

FROM THE PRESIDENT



The Junior League of Greenville, Inc., founded in September of 1929, is a women's organization dedicated to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving our community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Today, the JLG is comprised of over 1,200 members who have a passion to meet the needs of our community, create positive solutions and train the next group of female community leaders.

As we prepare to celebrate our 90th anniversary this fall, we are committed to expanding our impact in the Greenville community. This year, we completed the thorough process of exploring and evaluating the needs in our growing community. Our extensive research revealed two underserved and significant issues in our community: Economic Mobility and Human Trafficking. We are excited about the visible impact the JLG will undoubtedly have on these two critical issues in the Greenville area and look forward to sharing more information about our growth and progress.

I have been humbled and honored to serve as the 2018-2019 President of the Junior League of Greenville and remain in awe of the women with whom I have served. I am proud of our many accomplishments and grateful to be part of an organization that continues to impact our community and accomplish our mission. I sincerely thank you for supporting our organization and the work we do to make a difference in the Greenville community.

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OUR FUNDRAISERS

The Nearly New Shop

The Nearly New Shop, the JLG's resale store, continues to fulfill its mission of providing funds to support the many programs and projects of the JLG. The Nearly New Shop also serves as a training ground for our members and provides an outlet for the community to purchase fabulous clothing and household goods at nominal prices. We appreciate the support of our employees, JLG Members and Sustainers, and the community!

Little Black Dress Initiative

In our second year of the Little Black Dress Initiative, 28 JLG Members wore the same LBD for five consecutive days from September 17-21 and were encouraged to harness the power of their social media accounts to solicit online donations. Each participant posted on social media and described why they were choosing to wear the LBD to raise funds. We were excited to raise over \$19,200 to support our programs and initiatives that focus on Human Trafficking and Economic Mobility. In addition to the funds raised, we were excited to hear the buzz that these participants' social media platforms created around the issues in our Greenville community.

Shop for Greenville

Our second annual Shop for Greenville fundraiser was a great success and raised over \$16,000. Shoppers purchased a discount shopping book which allowed them to participate in the ten day shopping event with savings at over 95 retailers, restaurants and service providers.

Endowment

The JLG Endowment Fund was established this year through a partnership with the Community Foundation of Greenville. The purpose of the Endowment Fund is to provide a secure and permanent means of financial support consistent with our Mission. The Endowment enables the JLG to accept gifts of publicly traded securities, IRA distributions, trust distributions, and real estate in addition to cash donations.

Annual Fund

Celebrating its seventh year, the JLG Annual Fund supplements the ongoing annual fundraising efforts of the JLG. What does a donation to the Annual Fund do for the JLG? For every \$100 raised through the Annual Fund, \$17 provides for "Promoting Voluntarism", \$19 pays for "Developing the Potential of Women", and \$64 helps the JLG in "Improving the Community."

OUR PUBLICATIONS

VISIONS, the JLG's magazine, is published twice per year and reaches an audience of over 4,500 readers. VISIONS informs both the membership and the community of the involvement and programs of the JLG and highlights human interest stories within Greenville County.

Our internal newsletter, *The Update*, is published nine times per year to inform the JLG membership about current League business, events and opportunities.



Empowered
women
empower
women.



REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY 2018-2019



A Nearly New You

A Nearly New You (ANNY) is a committee of Junior League of Greenville Members making a visible, concrete impact on our community by serving women and children in need. ANNY partners with The Nearly New Shop and various nonprofit agencies, including Serenity Place, Pendleton Place and Shepherd's Gate to equip, educate, and empower the women and children of our community. ANNY also coordinated a JLG-wide clothing and accessory drive aimed at collecting donations for our committee events such as Dress for Success, Cinderella Project and Spring Start with Art.



Home Run for Healthy Kids®

Home Run for Healthy Kids® is a free field trip opportunity for Greenville County 4th graders, with preference given to Title I schools. The 11th Annual Home Run for Healthy Kids® took place on October 25th & 26th, 2018 at Greenville Drive's Fluor Field. With the support of 19 local agencies and participating businesses, we were able to welcome and educate 1,922 students over the two-day event. Each student enjoyed hands-on learning activities in the following areas: healthy lifestyles, nutrition, safety, and fitness. Every year we strive to give these children healthy habits to take home, and the knowledge to lead healthier, more productive lives.



Junior Volunteers

The Junior Volunteers Committee is a program that promotes voluntarism among youth in the community. The Members of this small committee have partnered with four local community centers and have collaborated with various agencies in the community to match these youth volunteers with age appropriate volunteer opportunities. As this committee is finishing their last year within the Community Impact Council, some of their accomplishments this year were making Thanksgiving placemats for Meals on Wheels, creating "stained glass" art and paper flowers for Heartland Hospice Care and partnering with Safe Harbor to make no-sew fleece blankets for children living at the shelter.



Kids in the Kitchen

Kids in the Kitchen teaches children about healthy foods and eating habits to address the issue of childhood obesity and helps develop safety and confidence in the kitchen. It's final year within JLG's Community Impact Council, Kids in the Kitchen continued its partnership with the Nicholtown Community Center to teach bi-weekly cooking classes for 3rd and 4th grade students in the Center's after-school program. The kids were exposed to cultural dishes such as vegetable paella, Ethiopian lentils, and Japanese rice bowls and also cooked healthy spins on classics such as salmon cakes, shrimp and grits, fried chicken, paired with mashed cauliflower, okra and collard greens. At the end of the year, the kids visited a commercial kitchen and learned cooking techniques from a professional chef.



Sustainer Holiday Bags

Sustaining Members of the JLG gathered at our Headquarters in December to assemble 350 gift bags for the 26th annual Sustainer Holiday Gift Bag Project. The bags were gifts to cancer patients in Greenville County and filled with comforting items that can be used during their treatments and throughout the holiday season. These gifts were made possible by donor memorials, honorariums, and contributions. Two Men and a Truck generously delivered the bags to the Cancer Society of Greenville.



South Carolina Children's Theatre Developmental Grant

The South Carolina Children's Theatre, the largest year-round children's theatre in South Carolina, currently serves 43,419 adults and children each year, with The Peace Center and Second Stage performances, classes and outreach partnerships that bring performances to children in need. In 2016-17, the JLG voted overwhelmingly to support the

South Carolina Children's Theatre in its fundraising campaign for a new facility. The JLG has awarded the SC Children's Theatre \$100,000, to be distributed over three years. The new facility will include a main theatre, a second stage, multiple classrooms, lobby and public plaza. In connection with our grant, the JLG will receive naming rights for one of the classrooms to be housed in the new facility.

CHANGE BRINGS OPPORTUNITY

REDEFINING OUR FOCUS

For many years, the JLG focused its volunteer resources and grant funding on three Impact Areas: Education, Families & Children, and Health & Wellness. This past year, the JLG convened a Community Impact Task Force to assess our community initiatives.

The Task Force considered local needs, national trends, areas that have existing resources, issues our Members want to tackle, and current topics gaining momentum and attention in the community.

The extensive work of the Task Force, as well as the Community Project Research & Development Committee, revealed two underserved and significant issues in our community: Economic Mobility and Human Trafficking.

FOCUS STATEMENT

Along with encouragement from the Association of Junior Leagues International to adopt a single community impact focus, our research led us to the development of a new and exciting Focus Statement:

The Junior League of Greenville, Inc. engages in initiatives that help women in our community overcome barriers, focusing on Human Trafficking and Economic Mobility.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

With this new direction comes a revised internal structure designed to strategically align our priorities and dedicate our resources to issue-specific partner agencies that serve these two new initiatives: The Family Effect and Pendleton Place (Economic Mobility), and SWITCH and Jasmine Road (Human Trafficking). These agencies offer remarkable programs and direct services to women in need. The JLG will draw upon the expertise and experience of these agencies and provide additional resources to help strengthen existing efforts, broaden our reach, and deepen our impact on these issues.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

The JLG will provide education to JLG Members and the Greenville community at-large about Economic Mobility and Human Trafficking, as well as develop educational opportunities that lead to improved outcomes for the women facing these barriers. JLG Members will outwardly promote public awareness to community stakeholders and policymakers and research advocacy needs that impact these issue areas, both locally and at the state level. Additionally, JLG Members will serve various volunteer positions within each issue-specific partner agency to directly serve the women in our community. From life skills, to professional abilities and hobbies, the JLG aims to help women overcome their barriers to success.