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ASSOCIATION PURPOSE

The purpose of The Association of Junior Leagues International Inc. is to add value to its member Leagues in their fulfillment of The Junior League Mission.

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 the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

VISION

Through the power of our Association, Junior Leagues strengthen communities by embracing diverse perspectives, building partnerships and inspiring shared solutions.

REACHING OUT

The Association 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.



For information about becoming a part of the Junior League of Odessa, call 432.332.0095

*Women Building
Better Communities®*



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An International Force for Positive Change

In communities throughout Canada, Mexico, the United Kingdom and the United States, The Junior League is a driving force behind the kinds of initiatives and institutions that make communities healthier, more vital places to live: early childhood education, immunization, family literacy, women's shelters, children's museums, historic preservation, leadership development and more.

Over 160,000 members of Junior Leagues reflect a wide range of backgrounds, interests and professional pursuits. Working together, they identify unmet needs, forge effective coalitions and work for change. This takes courage and commitment, and time and again, The Junior League is one of the first organizations to step up to a community's biggest challenges. As one community leader put it, "Every time I work with The Junior League, I feel like the Marines have landed."

"I credit The Junior League for giving me the opportunity and training to become a leader."

Retired United States Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor (past-President, Junior League of Phoenix)

"The Junior League of Mexico City...has worked to improve education and social well-being.... Its members are women with a high level of social leadership and human quality."

Former Mexican President Vicente Fox (excerpt from a speech honoring charitable organizations as part of the U.N. International Year of the Volunteer 2001)

Innovative Solutions with Long-Term Impact

More than a century ago, members volunteered in settlement houses to improve the lives of immigrants. Today, Junior Leagues collaborate with their communities on:

IMPROVING HEALTH CARE FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN

For more than a hundred years, Junior Leagues have mobilized expertise and resources to help people enjoy healthier lives. Junior Leagues are involved in hundreds of programs to improve prenatal care, educate family caregivers, provide low-cost mammograms and ensure that children are immunized against devastating diseases.

PROMOTING AND PRESERVING CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS

Leagues have consistently nurtured the arts, promoted education and rescued beloved buildings from neglect or destruction. In doing so, they've rallied communities and provided leadership to revitalize civic and cultural life.

"I have personally never witnessed such a moving sight of so many people working with such cooperation on a single, intensive project."

John Mueller, Director of the International Museum of Art and Science, McAllen, TX

"The Junior Leagues have come this far by faith, dedication and courage."

Dr. Maya Angelou, best-selling author, playwright and poet

"The Junior League was founded on a sound idea—the efficacy of group work. Even an inspired individual cannot accomplish much these days in the face of the interdependent pattern of life."

Former First Lady and U.S. Delegate to the United Nations, Eleanor Roosevelt (Junior League of The City of New York member)

REACHING OUT TO VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Long before domestic violence became an international issue, Junior Leagues recognized that brutality at home was literally a matter of life or death. Junior Leagues everywhere have founded safe houses and crisis hotlines, successfully advocated for tougher domestic violence laws and developed comprehensive services to help abused women and children lead safer, productive lives.

Other areas where Junior Leagues are making a difference:

- Childhood obesity prevention and nutrition education
- Transitional housing for homeless families
- Child abuse and neglect prevention
- Affordable and accessible day-care
- Substance abuse treatment and prevention
- Family literacy
- Mentoring and leadership development
- Parenting skills training
- Nonprofit board placement and management

"Thousands of families have been touched by the work of The Junior League of Sacramento and its commitment to the well-being of children."

Gayle Wilson, Former First Lady of California

"Our League, as I see it, was organized as a means of expressing the feeling of social responsibility for the conditions which surrounded us. We have the responsibility to act, and we have the opportunity to conscientiously act to affect the environment around us."

Mary Harriman (Founder of the first Junior League, The Junior League of the City of New York)

Trained Volunteers Who Get the Job Done

THE FOCUS:

Since Mary Harriman convened the very first Junior League in 1901, the emphasis has been on learning – providing Junior League members with skills to assess problems and develop solutions, motivate volunteers and create new partnerships in the public and private sectors.

THE RESULT:

The Junior League offers its members extensive training in areas such as leadership and organizational development, community needs assessment, strategic planning, communications, advocacy and fundraising. Equipped with this training, Junior League members know their communities well and know how to get things done.

THE DIFFERENCE:

With over 100 years of service and more than 292 Leagues internationally, The Junior League is one of the leading organizations in mobilizing and training volunteers to impact important issues and needs at the grassroots level.

"Our greatest contribution to the London community is encouraging people to contribute their time to build a better community."

Junior League of London, England volunteer

"My League work certainly helped teach me the importance of volunteerism, the power of teamwork for a cause you care about and giving back some of what you have received."

Former First Lady Barbara Bush (Junior League of Houston member)

"When working with major volunteer organizations or fundraisers in Edmonton, you can always find Junior League members participating in responsible positions."

Junior League of Edmonton, Canada volunteer

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