learning, and development—a place for growth.



The Planetarium will tell Mississippi's story about space, science, and technology and educate Mississippi children in a manner that inspires them to become leaders in the industry and field of science. It promotes STEM learning and gives opportunity to our community. This aligns perfectly with the League's issue-based community impact areas of children's health, children's social development, and early literacy. The League is honored to contribute to the funding of this renovation with a \$500,000 donation.

JLJ Trains

MEMBERSHIP TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT



With six sessions running from September 2021 to April 2022, our hour-long Membership Training and Development (MTD) workshops focused on an array of personal and professional development topics, plus League-specific learning opportunities. Subject matter this year emphasized belonging and inclusion, leadership skills, social and emotional intelligence, financial literacy, resume building, and interviewing skills. These trainings were held virtually this year, which proved to be a hit with attendance and allowed the MTD team to bring in national speakers.

One of our members' favorite speakers was Dr. Carmen April-Washington, who spoke about belonging and finding their place in JLJ. Dr. April-Washington lives in Nashville and is a native of Jackson. Her mother, Lonnie Hamlin-April, is a Sustaining member of JLJ and serves on the Diversity Equity and Inclusion Advisory Committee. The Junior League of Jackson is dedicated to comprehensive diversity and inclusion, and this interactive Zoom session was a great way for members to learn and grow together.

JLJ Leads

SHE'S ON BOARD

The Junior League of Jackson partnered with The Women's Foundation of Mississippi to host their *She's On Board* training program as a hybrid event this year. On April 1, 2022, around 100 women from the community joined both in-person at League Headquarters and online to learn about nonprofit board leadership. Women were able to hear from a variety of speakers from across the state and learned about nonprofit governance, finance, and the roles and expectations of board service. When women in the community thrive in leadership and service, our community feels the impact!



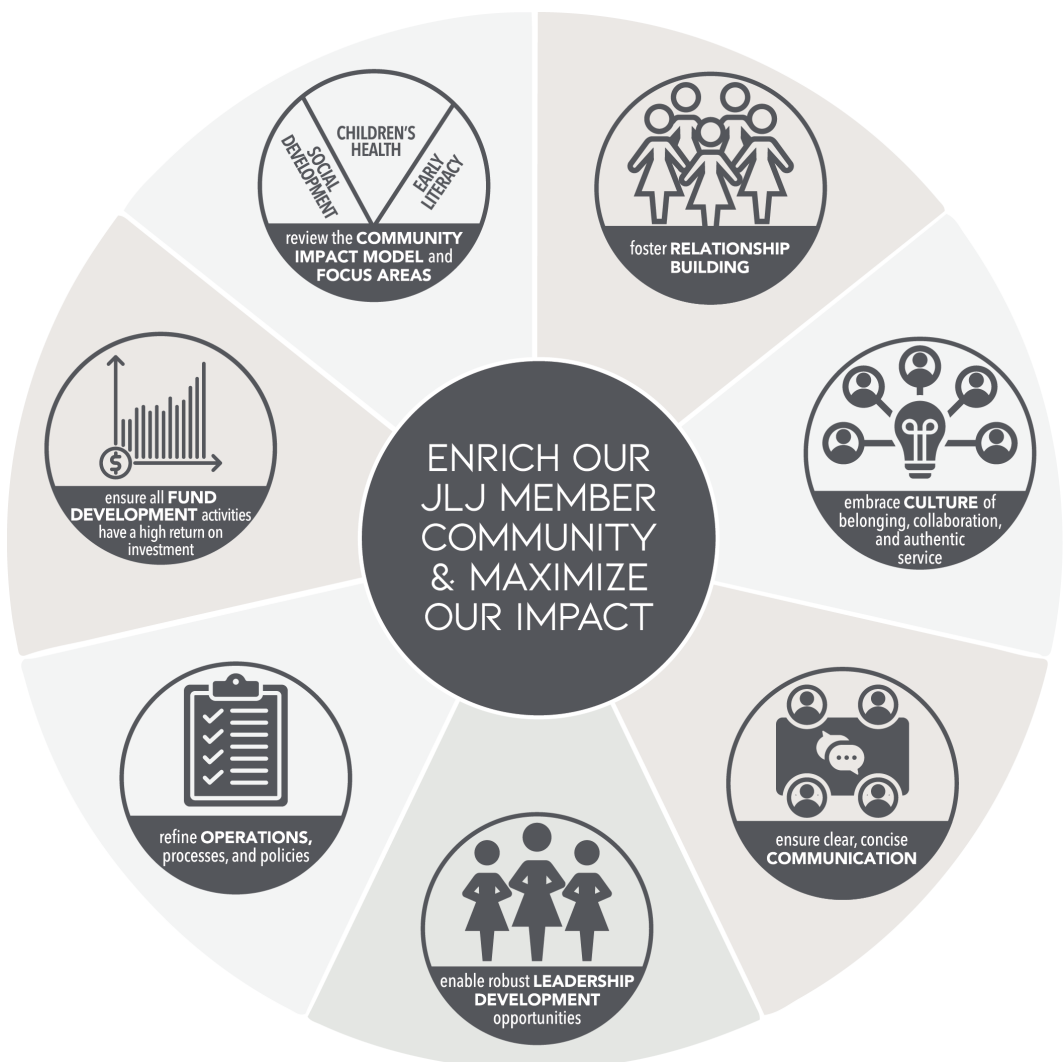
JLJ Thrives

STRATEGIC PLAN

The process to develop a new JLJ Strategic Plan started in February 2021, and we are excited to share the final product, which membership voted to adopt at the May General Meeting.

This effort, led by Training & Organizational Development Vice President, Shalon Wansley, Strategic Planning Chair, Carmen Gross, and facilitated by strategic planning consultant, Dr. Rebecca Burdette, was multi-faceted and included participation from Active, Provisional, and Sustaining members, as well as community partners and corporate sponsors.

We offered surveys, held Zoom meetings, and hosted activities like a Strategic Planning Workshop at our October General Meeting. All these activities were designed to create a space to reflect on our perspectives related to JLJ, and to share honest thoughts on the challenges and opportunities members see facing JLJ in the next 3-5 years. We shared the first iteration of the plan as a draft at both our December Home Meetings and online and gave time for members to offer feedback. That feedback helped us hone the draft and create a clear, concise roadmap to guide our League and help us focus on key aspects that will elevate JLJ so that we may best serve our members and our community in future years.





The overarching goal of the 2022-2025 Strategic Plan is to strengthen our community within and beyond the Junior League of Jackson. We will do so by directing our time, energy, and resources on two priorities throughout the next 3-5 years: enrich our JLI member community and maximize our impact.

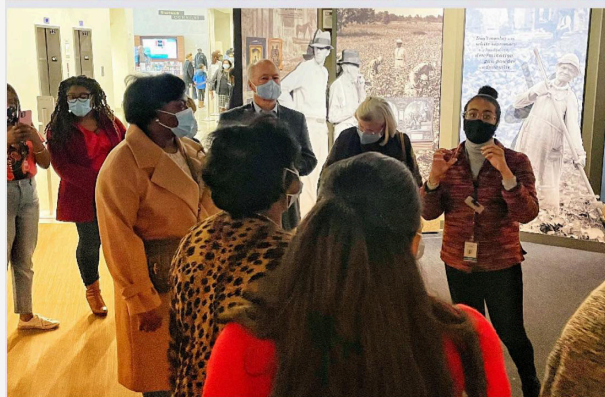
The graphic on page 8 shows the seven areas of emphasis on which we will focus to

accomplish these goals. The incoming Board of Directors is currently creating an annual work plan with action items to see these goals come to life. Thank you to everyone who participated in our strategic planning journey; your input has been invaluable in developing a plan for a successful and sustainable League for our members and the Jackson community.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND BELONGING

New this year is the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Advisory Committee and DEI Chair and Co-Chair leadership positions. The Committee is comprised of League members with unique backgrounds and perspectives and a mutual commitment to expanding diversity, equity, and inclusion in JLI and beyond. The Committee advises JLI on best practices, concerns, long-term plans, development, and advancement of diversity, equity, and inclusion principles in the League.

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Chair, Torri Martin, and Co-Chair, Michelle Simon, spent the year researching curriculum and training opportunities for League members and working with leadership to ensure DEI principles are considered in membership and community matters. They also hosted the first DEI Advisory Committee meeting and organized a League-wide visit to the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum. Members in attendance were able to hear from museum staff before touring the museum together.



JLJ Grows

2021-2022 PROVISIONAL CLASS

Provisional members began their training course virtually during their Super Saturday Retreat on April 24, 2021. The curriculum allowed those new to the League the opportunity to understand the impact areas of JLJ community projects, introduced the governing organization of our League, and developed relationship with fellow members. Training sessions featured speakers from the Jackson Public School System, MS Department of Health, Children's of Mississippi, Millsaps College, and current and past JLJ Board members. The Provisionals also hosted the Where Hope Grows Community Farmer's Market as their community project. This wonderful event focused on all three of the League's impact areas: children's health, social development, and early literacy and served over 350 guests.

Congratulations to all of the women who completed the 2021-2022 Provisional Year!



Provisional Steering Committee

Chair: LaToya Porter
Co-Chair: Leanne Stamper
Chair-Elect: Kacey Matthews
Arrangements Chair: Carole Richardson
Arrangements Co-Chair: Jessica Stetson
Finance Chair: Lauren McMurtray
Programs Chair: Meagan Brown
Programs Co-Chair: Abbie Koonce
Project Chair: Mary Kendall Gibson
Project Co-Chairs: Casey Creasey, Laurie Cutrer
Records Chair: Rubina Sethi Records Co-Chair: Kayla Bryant
Sustaining Advisors: Meredith Aldridge, Cathy Joyner



PROVISIONAL PROJECT

The Where Hope Grows Farmer's Market was led by the Provisional Class in partnership with the Boys & Girls Club of Central Mississippi and Up In Farms.

Held at the Boys & Girls Club Capitol Unit complex, this free event provided fresh fruits and vegetables to the community of West Jackson as well as information on the benefits of healthy eating and exercise. Activities for both children and adults included a reading room with book give aways, a smoothie station, jump rope contest, seed planting lessons, cooking demonstrations, and a fun financial literacy project. Lunch was provided from local food trucks and over 350 guests attended! It was a special day that supported local businesses and growers, focused on food insecurity and education around healthy eating and exercise.

"I love the intentional focus of the Junior League of Jackson; it matches the intentionality of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Mississippi. Lifting the idea of a farmer's market from paper to reality was a blessing beyond my wildest imagination. Every family served, every child touched, was a dream fulfilled. We are honored to be connected with the JLI."

- Penney Ainsworth
President/CEO, Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Mississippi



JLJ Sustains

Sustaining members of the League showed endurance and understanding as they planned and adjusted events around spikes in Covid case numbers, safety protocols, and event postponements. In the end, they ended up with a year FULL of social events, luncheons, and continued service to our community projects.

Sustainer events included socials with Mississippi Premier Plastic Surgery, Living with Less, Belle Skincare + Cosmetics, and Plush Plants and Pots. Sustainers also held a day trip to Starkville to visit the U. S. Grant Presidential Library, followed by a curated local shopping tour. Also, in the first combined Member Social, Sustainer Sara Williams opened her home to both Sustainers and Actives for a wine tasting and pairing with the guidance of a local sommelier.



Sustainer Steering Committee

Chair: Amanda Fontaine
 Chair-Elect: Rebecca Haas
 Past Chair/Nominating Chair: Heather Montgomery
 Arrangements Chair: Brenda Hayes-Williams
 Communications Chair: Katherine Bryant
 Communications Chair-Elect: Susan Deaver
 Finance Chair: Beth Hansen
 Finance Chair-Elect: Lori Sanders
 Recording Secretary: Katy Pacelli
 Book Clubs Chair: Malinda Warren
 Community Service Chair: Shirley Tucker
 Cooking Clubs Chair: Jennifer Hopping
 Gardening Club Chair: Jamie Woods-Dull
 Social Sustainers/Transfers Chair: Amber Sukhbaatar
 Travel Chair: Beth Ferguson



The Sustainer Fall Brunch featured chef speaker Elizabeth Haskell. Members enjoyed her recipes from her latest cookbook and listened to her stories from growing up in the Delta.



Our Golden Girls held a special gathering this year at the home of Sally North. Golden Girls are members who have been a JLJ Sustainer for 25 years or longer.



Sustainers finished the year with a Spring Social at the home of Mary Clift Abdalla featuring guest speaker, jeweler Freida Rothman.



KEYSTONE
 A FUND FOR THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF JACKSON



SCAN THE
 QR CODE
 TO DONATE!

The Keystone Fund is the endowment fund for the Junior League of Jackson. 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.

QUEEN OF THE PEARL

Have you noticed that a brightly painted larger-than-life sculpture is now displayed in the courtyard at Junior League Headquarters? This piece of Jackson history, given to the League by local businessman and friend of the League, Billy Boykin, was once part of the "Mississippi Catfish on Parade" art movement created by the Mississippi Commission for International Cultural Exchange in 2003. Local businesses and nonprofits were asked to sponsor one of 68 imported, fiberglass fish and decorate it with their own flare to be displayed throughout the downtown area to attract visitors and locals. After the exhibit was complete, the statues were auctioned and distributed to places all around Mississippi.



The JLI courtyard catfish, rumored to have been named *Queen of the Pearl*, ended up at the farm of Billy Boykin. Once Billy saw that his colorful seven-foot long sculpture was painted and signed by renowned artist, Miriam Weems, he decided that the perfect home for his purchase would be at League Headquarters where he had seen several pieces of her artwork hanging there.

Miriam was a beloved member of the League. She was the 1963 Junior League of Jackson Carnival Ball Queen and a valuable volunteer in the Jackson community prior to her death in August of 2011. Miriam had been

so involved in community service that in 2004, she was chosen as the Junior League of Jackson Sustainer of the Year. She had been involved in the redevelopment of downtown Jackson and of her neighborhood, Belhaven, working particularly with updating Laurel Park. She served on the Board of the Mississippi Children's Museum, the Board of the Ballet Guild and helped start the Mississippi Arts Festival.

CAPITOL DAY

On January 25, 2022, volunteers attended Capitol Day at the Mississippi State Capitol to share information about the Junior League of Jackson and our positive impact in the community.

JLI regularly attends this annual event as a tool to promote the importance of our organization. In fact, the Junior League of Jackson was granted sales tax exemption status in June of 2019 and Capitol Day was an important way to help us communicate that need with State Legislators. Today, League members continue to communicate the importance of that exemption to the financial health of our organization.



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 or 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.

Keystone Board of Trustees

**REPRESENTING THE
JUNIOR LEAGUE OF JACKSON**
Chair and Sustaining Trustee: Margaret Cupples
Fund Development Vice President: Dana Wilson
Immediate Past President: Staci McNinch
President: Katie Lightsey Browning
President-Elect: Bethany Smith
Sustaining Trustees:
Tish Hughes, Melanie Morgan
Treasurer: Jane Harkins
Treasurer-Elect: Emily Pote
COMMUNITY TRUSTEES
Walter Neely, Jeff Wilson

JLJ Serves

Whether in person, virtual, or hybrid, our Community Projects worked with our partners to identify needs and made a significant and measurable impact this year! We had to be incredibly flexible to navigate the safety requirements of our community partners, while still meeting their needs. In June, our volunteers hosted several long-standing summer camps, and as we started the school year we also started year-round projects, many of which focused in the area of children's health. Our early literacy and social development projects began in the fall and continued throughout 2022.

EARLY LITERACY

Early Literacy volunteers work primarily with elementary school students, exposing them to language and print resources to help students read at grade level. We also provide support to teachers, which ranges from tutoring students to awarding grants for classroom needs.

Management Team Chair: Kim Putnam

Sustaining Advisor: Tamika Wray

Member-at-Large: Jeanette DeVeer

HELPING HANDS

Various locations

Volunteers filled a variety of needs for current and new community partners throughout the year, including staffing events, helping with day-to-day operational needs, and providing extra support to our partners' regular volunteers and staff.

Chair: Ginny Bowden **Co-Chair:** Erin Adkins **Volunteers:** 35

I READ MORE WITH MY BUDDY

Jackson Public Schools

Although League volunteers were excited and eager to serve the students at McWillie Elementary School, the COVID-19 pandemic did not allow this project to take place. We are thankful for our volunteers who intended to conduct one-on-one reading sessions with 2nd and 3rd students. The project also offers tutoring sessions to help students build fluency and comprehension skills throughout the year. The year typically ends with a book drive to give back to the school.

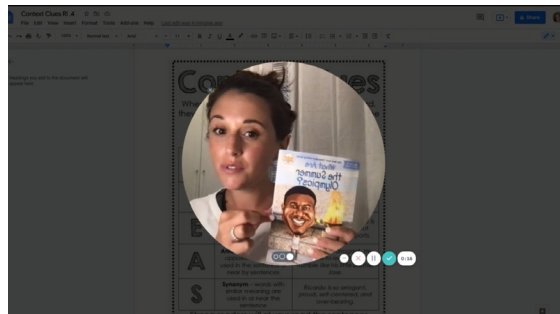
Chair: La'Toyia Cooley **Co-Chair:** Katy Patrick **Volunteers:** 22

PUBLIC SCHOOL MINI-GRANTS

Our Emerging Leaders Program spearheaded the Public School Mini-Grants project, partnering with the Community Foundation for Mississippi. Volunteers met in a hybrid capacity to organize, review, and evaluate classroom grant proposals from JPS teachers and awarded grants to enhance, enrich, and support the JPS educational curriculum. Due to COVID, the recipients were unable to meet for a large celebratory reception, so instead, JLJ volunteers made and delivered baskets filled with school supplies and personal goodies for the teachers at each school.

Chair: Lacey Bergin **Co-Chair:** Rachel Lott

Sustaining Advisor: Deborah Coleman **Volunteers:** 15



CHILDREN'S HEALTH

The Children's Health impact area uses strategies that provide access to nutritional foods and increase knowledge on the benefits of healthy eating and being physically active.

Management Team Chair: Anna Rogers
Sustaining Advisor: Michelle Owens
Member-at-Large: Christy Malatesta

JACKSON BACKPACK AND SCHOOL PANTRY PROGRAMS

Mississippi Food Network/Jackson Public Schools
This project is divided into two components. Backpack volunteers provided approximately 200 students at Smith and Johnson Elementary Schools with a backpack meal kit filled with nutritious food to take home each weekend during the school year. Volunteers packed backpacks on Friday mornings and were responsible for delivering backpacks to the schools. Pantry volunteers stocked the school pantry at Pecan Park Elementary School with fresh produce, staple food, and personal care items. Volunteers also hosted a distribution event at the school pantry throughout the school year.
Chairs: Brittany Flaggs, Christin Williams **Co-Chair:** Kelsey Tartt
Volunteers: 30

PLAY. EAT. LEARN.

Center for the Advancement of Youth (CAY) at UMMC/Mississippi Children's Museum
Volunteers assisted with monthly programs for families of children, hosted at the Mississippi Children's Museum. Volunteers greeted families, facilitated registration, and provided and served dinner to the families. Once dinner was completed, JLIJ volunteers engaged the children in structured play throughout the museum while parents/guardians attended educational sessions.
Chair: Amanda Woodruff **Co-Chair:** Keri Vandevender **Volunteers:** 22

PLAYROOM RENOVATION PROJECT

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Mississippi
Volunteers renovated the existing playroom at the Ronald McDonald House, which is used primarily by children who have siblings in the hospital. Volunteers designed the space, purchased supplies, painted the space, and assisted with light construction.
Chair: Nell Knox **Co-Chair:** Margaret Smith **Volunteers:** 10

RECREATION, ENRICHMENT AND ACTIVITY FOR CHILDREN'S HEATH (REACH)

Children's of Mississippi at UMMC
Due to COVID-19 restrictions, JLIJ volunteers got creative to continue the League's positive impact on children hospitalized at Children's of Mississippi. They created fun and educational crafts like painted holiday houses and paper straw photo frames. Instructional videos were included with the craft and sent to each child. They also helped patients celebrate holidays in special ways!
Chair: Lauren McClintock **Co-Chair:** Anna Beth Enger **Volunteers:** 29

WHOLE SOME AND HEALTHY

Operation Shoestring
Volunteers assisted with monthly programs for families of children affiliated with Operation Shoestring. Volunteers greeted families, provided and served dinner, and engaged the children of these families while parents/guardians attended educational sessions. Volunteers assisted with activities for children that address identifying and changing unhealthy eating habits and increasing knowledge to help families lead healthy lives.
Chair: Ashley Jolly **Co-Chair:** Rivers Luter **Volunteers:** 17



SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The Social Development impact area employs strategies designed to improve problem solving skills and coping skills and to build self-esteem in children and youth. Projects provide access to information that will support positive life choices and help promote team building and socialization.

Management Team Chair: Keishunna Webster
Sustaining Advisor: Rebecca Haas **Member-at-Large:** Dwanda Moore

G.R.A.C.E. (GIRLS RULE! ACCEPTING, CARING, EMPOWERING)

Methodist Children’s Homes of Mississippi
Volunteers provide education and enrichment activities for girls ages 12-18 to help build self-esteem, self-respect, and life skills so they can have the tools to make healthy lifestyle choices. Volunteers covered a variety of topics including budgeting, balancing a checkbook, responsible credit card usage, meal planning, interview skills, and completing a job application.
Chair: Jessica McGehee **Co-Chair:** Katherine Dehmer **Volunteers:** 17

MAKING CONNECTIONS, REWARDING SUCCESS

Canopy Children’s Solutions
Due to Covid-19 restrictions, volunteers got creative to continue the League’s impact by donating items to a merit-based store. They stocked the store based on “wishlists” generated by the students and prepared welcome bags that were given to children during the admissions process. They also delivered birthday cakes to celebrate the students while they couldn’t be there in person.
Chair: Andrea Janoush **Co-Chair:** Lyndsey Henley **Volunteers:** 20

MCCLEAN FLETCHER CENTER FACILITATOR AND OUTREACH/FOOD PROJECTS

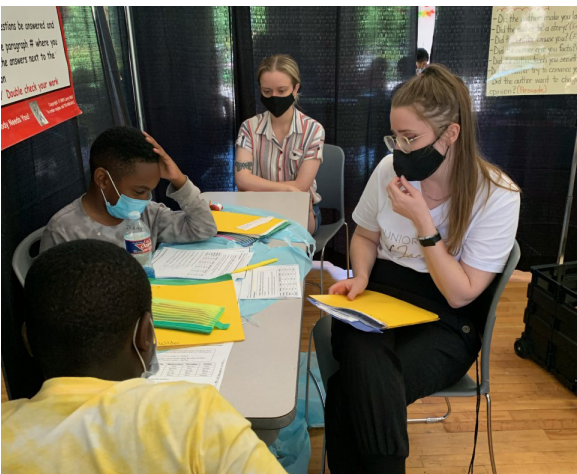
The McClean Fletcher Center
This project was divided into two components. Facilitator volunteers worked with McClean Fletcher Center professionals to provide grief support to children ages 4-18 who have experienced the death of a significant person in their lives. Outreach/food volunteers provided meals for the children and families, greeted and served families before group sessions, and cleaned up afterwards.
Chair: Sarah Denley Herrington **Co-Chairs:** Stacey Buchanan
Volunteers: 39

SENSORY FUN AND LEARNING

The Little Light House
Volunteers provided sensory activities for children with special needs, ages 6 weeks to 6 years. Volunteers planned and organized activities that incorporated various learning experiences through sensory-based play.
Chair: Mary Gunn Prewitt **Co-Chair:** Victoria Eldridge **Volunteers:** 19

BGCCM L.I.F.E. (LEARNING INGENUITY FOR EVERYDAY) PROGRAM

Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Mississippi
Volunteers provide education and enrichment activities for girls ages 12-18 to increase self-esteem and help develop valuable skills they can use in their everyday life. Volunteers covered a variety of topics, including communication skills, finances, managing difficult situations, healthy decision-making, and career opportunities. Volunteers facilitated topics through a “book club” with the students.
Chair: Blythe Lollar **Co-Chair:** Courtney Jones **Volunteers:** 14



SUMMER PROJECTS

The Summer Projects Team focuses on initiatives representing all three of the community focus areas. The Junior League of Jackson conducts five different camps throughout the summer months to provide interactive, educational experiences to youth while on school break.

Management Team Chair: Jennie Eichelberger
Sustaining Advisor: Sidney Ferris **Member-at-Large:** Tiffany Paige

ARTS EXPLOSION CAMP

HIS Heart Ministries

Volunteers provided a summer camp for children ages 5-10 in the community surrounding Calvary Baptist Church. Activities centered around art, music, movement, dance, drama, and beginning architecture and engineering. Volunteers also taught positive eating habits and served nutritious foods for breakfast and lunch.
Chair: Mackenzie Arnold **Co-Chairs:** Farryl Franklin, Emelia Nordan
Volunteers: 11

ARTS IN MOTION (A.I.M.)

Mission First, Inc.

Volunteers provided a weeklong summer camp on the campus of Mission First, exposing campers to all types of arts experiences, including crafts, drama, and music. Volunteers also engaged in outdoor play activities and provided breakfast and lunch during the week of camp.
Chair: Carlyn Hicks **Co-Chairs:** Mariclaire Nix, Michelle Wynter
Volunteers: 13

JPS SUMMER CAMP

Jackson Public Schools

Volunteers provided a virtual experience for rising 3rd and 4th-grade students at Pecan Park Elementary School. Campers were provided with interactive lessons in reading, language arts, math, STEM, and PE. Volunteers also stuffed backpacks for each student to start the school prepared with required back-to-school materials and a bag of healthy food.
Chair: April May **Co-Chair:** CC Bradberry, Macie Stonebrook
Volunteers: 25

READ TO SUCCEED

Mississippi Children's Museum

Volunteers assisted with a weeklong summer camp hosted by the Mississippi Children's Museum of JPS students who previously failed their 3rd grade reading test. Volunteers provided breakfast and lunch during the week of camp and assisted with one-on-one tutoring of campers.
Chair: Kayla Mosal **Co-Chair:** Sperri Strickland **Volunteers:** 11

SUMMER HELPING HANDS

Volunteers worked with various long-standing community partners on different summer initiatives, including:
Stewpot, Lunch-n-Learn: Volunteers delivered 300 meals to provide lunch for Stewpot campers. **Operation Shoestring, Project Rise Summer Reading Camp:** Volunteers worked with students to maintain reading skills and support reading comprehension. **Jackson Public Schools, Backpack Buddies:** Volunteers filled 325 backpacks with school supplies for Marshall Elementary. **Magnolia Speech School, Language of Art:** In place of an in-person camp due to COVID-19 restrictions, volunteers created and delivered activity boxes for students. Activities assisted students with the development of literacy and expressive language skills through the use of art, shared book experiences, drama, exercises, and games related to the yearly camp theme.
Chair: Jade Rawls **Co-Chair:** Marjorie Ann Sauer **Volunteers:** 21



SUSTAINER COMMUNITY PROJECTS

With more than 1,400 Sustainers in our membership, support from our Sustainers greatly strengthens the League’s mission and allows us to extend our community project participation. The following projects are hosted and run specifically by our Sustaining members.

FEED-A-FAMILY

Ronald McDonald House Charities of Mississippi

Sustaining members typically provide home-cooked meals to families living at the Ronald McDonald House in Jackson. They also spend time with the families and guests, building friendships within the community. This year, due to RMH safety requirements, our volunteers were not allowed to enter the facility for a good portion of the year, but that didn’t stop them from helping! They purchased box meals and followed protocols to ensure that they could still safely make an impact. Restrictions have now been lifted, and the team is excited to be back on site.

Chair: Robyn Farber

ROCKIN’ MAMAS

University of Mississippi Medical Center

Due to COVID, Sustaining members were not able to provide the usual loving, non-medical support to infants in the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) at UMMC’s Winfred L. Wiser Hospital for Women and Infants. Instead of rocking babies in the NICU, volunteers showed love and support for staff members of the hospital. This was met with overwhelming gratitude from staff who expressed just how much encouragement meant during such a difficult time.

Chair: Leigh Grady

JOYFUL NOISE

Various Locations

Sustaining members performed energetic musical medleys for tri-county area nursing homes, senior living residents, and memory care facilities. Instead of visiting residents in-person this year, volunteers recorded their outside rehearsals and shows, and were able to delight audiences virtually. With cheery costumes and tunes, volunteers shared the joy of music and helped light up the community of those they serve.

Chair: Victoria Clark



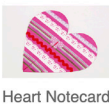
Service Opportunities



Flower Craft

Local Service Opportunity

Make a paper flower bouquet for the participants of our community partner, [McClean Fletcher Center](#). Please drop off bouquet(s) at League Headquarters by February 1. [Click here](#) for instructions!



Heart Notecard

Local Service Opportunity

Print out this heart-shaped card template to write an encouraging note to a healthcare/frontline worker! These notes will be passed out to our community partners. Please drop off card(s) at League Headquarters by February 1. [Click here](#) for the template.



Letter Writing

National Service Opportunity

Write a letter to thank Military & First Responder Heroes for their service to our country. [Click here](#) for more details!



Crochet a Hat

National Service Opportunity

Crochet for Cancer is a Christian volunteer based non-profit that donates handmade chemo caps to cancer centers for patients coping with hair loss. [Click here](#) for more details!

MLK DAY OF SERVICE

Although the pandemic kept members from serving in-person on MLK Day of Service, it did not stop volunteers from celebrating this monumental day. As the only federal holiday designated as a National Day of Service, MLK Day is meant to encourage Americans to volunteer to improve their communities. This year, League leadership created an “at home” edition! Fun and engaging activities were included in the packet along with learning opportunities for individuals and families to complete at home. There is so much that can be done to serve, even from home, and League members enjoyed the opportunity to celebrate.

JLJ Funds THE MISSION

In addition to our community projects, we also hosted three successful Fund Development projects: Mistletoe Marketplace, Junior League Jumble, and Touch A Truck® Jackson. The League worked with the Mississippi Department of Health and a Covid Safety Advisory team made up of representatives from local hospitals to develop safety protocols for the event and was able to host all three events in-person, each proving to be a major success! The funds raised from these events will ensure that the Junior League of Jackson is able to continue our good work.

MISTLETOE MARKETPLACE



This hallmark event kicked off the holiday season this year with premier shopping, amazing decor, and fabulous special events! Not only was the 41st annual Mistletoe Marketplace OH WHAT FUN, it also enabled the League to raise \$1.4 million! Those funds will continue to support the Junior League of Jackson in our mission to impact our community.

- Almost **17,000 tickets** were sold and over **25,000 people** attended
- Over **\$600k in Corporate Sponsor** donations
- Total **funds raised** broke all-time records!



Steering Committee

Chair: Bethany Johnson
Co-Chair: Kim Hardy
Chair-Elect: Kristen Blackard
Corporate Sponsor Chair: Kirke Chamblee
Decorations Chair: Bethany Cooley
Finance Chair: Kimberly Lawrence
Food & Beverage Chair: Jamie Kerr
Friends of Mistletoe Chair: Caitlin Hayden
Merchant Chair: Amy Burns
Placement Chair: Lea Browne
Promotions Chair: Bethany Farr
Special Events Chair: Jill Nichols
Staging Chair: Princess Thompson
Sustaining Advisors: Anne Daly, Emily Ferguson, Lindsay Hamm





JUNIOR LEAGUE JUMBLE

Junior League Jumble 2022 held the ultimate rummage sale January 27 and 29 at the former Academy Sports and Outdoors center on East County Line Road. Once the rummage sale ended, community partners were invited to collect all remaining items they might need for their organization. Participating organizations included Goodwill, Sunnybrook Children’s Home, Operation Shoestring, Habitat for Humanity ReStore, Embrace Grace Ministries, Soul City Church, and Canopy Children’s Solutions. Targeted collections also took place throughout the first part of the League year for specific items to be given directly to community partners at no cost.

- *Pile O’ Pants* collected and donated **920 uniform bottoms** to the Jackson Public School system
- *Coats for Kids* delivered over **100 coats** to Operation Shoestring
- *Gowns for Girls* collected **50 gowns** for the Jackson Public School System



Steering Committee

- Chair: Malinda Brown
- Co-Chair: Mallory Hemphill
- Chair-Elect: Melissa McCoy
- Acquisitions Chair: Kutenia Good
- Corporate Sponsor Chair: Stacia Dunson
- Finance Chair: Leigh Earnest
- Operations Chair: Rachel Sprinkle
- Placement Chair: Meg Cook
- Promotions Chair: Rachel Hughes
- Quota Chair: Anna Thames
- Special Events Chair: Jamie Himes
- Staging Chair: Claire Smith
- Sustaining Advisors: Bea Tolsdorf, Dorothy Young





TOUCH A TRUCK® JACKSON

Touch A Truck® Jackson 2022 returned this year to an in-person event at Trustmark Park with over 6,000 guests in attendance! This family-friendly event allowed children the opportunity to explore emergency vehicles, construction equipment, and so much more! TAT2022 also had a literacy tent with celebrity guest readers, a robotics lab, seed planting station, and other STEM learning activities. Thousands of hours of volunteer work were put in by League members, but we could not do it without the support of our community partners who participated as exhibitors!

- Over **650 students** from local Title 1 schools attended *Field Trip Friday*
- Hosted a sensory-friendly event, *Unplugged*
- *Big Wheel Breakfast* **sold out**



Steering Committee

Chair: Nashandra James
 Co-Chair: Stephanie Brown
 Chair-Elect: Meredith McCullough
 Corporate Sponsor Chair: Laura Elizabeth Tate
 Finance Chair: Allison Rooker
 Placement Chair: Amorya Orr
 Promotions Chair: Mary Wesson Sullivan
 Special Events Chair: Heather Avery
 Staging Chair: Laura Hearn
 Sustaining Advisors: Abby Brann, Kara Davis

Thank you

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WLBT 3 On Your Side



Spring Luncheon

League members gathered on May 17, 2022 at The Country Club of Jackson for the annual Junior League of Jackson Spring Luncheon. Guests enjoyed a delicious meal in a lovely setting while having the opportunity to socialize with new and old friends.

The program, presented by the League President, Katie Browning, was a review of the effective and prosperous year, a celebration of achievement and the presentation of the 2022 Amalie Fair Robinson Sustainer of the Year Award to recipient, Holly Powell Lange. Highlighting the festive occasion was the Passing of the Gavel tradition where the 20 Past Presidents in attendance handed the gavel, one to another, ending with incoming President, Bethany Smith accepting the symbolic token of League leadership from outgoing President, Katie Browning. Bethany closed the meeting with a peek into the future of the organization and the tap of her newly acquired gavel.

SUSTAINER OF THE YEAR

Holly Powell Lange

Named in honor of the first President of the Junior League of Jackson, the Amalie Fair Robinson Sustainer of the Year Award annually recognizes the service of a Sustaining member of the Junior League of Jackson who has visibly made a difference in the community through her leadership and voluntarism. This year's Sustainer of the Year, Holly Powell Lange, is an exceptional leader and the epitome of what this award represents.



A native of Austin, Texas, Holly graduated from Millsaps College. She and her husband, Alan, have two sons, Ford and Jake. Holly is an event planner, fundraiser, and community organizer.

As an active volunteer and community activist, Holly has served on the boards of the Eudora Welty Foundation, Mississippi Humanities Council, Mississippi Museum of Art, Craftsmen's Guild of Mississippi,

Mississippi Symphony Orchestra, and Millsaps College. Holly was also an Active JLJ member for 10 years. She was on the Board of Directors for four years and served as the 2012-2013 Junior League of Jackson President.

Upon completing her JLJ Presidency, in 2015, Holly co-founded the Mississippi Book Festival and became its first Executive Director. Earlier this year, the Mississippi Arts Commission recognized Holly's service when it presented her with the 2022 Governor's Arts Award.

Holly's training and service to the Junior League of Jackson served as a springboard for her continued commitment to our community. As a Sustainer, she continues to support the League and carry out our mission in everything she does.



"The Junior League of Jackson's G.R.A.C.E. Project is God's gift to the Methodist Children's Homes of MS. Through the G.R.A.C.E. Project, the young ladies of MCH have been embraced with *compassion* and *empowered* with confidence, voice and choice, possibility, and direction. When asked about the impact Junior League has made, one of our youths said, 'They created an environment that made me feel *safe* to socialize. They were friendly, welcoming, and allowed me to become comfortable at my own pace.'" —The Reverend Michael Williams, Campus Life Director, Methodist Children's Homes of Mississippi

Congratulations!



"The Junior League of Jackson has truly served as the hands and feet of the Jackson Backpack and School Pantry Programs this year. As a result of the efforts, volunteers have provided over **6,000** backpack meal kits and over **9,000** lbs of shelf stable goods and fresh produce to students and families at three JPS elementary schools. MFN is grateful to the League for their continued support." —Catherine Montgomery, Programs Manager, Mississippi Food Network



"The Little Light House is proud to continue to be chosen as a community partner with JIJ. Over the last three years, the volunteers have established a much needed, *safe and fun respite* opportunity for our families. The families we serve have at least one child with significant special needs, leaving the adults to rarely get much needed time away. Knowing that JIJ members provide care for ALL of their children, while offering sensory activities, makes a big difference in the *quality of life* for our families. Thank you JIJ for taking care of our children and their entire family at The Little Light House." — Fran Patterson, Executive Director, The Little Light House



WHAT WE DO MATTERS



"Operation Shoestring runs high-quality programs and initiatives for hundreds of central Jackson families, and we really couldn't do it without the *partnership* with the Junior League of Jackson. In addition to providing volunteers, *nutritious meals* for our monthly parent programs, top-notch *literacy support* for our summer program, and a generous gift in support of our recent building renovation, the League helps us connect with women and families throughout our community who are strategically invested in building a world in which all children and families can *thrive*. That connection and support makes all the difference."

— Robert Langford, Executive Director, Operation Shoestring



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2021-2022

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