

Annual Report Women Building Better Communities





Our Mission

The Junior League of Chicago, Inc. is a metropolitan organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. The Junior League of Chicago, Inc. reaches out to women of all races, religions, and national origins who demonstrate an interest in and a commitment to voluntarism.

Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc (AJLI) AJLI Mission

The Association of Junior Leagues International Inc., is an organization of women, committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

AJLI Vision

The Junior League: Woman Around the World as Catalysts for Lasting Community Change

AJLI Reach Out

The Associations of Junior Leagues International Inc. reaches out to women of all races, religions and national origins who demonstrate an interest in and commitment to voluntarism. .*

Dear Members and Friends



n 2009-2010, the Junior League of Chicago (JLC) continued its 98th year tradition of building better communities throughout Chicago. Our 1,500 trained volunteers serve this city as accomplished collaborators who build coalitions, identify community needs and develop effective and responsive programs to serve at-risk families.

Throughout our 98 years our commitment to our mission has remained steadfast – to promote voluntarism, develop the potential of women and improve the community through the effective action and leadership of our trained volunteers. In 2009-2010 we continued our commitment to improve

our community through our focus area: to improve the overall health and wellness of families in some of Chicago's underserved neighborhoods. This focus area, along with our existing portfolio of community issues – homelessness, teen pregnancy, maternal addiction and early childhood literacy - address some of our city's most pressing needs.

Each year, net proceeds generated by special events and donor contributions allow the JLC to serve its mission and fund these vital programs. Our members impacted the lives of over 6,000 women and children and provided over 200,000 volunteer hours. In addition to the community service our volunteers provide, each of our 1,500 members commit to a comprehensive program of training to deepen the impact we make across every touchpoint in our community. This training is a cornerstone of our volunteer experience and represents a key differentiator to our brand of service. For every dollar spent, we increased the value of that dollar through the effort of our unpaid trained volunteers.

The JLC is tremendously grateful to so many for our continued success: our outstanding staff whose unending commitment and support allow our volunteers to effectively and efficiently serve our community, the agencies we partner with who both educate and innovate with us to develop solutions, our community advisory council who selflessly give both their time and talents to provide us insight and guidance, and our donors and sponsors whose generosity allows the JLC to serve its mission. I would like to thank our Executive Vice President for 2009-2010, Kristen Pettit Grube, whose professionalism and commitment embodied a spirit of continuous improvement in our operational leadership. I would like to thank our Board of Directors and Management Committee for their leadership and dedication. I would like to extend a huge thank you to all of our 1,500 members who bring an unmatched commitment to community service. It has been a tremendous honor to serve this organization as its President for the past two years. I look forward to continuing to serve our mission as we work together to build a better community. •

All my best,

Laura anderson

Laura Anderson
President, 2008-2010



Commitment to the Community

JLC is passionate about the causes we support. Our commitment includes advocacy, development, collaboration and services.

JLC members committed to being part of the solution in the community gathered in Daley Plaza for National Start! Walking Day.



Community Council

Project CON:CERN

Project CON:CERN is a resource for community based non-profit organizations through which consultation and networking are highly exercised. In its 14th year, JLC Project CON:CERN volunteers partnered with Better Boys Foundation to provide volunteer management ideas that the foundation was able to test and implement. This year also saw Project CON:CERN work with Home of the Sparrow to provide marketing consulting to give the agency more exposure and education about social networking as a single entity. Over the course of the year, the agencies took a strategic planning course and a marketing course and came out of the project with the ability to network with other agencies and apply many overall best practices that they learned through Project CON:CERN. In addition, Project CON:CERN hosted a networking breakfast for Chicago non-profits focused on using social media. Then with an increasingly busy schedule the group made a shift in the primary focus and created a non-profit resource center for the Chicagoland area. With this shift, the committee changed gears to focus on researching existing programs and opportunities for this new resource center.

Connecting Kids to the Arts

The Connecting Kids to the Arts project has JLC volunteers focusing the on the creative development of children in local hospitals and shelters. Through arts and crafts projects, children learn self-expression and raise their self-esteem. This past year, the JLC partnered with The Rehabilitation Hospital of Chicago, Kohl's House, Ronald McDonald House, Gilda's Club and Mary Lou's Place, serving approximately 50 children each month.

Done-In-A-Day

The Done-In-A-Day (DIAD) committee provides concentrated, one-day volunteer projects that address immediate community needs. During the 2009-2010 year, JLC volunteers participated in a total of 25 community projects. Some of the agencies DIAD worked with included Open Books, Common Pantry, Ronald McDonald House, Asian Youth Services, Gilda's Club and Bear Necessities.

Girls Get Gourmet

Girls Get Gourmet's (GGG) aim is to reach at-risk youth and their caregivers to promote healthy lifestyles through cooking demonstrations, informational presentations, and exercise tips. To achieve this goal, GGG set up cooking events one or two Saturdays each month where participants and caregivers were taught nutritious recipes and tips related to maintaining healthy lifestyles. Each event averaged ten JLC volunteers, as well as eight girls between the ages of 9-16 and five caregivers. Feedback on the program was very positive as both the children and their caregivers benefited from the events and picked up many ideas they could take home and repeat.



Kids in the Kitchen participants making some healthy snacks.

Health Train

Health Train is a model project that highlights healthy lifestyles. Committee members are trained in wellness programs and, using that knowledge, help conduct one to two hour presentations with area children as part of a mobile health fair, traveling around to different organizations both in the city and surrounding suburbs. The presentations are fun, interactive, and approachable and include educational activities, sing alongs, and games. The education is aimed at children between the ages of 6 and 10. This past year, Health Train hosted 14 events that reached more than 150 children.

Homework Heroes

The Homework Heroes project met weekly throughout the school year at Our Lady of Grace School in Logan Square providing academic and emotional support for female students through their mentoring program. Volunteers provided support and assistance with mentees' education by providing tutoring services in a wide range of subjects along with nutrition and healthy lifestyle lessons, a program implemented through a first time ever collaboration with Kids in the Kitchen. Sixteen different students in first through sixth grades participated in the program.

Our Values
Mentoring

JLC members share their experiences and expertise with one another, and those we work with and serve.

During the 4th annual *Kids in the Kitchen* event at Kendall College, children were taught yoga as a way to live a healthy lifestyle.



Community Council continued

Journey to Independent Living

Journey to Independent Living (JTIL) is a mentoring program that supports women who live in a semi-permanent homeless shelter and who are trying to get back on their feet. The members of JTIL are each assigned a mentee that they partner with throughout the year to provide support and facilitate accessible resources. In addition, JLC volunteers brought in experts to speak on topics aimed to help enrich their lives and become independent. Volunteers seek to be knowledgeable of and to provide the preparation needed to help these women succeed and transition into permanent housing. As a result resources were shared, discussed, and acted upon during the monthly meetings and mentoring sessions.

Kids in the Kitchen

This year, Kids in the Kitchen (KITK) expanded from a once a year event to a full year program with multiple events focused on healthy lifestyles. Volunteers held events at different locations throughout the city that focused on hands-on cooking demonstrations, fitness activities, and nutrition and healthy lifestyle educational activities. With approximately 30 volunteers, KITK was able to reach more than 100 women and children in 2009-2010. In addition to these events, KITK had a booth at Dia Del Nino in which it was estimated that hundreds participated.

Mad Hatters Children's Theater Project

Approximately 35 Junior League volunteers comprised the Mad Hatters Children's Theatre Project this year. Volunteers organized into small troupes and visited schools and libraries in underserved communities to promote reading to at-risk and low-income Chicago children ages 3 to 9. Troupes acted out stories, read poems, and sang songs as a way to encourage children in the audience to expand their minds through reading. In addition to the focus on the children, the story time was also geared toward parents with the intent to increase their child's reading level and foster a lifelong love of learning. The Mad Hatters delivered 40 performances to a total of 700 children and families in neighborhoods primarily on the south and west sides of Chicago, including Beverly, Chinatown and Garfield Ridge. Performances were also conducted at public events including Lincoln Park Spooky Zoo Spectacular and Winnetka Pumpkin Fest, as well as in-League performances at the Women's Treatment Center and A Family Affair.

Next Step for Teen Moms

A former signature project of the Junior League, this was the year Next Step for Teen Moms transitioned back to the community. This JLC project worked closely with teen moms as they consider their next step after high school. JLC volunteers implemented a specific curriculum that had been developed to address the individual needs of each teen. Working one-on-one with a different mentor, the teen determined which lesson plan was best suited for her at that given time. Topics included goal setting, scholarship searches, essay writing, college selection, financial aid, and a celebration of black history and heritage.

Primo Center for Women and Children

JLC Volunteers met at the Primo Center for Women and Children each month. Project volunteers taught the women healthy lifestyle and eating options and helped them with job search skills. JLC volunteers showed the women some easy recipes that incorporated fruit and vegetables into child-friendly dishes. They also assisted women looking for jobs with resume development by incorporating their skills and talents into resumes.

Teen Exodus

JLC volunteers provide a mentoring relationship with teen girls from the Chicago Youth Program (CYP). CYP works with teens in the Cabrini Green, Washington Park, and Uptown neighborhoods. Through this program, at-risk teens that maintain a B-level grade point average or better are given college scholarships. JLC volunteers plan and attend Saturday events with the teens geared toward promoting self-esteem, encouraging higher education, self-awareness, and prevention of teen pregnancy, substance abuse and gang activity. Studies show that 95% of Teen Exodus participants graduate from high school compared to 51% of Cabrini Green residents.

Woman to Woman - Northern Suburbs

This community project connects JLC volunteers with women and their children in different stages of substance abuse rehabilitation at the Lake County Women's Rehabilitation Center in Vernon Hills. JLC Volunteers seeks to enrich the lives of these women and their children with activities such as art projects, exercise and life skills training to carry with them once they leave the program. This committee met at the Lake County Women's Rehabilitation Center in Vernon Hills. During the year, the women made cards, jewelry boxes, and reviewed applications for GED/College/Certificate programs, as well as, Financial Aid. The activities encouraged optimism and made the women look forward to the future after treatment was completed.

Woman to Woman - The Women's Treatment Center

JLC Volunteers partnered with clients from the Recovery Unit at The Women's Treatment Center (TWTC) and women from the Recovery Home. JLC volunteers planned and conducted bi-weekly events to develop the mothers' job/life skills and improve mother/child relationship. This year, the JLC coordinated Saturday events including a trip to the Sears Tower, the Children's Museum and an on-site Funk Dance Class. The JLC also tutored 15-20 children through the PACT (Parents and Children Together) program at TWTC. In total, this project provided education for 32 women and 45 children on healthy lifestyles, basic life skills and the importance of health childcare. ❖



Our Values

Respect for Individuals

JLC members treat each other, those with whom we work, and those we serve, with respect and dignity.

The Social Networking Panel members learn and enjoy each other's company at a holiday event.

Financial Statements

or the fiscal year ending May 31, 2010, the financial statements show an overall increase in net assets of \$126,459, primarily due to higher revenues from special events, dues and investments. Higher revenues are a testament to the dedication of our members and our supporting communities to our mission. The Community Project Development Fund (CPDF) had realized and unrealized gains of \$53,412, while the Headquarters Capital Fund remained flat for the year. Net cash provided by operating activities totaled \$86,988 for fiscal 2010, demonstrating our ability to navigate the organization through challenging economic times. We continue to increase our value to the community and as a result of the excellent and

dedicated effort of members and staff, we achieved solid financial results. We are proud to have increased financial support for our community projects and volunteer training initiatives during fiscal 2010 while still remaining strong, closing the fiscal year with more than \$1.61 million in cash and investments. We are grateful to so many for our continued to success and look forward to continuing to be the driving force behind the kinds of initiatives and institutions that make our community a healthier, more vital place to live. ❖

Condensed Statement of Activities

Michelle Cronin 2009-2010 Treasurer

Condensed Statement of Financia	al Position
May 31, 2010	
Assets	
Current Assets:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$930,039
Accounts receivable	8,850
Pledges receivable	1,375
Accrued interest	4,036
Inventories	68,234
Prepaid expenses and deferred charges	24,594
Total current assets	1,037,128
Investments	683,499
Property and equipment (net)	168,929
Total Assets	\$1,889,556
Liabilities and Net Assets	
Current Liabilities:	
Allocations to community programs	\$6,000
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	5,450
Deferred dues income (members)	240,468
Total Liabilities	\$251,918
Net Assets:	
Unrestricted:	
Board Designated:	
Operating Reserve	\$425,000
Community Project Development Fund	697,404
Headquarters Capital Fund	99,921
Undesignated	395,313
Temporarily Restricted	-
Permanently Restricted	20,000
Total Net Assets	\$1,637,638

Total Liabilities and Net Assets

and Changes in Net Assets		
(Revenue, Expenses, and Fund Balances)		
Fiscal Year Ended May 31, 2010		
Revenue		
Dues	\$325,812	
Associate course and other fees	14,078	
Special events	433,937	
Cookbook sales	27,970	
Contributions	119,411	
Interest income	18,751	
Realized and unrealized gains/losses on investments	53,412	
Advertising Income	3,060	
Other	19,578	
Total Revenue	\$1,016,009	
Expenses		
Program services	\$288,839	
Supporting services	548,796	
Dues to the Association of Junior Leagues International	Inc. 51,915	
Total Expenses	\$889,550	
Change in Net Assets	126,459	
Net Assets, Beginning of Year	\$1,511,179	
End of Year	\$1,637,638	

Financial data were extracted from our financial statements, audited by Legacy Professionals LLP, which are available upon request from the Junior League of Chicago, Inc., 1447 North Astor Street, Chicago, Illinois 60610, phone: 312-664-4462, fax: 312-664-1963.

Our Values
Thoughtful Risk Taking

JLC provides training and a safe environment for responsible and thoughtful risk-taking.

\$1.889.556

Children and JLC members enjoy cooking tips from Chef Marcus Samuelsson, of C-House.



2009-10 Leadership



(Left to Right) Front Row: Clara Muhammad, Cathleen McCann, Laura Anderson, Kristen Pettit Grube. Back Row: Elizabeth Whitlow, Anna Musci, Mindi Kaploe, Karen Williamson, Molly Riley, Lindsay Nero, Elizabeth Vastine.

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Annual Report Team: Jessica Ebersberger, Mary Kay Sisler, Gretchen Bjork and Holly McDaniel



Our Values

Camaraderie

JLC is an organization where members enjoy their experience developing personally and professionally.

Women wait to meet Dara Tores at a Book Author Series Event co-hosted with the Union League Club.

2009-10 Corporate and Event Sponsors

Junior League of Chicago would like to thank the individuals and corporations who contributed to our 2009-2010 fundraising efforts.

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The Second City

Our Values



JLC welcomes all women who wish to serve the community, embracing their ideas, differences and contributions.

> Windy City Nights - Ante Up for Charity committee members gather before an evening of fundraising.



2009-10 Corporate and Event Sponsors continued

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