

theLariat

 JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
FORT WORTH

SUMMER 2021 VOL. 28, ISSUE 3

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Pancake Picnic 2021

**Done In a Day
a Different Way**




thrive!
JUNIOR LEAGUE OF FORT WORTH
2020-2021

Trinity Valley School

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PHOTO PROVIDED BY GITTINGS

President's Perspective

"The best view comes after the hardest climb." We began the year last June in the middle of a global pandemic and facing a seemingly insurmountable mountain. But our mantra and vision to Thrive and help others thrive propelled us upward one baby step at a time. Every aspect of Junior League work had to be re-thought, re-imagined and re-planned. Each obstacle and challenge gave rise to a new idea or creative workaround that enabled us to continue our work in new and different ways. I now stand at the top of the mountain and in awe and amazement at what this determined, creative, diligent group of women who make up the Junior League of Fort Worth has been able to accomplish in this far from ordinary year. Our members have truly stepped up to the plate with persistence and flexibility to continue to fulfill our Mission to promote voluntarism, develop the potential of women and improve our community. I couldn't be more proud!

Part of our strive to thrive includes growth and I know of no better place to do that than JLFW. Each member has the opportunity to serve in new roles that encompass new exposures, new people and new challenges each and every year. It's on the job training at its finest! And each of those roles serves to develop our women members into trained volunteers who are ready and able to serve this community. Conrad Anker said, "The summit is what drives us, but the climb itself is what matters." Keep climbing and growing!

As both my time serving as President and an Active member of this organization comes to a close, I want to say thank you to each and every member who dedicates their time to JLFW and this community. This work is important and makes a difference both for our women members and for real people in this community. It has been one of my greatest blessings and true honor to be a part of this organization for so many years. I can't wait to see all the ways JLFW and its women continue to further this organization and better our community. I know it will be beautiful!

Keep Thriving!

Amber Robertson
Junior League of Fort Worth
President, 2020-2021



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ON THE COVER: Caption

Mission

The Junior League of Fort Worth, 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.

Contributors



Channa Barrett
2020-2021
Editor



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2020-2021
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2020-2021
Lariat Writer



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2020-2021
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Elizabeth St. John
2020-2021
Lariat Writer

Vision

The Junior League of Fort Worth, Inc. will strive to improve our community by directing our resources to positively impact the well-being of children and families by providing a legacy of trained volunteers.

Stop the Stigma Against Mental Illness

By Shay Dial Johnson

SINCE 1949, Americans have observed Mental Health Awareness Month each May. The purpose of Mental Health Awareness Month is to raise awareness and educate the public about mental illnesses, such as the 18.1% of Americans who suffer from depression, schizophrenia, and bipolar disorder, the realities of living with these conditions; and strategies for attaining mental health and wellness. It also aims to draw attention to suicide, which can be precipitated by some mental illnesses.

Additionally, Mental Health Awareness Month strives to reduce the stigma (negative attitudes and misconceptions) that surrounds mental illnesses. Mental health includes our emotional, psychological, and social well-being. It affects how we think, feel, and act. It also helps determine how we handle stress, relate to others, and make healthy choices.

Mental health is important at every stage of life, from childhood and adolescence through adulthood. As an organization of busy women who are often looking after the needs of our families and community, we often neglect ourselves and silently suffer. Many of us may live with depression, anxiety, and other disorders that could prevent us from looking after ourselves or serving to our fullest ability. In an effort to learn about our own mental health, the mental health of others, and help reduce the stigma around mental health issues, the Diversity and Inclusion Committee researched and offered resources on the topic.

Right here in Fort Worth, we found an awesome organization to assist us in education on this very important topic. NAMI Tarrant County or the National Alliance on Mental Illness, is dedicated to improving the lives of all individuals affected by mental illness through education, support and advocacy programs. Their work educates the public about mental illness, works to eliminate the stigma of mental illness, and advocates for increased funding for research into the causes and treatment of mental illness. It was through NAMI's research that we were able to share that the average delay between symptoms of mental illness and treatment is 11 years or that one in five U.S. adults experience mental illness.

On May 27th, the Diversity and Inclusion committee hosted provisional member, **Nedra Simmons** who is a licensed therapist, for a training. She informed attendees about the three types of stigma against mental illness as well as the effects and discrimination that come with those stigmas. The great news is that she was able to offer us ways to address the stigma including talking openly, self-education, people first language, compassion and honesty. Nedra brought along with her, Jennifer Nunley who gave her personal testimony of her daily struggle with mental illness.

In 1971, President Kennedy signed the Community Mental Health Act. He said that individuals with mental health issues "should no longer be alien to our affections or beyond the help of our communities." With education, we're moving in that direction.

Kids in the Kitchen & Healthy Heroes

By Jenna Conan Simpson

CHILD HEALTH AND WELLNESS has been a focus area of The Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc. since 1901. The Kids in the Kitchen program was established fifteen years ago to provide education to children and families about fitness and nutrition, to empower families to make healthy choices, and to fight childhood obesity. Over 200 Junior League locations are now active in the Kids in the Kitchen initiative, and educate children and families in partnership with local organizations, chefs and nutritionists.

Although Kids in the Kitchen looked different this year, it was highly successful. The 2020 event had to be canceled due to COVID-19 precautions, so there were many materials left over that this year's team was able to utilize. Grab bags were assembled containing a jump rope, bike light, water bottle, pedometer, and frisbee and were delivered to each MINTS school campus along with the Healthy Heroes curriculum. At each campus, the P.E. teachers taught the curriculum and provided the grab bags to each student. Students learned how to use the pedometer, had a frisbee throwing contest, and got excited about health and fitness. In addition to the curriculum and grab bags, each campus is going to receive recess equipment provided by the Junior League of Fort Worth to help foster the goals of the Kids in the Kitchen initiative.

Although the larger event could not happen, the Kids in the Kitchen Team,

FWISD liaisons, MINTS coordinators, and MINTS campuses teamed up to ensure that the program reached kids and schools across Fort Worth and found a way for the program to have a lasting positive impact. The Kids in the Kitchen team has already received great feedback on the program from the schools, and we are excited about how they have been able to adjust the program to reach kids this year!





All aBoard

By Jenna Conan Simpson

All aBoard IS A LEADERSHIP PROGRAM that the Junior League of Fort Worth (JLFW) began in 2014. The goal of the program is to prepare members with training and education to participate in JLFW leadership positions as well as board membership and leadership in organizations across the Fort Worth community. Each year a new cohort of members is admitted to the program, where they spend the year learning from community leaders, industry experts, higher education professionals, and other leaders about topics such as advocacy, governance, and non-profit finances. The program also builds members' skills in goal setting, public speaking and leadership.

This year, twenty members were accepted into the All aBoard program following an application process. The All aBoard co-chairs, **Julie Wilkinson** and **Regan Landreth**, were able to alter the program to meet virtually via Zoom due to COVID-19. Program members easily adjusted to the new format, and were able to engage in a meaningful and thoughtful way through both whole-group and small-group interactions. Despite not being able to meet in person, participants were able to connect via handwritten letters, a Thrive bracelet gift for each participant, and a virtual Starbucks gift card given prior to the winter retreat.

As in past years, each meeting was centered around a leadership quality. This year, the group focused on different "be" statements related to leadership: Be Energetic, Be Purposeful, Be Yourself, Be Inclusive, Be Dynamic, Be Engaging, and Be Unified. The speakers tied in with each theme and covered topics such as the enneagram, diversity and inclusion, public speaking, decoding executive presence, and Strengthsfinder. In the winter, members participated in a retreat with the theme Be Connected, which featured guest speaker LaurieGrace Bouldin. LaurieGrace is the founder of Rethink Results, a group that helps organizations grow their results through people and culture.

*All*aBOARD

2020-2021 PARTICIPANTS

Onyinye Akujuo	Carley Montemuro
Emily Atchison	Kate Pinkerton
Sofia Balderamos	Precious Poullard
Lauren Bigham	Amy Radcliffe
Diana Bradley	Meredith Reimann
Timesha Brown	Tyne Reyburn
Savanah Hollowell	Kristine Shanklin
Callie Keyser	Ashley Shea Stella
DaNae Couch Lowe	Monique Waggoner
Lauren McKnight	Eva Williams

Active of the Year Spotlight

Clara Cantu

By Elizabeth St. John

Each year, The League recognizes a leader who goes above and beyond their placement to live out the mission of the organization and push the boundaries of what's next. This year, we celebrate Training Co-Chair, **Clara Cantu**, as this year's Active of the Year. We sat down with Clara to get to know her better.



Active of the Year reveal with President Elect **Becky Escott** and President **Elizabeth Knuckley**



2016 Junior MINTS Pumpkin Patch Field Trip with Sonya Kelly, Principal



2017-2018 Junior MINTS Team Leads With **Amy Yudiski** at YWLA event



General Membership Meeting with YWLA Principal Tamara Albury and JLFW President **Ashley Freer**



2018 Cristo Rey Project Committee Member



2019 Safe Haven Team Lead



Bringing in New Provisionals from Fort Worth ISD **Tonni Grant** and **Danyatta Harrell**



Provisional Pancake Picnic 2016 Volunteer Coordinator at Cook Children Volunteer Desk

Q: Can you skim your JLFW resume for us?

After joining as a Provisional in 2015, I served a variety of different placements such as a Junior MINTS Team Lead, Cristo Rey Project Member, Safe Haven Team lead, Training Committee Member, All Aboard leadership development program participant and most recently as Training Co-Chair.

Q: How has JLFW helped you grow personally and professionally during your time as an Active Member?

I moved to Fort Worth from Houston in 2011 because of my husband's job, and I literally knew no one! From the moment I joined, I fell in love. Aside from making countless connections, I never realized how much an organized group of volunteers can accomplish. The collective drive to serve a community bigger than yourself that exists within every member is what keeps me going. Professionally, my volunteerism led me to be a high-level coordinator for FWISD, beginning with my leadership as a Junior MINT Team Lead working with schools like the Young Women's Leadership Academy (YWLA) and eventually with the YWLA Foundation. From my hard work and



Training Member Toast End of Year Celebration

determination, I started working for Fort Worth ISD in August of 2020 making a real difference in Collegiate Programming for thousands of students. This trajectory I've followed would have never been possible without the presence of the JLFW in my life.

Q: Have you seen your leadership style evolve as a result of the mentorship opportunities The League provides?

Without a doubt, yes! When I first joined the League, I was lucky to have amazing mentors who helped me develop my own unique leadership voice which aided me in all my placements. However, it wasn't until I was a participant in the All Aboard Program that I was able to put all the puzzle pieces together from what my mentors had taught me and what I'd experienced. In taking the Gallup StrengthFinders assessment, I learned my leadership strengths fell in the Context, Strategic, Achiever, Learner and Activator categories. Understanding my leadership strengths helped me reflect on how I make decisions. I now understand

that my decision-making strengths are a result of my understanding of underlying structures within an organization. I would have never known that had it not been for my participation in All Aboard. Knowing these strengths have helped me thrive in both my personal and professional life.

Q: Because you were the Training Co-Chair this past year, I have to ask, what was your favorite training?

We created a training called "Leadership in the League" that provided an opportunity to hear from Board Members and Nominating Chairs on what Board Members look for in a leader. I was most proud of how we were able to pair the content with the timing by strategically hosting it before leadership applications opened for the following league year. It was informative and enlightening for all members but especially for those young in their JLFW experience!

Our Sustainers:

Leading with Wisdom and Insight

By Elizabeth St. John

WHEN ONE LEAVES THEIR ACTIVE YEARS in the League, the yearly requirements, meetings and activities no longer remain necessities to maintain 'member in good standing' status; however, a whole new avenue of opportunity opens up to serve our community in a different capacity. Our sustaining members play a vital role in developing the potential of all women within our League through their active involvement as mentors, advisors, and coaches to many.

Aside from monthly social activities and special interest groups, our Sustainers are integrally plugged into the council structure that governs the Junior League of Fort Worth in a guidance over governance capacity. To ensure the passage of tribal knowledge, proper guidance and support for current council and committee leaders, sustaining advisors are matched to their mentoring roles based on if they served in that capacity during their time as an active member or in their professional lives. Playing strategic roles on our Community, Financial and Legal Advisory Groups and our All Aboard Leadership Development Program, our sustaining members "provide a calm, 'been there, done that,' voice of reason amongst the chaos and are instrumental in helping the next generation of JLFW leaders to grow in their own leadership style" says President **Amber Robertson**.

As in any organization, the mix of active members leading councils and committees ranges from first time leaders to seasoned veterans. Amber Robertson recounts,

"I remember stepping into a few roles as a first-time leader and was lost at where to even start. It was my Sustaining Advisor who provided me a little push in the right direction and was a life saver in so many capacities. So much of her wisdom were pieces of gold to me as I developed my own unique leadership style, one I was just beginning to form."

In addition to providing a steady hand to many of our organizational councils, our Sustainer program has grown throughout the years with the goal of furthering the reach of their mentorship ability deeper in the organization, far past The League's leadership. One of those ways is the 1:1 mentorship pairing done in the All Aboard Leadership Development program meant to develop leaders into being able to serve on the JLFW Board as well as other non-profits in the community.

Looking to the future of sustainer involvement, Sustainer Chair **Peggy Sims** said,

"I've been a Sustainer for over 20 years and in that time, the dedication our sustainer group has to still being actively involved, whether it be through volunteering or special interest groups amazes me. Our programming has grown throughout the years purely based on the drive and determination of our sustainers. I can't tell you how many times a group of women approach me wanting to start up a new social event or volunteer opportunity – they really do take it and run with it! This 'go get 'em' mentality our sustainers have means a prosperous future for the Junior League and our community!"

After the past year where almost all sustainer programming aside from advising was cancelled, our Sustainers have a packed agenda to start getting back together – safely of course. Whether it be social events, special interest groups or serving as a formal mentor or special advisor, our sustaining members help keep the mission of developing the potential of all women alive through their sage council, spirited enthusiasm and caring nature for each JLFW Member.

THANK YOU SUSTAINING ADVISORS!

Kim Blouin
Administrative Council Advisor

Lindy Borchardt
Community Council Advisor

Michael Ann Pritchard
PR&D Advisor

Janeen Lamkin
Diaper Bank Advisor

Natalie Marlin
Education Council Advisor

Sarah Webb
Finance Council Advisor

Mindi Hegi
Fund Development Council Advisor

Wendy Wright
Christmas in Cowtown Advisor

Lisa Ford
Rodeo Program Sales Advisor

Rebecca Emery
Rodeo Program Sales Advisor

Michelle Marlow
Membership Council Advisor

Peggy Sims
Sustainer Advisor

Carrie Cappel
Sustainer Lite Advisor

April Young
Sustainer Lite Advisor

Alice Pritchett
Nominating Council Advisor

Tiffany Rubenkoenig
Board of Directors Advisor

Community Advisors
Ashley Freer

Judy Greenman
Marty Leonard
Sharon Martin

Judy Needham
Jean Roach
Terri Sexton
Jane Sykes

Financial Advisors
Carla Thompson
Joy Ann Havran
Laura Miller

Legal Advisors
Sharon Fulgham
Chandler Grisham
Cara Kennemer
Kathryn McGlinshey



CLASS OF 2021 COLLEGE ACCEPTANCES

Abilene Christian University
 Adelphi University
 Auburn University
 Austin College
 Azusa Pacific University
Baylor University
 Biola University
Boston College
 Boston University
 Bowling Green State University-Main Campus
 California Baptist University
 California Lutheran University
 California State University, San Marcos
 Case Western Reserve University
 College of Charleston
 Colorado State University-Fort Collins
Columbia University in the City of New York
Concordia University-Saint Paul
 Culver-Stockton College
 Curry College
Dallas Baptist University
 Eckerd College
Florida Southern College
 Fordham University
 Furman University
 George Mason University
 Georgia Institute of Technology
 Grand Canyon University
Hardin-Simmons University
 Hawaii Pacific University
 James Madison University
John Brown University
 Kent State University at Kent
 Louisiana State University

Marymount Manhattan College
 Mercer University
 Mississippi State University
 New Jersey Institute of Technology
North Central Texas College
Oklahoma Christian University
Oklahoma City University
Oklahoma State University
 Ottawa University-Ottawa
 Pace University-New York
Parsons School of Design - The New School
 Pennsylvania State University
Pepperdine University
 Point Loma Nazarene University
 Pratt Institute
 Purdue University
 Regis College
 Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
 Rhodes College
 Rice University
Saint Edward's University
 Sam Houston State University
 Savannah College of Art and Design
 School of the Art Institute of Chicago
 Southern Arkansas University
Southern Methodist University
 Southern Oregon University
 Stephen F. Austin State University
 Syracuse University
Tarleton State University
Tarrant County College
Texas A & M University-College Station
 Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi
Texas Christian University

Texas State Technical College - North Texas
Texas State University
Texas Tech University
 Texas Wesleyan University
 The American University of Paris
 The University of Alabama
 The University of Arizona
The University of Mississippi
The University of Oklahoma
 The University of Southern Mississippi
 The University of Tampa
 The University of Tennessee-Knoxville
The University of Texas at Arlington
 The University of Texas at Austin
The University of Texas at Dallas
The University of Texas of the Permian Basin
Trinity University
University of Arkansas
 University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Los Angeles
 University of California, San Diego
 University of California, Santa Barbara
 University of California, Santa Cruz
University of Colorado Boulder
 University of Hawaii at Manoa
University of Mary Hardin-Baylor
University of Miami
 University of Missouri-Columbia
 University of Nebraska-Lincoln
 University of North Carolina School of the Arts
University of North Texas
West Texas A & M University
Western Colorado University
 Wichita State University

*Bold italicized indicates universities where students plan to enroll



Pancake Picnic 2021

By Rémy Brown



THE ANNUAL PANCAKE PICNIC, hosted by the Junior League of Fort Worth (JLFW) in partnership with Cook Children's Medical Center, brings together Cook Children's patients and their families for breakfast and a day full of fun. With the COVID-19 pandemic looming, hosting the event in person was simply not a possibility. Cook Children's staff and the Pancake Picnic committee crafted a creative alternative to make the picnic a reality and ensure it was special for patients.

"With the help of Cook Children's, the Pancake Picnic Committee decided to create nice goody boxes with special fleece blankets to keep patients cozy, fun goodies such as a deck of cards, fidget spinners, an activity book, magnet craft and more," said **Jessica Walsh**, Provisional Philanthropy Team Leader.

Since last year's event was canceled, the committee decided to keep the previous theme, "Barnyard Bash." The t-shirts created last year were revamped and the theme was ever present in special touches including the barnyard boxes, a fun straw, napkins and a farm themed cupcake topper for the pancakes. On Friday, April 23, the t-shirts, along with the goody boxes and pancake breakfast were delivered to 350 patients, ranging from NICU to 18 years old. To add a

personal touch, each patient's box also contained a special note written by a JLFW provisional member.

According to Mary Butler, Cook Children's Health Foundation Associate Gift Officer, the breakfast was an absolute hit. "Once word got out that there was a special breakfast available, patients were ordering them all morning. Each Child Life team was so excited to gather their boxes and distribute them to patients."

More than 100 provisional members participated in preparing for the event.

"Each provisional had the option of going to headquarters to write their cards or write them from home. Many chose to write at headquarters, because it was their first in person event and the first time they had even stepped inside of headquarters," said Walsh. Fifteen provisional members also assisted in preparing the goody boxes.

In addition to the Pancake Picnic, Cook Children's also let JLFW know of the difficulty their NICU has experienced during COVID. The committee decided to provide books for parents to read to their children.

Participating in the event made Walsh realize that even the smallest gifts can have a big impact on someone. "We were so excited to bring a little magic into the patient's day for a bit. We hope we did that for all of the patients that day. The Junior League was so excited to participate again this year.



MEMBERSHIP VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

April 22 – May 21, 2021

TRANSFER IN

Elizabeth Varner A
JL Dallas

TRANSFER OUT

Tanette Filmore S
JL San Diego

Lucinda Hoad A
JL Kansas City

Jordan Jones P
JL Chattanooga, TN

Lauren McKnight A
JL Fort Collins, CO

Erin Redwine A
JL Denver

REINSTATE

BK Johnson S

RESIGN

Madisen Boenker A
Maggie Borton P
Sydney Casterlin, P
Jordan Davidson S
Merrill Jones A
Allison Lilly A
Lauren Loos A
Dior McGruder P
Cari Osborne A
Emily Owens A
Sarah Pluff A
Bailey Rector P
Presley Roberts A
Catherine Saathoff A
Julie Williams A

2021-2022 PROVISIONALS ACCEPT

Jeannine Abusharkh
Danielle Alexander
Catherine Babin
Samantha Bastien
Stefanie Beavers
Casey Bell
Madison Berberet
Megan Bishop
Kerby Blanchard
Tamara Bohanon
Leah Boom
Virginia Brekke
Morgan Brooks
Katie Broussard
Elizabeth Brown
Amy Burdette
Caroline Carvalho
Christina Clanton
Deon Clark
Crystal Culton
Jill Curtiss
Mary Dainty
Mary D'Alise
Piper Daniels
Morvarid DeFelice
Christian Delgado
Katherine Diehl
Khadisha Dildy
Andria Dotson
Nicolette Duvall
Ashley Early
Amy Elliott
Morgan Ford
Demi Fritz
Elizabeth Genrich
Tonni Grant
Kelly Hanley

Danyatta Harrell
Lexie Hart
Amanda Hein
Anita Heiskell
Peyton Hillery
Markeisha Hogg
Caroline Jerome
Kelsey Johnson
Kanesha Keill
Cristie King
Madison Koontz
Jessica Lanter
Aura Recuero- Little
Darby Loth
Lauren Lupton
Carter Martin
Nicole Masole
Bianca McNamara
Erica Mesa
Jessica Meyer
Bailey Michell
Samantha Middleton
Candice Morrison
Komal Moudgil
Madeline Mrozek
Brittney Neill
Abigail Nivens
Kathleen Norwood
Chelsea O'Connell
Caroline O'Donnell
Samara Orr
Morgan Parker
Sarah Payne
Rylee Pedigo
Megan Pfarrer
Lauren Phillips
Natalie Platschka
Mary Hannah Pruett
Dr. Ritu Raju
Alexandra Rohloff
Kaitlyn Rubin

Shayla Rumsey
Kourtney Russo
Courtney Schmuck
Rachel Shannon
Destiny Silva
Nedra Simmons
Mary Stewart
Katherine Stroud
Debra Tenhoff
Tesch Ussey
Morgan Valsin
Jaclyn Vance
Jeannine Vargas
Emily Wade
Debra Wakeland
Lauren Waterfield
Taylor Werner
Tiffanie White
Kristy Wieser
Charmaine Williams
Ronnika Williams
Jennifer Williams
Alexandra Wilson
Catherine "Kiki" Young
Frances Young
Julia Zellers
Alicia Zuniga

ACCEPT AND RESIGN

Ivy Smith Coleman

DECLINE

Isabelle Potts

CONGRATULATIONS

Paige Scott A
Married Heath Jimene
May 14, 2021

Eva S. Williams A
Graduating from TCU
with MBA

TIDINGS

Holly and Cameron Ayres
Daughter, Magnolia
"Maggie" Whiting Ayres
February 18, 2021

Taylor and Stephen Lindsey A
Daughter, Katherine Ruth
January 4, 2021

CONDOLENCE

Andrea Carrington S
Loss of Mother

Natalie Martin S
Loss of Aunt

Teri McGuill S
Loss of Mother-in-Law

Kalee Perry
Loss of Father

Michelle Tilley
Loss of Mother and Father-
in-law

Our Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion

The Junior League welcomes all women who value our Mission. We are committed to inclusive environments of diverse individuals, organizations and communities.

Done In a Day a Different Way

By Meredith Lynch

MUCH LIKE MANY of our placements and community partners, our Done in a Day (DIAD) options with the League for the 2020 - 2021 year were forced to pivot and think outside of the box for new and innovative ways to serve our community.

Fortunately, according to DIAD Co-Chair **Krista Bohr**, "There were quite a few opportunities for DIADs that volunteers could do from home. We've had over 340 volunteers with over 1000 hours. And we worked with 20 agencies this year."

From helping Literacy United assemble books at home, to writing letters of encouragement for CEC, to helping Trinity Collaborative with Mayfest home kits, there were all kinds of ways to get involved and spread cheer and kindness to members of our community. One event in particular that was pretty unique was that Junior League volunteers made videos to brighten someone's day. This DIAD was with Brighten A Day. During the pandemic, Brighten A Day focused on cheering up retirement home residents and hospital patients, along with showing appreciation for our frontline workers in Fort Worth. Volunteers were asked to record 30 second - 5 minute videos that

could be an encouraging message or to show off talents like singing, dancing, playing music, etc. Volunteers were asked to do a minimum of 10 videos for the shift credit. Krista says, "We had one volunteer that played the guitar and sang, another had her kids perform a song, another read from books and then another from a volunteer that actually works with the TCU Women's basketball team and got them to do videos around the locker room and on the court."

While this year wasn't normal and we did not do as many DIADs as we have in past years, Co-Chairs **Lauren Team** and **Krista Bohr** are super proud that we were able to serve our community with each and every DIAD this year. Our volunteers have been wonderful (in true League fashion!) and we have received many appreciative and grateful messages from our partner agencies on how thankful they were to have us volunteer.

We look forward to more opportunities to serve our agencies with Done in a Day opportunities very soon!





Our volunteers have been wonderful (in true League fashion!) and we have received many appreciative and grateful messages from our partner agencies on how thankful they were to have us volunteer.



Gittings Spotlight

on Your Board of Directors



LINDSEY BUCKMASTER
2020-2021 Education Vice President

I am from West Columbia, Texas, a small town an hour south of Houston, near the coast. My husband, George, and I met at Texas A&M and lived in North Dallas, until his job brought us to Fort Worth. I have been married to George for 13 years in June, college sweethearts, and introduced by a mutual friend at Texas A&M. We have three sweet babies: Twins-Annabelle and Ashley (7), and Andrew (2.5). We also have a fur baby, Abby (Maltipoo). I joined the League because I was new to Fort Worth and wanted to find a way to get involved in our new city and meet like-minded, amazing women. I've loved serving as Assistant to the Board under Natalie Martin (and Amber Robertson as Fund Development VP). It helped me to observe and learn about the role of our BOD and the different roles before actually serving. I love CIC — the excitement, the shopping, the events, all of it! Our League has so many great traditions! I loved serving as Provisional Co-Chair and seeing the Cook patients' eyes light up at the Pancake Picnic. I am so thankful for an organization that allows women to thrive, and each in their own way. When serving in a leadership role (especially on the BOD), you really have a front row seat. I am so proud to be a part of this organization and am so thankful to have served in this role in the past year.



ELIZABETH KNUCKLEY
2020-2021 President-Elect

I grew up in Dallas. I moved to Fort Worth when I got married 10 years ago. I didn't know anyone in Fort Worth so I transferred my JL membership as a way to meet other like-minded women. Kevin, my husband of 10 years, and I met in Dallas. We have twins, a boy and a girl, Austin Olivia (she goes by both names) and Nicklaus (7). I joined The League in Dallas as a way to get more involved in the community. Thus far, my favorite placement has been to serve on the Project Research & Development (PR&D) Committee last year. I loved it because the committee gets to decide how to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars each year to impact our community. I absolutely love CIC because I love to shop. My most impactful memory of JLFW has been the Fashion Show during my first year in the League. It was the first time I really got to see what The League can do as an organized group of women. We are a community of women working together to make Fort Worth better.



DEVIN WENSKE SANDERS
2020-2021 Communications Vice President

I grew up in the small town of La Grange, Texas which is located between Austin and Houston. After graduating from Texas A&M, I began my career in government affairs in the Austin area. I took a job with Tarrant County in Commissioner Gary Fickes' office and moved to Fort Worth in 2012. My husband Connor and I have been married for five years. We met nine years ago at a TCU tailgate! Our family has a spiteful dachshund named Louie. I joined JLFW in 2013. As a servant leader for my professional life, it was a natural fit for me to join and serve our community through an organization that trains, empowers, and builds comradery between women who have the same passion. My favorite placement has been the Public Relations Chair for Christmas in Cowtown. I loved learning and knowing the Market inside-out all while having the privilege of "showing it off" to our community and beyond! Hands down my favorite memory - or most impactful memory - will be having served on this board during the year of COVID. What an incredible year of difficulty, strength, empowerment, growing, and THRIVING it was! I am forever grateful for having the experience to mold me as a person. The League has opened so many doors for me whether that's educational, networking, forever friendships, or self- growth, the organization is hands down a well-rounded one to be a part of.

LITTLEST LEAGUERS

Our Growing Community



Laurel Ann Midkiff

Claire and Herd Midkiff welcomed their daughter, Laurel Ann, on December 30, 2020.



Katherine Ruth Lindsey

Taylor and Stephen Lindsey welcomed their daughter, Katherine Ruth, on January 04, 2021.



Lydia Helen Robinson

Elyse and Gavin Robinson welcomed their daughter, Lydia Helen, on February 10, 2021.



Magnolia Whiting Ayres

Holly and Cameron Ayres welcomed their daughter, Magnolia Whiting, on February 18, 2021.



Elizabeth Jane Day

Carly and James Day welcomed their daughter, Elizabeth Jane, on February 20, 2021.



Samuel Kenneth Sanders

Devin and Connor Sanders welcomed their son, Samuel Kenneth, on March 10, 2021.



Oberon Mark Radwan Jabri

Lauren and Nidal Jabri welcomed their son, Oberon Mark Radwan, on March 20, 2021.

Life in the League

ENGAGEMENTS



Tishara Antone Jackson and Terrell M. Shaw got engaged on January 01, 2021 in Fort Worth, Texas and have plans to wed in April 2022.

MARRIAGES



Juli James married Bruce Munro on October 31, 2020 at their home in Brock, Texas.

GRADUATIONS



Eva S. Williams graduated on Saturday, May 8th, 2021 with a Master of Business Administration from Texas Christian University.

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The Junior League of Fort Worth 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.

Today the JLFW comprises more than 2,000 members and is part of The Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc. (AJLI) which constitutes one of the largest, most effective volunteer organizations in the world. For more information, please visit juniorleaguefw.org.



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