WHEN WOMEN SUPPORT EACH OTHER
INCREDIBLE THINGS HAPPEN

ANNUAL REPORT
2017-2018
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**Awards Winners**

Zahra Bond Outstanding Transfer Award
Courtney Cooke Starburst Award
Margaret Dougherty Outstanding Associate Award
Jenna Drenten Torch Award
Laura Metzger Outstanding Sustainer Award
CaitlinSpear Community Spirit Award
Virginia Thomas Founders Award

**Staff**

Mary Ann Lillie Operations Director
Lydia Hawthorne Membership Coordinator
Dan Kanter Finance Manager
Kristen Pezzoli Communications and Events Coordinator
Walter Aikens Facilities Coordinator
Lupe Villegas Housekeeper
Dear Community and Members,

2017-2018 was a great year for the Junior League of Chicago.

Our financial performance was, as you can see, strong due to outstanding fundraisers and Annual Fund, detailed expense management and oversight by staff and volunteers alongside smart investments.

Financial wellness laid the foundation for us to move forward with the evolution of our governance structure. This three-year process wouldn’t have been possible without the Boards who overhauled every one of the JLC’s governing documents. We are all indebted to 2017-2018 Executive Vice President Annie Person who drove the policies, procedures and standing rules to completion. This work is already producing member value and it is enabling agile responses to a changing environment.

After deep analysis and consultation with dozens of current and sustaining leaders, we made the difficult decision to sunset our Annual Holiday Gazebo. Our fundraising leaders simultaneously developed a multi-year plan to combine members’ interest in healthy/lifestyle events featuring lower price points and higher interaction.

2018 saw another major change with the retirement of our longtime operations director, Mary Ann Lillie. We used every minute of her generous notice to ready the transition. We are truly grateful for her dedication, patience, support, innovation, and leadership since 2012.

The board made a strategic and thoughtful decision to engage an HR firm to make recommendations on our long-term staffing needs. This will continue to pay dividends as the League changes.

Overall, the year has been a great success. As you will see, our Annual Report hits the highlights of our year, but it cannot fully capture all the hard work and dedication from our members.

I am thankful for the opportunity to have served as the President of the Junior League of Chicago. I am so grateful for the past two years working, laughing, learning with the most amazing women in the city of Chicago.

We cannot do this work alone. Thank you for all you do each and every day for the Junior League of Chicago and our community.

Sincerely,

Ruth Gallagher Nelson
President 2017-2018
Diversity: The Junior League welcomes all women who value our mission. We are committed to inclusive environments of diverse individuals, organizations and communities.

Commitment to the Community: The Junior League of Chicago is passionate about the causes we support. Our commitment includes advocacy, development, collaboration and service.

Respect for Individuals: Junior League of Chicago members treat each other, those with whom we work and those we serve, with respect and dignity.

Welcoming: The Junior League of Chicago welcomes all women who wish to serve the community, embracing their ideas, differences and contributions.

Mentoring: Junior League of Chicago members share their experiences and expertise with one another, and with those we work with and serve.

Thoughtful Risk-Taking: The Junior League of Chicago provides training and a safe environment for responsible and thoughtful risk-taking.

Camaraderie: The Junior League of Chicago is an organization where members enjoy their experience, developing personally and professionally.

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.

The Junior League of Chicago donates volunteer hours and fundraises for community agencies and programs that support at risk women and children in our community.

Our community, advocacy, and fundraising efforts support women and children in alignment with our three signature issues:

- Education
- Healthy Lifestyles
- Human Trafficking
COMMUNITY
For more than a century, the JLC has diligently worked to empower at-risk families—especially women and girls—through hands-on mentoring, advocacy and education.

2017-2018 COMMUNITY PROJECTS AND PARTNERS INCLUDE:
Associate Community Experience, Blessings in a Backpack, Chicago Children’s Advocacy Center, Connecting Kids to the Arts, Done In A Day, Girls’ All Star Club, Freeing Individuals from Human Trafficking, Journey to Healthy Living, Kids in the Kitchen, LaunchU, Logan Square Neighborhood Association, Mad Hatters, Teen Exodus, and Women’s Treatment Center. The JLC has 14 community partners across the City of Chicago.

ADVOCACY
The Junior League of Chicago’s Advocacy Council encourages Junior League members to be informed and active citizens, and address public issues which affect our community.

ADVOCACY IN ACTION:
This year our Advocacy Council members updated our Advocacy position papers on Health & Wellness, Education, and Human Trafficking.

The Advocacy Committee held an event called Meet Your Alderman. This event provided JLC members an opportunity to meet a local representative, learn more about policies and engagement opportunities at the local level, leadership, local government, current events in Chicago, and the JLC’s signature issues - Education, Health & Wellness, and Human Trafficking.

LEADERSHIP
The Junior League of Chicago offers Leadership Training events designed to help our members develop their leadership potential. Central to the mission of the Junior League is developing the potential of women to be civic and community leaders.

DEVELOPING THE POTENTIAL OF WOMEN:
JLC held multiple leadership training events. Some of the events we held were: Sharpening Your Leadership Skills, Breast Cancer Awareness - Brighten Up Workshop, Living in Recovery - Learn About The Women’s Treatment Center, Financial Planning 101, Restoring the Heart: A Conversation With a Survivor of Human Trafficking, How to Effectively Use Networking in your Professional and Volunteer Life, Elevating Diversity in the JLC, How to Have Difficult Conversations as a JLC Leader.
JUNIOR LEAGUE OF CHICAGO
IN NUMBERS

- Provided more than 130,000 hours of volunteer service.
- 1,200 Total Members.
- Impacted the lives of nearly 90,000 at-risk women and children.
- Involved in 14 Community Projects.
- Donated more than $60,000 to community programs in Chicagoland.
- Managed a record-setting 135 Done-in-a-Day projects.
- 4 Signature fundraiser events.
- Junior League of Chicago University (JLCU) held 30 Leadership Trainings.
For the fiscal year ending May 31, 2018, the audited financial statements of the Junior League of Chicago (JLC) reflect an overall increase in net assets ($71,281 or 3.8%). This is reflective of a significant increase in contributions and special event revenues throughout the year. As a result, our investment portfolio and cash position remain strong at $1,068,134 and $798,063, respectively.

Our fundraising efforts garnered impressive results this year. Contributions revenue increased by $29,321 (28.6%) over prior year and special events revenue was notable as we saw an increase of $34,804 (12.3%). These increases highlight the contributions of our members and partners to support the mission of the JLC. Our investment portfolio garnered strong results with combined net gains and investment income of $49,001.

We continued to exhibit sound expense management within the JLC as noted by a small increase in total expenses of $10,723 (1.4%) over prior year. Fundraising expenses were managed effectively with a decrease from prior year by $28,430 (-17.1%), evidence of the commitment by our members to contain costs. In addition, we were able to increase the spend for our community projects by 4%, as evidenced by new projects for the Associate Community Experience and the Children’s Advocacy Council this year, allowing us to further contribute to community outreach.

This year’s results demonstrate the enthusiasm of our members to give both their time and financial support. The league is well positioned heading into 2019 to further our mission of training leaders, serving the community, and change lives.

Becca Nall, 2017-2018 Treasurer
As a volunteer-based organization, our work in the Chicago community would not be possible without the support of those who share our commitment to volunteerism. Thank you to our individual and corporate donors who have allowed us to increase our impact on families and children in Chicago through their contributions. You make our work in the community possible!

$1,001+
Sylvia Fijalkowski
Meghan Hansen
Geri Herro
Courtney Johnson
Michelle Kerr
Kerry McGurn
Ruth Nelson
Jennifer Ohlman
Andrea Person
Kelli Robinson
Nancy Snyder
Lauren Tavel

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Stephanie Verbeke
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Elayna Wych
Leisa Zimbrick

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Julia Costa
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Christina Dudek
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Amy Hinrichs
Catherine Hogan
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Emily Hunter
Jana Ilevins
Jill Iman
Sara Ingold
Jayne Jaskolski
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Erin Kelly
Vanessa Kosloski
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Caroline Linton
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Mary Kate Mack
Beckley Maggio
Claire Mayo
Ellen McCarthy
Kelly McConnell
Rosaleen McSorley
Erin McWilliams
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Victoria Mudro
Amy Myers
Emily Mussio
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In Honor of All Women From Erika Kennedy
In Honor Annie Person from Ruth Gallagher Nelson
In Honor Blythe Newton from Harvey & Elinor Prawer
In Honor of Jenna Mlaker from Mattie
In Honor of All the JLC Ladies from Marissa Wenk
In Honor of My Parents from Amy Moulis
In Honor of Lydia Hawthorne from Sarah Bornstein
In Memory of Patricia Gray from Emily Hunter
In Memory of Jan Schumacher from Melissa Schumacher
In Memory of Joan Marie Mueller from Ozlem Akokaca
In Memory of William Heard from Michelle Schneir
In Memory of Katherine Mussio from Emily Mussio

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Every effort has been made to report all 2017-2018 contributions fully and accurately. We apologize for any errors or omissions and ask that donors forward any correction to the Operations Director at the JLC Headquarters. Thank you for your understanding and generosity.
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James Norton
Daniel Van Plew

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Terri Bolzan
Peter Disching
Christopher Reimann

$251 - $500
Abigail Butkus
Cassandra Cruz
Courtney Kennedy
William McAlpine
Michael & Miranda Phillips
Silvia Prickel

$101 - $250
Phillip Bromstatter
JC Chang
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Kimberly McConnell
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Andrew Petri
Alana Salata

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