theland

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF FORT WORTH

SUMMER 2022 VOL. 29, ISSUE 3 What's Inside

Breakthrough Fort Worth

A Look Back at our UNSTOPPABLE Year

Archive Project



expand your child's world this summer!

OFFERING CAMPS MAY 31 - AUGUST 5 FOR CHILDREN AGES PK-8TH GRADES VISIT TVS.ORG/SUMMER FOR CAMP DETAILS, REGISTRATION, AND MORE INFO!





Trinity Valley School PK-12, Co-ed, Independent School Fort Worth, TX



PHOTO PROVIDED BY GITTINGS

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.

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.

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.

President's Perspective

t has been my honor to represent the Junior League of Fort Worth this year. It is remarkable to look back at what our membership achieved! I am proud to say that despite the challenges of restarting in-person meetings and fundraisers, we accomplished our goals!

As our League grows, so does our impact in the community. This year, we improved the Fort Worth community by investing hundreds of volunteer hours and more than \$750,000. And, we raised a record-breaking \$1,139,000 through our fundraisers that will be used to impact our community in future years.

We increased our focus on training our membership. We provided diverse training opportunities, both in-person and virtual. We also enhanced our All aBoard training program, creating 17 additional women ready to serve on non-profit Board of Directors.

Thank you to our Actives going Sustaining. We appreciate your years of service and dedication to the League! You will retain the fellowship and community service aspects as a Sustainer. We have almost 1,200 Sustaining members who support the League!

Congratulations to the Provisional class as you transition to Actives! In a challenging year, you have successfully completed our introduction to the League. Thank you for your commitment this year and I look forward to watching how you serve our community and League going forward.

I am delighted about the direction of the League for next year. Our new Leaders are trained and ready to hit the ground running in June. We are excited to welcome more than 150 Provisionals next year. I can't wait to see how our League will grow and improve next year!

I feel blessed to be part of this organization that has shaped who I am today. Thank you to each member, Team Lead, Project Development Chair and Committee Chair for your contributions this year. You have all made a huge impact in so many ways. And, a special thank you to the 2021-2022 Board of Directors. I am thankful for the hard work each of you has done this year, and the lifelong friendships we have formed along the way. The 92nd year of the Junior League of Fort Worth was better because of you!

Best always,

Elizabeth Knuckley Junior League of Fort Worth President, 2021-2022



theLariat

VOL. 29, ISSUE 3 SUMMER 2022

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Writers Rémy Brown Jenna Conan Simpson Madeline Hunt Abbie Norkett



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ON THE COVER: Members enjoyed the 2021-2022 Member Celebration at The 4 Eleven on March 3, 2022.

theLariat

Contributors



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Writer





Abbie Norkett 2021-2022 Writer

Cassie Schmidt 2021-2022 Videography Chair



Snapshots

















Breakthrough Fort Worth

By Jenna Conan Simpson

BREAKTHROUGH Fort Worth is a program designed for high-achieving public middle school students who are underserved in their current school setting. The goal of the program is to provide academic enrichment and increased opportunities to attend a college-preparatory high school followed by a four-year college or university. Students are counseled into programs that offer pre-AP and AP coursework to challenge students and prepare them for college. The program is offered throughout the school year and in the summer; students who join the program commit to attend for three summer sessions as well as throughout two school years. Ninety-five percent of the students in the program qualify for free or reduced-price lunch, 50 percent speak English as a second language, and 91 percent identify as students of color. Eighty percent of students in the program will be the first in their family to graduate from a four-year college or university. Breakthrough gives highly

motivated students opportunities that they may not have otherwise at their local schools.

Breakthrough Fort Worth is supported by the Junior League of Fort Worth (JLFW) and has been a project in 2020-2021 and 2021-2022. The program is currently hosted at Fort Worth Country Day School, but as part of the East Fort Worth Project is expanding to add a second site in east Fort Worth. The second site will serve 70 to 80 rising seventh and eighth graders from the east Fort Worth area. The funding provided by JLFW is helping provide Breakthrough students with space and furniture, classroom supplies, activities and materials, training, meals, snacks, transportation, and field trips. Additionally, the project helps provide stipends to support the interns who teach in the program. JLFW's support for Breakthrough is helping make a brighter future possible for underserved students in Fort Worth.

Breakthrough gives highly motivated students opportunities that they may not have otherwise at their local schools.



qualify for free or reducedprice lunch

50%

speak English as a second language

91%

identify as students of color

80%

will be the first in their family to graduate from a four-year college or university

True Worth Women Empowerment

By Abbie Norkett

HE TRUE WORTH Women Empowerment program is part of the True Worth programs through the Presbyterian Night Shelter. True Worth Place's goal is to help people experiencing homelessness have the tools they need to not only prepare for a successful reintegration back into traditional life, but further than that, to end the cycle of homelessness altogether.

True Worth has implemented a variety of programs that are designed to help those experiencing homelessness in a multitude of ways. Such programs include substance abuse support, peer counseling and support groups, book clubs, and more. **Leslie Ford**, Team Lead for True Worth Women Empowerment, noted the extensive list of activities that the Junior League of Fort Worth has participated in to help serve the women in this program. "Each week, small groups meet in a class setting to work through an activity designed to help them reintegrate into a more stable living situation," said Ford. "These activities are focused on empowerment and have included vision board building, interviewing techniques and practice, budgeting, cooking on a budget and relaxation techniques."

The goal of these programs is to help those visiting the day shelter gain the skills they need to work through the issues that contributed to homelessness, as well as regain a sense of normalcy that will help prepare them as they work to reintegrate into more stable living situations.





"Each week, small groups meet in a class setting to work through an activity designed to help them reintegrate into a more stable living situation."

— Leslie Ford



Justin's Place

By Rémy Brown

HEY SAY IT TAKES A VILLAGE to raise a child. The Junior League of Fort Worth (JLFW) and Justin's Place know just how true this is and as a result have partnered to support and empower single mothers by providing them with the resources to thrive and be the best versions of themselves for their families.

The League's dedicated volunteers are deeply invested and hands-on. Volunteers help organize Halloween Trunk or Treat, deliver Thanksgiving meals, put on the Christmas Gift Market for children to shop for their mother's, plan the Spring Fling and much more.

"In addition to these events, JLFW volunteers can also volunteer on Wednesday nights at an "All In" night for the children of Justin's Place as well as a monthly "Mom's Night Out" where the volunteers lead a class for the mothers and provide child care which allows the mothers of Justin's Place to have community time with other moms and JLFW volunteers," said Justin's Place Project Development Chair **Sarah Washington**.



This year in particular, JLFW volunteers planned a coat drive which provided more than 80 children and adults with jackets and a fall carnival where children could play games and receive school supplies, engage in fun activities and enjoy a warm meal.

Justin's Place latest project, The Nest, will be a 24-unit community for single mothers and their families where they are afforded the opportunity to turn their lives around. The program requires



women to work toward an accreditation, seek job training or work full-time to ensure they are able to afford rent or home ownership by the time they graduate the program. The Nest will also empower women to make healthy life changes and leave their past behind to embrace an independent life free of crisis and dependency on government services.

"Justin's Place goal is that each family is nurtured and mentored at the Nest and then able to successfully transition toward their own future homes when they are ready to take flight," said Washington.

The volunteers have a profound impact on Justin's Place and the families they serve. They take much of what they learn through the JLFW and pass it on to mothers in an effort to develop their greatest potential. According to Washington, the mothers benefit greatly from the time, training, network, leadership and education the women of The League contribute to Justin's Place. She commented on how the ladies of JLFW have developed real relationships with the mothers and continue their mentorships outside of JLFW and their placements.

"The impact of this partnership will be life changing for the moms of Justin's Place and for the women serving them in the League," said Washington.







6Stones Mission Network

By Abbie Norkett

6STONES MISSION NETWORK is designed to help meet all the needs of a community member. With a food pantry and clothing donation center for families and individuals in need, 6Stones' impact does not stop there. 6Stones also has counseling services available where individuals receive coaching for job interviews. This helps individuals have renewed confidence in themselves and have the necessary skills when seeking new employment.

6Stones Mission Network creates a positive impact for the community in other ways as well. At the beginning of the school year, the organization hosted Project Back to School, which was an event for hundreds of area students to receive a backpack and school supplies. During the holiday season, 6Stones Mission Network and Junior League of Fort Worth (JLFW) helped to provide and distribute toys and food for 95 families, which included almost 300 children.

This is the League's first year to partner with 6Stones. **Melissa Lindsey**, Team Lead, noted that "partnering with 6Stones is so powerful because of the ability to see the agency's direct impact on the community." JLFW members have served 6Stones in various ways including working in the food pantry and donation centers on a regular basis, to helping with specific events, like the holiday donation distribution or Project Back to School.











Day of Giving

By Jenna Conan Simpson

DAY OF GIVING takes place twice a year, once in the fall and once in the spring. During Day of Giving, the Junior League of Fort Worth (JLFW) community comes together to make an impact through different partner agencies around Fort Worth. It is a great opportunity for JLFW members to work with agencies that may not be current projects or placements, and it serves as an impactful outreach to the Fort Worth community.

On April 2nd, 167 volunteers served 501 volunteer hours across 28 shifts. At the Fort Worth Zoo, JLFW members assisted with the annual Zoo Run, helped Walk MS put on a walk supporting the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, organized and cleaned the food pantry



at Salt & Light Together, spruced up the campus at Christ's Haven for Children, replanted the children's garden at Camp Fire Diamond Hill Station, and much more.

Thank you to our Day of Giving team, led by **Michelle Arrington** and **Hannah Kopriva**, who spent many hours planning this event. 28 Shifts167 Volunteers501 Hours Served



















SPRING DAY OF GIVING 2022 April 2, 2022

AGENCIES

- 6 Stones Mission Network
- A Wish with Wings
- ACH Child and Family Services
- Camp Fire First Texas
- Cassata Catholic High School
- Christ's Haven for Children
- DFPS Community Partners Tarrant County Salt and Light Together, Inc.
- Fort Worth Zoo
- FWISD Family Action Center
- Historic Fort Worth, Inc.
- Homes for Children Corporation

- JDRF Fort Worth
- Lena Pope
- Literacy United
- National Multiple Sclerosis Society
- Opening Doors for Women in Need
- Presbyterian Night Shelter
- Sixty and Better
- The Ladder Alliance
- The Warm Place
- Trinity Fort Worth United Methodist Church













A Look Back on an

Junior League of Fort Worth members had plenty of reason to celebrate this year. Enjoy this look back at some highlights including our fall Sustainer gathering, to Grand Entry Gala and of course our annual Member Celebration!











UNSTOPPABLE Year















UNIOR LEAGUE OF FORT WORTH



juniorleaguefw.historyit.com

"We have been serving the Fort Worth community for over 90 years and we wanted to maintain our organization's memory..."

- Elizabeth Knuckley

Archive Project

ON FEBRUARY 1, 2022, the Junior League of Fort Worth (JLFW) publicly launched the first digital museum within the Association of Junior Leagues International in order to preserve over 90 years of our organization serving the community.

Through a partnership with the digital preservation experts at HistoryIT, details from decades of projects completed by JLFW can now be accessed via a fully searchable, interactive digital experience. "We are honored that the Junior League of Fort Worth has entrusted us with saving their history," said Kristen Gwinn-Becker, Founder and CEO of HistoryIT. "Through their stories of service, you can see the history of the booming metropolis unfold. As the city grew, so did their efforts to support it. It's truly a unique vantage point from which to explore Fort Worth."



Junior League of Fort Worth Tennis Tournament Slide 12, 1969

Junior League of Fort Worth Slide 33

Junior League of Fort Worth Tennis

Tournament Slide 5, 1969

Trinity Bus Tour Slide 1, 1968



Van Cliburn International Piano Competition Contestants Slide, 1977



EXPLORE

The Junior League of Fort Worth's historical collection offers a view of Fort Worth and its residents since 1929. Thousands of the collection's items are available on this site, and more will be added in the future.

Members can view the site to learn more about the League's history. The website to view the Archive is juniorleaguefw. historyit.com, and no login information is necessary.

League Member Volunteering at Child Study Center Slide 1, February 1985

"We are thrilled to partner with HistoryIT to launch our Archives Site. We have been serving the Fort Worth community for over 90 years and we wanted to maintain our organization's 'memory' even with our designed annual turnover," said **Elizabeth Knuckley**, President. "By taking the time to explore our organization's history and share our story, we are both investing in the retention of our internal knowledge and externally increasing awareness of our impact on the Fort Worth community."



The WARM Place

By Rémy Brown

SINCE 2005, the Junior League of Fort Worth (JLFW) has supported The WARM Place (TWP) to help improve the lives of children and their families in the community who have suffered the loss of a loved one.

The organization's mission is to provide children with a safe environment where they can express their feelings and emotions. Year-round grief support services are available to children aged three and a half to 18 and adults aged 19 to 25.

For the last 17 years, JLFW has supported TWP in a multitude of ways including, providing volunteers, grants, Done-in-a-Day and Day of Giving projects and Provisional group site visits.

"TWP was also chosen as the recipient for the JLFW's 85th Anniversary Signature Project where our kitchen was remodeled in 2014-2015," stated TWP Volunteer Coordinator, Molly Bell.



This year, JLFW provides volunteers through placements as houseparents. According to TWP Team Lead, **Jennifer Sterrett**, houseparents welcome children

"TWP is dependent on volunteers to successfully offer their services to the community and JLFW is able to provide a source of reliable volunteers to help make this possible." — Jennifer Sterrett

and their families and assist in setting up and hosting the potluck dinner that takes place before the evening sessions.

"In addition, we help with any small task requested such as helping prep crafts," said Sterrett. "We also volunteer at many of the events that occur throughout the year such as family night, Race 2 Remember Them and the golf tournament."

TWP also serves to connect children to others who are experiencing situations similar to their own. Services extend beyond the children to their families and they are never charged for the services they receive.

"Our services have no geographical or time limits – families are welcome to participate as long as the children are benefiting from the program," said Bell.



According to Sterrett, volunteers play a critical role in serving the families. "TWP is dependent on volunteers to successfully offer their services to the community and JLFW is able to provide a source of reliable volunteers to help make this possible," she said.

The impact of the partnership between JLFW and TWP is immeasurable. Bell emphasized the lifelong relationships that are a result of the partnership. She specifically recalls a JLFW member who heard of TWP 15 years ago through a JLFW volunteer opportunity and is now an active member in the organization by way of attending events and donating regularly.

"Over the past 10 years, JLFW has been a generous supporter of TWP," Bell exclaimed. "JLFW has sponsored events, provided emergency grants, chosen TWP as a signature project and much more. We cannot express enough how much the support of the JLFW means to us."



Mental Health Awareness Month

By Dr. Tara Reed

AY IS Mental Health Awareness Month and a great way to be reminded during a busy year that getting mentally fit is just as important as eating better, working out and staying hydrated.

Mental Health Awareness Month's purpose is to raise awareness and educate the public about the many forms and age range of those affected by 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. Nearly 450 million people worldwide are currently living with a mental illness, yet nearly two thirds of people with a known mental illness never seek treatment.

Seeking Therapy Means: You are human. You are brave. You want change. You are curious. You are taking action. You are seeking growth. You are taking a positive step. You want to find a solution. You are doing something right. You want a different perspective. You are tired of doing the same thing. You are taking steps towards breaking a cycle.

This May, I challenge you to check in on yourself. Are you guilty of putting what you need to feel whole and complete last on the list? Do you take care of everyone else first and then, with any fumes you have left, attempt to take care of yourself? Being run down becomes an unhealthy lifestyle habit that may feel hard to break but with practice and a plan working together is...BREAKABLE!



Dr. Tara Reed

- You are not alone!
- Mental Health is Health!
- Self-care is not pretending that you have everything under control!
- It's okay to take a break!
- A beautiful day begins with a beautiful mindset!
- Make self-care and mental wellness a part of your healthy living routine!

Visit www.nami.org for more information on how to #BreaktheStigma!

MEMBERSHIP VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT December 11, 2021 – April 14, 2022

TRANSFER IN

Julie Sawyer S JL Dallas

Amanda Wylie A JL Dallas

REINSTATE

Madison Ladd P DeVonne Tatum S

CONDOLENCE

Jane Leonard Anthony S Loss of Son

Emily Atchison A Loss of Grandmother

Amy Roach Bailey S Loss of Father Suzanne Ball S Loss of Brother Carolyn Barbolla S Loss of Mother

Karen Talley Brown S Loss of Mother

Lillian Cobb S Loss of Mother

Lori Roach Davis S Loss of Father

Jacqueline Dearden A Loss of Father

Jacqueline Parker Dearden A Loss of Father

Janet Dickerson S Loss of Father

Meredith Dorris S Loss of Mother Traci Ellinwood S Loss of Father Ginger Lawhon S

Loss of Son-in-Law Chrissie McCutchen S

Loss of Father

Carol Parker S Loss of Husband

Jean Roach S Loss of Husband

Kelley Parker Roberts S Loss of Father

Cynthia Miller Walters S Loss of Father

IN MEMORY

Karen King Barr S April 11, 2022

Jane Chipley Bird S February 20, 2022

Joyce Pate Capper Sustainer Emeritus

January 4, 2022

Janice Thompson-Burgess S

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.

Gittings Spotlight on Your Board of Directors



AMANDA BAKER 2021-2022 Community Vice President

Amanda Baker is this year's Community Vice President. Amanda earned her undergraduate degree at Texas Tech and attended law school at Oklahoma City University. After practicing corporate and securities law for six years, Amanda went to work for a local family office with investments in oil & gas and real estate, where she now serves as CEO. Amanda joined the League in 2007 and has held many in-League and Community Placements. She lives in Fort Worth with her husband of fifteen years, James, their one-year-old son, William, and rescue dog, Bode.



DANIELLE DOLLAHITE 2021-2022 Finance Vice President

Originally from St. Louis, Missouri, Danielle moved to Texas to attend college at Texas Christian University where she received a Bachelor's degree in Finance and Accounting, which she then followed up with a Master's from UTA. She met her husband Ben while at TCU and they now have two girls, Emory (4) and Sheridan (1).

Danielle has spent her career in corporate accounting and currently works for Novartis Pharmaceuticals as an Associate Director. She has translated her professional experience to the League serving in many finance positions and looks forward to expanding into the community, serving as Diaper Bank Co-Chair next year. Danielle joined the League in 2014 and never looked back! "It has been an honor to serve alongside such amazing women over the past 8 years, I've made many lifelong friendships and experienced the great joy of giving back to our community."



RACHEL NAVEJAR PHILLIPS 2021-2022 Nominating Chair

Rachel is the Business Development Manager for The Rios Group, Inc. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Government from St. John's University in Queens, New York.

Rachel's very first placement, and one close to her heart, was Rodeo Program Sales. While she was a Provisional, she wanted to meet new people so she decided to become a Prizegoer. "I am so grateful that I stepped outside my comfort zone because I made so many forever friends through my time as a part of the committee and co-chairing Rodeo Program Sales." As a JLFW member, Rachel enjoys working alongside other women who have the same vision of improving our community. Rachel and her husband, Edward, have four dogs (Reef, Lucy, Bunny and Daisy) and three cats (Bad Cat, Gracie and Jorge).

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LITTLEST LEAGUERS

Our Growing Community



Maddie and Joe Dickerson welcomed their daughter, Charlotte Jean, on August 12, 2021.

Megan and Steve

their son, David

Sanders welcomed

Ellwood Sanders II,

Charlotte Jean Dickerson



on October 2, 2021. David Ellwood Sanders II



Riley and Ross Williams welcomed their daughter, Poppy Kendall, on October 7, 2021.

Amanda and Robert

Massingill welcomed

their daughter,

Claire Allison on

October 8, 2021.

Sara and Phil Fishbane welcomed their son, Meyer Owen, on October 18,

Shelby and Franklin Do welcomed their daughter, Gemma, on October 18, 2021.

2021.



Claire Allison Massingill



Meyer Owen Fishbane



Gemma Do



Amanda and Matthew Patyk welcomed their son, Brooks Allen, on November 2, 2021.

Brooks Allen Patyk



Mary Blake Brawner



Wesley Patrick Bailey

Charles Rafael Brekke

Marianne and Joseph Brawner welcomed their daughter, Mary Blake, on November 4, 2021.

Virginia and Adam

Brekke welcomed

their son, Charles

23, 2021.

Rafael, on November

снісотѕку



Lark Hargrove Stella



Ashley Shea and Josh Stella welcomed their daughter, Lark Hargrove, on January 17, 2022.



Elizabeth Scott Terry

Katelyn and Ryan Terry welcomed their daughter, Elizabeth Scott, on

February 18, 2022.



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Life in the League



Diego Delgado



Rebecca and Jack Simmons welcomed their son, James Hunter, on March 21, 2022.

Christian and Juan

Delgado welcomed their son, Diego, on February 20, 2022.

James Hunter Simmons

ENGAGEMENTS



Lauren Waterfield became engaged to Joel Hulsey on December 25, 2021. They plan to wed in Fort Worth on October 15, 2022.





Callie Keyser married Michael Travis McAdams on November 6, 2021.



Paige McNamara became engaged to Travis Higgins on December 28, 2021.



Laura Foran became engaged to Casey Berend on January 1, 2022. They plan to wed on July 30, 2022 in Aubrey, Texas.



Lizzy McNamara became engaged to Philip Chapman on January 29, 2022.

CONGRATULATIONS

Onyinye Akujuo on graduating from Cornell University Johnson School of Business Executive MBA class of 2022, Emerging Markets Institute Fellow. She served as chair of EMI 2022, as a member of the Johnson African Business Society and will be the Class of 2022 Speaker for the Johnson School of Business Emerging Markets Institute.

Glenda Diaz on accepting the position of Sr. Innovation Implementation Consultant at DFW Airport and her upcoming graduation from TCU's full-time MBA program. She served as the president of the Graduate Entrepreneurship Organization and was the recipient of the Graduate Outstanding Service Award. 2

Sierra Lykins on accepting the position of Development Director for Susan G. Komen.

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Of

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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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<image><image><image><image><image>

Goodwill North Central Texas is pleased to offer GOOD To Go, our convenient home pick-up service!

Now, you don't have to go further than your own front door to purge those items that you no longer want or use. Goodwill's new home pick-up service makes it even easier to donate your gently used items. With just a simple click of the mouse, your donations are GOOD To Go.

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