THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF PHOENIX, INC. WOMEN BUILDING BETTER COMMUNITIES



Arizona" – Impact By The Numbers | 05

SUMMER

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Looks Like For A JLP Provisional | 14 'Listen, Learn, **Commit.** | 16

² editor'snote

FROM THERE TO HERE: **Reflecting On My JLP Journey**

Back in the fall of 2007, a young woman joined the Provisional Class of The Junior League of Phoenix. Having heard wonderful things about the League from her sister-in-law (then an Active) and her motherin-law (a Sustainer), she was excited to embark on a new adventure. Having spent the first 10 years after college traveling almost full time, she was ready to plant roots and wanted to help out the Phoenix community and get to know

other women with similar passions.

Fast forward eight years later and here I am - that woman - reflecting on the journey I've had: two kids, two different jobs, a move to a new house, many new friends who I've seen get married and have babies, and some very amazing JLP memories. Sometimes I wonder how I managed it all! Looking back, I realize how I've grown and become so much richer... Not in the sense of money, but of opportunities, enrichment and growth.

What the Junior League means to me, is that it is a place where women gather from all experiences with a variety of skills and share one common goal: the burning desire to make a positive difference in our society. This is such an intrinsic value that is not well written on paper, but can be felt from deep within. With that said, we've included several inspirational profiles of JLP members who also reflect on what JLP means to them, including our President-Elect Cathy Comer (Page 21) and three leaders of the League (Pages 16 and 17).

Throughout these years, I have seen many great things happen while being a part of the JLP. I've witnessed several successful Rummage events. Our 78th Rummage Sale was another success - read about it on Page 12. I've witnessed the launch of our Touch-A-Truck and White Party events (Pages 18 and 19), and have been able to see, firsthand, how much of a positive impact we make on this community we serve. Most notably, right after the JLP celebrated our 80th year last year, we also had the honor of winning the Association of Junior League International's (AJLI) Community Impact Award for our signature program ROCKETS (Raising our Children's Knowledge by Educating Through Science)! ROCKETS has more reasons to celebrate, as you'll read on Page 11.

I'll leave you with one lasting quote I've heard time after time and still sticks with me each day: "You get out of the League what you put into it." These are exciting times... I hope your journey turns out as great as mine!







Closing Out Our Partnership With Phoenix Rescue Mission



Rummage Does It Again! 78th Annual Event Is In The Books



JLP Members Go All White for Second Annual White Party

PLUS...

- **04** 2014-15 JLP Sponsors
- **05** Community Impact Projects
- **06** Update on Our Community Partner Programs



Kids in the Kitchen **Beefs Up Its Programming** And Increases Impact



From Start To Finish: What A Year Looks Like For A JLP Provisional



Get To Know President-Elect Cathy Comer



ROCKETS Continues to Inspire, Teach Children **Through Science**



Touch-A-Truck Offers **Family Friendly Fundraiser Event**



Updates From The Junior League Of **Phoenix Foundation**

- **16** Leadership Profiles
- 20 JLP Award Winners
- 23 Caught On Camera: I Am JLP

VALLEY IMPACT MAGAZINE A Publication of The Junior League of Phoenix, Inc.

2014-15 EDITORIAL TEAM

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president's message

Celebrating Our Accomplishments As We Continue Moving Our Junior League Mission Forward

Welcome to The Junior League of Phoenix and our **Valley Impact Magazine**! We are thrilled to share with you a little bit about us, and how we are affecting change here in the Valley. Our mission drives us to improve our community through our many programs and partnerships, develop and train our members and

promote voluntarism. Thank you for your support... Just opening this magazine shows you too are passionate about these topics and I appreciate you!

To our wonderful members, congratulations on another successful JLP year! You outdid yourselves during our 2014-15 administrative year and I'm so proud of all of you and all that we've accomplished! Our main objective for this year was accomplished, as I'm happy to announce that we implemented our new split governance structure, and the JLP continued to run smoothly throughout the first year of launching! In the new split structure, while the Board was hard at work on long-term strategic planning initiatives, the Operations Team did an outstanding job at handling all our League day-to-day business — I'm so proud of our Team Leaders and their teams! This was as close to a seamless transition as I could have hoped for and I'm so happy with our members and their positive attitudes with this change! Be on the look out for surveys, as a Pre- and Post-Survey of the Board and Leadership Team will be sent annually to monitor our progress.

Another important objective was fiscal responsibility and financial sustainability. We completed a Comprehensive Review of the JLP Property and Maintenance Plan, which was due by 2016, and we delivered it a year early! Also I'm very impressed with our Development Team. All of our fundraisers exceeded our attendance goals — so exciting! Our Board and its Fundraising Sub-committee have been researching all year and we have a plan of action for the future that's going to take us to the next level in fundraising and development. This includes hiring a new Development Director (we are in the process of finding and interviewing candidates now), who will work with our members to build long-term relationships in the Valley and help us with our revenue goals.

A third objective — and one that is dear to my heart — is not only growing our membership, but retaining our members, by ensuring their satisfaction with the League. I am so pleased to announce that we have already hit our Strategic Plan goals, as our Active retention rate improved 5%, which was our goal by 2020! We will do everything we can to keep this up!

Another member benefit and part of our Mission is training our members to be Leaders, not only in the JLP but outside the League as well. Based on our benchmark of last year, we have increased our Qualified Leadership Pool by 10%! Another factor in membership retention is to ensure members' placements are working for them, and we now have a System of Placement Review, which will help us determine our success. Finally, our Board and its Membership Sub-committee have done an extensive review and evaluation of membership requirements and have come up with a new pointbased system that will be trialed with some members in the 2015-16 administrative year.

All in all, the 2014-15 administrative year was a terrific year to be a JLP member. I'm happy to be your President. Hopefully you'll be okay keeping me around for another year! ;)

With Respect and Gratitude,

Anne Trauter 2014-16 JLP President

leadershipteam

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Anne Trauter President

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> Sara Mayer Secretary

Annette Tanori Director of Finance

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Lara Lennaman Director of Operations

Chrissy Henderson Operations Assistant

Michele Sioredas Administrative Team Leader

Bianca Cords Community Team Leader

Jennifer Carusetta Membership Team Leader

OTHER ELECTED POSITIONS

Cathy Comer President-Elect

Jennifer Plumb Bylaws/Parliamentarian Ashley Bunch Treasurer

Pamela Salter

Training & Promoting

Voluntarism Team Leader

Amy Dillon Communications & Marketing

Team Leader

Kelly Kaysonepheth Development Manager

POSITIONS Kelly Yunis

Nominating Chair

Sarah Schmutz Provisional Chair



MISSION STATEMENT

The Junior League of Phoenix is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

2014-15sponsors

Thank you to our 2014-2015 Sponsors and to all friends of The Junior League of Phoenix!

LEADER (\$5.001-\$10.000 / In-Kind)

- The Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI)
- CJ Robbins Construction
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- The Junior League of Phoenix Foundation

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- The Doctors Selma and Jerome Targovnik
- The Wine Group
- Two Men And A Truck
- US Dept. of Justice
- Wendy Dowling









Desert Spirit

KITCHEL

markham

Community Impact Puts Dent On Our Focus Area

The JLP Community Impact projects are volunteer-led, one-day projects that support an urgent need in our community. Many of the Community Impact shifts are identified by a committee that researches, organizes, and implements volunteer opportunities for JLP members. The committee also coordinates Done-In-A-Night (DIAN) donation drives held at General Membership Meetings. JLP Community Impact projects and DIANs support our commitment to "Building a Healthy Arizona" and addresses additional immediate critical needs in Maricopa County. In 2014-15, our Community Impact projects included:

- Andre House
- Cinderella Affair
- Desert
 Botanical Garden
- Desert Mission
- Dress for Success
- Feed My Starving Children
- Foothill Caring Corps
- Free Arts AZ
- Fresh Express
- Girls on the Run
- Homeward Bound

- Kids in the KitchenPaz de Cristo
- Phoenix
 Children's Hospital
- Phoenix DayPhoenix
- Rescue Mission • ROCKETS
- •Ronald
- McDonald House
- Ryan House
- St. Vincent de Paul
- •UMOM

bythenumbers

Shifts of Community Impact Service Completed by JLP Volunteers





New Grants Awarded in 2014-15, Providing More Than \$10,000 For Our Community Programs



1,650+ Hours of Community Impact Service Completed by JLP Volunteers

\$50,500 Spent on Community Programs Toward Our Focus Area of "Building A Healthy Arizona"

10.24.15



SAVE THE DATE

Raise a glass for community leadership, recognition and socializing.

The annual Valley Impact Luncheon celebration is now the social recognition event of the year.



for ticket information, visit jlp.org

Nominate online for this year's Valley Impact Award recipients!



Patricia Eisele Simmons 2014 JLP SUSTAINER OF THE YEAR



Michelle Moore, 2014-16 Fresh Express Committee chair, at a Fresh Express bus stop.

Jessica Kirkland and Liz Rocci volunteering at a Second Saturday event at Phoenix Day

COMMUNITY PARTNER PROGRAMS ROLL INTO SECOND JLP PARTNERSHIP YEAR Fresh Express by Discovery Triangle

The Junior League of Phoenix is excited to be a part of an innovative new program aimed at increasing access to fresh food. Fresh Express by Discovery Triangle is a mobile fresh produce

market, which sells fresh, affordable and high-quality fruits and vegetables out of a retrofitted Valley Metro bus. Its aim is to have fresh produce be more accessible to families in underserved neighborhoods in a region between Phoenix and Tempe, dubbed the "triangle,"

The JLP is a founding sponsor of this mobile food bus, which began service in the spring of 2014. As a part of our three-year partnership with Discovery Triangle, we are offering a nutritional education element during select stops of Fresh Express.

JLP members have been developing and implementing a nutrition curriculum for Fresh Express customers that includes handouts on healthy eating and nutritional guidelines, recipes for utilizing fresh produce, and cooking/recipe demonstrations.

Phoenix Day HealthLinks

In line with our focus area of "Building A Healthy Arizona," the JLP is expanding and enriching the health and wellness

programming that Phoenix Day is currently providing to the lowincome Central Park neighborhood. Phoenix Day is the oldest, continuously operating early education and youth development center in Arizona. In 1997, it established the HealthLinks program, which is focused on preventative health services to low-income families. including linkages to health and nutrition resources.

In the first year of partnership, JLP hosted "Second Saturday" events that were themed around nutrition and exercise education. We also assisted with the quarterly nutrition nights and cooking/exercise classes hosted by Phoenix Day. JLP also compiled branded "starter kit" bags to hand out to program participants, which included things like cooking oil, spices, recipes and nutrition-oriented activity ideas. Many of our Phoenix Day activities are a natural extension of our Kids in the Kitchen programming.





Saturday, Nov. 7, 2015 **Paradise Valley Mall** (South Parking Lot by Sears)

Buy Online and Save! \$5/ticket | \$20/family pack of 5 Prices will increase at the door.

www.jlp.org

JLP Members Represent At The 35th Anniversary Party For The Rosson House-Heritage Square Foundation And Guild

On May 2, 2015, the Rosson House-Heritage Square Foundation and Guild celebrated its 35th Anniversary Celebration and received a dedication by Councilwoman Kate Gallego. The Rosson House Museum, located at East Monroe and 7th Street, is a fully-restored 1895 Queen Anne Victorian house museum which interprets the history of Phoenix. Tours of the house include all living areas and offer visitors a glimpse into the lifestyles of early Phoenix families.

The anniversary event featured several attendees that discussed their involvement with the Rosson House from the beginning. JLP representatives included Sustainers Mary Hudak, Vicki Beaver and Kim Knotter, and Active Members Sara Mayer and Blair Coe Schweiger.

Mary Hudak was instrumental in the project from the very beginning She shared: "The Junior League got involved in 1974 with its typical two-year demonstration project concept and allocated \$50,000. It was

to be completed by the Bicentennial of 1976. Didn't happen. (It) took much longer and the League graciously allowed us to hang in there until completion. League members wore many hats. I was in charge of the interior restoration but others formed the docent program, created the Victorian aprons that the guides and hostesses wore, took tickets and sold items in the gift shop, worked on publicity and programming in the house, chaired fundraisers, gathered furnishings and accessories for the house, and

kept it clean and shiny for visitors." Vicki Beaver became involved as a committee member and enjoyed her

experience so much she stayed on as a volunteer for 35 years providing tours of the building. Kim Knotter described her experience as a provisional

working her shift down at the house and building relationships with future members as a new resident of Phoenix. The Rosson House is a symbol in Phoenix and has provided years of enjoyment for visitors. The Junior League of Phoenix is proud to have been a part of history.



Blair Coe Schweiger, Kim Knotter and Sara Mayer at the 35th Anniversary Celebration party for the Rosson House, in which JLP was a founding partner.

Sunsetting A Community Program

JLP Completes Our 3-Year Partnership With Phoenix Rescue Mission

STORY CONTRIBUTED BY LAUREN McKEON AND DEBI BIRCH

"The children were able to experience new ways of learning and bonding with their moms through outdoor physical fitness activities. The Junior League really helped to strengthen the mother/ children relationship by using fitness games and activities. The children like being outside and request being outside at these events because they feel safe. The older children have started a daily running exercise routine and have put together a track team. I feel that The Junior League of Phoenix had a lot to do with reinforcing a love for physical fitness. "

Valerie Alvarez, Changing Lives Center Child Development Director The Junior League of Phoenix is always looking for ways to help women in our community who are struggling to provide for themselves and their children. With nearly half of the homeless population in Maricopa County consisting of women and children, our partnership with the Phoenix Rescue

PHOENIX RESCUE MISSION

Mission (PRM) was one of the most effective ways to connect with this vulnerable population.

The partnership with PRM began in 2012, with the JLP specifically working with the women and children at the Changing Lives Center (the CLC) of the PRM.

The CLC is a unique residential campus that serves a targeted group of homeless women and children, many of whom have suffered domestic abuse, substance abuse and addiction. The Center offers a complex combination of addiction recovery, trauma counseling, remedial healing and physical safety — essential in helping these mothers and children transition to a healthy and independent lifestyle.

Through this partnership with PRM, the JLP held events for the women and children of the CLC to assist with each family's recovery and offered new bonding experiences for the mothers and their children. Our events focused on improving health and wellness by engaging in hands-on activities that promoted positive behavior,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

PHOENIX RESEUR MISSION

MAIN PHOTO: The front of the Phoenix Rescue Mission. Its Changing Lives Center (CLC) was one of JLP's community partner programs from 2012-2015.

RIGHT, FROM TOP: (1) JLP members with PRM children at an event hosted at Phoenix Day about the food plate. | (2) JLP joined the CLC at a Diamondbacks game last September. | (3) JLP hosted a spring event at the CLC about gardening. | (4) Women from the Phoenix Rescue Mission promote their cookies at a booth during JLP's Touch-A-Truck event.

SAVE THE DATE



WINTER LAUNCH

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14

SCOTTSDALE QUARTER

SUPPORT THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF PHOENIX WHILE YOU SHOP

MORE INFORMATION TO FOLLOW

Highlights Of JLP's PRM Partnership

« CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

social development, physical fitness, parenting and child development skills.

We are pleased to report that the 2014-15 year was our most active year with PRM! Highlights include:

- We hosted a day at the ballpark and treated the women and children to a local Diamondbacks baseball game at Chase Field.
- In line with our focus area of "Building a Healthy Arizona," we held a cooking event demonstrating healthy and easy recipes that can

"My little girl used to say 'shut up' all of the time. Thanks to the Changing Lives Center staff and Junior League's events that showed us how to express love, my little girl knows what words to say and how to say it without hurting someone's feelings."

Sarah, a Mother at the Changing Lives Center

- be prepared with limited time and budget.
- We joined the families in celebrating the holidays by hosting a festive Christmas party. Santa made a guest appearance.
- We helped to promote PRM's Mission Cookies. PRM families sold their cookies at JLP's Touch-A-Truck (TAT) event. Additionally, thanks to a donation of tickets from JLP members, the children were able to enjoy TAT as well!
- One of our members taught an Emotional Intelligence class for the mothers while other JLP members held a fun field day event for their children.
- We held a Done-In-A-Night donation drive in which our members donated over \$500 worth of items to PRM.
- We concluded the year with a commemorative plaque and a donation of tablets to be used in PRM's technology learning center.

Our partnership with PRM has been fulfilling for all of our members who have had the opportunity to participate in the events. Although this was the final year of our partnership with PRM, we were honored to be a part of helping these women and children rebuild their lives and families.



JLP volunteers with Santa at the Christmas party we hosted for families at the Changing Lives Center. Said one of the children at the CLC: "I love the Junior League. Santa was cool! I love the games and the stuff we did outdoors."



JLP hosted an information meeting on healthy cooking for families at the Phoenix Rescue Mission's Changing Lives Center, which included information on reading food labels and cooking on a budget. JLP closed our three-year partnership with PRM in May 2015.

KITK Offers New Programming, Impacts A Record 1,200+ Children In The Valley

STORY CONTRIBUTED BY NATALIE VARTY AND JESSICA ELDRIDGE



The well being of our youth is greatly at stake. According to the Center of Disease Control and Prevention, approximately 12.5 million American children between ages two and 19 are considered obese; and, since 1980, obesity prevalence among children and

adolescents has almost tripled. In Arizona, 15.7% of all children ages two through five are overweight, and 14.6% of all adolescents in grades nine through 12 are overweight. Childhood obesity is an epidemic that threatens the health and futures of children, but Kids in the Kitchen (KITK) continues to change this story for the Arizona youth.



A student shows off his muscles to JLP President Anne Trauter during the "Little Chefs" Cooking Class at the Boys and Girls Club at the Salt River Pima Reservation.

KITK, a signature program of the JLP and directly tied to our focus area of "Building a Healthy Arizona," provides a menu programming designed to empower youth and families to engage in healthy, active lifestyles. We partner our nutrition programming with leading youth development organizations including the Boys and Girls Clubs of East Valley, Saint Vincent de Paul's Dream Center and the Girl Scouts

Cactus Pine Council. To make the greatest impact, we focus our

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10 »

A KITK FAVORITE RECIPEI

INGREDIENTS

- Banana slices
- Vanilla Wafers
- Nutella
- Sprinkles
- coconut flakes

- 1. Place sprinkles, coconut and chocolate chips in separate bowls.
- 2. Spread a bit of Nutella on the inside of two vanilla wafers.
- 3. Place a banana slice in between the two wafers.
- 4. Roll the 'sandwich' in sprinkles and/or coconut.

Thank you, **Junior League** of Phoenix for all you do for

our communities

Connect and Save at frysfood.com







- and/or

DIRECTIONS





Dreamlyn Johnson leads a group of Girl Scouts to their first station at a November 2014 KITK event.



Christina Greenberg and Mattea Dibble teach students how to compare hidden fat and sugar in their favorite sauces.



Two participants who visited the KITK booth during the October 2014 Touch-A-Truck fundraiser were serious about healthy nutrition!

JLP Volunteers at

KITK Events

663

Hours of Service by

JLP Volunteers



2014-15 by the numbers



Partner Organizations



Mastery of Curriculum by KITK Participants

1,<u>200 196</u> **Children Impacted**

Throughout the Year



Hosted Events by KITK

After Logging More Than **600 Service Hours Last** Year, KITK Is Gearing Up For Another Busy Year

« CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

efforts around underserved populations and low-income communities in Guadalupe, Mesa, South Phoenix, Central Phoenix and tribal lands.

KITK affects positive change in communities through the following interventions led by our trained volunteers:

- . "KITK U" monthly lessons with a League-developed, standards-based nutrition curriculum, measuring student impact over time through small group teaching pedagogy.
- Large events where participants rotate through experiential stations focused on exercise, healthy food preparation, the food plate and making healthy food choices in social and cultural contexts.
- · Public events that engage youth in short demonstrations while providing educational tools to parents in English and Spanish.
- "Little Chefs" cooking classes that supply Native American families on the Salt River Reservation with diabetes management and prevention techniques, kid-friendly recipes and take-home meals for future enjoyment.

EXPANDING OUR IMPACT

Throughout the 2014-15 League year, JLP volunteers impacted over 1,200 kids in Maricopa County with over 600 service hours improving nutrition and exercise awareness through KITK. We appreciate the over 90 different volunteers who served in KITK programming, including the 15 committee members whose passion and commitment continue to make our efforts a true success. We also thank The Junior League of Phoenix Foundation for their generous support during the 2014-15 League year.

In 2015-16, we are excited to package our KITK U curriculum and scale our efforts through a 'train the trainer' model. In the fall of 2015, KITK will train Boys and Girls Club leaders, Girl Scout troop leaders and other youth development leaders by providing them lessons and materials to implement the KITK curriculum within their programs. This will exponentially increase our impact across the Valley and the state. Thank you to The Safeway Foundation and The Junior League of Phoenix Foundation for their generous support during the 2015-16 League year as we continue "Building a Healthy Arizona"!

3, 2, 1... ROCKETS Blasts Off Into 2015-16 Year



ABOVE: Anne Trauter, JLP president; David Skinner, HDR VP/ Southwest Area operations manager; Lara Lennaman, JLP director of operations; and Kelly Kaysonepheth, 2014-15 JLP communications team leader, accept a \$9,350 award from the HDR Foundation.



LEFT: Lauren Dickey, 2014-16 ROCKETS chair, demonstrates a sample experiment at the Teacher Launch Seminar on April 11. Fifty-six educators attended the Seminar, translating to a potential additional 1,735+ children reached by ROCKETS programming.

RIGHT: During select First Friday events, ROCKETS hosts science-based themed classroom events in the JLP Classroom at the Children's Museum of Phoenix to an average of 300 children and their family members per evening.



ROCKETS, or Raising Our Children's Knowledge by Educating Through Science, is a JLP signature program and is a theme-based program that promotes early childhood development of science skills. ROCKETS provides hands-on science activities, supplemented with math lessons, to at-risk children in Maricopa County to help foster problem solving, critical thinking and exploration skills that are critical to future academic success.

In 2014-15, ROCKETS continued its mission by working with more than 2,100 children through its monthly programs at the Children's

Museum of Phoenix, in which the JLP has a designated classroom.

At the fourth annual ROCKETS Teacher Launch Seminar, which was hosted on April 11, 2015, 56 preschool and early elementary school teachers in Maricopa County participated in a half-day training seminar that provided non-stop, hands-on science activities. The Seminar this year was led by Miss Science[™] (Sherri Smith-Dodgson), who is a STEM advocate, media personality and former educator.

At the Seminar, teachers are empowered to find creative ways to integrate science into their daily lesson plans. With the attendance at the Teacher Launch Seminar, ROCKETS has a potential to bring science, math and reading skills to an additional estimated 1,735+ children — making a lasting impact on a student's education for years to come.

On May 13, 2015, the HDR Foundation presented ROCKETS with a \$9,350 grant to continue its programming for the 2015-16 JLP administrative year. The HDR Foundation is an extension of HDR, Inc., which is an international architecture, engineering and consulting company with offices in Arizona. JLP member Kelly Kaysonepheth, who works at HDR, was the employee sponsor of the grant.

"We really appreciate the support of the HDR Foundation on our ROCKETS program," Anne Trauter said. "With this grant, we can continue working with children in Phoenix and inspire them through science."

ROCKETS has been a signature program of the JLP since 2010.

JLP Hosts Screening Event on HPV Awareness CONTRIBUTED BY BLAIR COE SCHWEIGER

The JLP participated in the coordination of a nontraditional prevention partnership which provided a unique opportunity to improve health. In efforts to reduce the risk of HPV-related cancers, through HPV (Human Papilloma Virus) vaccination awareness, the JLP, Genesis City (a program for disenfranchised youth), Arizona Oncology, The Arizona Partnership for Immunization (TAPI), Scottsdale First Church of the Nazarene and the Arizona Immunization Program Office collaborated on screening the powerful documentary Someone You Love: The HPV Epidemic which chronicles the journey of five women as they battle HPV-related cancers with a resounding message of the need for increased awareness of HPV-related cancers and the vaccine that reduces the risk of this cancer that kills close to 250,000 men and women around the globe each year.

The screening was held on April 9, 2015 at Scottsdale First Church of the Nazarene. Approximately 60 people attended and had the opportunity to dialogue with a panel including; an oncology nurse practitioner, a pastor, an HPV cancer survivor and a public health nurse following the screening. In addition to the documentary, two HPV cancer survivors representing the Southwest Chapter of the National Cervical

Cancer Coalition staffed an information table and answered attendees' questions. Exit surveys revealed that 100% of those who completed the surveys would vaccinate their child against HPV and close to 90% will be sharing what they learned about HPV cancers and prevention with others.

The dialogue with the panel following the screening helped answer questions and dispelled myths, brought facts to the forefront, and a sustaining member of the JLP issued a call to action for the community to continue to educate the community about









through vaccination.

bmschweiger@gmail.com.

vaccines and vaccine-preventable diseases.

environment for spreading knowledge about

the sensitive subject of cancer and opened minds and hearts about protecting our

children's futures from HPV-related cancers

If you would like to know more about

helping to educate the community, please

contact JLP member Blair Coe Schweiger at

hosting a screening or are interested in

of worship created a safe and respectful

Bringing diverse partners together in a house





11

¹² pre-saleparty













Rummage Committee Takes It Back To The 80s

The 78th Annual Rummage Sale, the JLP's largest community fundraiser, was held on Saturday, February 21, 2015 at the Arizona State Fairgrounds to



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF PHOENIX

much success. Nearly \$100,000 was raised during the one-day sale.

This year's "Rockin' Rummage" theme for the Rummage Sale took many members back to one of the best decades in history: the 80s. Sideways ponytails, oversized sweatshirts, shoulder pads and bright neon colors were worn during the Pre-Sale Party, which took place the night before the Rummage Sale opened to the public. The Pre-Sale Party provides an exclusive opportunity to shop the Rummage Sale before the general public while enjoying a catered meal, silent auction and fun. The annual event provides bargain hunters

by the numbers



Number of years the Rummage Sale will served the public after the 2016 sale



Number of departments designated at the Rummage Sale 1,200+

Volunteer service hours by JLP Provisional and Active members during the week of the Rummage Sale — not including help from our Sustainers, friends, spouses and community groups

rummageday



a huge array of new and gently-used items at unbelievable rock-bottom prices, with proceeds benefiting local community programs supported by the JLP. There's always a tremendous variety of items available at the sale, including baby items, furniture, clothing, toys, art, collectibles, jewelry, electronics, sporting goods, designer handbags, housewares, home office supplies, store closeouts and much, much more.

Ally Corbin and Danielle Miles chaired the Rummage Committee and will repeat in their roles again for the 2016 sale.

JLP members collect items for the Sale throughout the year. Be sure to save the date for the 79th Annual Rummage Sale:

- Pre-Sale Party: Friday, February 19, 2016
- Rummage Sale: Saturday, February 20, 2016

For more information, visit www.jlp.org.



2

Items are sold at double the price during the Pre-Sale Party, which is exclusive to friends and families of JLP members

During The JLP Rummage Sale, Free Mammograms Are Offered To Uninsured and Underinsured Women

BY BLAIR COE SCHWEIGER

This year, 40 women who might otherwise be in the dark about their risk for breast cancer received free mammograms thanks to a unique program run by The Junior League of Phoenix. In the last 15 years, almost 600 women have received mammograms at the Fairgrounds during our annual Rummage Sale.

The free mammogram program began in part from a grant to the JLP from Susan G. Komen[®] Central and Northern Arizona (Komen CAN AZ). Komen CAN AZ, originally the Phoenix Affiliate of Susan G. Komen, was started by three members of the JLP to honor their friend who lost her life to breast cancer.

For the past two years, the program has been supported through the generosity of Fry's Food Stores and The Desert Cancer Foundation of Arizona.

JLP is fortunate to work in partnership with many physicians, including Dr. Ronald Yunis (husband of member Kelly Edwards Yunis), who refers their uninsured and underinsured patients to the mammograms offered at the Rummage Sale. Many of the women who receive a screening speak Spanish only. JLP board member Blair Coe Schweiger, who speaks Spanish and is a breast health educator, not only has helped in medical translation but has sustained the program for the past 15 years with the help of Sue Holmes, a Sustainer and JLP Administrative Director. Many of the women screened have returned to the Rummage Sale for their mammograms. Additionally, most women screened had no idea of the variety of community services offered by JLP and the diversity of the group's membership.

> Thankfully, most of the mammogram recipients have not needed a follow-up visit with a doctor or further treatment. But for the women who did, the JLP program helped facilitate early detection and gave them a fighting chance of beating breast cancer.

> > The mornings of Rummage are unbelievably busy — by 9:00 a.m., mammography appointments are set up for almost 30 women.

Dollars raised annually during Rummage that benefits JLP's community and leadership training programs

COMPILED BY BRITNI JENSEN A YEAR IN THE LIFE

Provisional year is a whirlwind of excitement, new experiences and new friends. Its purpose is to educate new members on the history, requirements and inner-workings of The Junior League of Phoenix. It also allows new members to meet and get to know each other as they navigate through meetings, events and socials together. The new members are sorted into provisional groups based on factors like location and shared interests, and they're given a mentor to guide them through their first year. The friendships made during the provisional year

JUN



After attending an informational session in the spring and successful application to the League... attend JLP acceptance and welcome brunch.

Meet provisional group and mentor.

JUL

Summer social for all the provisionals!

"I'm a transfer, so I didn't come in as a provisional myself into the (Phoenix) League, so (being a mentor) was an opportunity to meet a bunch of girls who were new to the League. The nice thing about that is because they're all interested in making new relationships, it benefited me that way. The other thing that's neat is that I've been in the League for almost 7 years now, and it's fun to share with new people what the League has to offer."

> KATE LONGLEY, Provisional Mentor (2014-15)





Super Saturday I (Required): Learn about the history and structure of JLP; setting expectations; JLP website overview.

FEB

Attend GMM.

All hands on deck! **Rummage Sale!** Must volunteer at the Rummage Sale for at least 4 hours and donate \$150 worth of quota to the Sale.



In-home with Mentors and provisional group. Learn about the placement lottery process.

SEP

Attend first General Membership Meeting (GMM).



Super Saturday II (Required): Tour of JLP's community programs, both past and present. The Provisional Committee set it up like a scavenger hunt!

MAR

Attend **Placement Fair** before the GMM with any last-minute questions about the committees.



Look at all those Rummage Sale patrons!

Provisional Training and Social. Final pulse check. FAQs.

DFC

Our Leadership! 2014-15 Provisional Chair Jennifer Clausing, 2014-17 Training Team Leader Pam Salter and 2015-16 Provisional Chair Sarah Schmutz



Holiday Social for all the provisionals! A lot of merriment and karaoke were shared at this social.



Super Saturday III (Required): Meet the different teams and committees. Start thinking about placement for my first Active year. Also receive an overview of the Rummage Sale.

OF A JLP PROVISIONAL

often times end up being some of the strongest! As the Junior League transforms with modern times, so has the provisional experience for new members of the JLP. Here's a glimpse of what a year may generally look like for a provisional member.

OCT

In-home with Mentors and provisional group. Initial Pulse Check.

Our fleet of extended vans for the scavenger hunti



Fundraising hours opportunity by volunteering at **Touch-A-Truck**!

APR

Volunteer at a Community Impact shift to fulfill my 4 hours of community requirements.



Must Go-To Event: JLP **White Party!**

Placement lottery takes place at the end of this month.

NOV

Attend a training inhome meeting in lieu of GMMs this month.

Attend or volunteer at the Valley Impact event—Raise awareness of the JLP mission!



MAY

"Overall, I enjoyed getting to know and just being around so many intelligent and well-rounded women. It is truly inspiring! I look forward to building more relationships and gaining valuable life experience with the League for years to come."

Provisional Graduation! Here are some pictures from pictures from

Provisional (2014-15)

Hear about my placement for the next JLP year and receive a welcome note from my committee chair!















2014-15 Provisional Class

Shelly Albrecht Catherine Barnard Elizabeth Benoit Angela Beran Amy Bothman Tu-Nga Burgess Kelsey Bzdok Samantha Calvin Carly Cercone **Corine Chalk** Jennifer Clifford **Raychel DeFranco Bethany Diaz** Mattea Dibble Jenna Dipasgua Darcy Drain Erica Emmons Adrianna Erickson **Kirsten Furlona** Misti Garcia Amy Gavin Sarah Gelman Lauren Gerig Elizabeth Good Tammy Griffin Kimberly Guimarin Camilla Hansen Junelle Harnal Czerina Harvey **Blaire Hawkins** Christina Henderson Lissa Hickman Andrea Holguin Jenice Hughes Michelle Hyde Catalina Ibarrola Korey Jastrzab Dreamlyn Johnson Megan Kase Kelly Klauber Brooke Kowacz

Lauren Krepitch Amy LaGesse Brenda Lee-Harrison Danielle Maksymenko Mona Malone Sandi Martin Megan May **Brittany Mayes** Melissa Mosley Brittany Nagy Kathryn Nail Michelle Nguyen Ericka Nicholes Kristin Nordeen Neika Nowamooz Stephanie O'Connell Samantha Oyler Karla Paton Elizabeth Pomeroy Lindsay Powers Candaice Robetov Elizabeth Rocci Elizabeth Scott Kristie Shah Victoria Sharpe Sabrina Showers Jennifer Snyder Lauren Stapp Michelle Stelter Lisa Stewart Elizabeth Swol **Blythe Tarbox Courtney Timblin** Heather Tremba Lyndsie VandenBerg Kristin Vella Maria Waer Cortney Weeks Kim Weidenaar Talia Wolfgramm Shannon Wright

Interested in joining the JLP or know a woman who might? Look for informational sessions in the spring. Dates are announced online at www.jlp.org.

TELL ME YOUR JLP STORY A PROVISIONAL PROJECT

In 2014-15, all provisionals were assigned special projects within the JLP to augment their first-year experience. The Communications & Marketing Team identified a profile project, asking some provisionals to lead interviews with current Active and Sustaining members. ADRIANNA ERICKSON was one of those provisionals. These are her profiles.



Taking Inspiration From JLP Women

hen I was assigned my provisional project, I learned that I would be interviewing three current members: two Actives and a Sustainer.

I was to create a list of questions to ask them, contact them, and communicate these questions to them (most likely via email). As I created my list of questions for each of them, I recall something that current President Anne Trauter said at one of our Provisional

meetings: "You get out what you put in." It was optional if we wanted to meet the women with whom we were to interview, but email just seemed to be the most convenient way especially with the lives of busy JLP women. I knew I wanted this to be more than just an email comprised of questions and answers, so I made arrangements to meet with each amazing Junior Leaguer and — just like that — I was a changed Provisional.

Jessica Eldridge was the first woman I was fortunate enough to interview. If you don't know who Jessica is, then you probably aren't a member of our League. Jessica was the [2014-15] chair (and face of) Kids in the Kitchen and her dedication to the League is evident. As you talk to her, you feel as though you are talking to your favorite teacher. She is engaging and full of life and truly feels the calling of voluntarism. She encouraged me to "plug into where you are passionate about" as we talked about committee placement in my near future. Her energy is infectious and her drive to better the community is obvious. I've seen Jessica speak at meetings before, but a one-on-one conversation allowed me to see the JLP spirit she embodies through and through.

Jennie Elser was my second interview. I didn't know much about her before we spoke, but what I appreciate about my conversation with her is how similar we are. Both of us grew up here in the Valley and have lifelong friends; but, we both felt the desire to do something more — something different — and JLP called both of our names. Jennie is a stay-at-home mom and I only recently retired that position to work part time for a non-profit. As we conversed, I admired how long she had been in the League and how she felt the call to leadership within the League. Down to earth, funny and incredibly knowledgeable about the JLP, I see Jennie as a one-woman band that can play all the instruments and perform an amazing song.

Elizabeth Saba was my final interview. Elizabeth's dedication to the JLP is admirable and her contribution to voluntarism is one that should be admired by everyone, not just the Junior League. By speaking with this amazing woman, I felt connected to her on so many levels. As we talked about both of our paths and what brought us to where we currently are in our lives, she encouraged me to do what felt right and to be sure to try new things. She gave me sound and quality advice about being a member of the League, a mother of children who are currently in the school system and a woman in today's time. "Listen, learn, commit," she stated. Like a good Provisional, I'm listening.

Eleanor Roosevelt once said: "Life is what you make it, always has been, always will be." Whether we are assigned to retrieve a few questions for a member profile, ask a donor for sponsorship or volunteer in the community, we will only get out what we put it. Spending time with these three Junior Leaguers gave me a better understanding of not only the League and all the opportunities it has for me, but also the power of potential we each hold.

Our greatest asset is our connection to each other and to the rest of the world. Our ability to do more, expect more and ask for more is only strengthened by our ability to stop and get to know each other a bit more.

Thank you Jennie, Jessica and Elizabeth for your time and for helping this Provisional get to know each of you and the League a bit more.

Adrianna Erickson was a provisional in the JLP Class of 2014-15. She is serving as Vice Chair of the Phoenix Day HealthLinks Committee in her first Active year.



(The JLP) has given me the opportunity to build gratitude and thoughtful appreciation.

jessicaeldridge

What is the job you are "paid" to do? I work at ASU for the College of Public Service & Community Solutions as a program manager who designs and leads initiatives for students to connect to the community through skills-based service.

How did you get involved in the JLP? When I left my teaching job, I didn't feel like I had a network. I wanted to meet like-minded individuals and I'm naturally an extrovert, so the JLP seemed to be the perfect fit.

What event has made the biggest impact on

your JLP career? Creating and piloting the curriculum for Kids in the Kitchen. It gave me an opportunity to impact the League in a different way. The League allowed me to create and build a nutrition curriculum that enabled me to tie back into my teaching days and it went from an idea to greatly expanding the impact of KITK. I feel that I can now pass that torch and allow the program to continue to grow.

How would someone else describe you? Uberpassionate, committed, hard worker, FUN!

Do you have a favorite JLP "aha" moment? If so, what is it? First time I had that moment was my provisional year. Jenny Holsman Tetreault saw the potential in me and gave me the confidence that leadership is possible even though I was new to the League. I am so grateful to have her as a mentor, and I try to pay it forward by inspiring the next generation of leadership to take action.

How has JLP changed your life? It has given me the opportunity to build gratitude and thoughtful appreciation. One of the important things we have started to focus on is to be grateful and thankful for the people who are helping us out. The KITK committee has begun to send out thank you notes to all of our volunteers because we want them to know we appreciate their time.

In one word, describe what it feels like to be a volunteer with the JLP. Fulfilling, complete, whole!

Jessica Eldridge is in her third Active year. She served KITK for three consecutive years; the last two as Chair. In 2015-16, she is Chair of the Community Impact Committee.



The JLP has allowed me to do things I never thought I would do, including the leadership positions I have been in.

What is the job you are "paid" to do? I'm not paid to do it, but I am a stay-at-home mom to a 4 year old, a 9 year old and a 12 year old.

What does the JLP mean to you? The JLP to me is a place where I can better the community and myself, along side some amazing women.

What has surprised you the most about your time with JLP? How long I've been doing it! I keep staying in year after year, mostly because of the great relationships I've made and the fantastic opportunities. The JLP has allowed me to do things I never thought I would do, including the leadership positions I have been in. I never thought I would chair a fundraiser or be on the Board of Directors and now I've done both!

What is your favorite JLP moment you have

experienced? I have had a lot of them over the past 10 years. But one that sticks out would be when I chaired the The Wellness Community, a program where we helped organize social events for teens diagnosed with cancer. I invited one of the teens, Rosie, to speak about the program at a GMM. She was so nervous, but was able to get up in front of over 100 women and talk about the impact the program had made in her life. She did a great job and I was so proud of her!

How would someone else describe you? I would hope they would say that I am funny, down to earth, positive and likes to have a good time. But that they might also say I am committed, detailed and diplomatic. Hopefully, I'm balanced! What do you look forward to in the future? I'm looking forward to the next two years on the Board of Directors and for the opportunity for positive changes in the League.

How has JLP changed your life? First of all, I have met some amazing women! I have also had so many new opportunities to serve the community. I have gained leadership skills I never imagined when I first joined. Through the leadership opportunities that I have had in the JLP, my resume continues to grow even though I don't "work."

In one word, describe what it feels like to be a volunteer with the JLP? Fulfilling and fun! I know it's two, but I can't pick just one.

Jennie Elser is on the Board of Directors as an Active Director at Large through 2017. This is her 11th Active year.

It's not always convenient to volunteer, but do it anyway.

What was your favorite placement while you were an Active? I enjoyed most of my placements; Resource Allocation and Review Committee was probably the most educational in understanding how the League assigned the dollars and volunteers we had at the time.

What placement was out of your comfort zone and why did you choose it? Corporate Contributions. The League needed members to work on an infrastructure to consolidate the way we asked for donations. Because we had several fundraisers to support, we needed a "clearing house" (for lack of a better word) and a professional approach to securing support for our events. Looking back now, I know that experience would have been my master's thesis if I had been in school at the time.

I also met and worked with the entire range of Junior League members, Provisionals, Actives and Sustainers and, in some instances, families of Sustainers. The headquarters fundraising and what is now the JLP Foundation sprung from those efforts. Big effort with great results! How did you first become involved with the JLP? My friend and sustainer Marcia Sobek encouraged me to join when I moved back to Phoenix full time.

Can you tell me a time where you had the "JLP moment" and felt the impact of what you were doing? There are so many times that this happened over the years. I am not sure whether you have program success stories come to the GMMs, but we had people come from our programs and explain how our commitment was impacting the community directly. I have really enjoyed the updates at the Valley Impact Luncheon. It is wonderful to see what we are doing now.

How would friends describe you? I guess I am afraid to ask. I would want them to describe me as intelligent, beautiful, sensitive, creative and funny, but they most likely would describe me as tenacious, dedicated, matter of fact, blunt...maybe funny.

In one word, describe what it means to be a part of the JLP? This cannot be done. Friends, community, opportunity, change, impact, a good thing...



What do you wish people knew about the JLP? It is a lifelong commitment. The core of what we do is to improve the community in which we live. Sometimes we see an opportunity or need that has not been addressed and we address it, but often we collaborate and improve or participate in a project that is already in place and may need some assistance.

Do you have any advice to a Provisional or new

Active? Listen, learn, commit. It is not always convenient to volunteer, but do it anyway. You never know who you will meet or what will spark your interest. Keep the personal connections that you make. A personal phone call can make all the difference in this world.

Elizabeth Saba is a Sustainer. She joined the JLP in 1994. In 1995, she was awarded the Mary Harriman Community Leadership Award. She was also named the 2012 JLP Sustainer of the Year. Elizabeth continues to serve in several advisory roles for the JLP.

DOUBLE THE TRUCKS, DOUBLE THE CROWD 2ND ANNUAL TOUCH-A-TRUCK

The second annual Touch-A-Truck (TAT) was held on Saturday, October 18, 2014 at the Paradise Valley Mall Sears parking lot.

Over 2,000 visitors experienced JLP's Touch-A-Truck, which allows children to touch and explore life-sized work vehicles — such as construction equipment, dump



trucks, fire trucks, police cars, helicopters, and military vehicles — and learn about how they help serve their communities.

Food trucks, mascots and other vendors were also on site to provide a fun, entertaining experience.

The educational fundraiser supports the JLP's community programs and goal of positively impacting the lives of children and their families.

"Touch-A-Truck embodies the JLP focus area of 'Building a Healthy Arizona,'" said Gretchen Kinsella, chair of the 2014 event. "Not only does it include physical and educational activities, it also allows families to spend quality time together, which is healthy for everyone."

Kinsella and Stacy Medeiros will co-chair this year's TAT, which is slated for November 7, 2015. Tickets can be purchased in advance online at www.jlp.org. Prices are \$5 a person or a family pack of five tickets for \$20. Prices will increase by \$1 if purchased on site at the event. For more information, visit www.jlp.org.













the WHITE PARTY SECOND ANNUAL EVENT





A WHITE HOT AFFAIR The Junior League of Phoenix hosted the White Party, which is an annual, elegant cocktail

The Junior League of Phoenix hosted the White Party, which is an annual, elegant cocktail fundraising party. This year, it was hosted at SkySong in Scottsdale on Saturday, April 18, 2015. Guests were asked to wear their best all-white attire to mix, mingle, and dance the night away. All proceeds benefited the JLP's community programs and leadership development initiatives. Shannon Larson was the 2014-15 chair of the Special Events Committee, which puts on the White

Party. Kerstin Harper will lead the planning this year as 2015-16 Special Events Committee, which puts on the white The 2016 date for the third annual White Party will be announced this fall. Look for it at www.jlp. org, where you can also purchase tickets.











#WomenLeadingChange

2015 JLP AWARD WINNERS

Mary Ogilvy Golden Kazoo Award

This award is a symbol of the lighthearted enthusiasm a member brings to the JLP. It honors someone who brings a humorous spirit to our group.

Kelly Kaysonepheth is not only a dedicated JLP member, but she easily incorporates a carefree spirit into all she does for the League, most recently serving as the 2014-15 Communications Team Leader. Her fantastic sense of humor combined with being an incredibly enthusiastic and happy leader gives her a strong ability to make hard work fun. She keeps the positive, light-hearted enthusiasm going even when projects get rough.



When I heard my name announced for the Golden Kazoo, I immediately wondered if I was the 'loud one' in the group. Personally, that's how I always associated this award. Was that me this year? And then I heard some other associated words: fun, humorous, light-hearted, spirited. Okay, I'll accept that!

In the insanity of my life chasing deadlines for a living, Junior League has always been my outlet. The last thing I want is for JLP to feel like work. Despite that, I know that we still work hard in the JLP, very hard. We do it because we believe in our projects and our mission.

The work we do in JLP is not always glamorous. Working with kids who haven't washed their hands in awhile? Pass the antibacterial soap. Sorting items for Rummage? Bring your own gloves. Balancing a committee budget? I was an English major; numbers aren't my thing!

Really, what keeps us coming back?

For me, it's the laughter and glass (or two) of wine you share after a crazy volunteer experience herding 300 children on a Saturday morning.

It's the passion you have for a community program because you saw its successes firsthand.

It's the excitement you have for the woman inheriting your leadership position knowing the challenges and opportunities ahead for her and her team.

It's the opportunities ahead to serve on community boards and be an extension of JLP to create even greater impact.

And, along the way, it's the "life updates" — my personal favorite — that give us reason to celebrate together: promotions, engagements (update: Tony has not proposed as of this publication deadline), weddings, babies and more.

Those are the things I love about the Junior League that keep me in check.

It's an honor to receive the Golden Kazoo Award. I'm raising my glass to toast to all of you who inspire me everyday through your work in the JLP. You're all awesome — truly women leading change!

Mary Harriman JLP Community Leadership Award

This award honors someone who has gone above and beyond in her JLP work, and who has made a large, long-lasting mark on our organization.

Grace Gaabucayan stands out as a shining star, who has helped ease the transition to our new two-board structure. She has gracefully handled leadership changes at HQ and has stepped in to fill sometimes not-so-fun vacancies, including serving as Treasurer this past year. Grace is passionate, funny, caring and knowledgeable, and she kept our budget in the green! She also is able to do an outstanding downward dog!



I moved back to Phoenix and joined The Junior League of Phoenix in 2012 after 12 years on the East Coast; in part to reconnect with my hometown community, and partly to develop skills that are not a core function of my 'real' job.

My decision to apply for a League leadership role was fairly organic. Like a lot of us, I am hyper-competitive, very independent, and enthusiastically ask for (sometimes too much!) responsibility. Over the past year as Treasurer, I've learned that leadership is more about listening, assessing an issue from all sides (especially ones that conflict with my own understanding) and setting a clear vision that everyone can find their own way to work towards. It's more about making more leaders than proving that I. can. do. it.

I've also found that I am smarter when my ideas are vetted, stronger when I ask for support, and more nimble when I trust others. AND... the League is better when we share our goals, knowledge, efforts and successes.

We don't know how lucky we are to be surrounded by such capable women who are as passionate about our mission as we are individually; and, similarly in our careers and our lives, we certainly don't take enough advantage of just how much we (the JLP, women in general and strong leaders in our workplaces and communities) are willing and eager to help each other. I'm now a huge proponent of this idea of support and celebration, both personally and professionally, and strongly encourage us all give it a go.

So... thank you for the honor of the Mary Harriman Community Leadership Award, and for the opportunity to grow as a leader and as a person.

BUT, as above, it's not about me, it's about ALL of us. Here's to us!!! Happy Hour soon.....

Sandra Day O'Connor Community Service Award

This award honors a member who has demonstrated consistent, outstanding dedication and service to the JLP and the community at large.

Bianca Cords has dedicated herself though her work in the JLP and beyond. She is currently the Community Team Leader for the JLP and is also on the board of Playworks, which is a national nonprofit to transform children's physical and emotional health. Her leadership skills, friendly personality and devotion to our community programs, has continued the excellence of the JLP when it comes to improving our community!



I joined The Junior League of Phoenix in 2010 to make friends. My family had just moved to Arizona from Chicago, and, as a stay-at-home mom to two young children, I was really feeling alone.

Volunteer service had always been a part of my life, and the JLP seemed to offer a structured way to volunteer and meet new people at the same time.

Now, five quick years later, the JLP has given me the friends I was hoping for, but it has also given me a lot more. I am surrounded by smart, hardworking, dedicated women who truly believe in the JLP mission. I am so proud to call these women my friends.

Along the way, I saw the potential that the JLP — this group of powerful, remarkable women, both Actives and Sustainers — has to affect change in Phoenix, and decided to take a leadership role in trying to bring that change about. I helped shape the direction of our current focus area of 'Building a Healthy Arizona,' which is a cause that is near and dear to my heart. I am excited to see the continued growth of our signature programs, Kids in the Kitchen and ROCKETS, and am extremely proud of our founding sponsorship of Fresh Express. I'm biased, but our Community Team rocks. :)

Simultaneous to my work in the JLP, I have become passionately involved in the work of another nonprofit, Playworks. My training in the League has given me the confidence to join the Playworks Arizona board in 2011, and I've been fundraising and advocating for Playworks ever since.

I'm proud of receiving the Sandra Day O'Connor Award. I'm proud of the work that we are doing in the community, and I'm excited to push forward and can't wait to see what we accomplish next. I know I am setting an example every day for my kids about how important it is to serve others.

I hope every Junior Leaguer looks at me and sees someone whose life has truly benefited as a result of her membership, and who is working hard to pay it forward as a result. Thank you



COMPILED BY NATALIE VARTY



Cathy Comer will begin her term as president of the JLP in 2016. Since joining the JLP in 2002, Cathy has traversed a number of roles that have taken her through a path diverse in leadership and experience.

Q. Describe a typical day in your life. I work for Xerox Services as a Recruiting Manager and some days I work from home and some days at my office in Tempe. I enjoy the fact I can work remotely, so when I have a Junior League meeting in the evening, I can be home with my two Lab puppies during the day. Most of my day is spent on the phone, so I am not one to like to chat on the phone just for fun.

Q. What prompted you to join the JLP? I had a friend invite me to join as she knew I liked to do volunteer work.

Q. What placement have you enjoyed the most?

This is a hard question as I have enjoyed almost every placement. One would be Girl Scout First Saturday program, since I double placed myself on this committee for all 4 years that we had the program. I also really enjoyed being on the Provisional committee. I was a mentor and Vice Chair.

Q. In your work at the JLP to date, what accomplish-

ments make you most proud? I really am proud of being involved with the clean up in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. Also, when I was the VP of Finance, I had 4 people from my council that were elected into Leadership roles and all but 2 of my council were in some type of leadership role the next year. I had set a goal early on to ensure everyone on my council that wanted a leadership role would be ready for it, and they were.

Q. What challenges and solutions do you see ahead for

JLP? I have been in leadership for most of my 13 years in the League and have never been one to sit back and just expect things to resolve itself. I have been someone who sees something that needs to be fixed and presents solutions. I was reminded by a friend that if I want to see positive change in the JLP, I needed to be the change. I want to focus on servant leadership not just focusing on serving our community but serving our membership as well. I think the JLP has changed a great deal in the last decade and we have to make some changes if we want to sustain our membership. I know we have many challenges ahead, such as decreasing membership numbers and competing for donor dollars for our fundraisers. I hope that I can use

my experience, leadership and business acumen to help us overcome these challenges.

Q. Who is your role model and how has he or she

influenced you? Within the JLP, there are so many women I look up to; but, if I had to name one, it would be Kathleen Kassman. She was my Council VP the first time I chaired a committee. I learned so much from her on how to lead a group of volunteers and the importance of understanding our governing documents and parliamentary procedure. It really had an impact on me and how I have stayed in leadership all these years.

Q. What woman, living or dead, would you most like to sit down with and talk to about her life? My

Grandmother. She passed away from breast cancer when I was 13. I would love to chat with her about things I had no clue about at that young age. I would love to have her tell me about the people in the box of pictures I have from her, so I could better scrapbook them and capture the history of our family as well as get her thoughts on how hard I have worked to raise money for breast cancer research in her honor.

Q. What are you looking forward to in your

new position? I am looking forward to the abundance of training I will get from attending the AJLI conferences and bringing back those best practices to the JLP. I am looking forward to hearing from our members what they want from me as their next President and being able to implement changes that will better our League. I am looking forward to taking an active role in membership growth and retention. Finally, I am looking forward to continuing to perfect the (governance) changes that Maria Cody, Anne Trauter and Lara Lennaman, in conjunction with the Action Learning Team, have set in motion.

randomtidbits

"I have two Lab Mixes that are my 'fur babies,' Jameson and Sambuca, that I rescued... but, really, they rescued me. I only have kids with four paws and they are not spoiled, they are well loved."

"I have used my vacation for volunteer work more times than I can count, including going to Argentina with Habitat for Humanity (pictured above)."

"I was a Big Sister with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central AZ, serving on their Association Board for 10 years. I had 3 little sisters, including my very first little, who is now 30. We are still as close as we were when she was a kid. "

"Many moons ago, I was a pageant girl, and I still have the tiaras to prove it!:"

"My nickname, Cee Cee, that most of the kids in my life call me, is from when I worked at Desert Sky Pavilion, and we had 4 Cathy's working there. Since my initials were CC, and we already had a Cathy and Kathryn working there, they gave me the name Cee Cee."

"Say YES to leadership."

AND OTHER ADVICE FROM CATHY FOR JLP MEMBERS

- Get involved and stay involved.
- Ask for help when you need it (asking for help does not mean you have failed).
- Attend every training you can, especially the ones sponsored by AJLI.
- Hang in there, don't quit because you have a hard year that placement may just not have been for you and next year might be great. That has been my experience. I have had placements that were not so great and I have had placements that I loved.
- Keep your commitments. If you commit to something, do it. If you absolutely can't be there, find a buddy who will cover for you. Don't forget: If you don't show up, there is not someone always there to cover for you if you have not arranged it.
- Be kind and supportive of each other. We are all volunteers with very full and busy schedules outside of the JLP. If we are supportive of each other, we can get through anything.
- Just ask people for what you need. Doing the personal ask to get a donation, to get someone
 to attend an event, to join our organization, or to help you with whatever project you are working
 on, goes a long way.
- Don't rely on social media and email. Once in awhile, go old school and send an actual thank
 you note letting someone know how much you appreciated the work they did on behalf of the JLP.

²² foundation**updates**



Board members of The Junior League of Phoenix Foundation at the Annual Meeting in May. They made their funding announcement presentation for 2015-16 to the music of "Uptown Funk" by Bruno Mars.

Foundation Announces Funding Initiatives For 2015-16 JLP Year

The Junior League of Phoenix Foundation has invested in The Junior League of Phoenix's mission to develop the potential of women, improve the Phoenix community, and promote voluntarism.

The Junior League of Phoenix Foundation was developed to support the long-term success of The Junior League of Phoenix.

After a competitive funding review, The Junior League of Phoenix Foundation Board of Directors provided funding to JLP for a total of \$12,500 for the 2015-16 administrative year.

The Junior League of Phoenix Foundation is proud to announce its decision to fund the following:

 League-wide training for Provisionals, Actives and Sustainers that will be facilitated by a national professional facilitator for a total of \$4,000.



- Sponsoring one JLP member to attend the AJLI Organizational Development Institute.
- Sponsoring one JLP member to attend Southwest Exchange.
- Investing in Kids in the Kitchen (KITK), which was started by The Junior League of Phoenix in 2005 to help address the urgent issue of childhood obesity and poor nutrition. Through hands-on experiential learning, KITK helps kids be healthy. The Foundation awarded the program with an additional investment of \$6,500 for the 2015-16 administrative year, with investments benefiting KITK programming totaling \$14,000 over the years.

Support the JLP Foundation

Consider a gift to the JLP Foundation! Your generosity will fund the future collaborations and programs that have defined The Junior League of Phoenix and strengthened our community for more than eight decades.

To make a donation, please visit: https://foundation.jlp.org/.

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF PHOENIX FOUNDATION LEGACY DONORS

<u>\$25,000</u>

Elizabeth and Bryan Saba

\$10,000 Ann Denk

Ann Denk Cynthia Good Suzanne and Leonard Huck Betty Kitchell Catherine Lemon B. Kay Thompson

\$5,000

Arlene and David Gimbel Melinda Morrison Gulick Lisa and James Keylon Peggy Withers

<u>\$2,500</u>

Allen-Heath Memorial Foundation Sharon Cohen Barbara and Terry Fenzl Cheryl Hintzen Nancy S. and Paul Hurley Laura Huser Janet Hutchinson Kathleen Kassmann Tara Kilby Lisa David Osselaer Lois and Steve Savage Jane W. Thorne Wendy and Paul Velaski Kari Zangerle

\$1,000

Suzanne Biskind Alexandra Brzezinski Laurie Buczek Joyce Buekers Carol & Larry Clemmonsen Maria Codv Heather Cole Karen Demaso Patricia and Randy Elder Arlene Goodes Cheryl Hintzen-Gaines Jill Kipnes Kimberly Ann Knotter Karen Kotalik Margaret Kurtz-Swanson Kirsten Laderach

Kim Markie Anna Maria Matteucci Sara C. Mayer Joan Murphy Carolyn O'Malley Jerre D. O'Malley Beth and Michael Pryor Tasha Sharp Aimee and Oliver Smith Carolyn Strandberg Marcella Symington Faye Tait Catherine and Matthew **Bourne Weidner** Elise Whyte Barbara Young

Donors are recognized at the Foundation's established legacy giving levels through the 2014-2015 administrative year.





















I AM JLP



MEMBERS: Scan and download the 'I AM JLP' sign (or retrieve from Digital Cheetah) and take it with you wherever you go next!







PARTYONABIKE











The Junior League of Phoenix, Inc. 2505 North Central Avenue • Phoenix, AZ 85004 www.jlp.org = 602,234,3388

SAVE THE DATES

| 09.02.15 | September General Membership Meeting |
|----------|--|
| 10.07.15 | Contract Ceneral Membership Meeting |
| 10.14.15 | Kendra Scott Winter Launch, proceeds benefiting the JLP |
| 10.24.15 | Valley Impact Social |
| 11.07.15 | 3rd Annual Touch-A-Truck |
| 01.06.16 | January General Membership Meeting |
| 02.03.16 | February General Membership Meeting |
| 02.19.16 | Rummage Pre-Sale Party |
| 02.20.16 | 79th Annual Rummage Sale |
| 03.02.16 | March General Membership Meeting |
| 05.04.16 | JLP Annual Meeting / May General Membership Meeting |
| | |

Spring TBD The White Party

*bold represents JLP fundraisers and/or public events