Dear JLP Members,

I cannot believe we are more than halfway through the JLP year. I am so proud of everything we have accomplished. At our January General Membership Meeting, Vice President of Community Stephanie Lippincott shared some exciting community impact statistics compiled by the Brand Marketing & Public Relations Committee Co-Chairs Natalie Kay and Jacqui Rothera. Just to name a few, since July 2018, more than 51,912 pounds of food have been bagged with the Food to Families Committee at SHARE. Further, the Kids in the Kitchen Committee supplied 1,858 healthy meals and snacks to children over the past six months. See the infographic in this Hotline for the complete list of statistics! This is incredible and only reflects the first half of the JLP year.

In addition, you should have received an invitation to participate in the JLP’s Diversity & Inclusion survey. We are striving for 100% participation. Please complete this survey and help us with this important initiative. Contact MB Horvath or Porsha Addison, Diversity & Inclusion Task Force Co-Chairs, with any questions.

Finally, the JLP’s First Little Black Dress Initiative (“LBDI”) took place from March 11 through March 15. LBDI was a week long, social media and word-of-mouth driven fundraising campaign that uses the “little black dress” to raise awareness about food insecurity in the Greater Philadelphia region. Participating league members wore one LBD for five consecutive days in an effort to raise donations for certain of our community partners including:

- Share Food Program - $5,000 – sponsor a food package for 250 low-income families
- The Food Trust - $5,000 – send 24 classrooms of kindergartners home with four weekends worth of fresh produce for their families.
- Jewish Relief Agency - $5,000 – provide 500 Family Friendly Bags, which include healthy snack options for kids, as well as peanut butter and jelly.
- Face to Face - $5,000 – support approximately two weeks of lunches.

The Board is also pleased to announce that as of March 19, 2019, we have raised over $17,000, which the JLP will match for a total of over $34,000. Funds will be presented to our four community partners at our upcoming Annual Meeting on April 24, 2019.

Thank you for everything that you are doing to make the Junior League of Philadelphia #unstoppable.

Meredith Nissen
President, 2018-2019
president@jlphiladelphia.org

The Junior League of Philadelphia, Inc. 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. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.
AFFINITY GROUPS ARE ALIVE AND THRIVING!

By: Katie Delach

In Fall 2016, the Social Committee launched affinity groups to provide League members having common interests with an opportunity to come together in a more intimate setting to share fun, educational, and cultural experiences such as fitness classes, exploration of neighborhoods or events in and around Philadelphia, dinner parties, and more. Affinity groups are open to all League members. Groups are hosted on their own individual Facebook pages. League members interested in joining a group can request to be added to each page.

Affinity group events are meant to be spontaneous and ad hoc. Any member of the group can post, and the events are not listed on the JLP calendar. Affinity groups are intended to be as inclusive as possible. If a League member is interested in participating in or coordinating events for an affinity group but are not on Facebook, they can contact Social Committee leadership or affinity group administrators to find out about upcoming events and discover other alternative ways to stay up-to-date and spread the word about get-togethers they are interested in coordinating.

Links to join affinity groups listed below can be found on the JLP website. We encourage others to raise their hands if there are groups they would be interested in starting.

- Philly Explorers
- Dinner Club
- Going Out Group
- Mom’s Club
- Book Club
- Fitness Club
- Singles Group
- Sports Watching Group

JLP THRIFT SHOP CELEBRATES GRAND REOPENING

By: Michelle Garell

The JLP Thrift Shop’s grand reopening was a huge success! The day kicked off with a ribbon cutting, giant scissors and all. Ahead of the celebration, advertisements were placed with Main Line Today, Main Line Parent, the Bryn Mawr Film Institute, and various social media channels, which helped us achieve over $5,000 in sales. The day was celebrated with surprise hourly sales, and a live DJ playing all our favorite hits, including “Thrift Shop,” of course. Additional funds were raised through a 50/50 raffle, which was won by a loyal JLP Thrift Shop customer. Personal shopper Lauren Hartman of Trousseau Style gave a demonstration on how to revamp your wardrobe using Shop merchandise. Lauren covered styling essentials including mixing and matching prints, accessorizing, and general wardrobe best practices. Nothing Bundt Cakes’ Ardmore location generously supported our cause by donating bundtinis, adorable mini bundt cakes, in a variety of delicious flavors.

Thanks to everyone who came out to shop or volunteered their time to make this a memorable event!
Since the start of the 2018-2019 League year, the Social Committee - a group of eighteen enthusiastic and outgoing ladies - has been meeting regularly to plan social events for League members to get to know others in their neighborhoods and across the League. Some of these events have been scheduled in tandem with General Membership Meetings, but new this year is a focus on smaller, more localized neighborhood events (such as happy hours) to allow women to get to know members who live or work in their own communities.

Some of our events are old favorites that have proven very popular in the past, such as November’s axe throwing event at Urban Axes, and our Single’s Mixer at U-Bahn in January. The committee has hosted a number of events this year: a monthly happy hour at Howl at the Moon, a pizza demo and happy hour at North Italia in King of Prussia, post-General Membership Meeting happy hours, a Brown Bag White Elephant wine tasting and wine exchange at JLP Headquarters, and a Crunch and Brunch fitness class and brunch.

Check the JLP calendar for upcoming Social Committee events!
GET THAT MISSION CREDIT DONE
WITH THE LADIES OF THE DIAD COMMITTEE!

The Done in a Day (DIAD) Committee is off to a great start with our community partners! With Philabundance, we have already inspected and sorted over 7,500 pounds of corn this season. With MANNA, JLP prepared 950 meals in one session alone. Sign up to join us in the community today!

DIAD organized a visit for ten volunteers at MANNA on January 7, where we prepared and seasoned chicken, tilapia, and potatoes.

BE A PART OF THE 1912 SOCIETY

By: Erin Bushnell and Rebecca Calder

The Junior League of Philadelphia relies on our Annual Fund donors to sustain our mission and make an impact on the greater Philadelphia community. This year, we are pleased to introduce the 1912 Society, created to acknowledge donors who have consistently contributed year after year. Any donor who has contributed for the past three years will be inducted into the 1912 Society during the May Celebration and the Spring Sustainer Luncheon. Each year, the newest members of the 1912 Society will be acknowledged with a special keychain as a token of appreciation and way to show JLP pride.

Group photo (left to right): Caroline Keyser, Samantha Williams, Jennifer Bebey, Jayme Decker, Victoria Lynch Mullane, Carly Williams, Kathryn Fenwick, Christina Cecala, Elizabeth Ollero, Chantrelle Harris.
MEMBER MILESTONES

This October on a family vacation, Hollie Smith’s boyfriend (Sandeep Chhabra) made it one for the books! On their last day on Marco Island, he got down on one knee against an amazing sunset and popped the big question. Through happy tears, she said, “yes!” It was an amazing and magical surprise!

Laura Lazewski married Gabriel Williams on October 27, 2018.

Former JLP Thrift Shop employee and current Junior League of Duluth member Jennifer Webb won the Junior League Lifetime Achievement Award in May. She attributes her success and interest in the League to her time at the Thrift Shop.

Amelia Elizabeth Thome was born to Nick and Robyn Thome on Halloween at 6 lbs, 4 oz and 19.7 in. She immediately underwent surgery for a heart condition and is doing very well!

Lily Anne Reynolds, born September 11, 2018 to Thrift Shop Committee member, Rachel and husband, Andrew.

Carrie and Matt Scheitrum had a baby boy in October. Zachary Edward joins his parents and big brother Charlie.

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Celebrating a fabulous member milestone?

New job • Birth of a baby • Wedding celebration • Awards

We want to celebrate with you! Publish an announcement in the next Hotline. Please email hotline@jlphiladelphia.org
Dear Sustainers,

In early December, I, along with some other Sustainers, shared the history of the Junior League of Philadelphia with a group of new members. Anne Hopkins and I met a week before the presentation at Headquarters and spent about an hour looking at JLP memorabilia and documents in the basement. We found ourselves getting lost in old memories and recalling friends when we first met them. We looked at old training programs, community service projects, and committee work and shared stories as we leafed through the boxes filled with treasured memories.

I left Headquarters feeling so proud to be a JLP member. The training I have received has transferred to my career and other volunteer experiences but, most importantly, I have lifelong friends. It is those treasured memories that sustain my membership to the Junior League and my desire to share my experiences. When we all stood up in front of the new members, I felt their energy and excitement to be in the League. These women have many choices to experience volunteerism but they chose the Junior League. We all shared some of our personal experiences. One of the greatest gifts of the League is the training that prepares members to be effective leaders in the community. League members make a difference in the communities in which they serve. Eleanor Roosevelt wrote in her autobiography, This Is My Story, "I had grown up considerably during the past year and had come to the conclusion that I would not spend another year just doing the social rounds... I began to work in the Junior League." Later, Eleanor would meet Franklin Delano Roosevelt. "Franklin Delano Roosevelt would later reminisce that when he first began to court Eleanor, she surprised him with an invitation to visit the Settlement House where she worked as a Junior League volunteer. He recalled that she showed him a side of New York he had never seen before, and he credited Eleanor's activism as the inspiration that awakened his social consciousness and led to their lifelong partnership and commitment to social change," as stated on the AJLI website.

As we journey through this new year, I hope you take time to step back and reminisce about your time in the Junior League. Remember those community service projects, the dedicated volunteers, the families you had the privilege to work with, and the training experiences you never would have experienced without the League. Treasure those friendships you have because of the Junior League.

Wishing you a Happy and Healthy New Year!! Thank you for the gifts you share with the Junior League.

Warmest regards,

Annamarie Geppert Hellebusch
Sustainer Chair 2018-2019

THE LARKS ENJOY A BUSY THREE MONTHS

By: Jill Franks

Halloween costumes replaced the Larks' traditional Junior League t-shirts and colorful vests on October 31. Performing a "spirited" program for the staff and patients of Active Day of Broomall proved to be quite a treat!

Holiday trouping was varied, exciting, and rewarding this season. The Larks' first Christmas performance was at the reopened Barclay Friends in West Chester and the second trouping occurred during the following week at the Wayne Nursing Center. The Radnor Historical Society provided a completely new experience for the group when the Society invited the Larks to perform as a featured event in their Victorian Christmas Celebration. The ladies actually shared the Society's front porch with Santa Claus! Also that week, the Larks sang at a P.E.O. (a women's philanthropic organization) gathering in West Chester and entertained members of the Junior League at the Cooking Klatch hosted by Larks and JLP member Laura Gellrich. The final trouping of 2018 occurred at Rosemont Golden Living where the singers were delighted to present the patients there with 70 holiday arrangements made in collaboration with the JLP Garden Club. The finale to the season was the Larks' annual Christmas Luncheon at the Merion Cricket Club.

The singers look forward to incorporating new music into their winter and spring repertoire with Director Lyndsey Holmes.
This League year is off to a fun and educational start. Among the highlights of our fall schedule were gathering for our scrumptious Annual Dinner in September, learning about the History of Teas from Brenda Sullivan in October, and creating Thanksgiving and Christmas centerpieces under the tutelage of renowned Floral Designer Marty Devenney.

The Garden Club’s community outreach programming continues into its 15th year of service, and our meaningful efforts support the JLP’s volunteer mission. In collaboration with the JLP Larks, the Garden Club enjoyed a special joint workshop in December, where we assembled holiday tray favors for the residents of local nursing homes. Various greens and small Christmas decorations became a welcoming holiday favor that brightened their holiday meal while the Larks performed songs from their holiday repertoire. The clubs received warm feedback from the residents, who expressed their appreciation for the holiday festivities.

The second half of the 2018-2019 League year will be blooming with these terrific events:

**April 24:** The club will travel to Hockessin, Delaware to attend a program by Eileen Boyle, Director of Education and Research for Mt. Cuba Center. She will lecture about hummingbirds, including their food sources from wild flowers, shrubs and trees, their habitats, and nesting requirements. We will also stroll the garden paths to view the spring ephemerals.

**May 20:** The year will culminate with a program led by Jeff Groff, the Director of Interpretation & Estate Historian at Winterthur Museum. He will speak on the styles, families, and landscape designers of historic gardens in Bryn Mawr, Villanova, Haverford, and Penn Valley.

The JLP Garden Club meets on the third Monday of each month at various locations. The club also meets on select Saturdays. Guests are welcome to attend a meeting for a donation of $5, which includes materials and lunch; all meetings end with time for socializing and lunch.

The purpose of the JLP Garden Club shall be to stimulate the knowledge and love of gardening, and render appropriate community service keeping with the stated purpose of the League. It is an opportunity for ALL League members.

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**SUSTAINERS RING IN THE HOLIDAY SEASON**

**NEWPORT STYLE**

By: Deedie O’Donnell

In early December, ten Sustainers, and one member’s husband, traveled to see the Christmas decorations in Newport, Rhode Island. Joan and David Prewitt meticulously planned the excursions, which featured activities showcasing the historic nature of the seaport town from the Revolutionary War to the Gilded Age. They started with a guided tour of the area and town, visited the Redwood Library & Athenaeum, walked through several exquisitely decorated Newport ‘cottages,’ enjoyed a private tour of the Naval War College Museum, and had ample free time to shop at the quaint boutiques. A major highlight was the evening meal at one of the famous restaurants and taverns in Newport. Those of us who attended the trip have many happy memories thanks to the Prewitts and their hard work.
Dedicated Volunteers
Creating Community Impact

**Food to Families**
more than **51,912** pounds of food bagged since July 2018

**Wellness Expo (EYHF)**
- 544 community guests
- 28 flu shots
- 29 Hep C screenings
- 19 dental screenings
- 5 hearing screenings

**Done in a Day**
- 18 volunteer events (Aug-Dec 2018)
- 84 average hours of service in the community per month

**Kids in the Kitchen**
- 310 kids took part in the KITK Fall 2018 program
- 48 weeks of programming (8 schools x 6 weeks)
- 1858 health meals and snacks to children