

Annual Report to the Community 2016

THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF STARK COUNTY, OHIO, INC.

Women building better communities[®]

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The Martin Center update

What a fun 1st year it has been! The 2015-2016 Community Impact Committee has had the privilege of planning, researching and implementing projects that contribute to our three year partnership with The Martin Center.

Active members and sustainers have continued to provide and serve meals twice a month to the youth at TMC. Our hope and vision is that with the development of a high capacity kitchen, JLSC will be able to provide TMC with the ability to prepare meals on site and sustain their meal service. Proposals are being submitted for grant funding to assist with the kitchen and programming such as "Kids in the Kitchen". JLSC was able to purchase backpacks and thanks to great sustainer assistance, fill these backpacks and send them home with kids from TMC.

The Community Impact Committee toured Andre's House and met with Cliffie McDaniel -Thompson and immediately fell in love. Both with Cliffie and her mission. Andre's House is an adult residential facility that provides non-medical care for persons aged 18-59 who are unable to be cared for at home and have a physical, developmental or mental handicap. We had a fantastic DIAD on Saturday, January 23, 2016 planned and organized by Sara Ehret. With over 25 volunteers, we painted the main living area and changed the stark white walls to beautiful happy blue. The room was completed the following week with curtains, wall art, entertainment center and flat screen TV. Thank you to all of you who supported Andre's House...our efforts were greatly appreciated.

In February, Stephanie Hand-Cannane implemented a fabulous spa night at The Pregnancy Support Center. GlenOak high school cosmetology students provided manicures, make up application, and fresh hairstyles. Moms were also treated to chair massages, sugar scrubs and swag bags. This event was greatly appreciated by the moms as well as the staff at PSC. The director of the PSC stated that this is an event that they have been envisioning for many years. The Community Impact Committee was proud to partner with PSC and assist them with achieving their dream.

Thank you to each one of you for supporting our projects and making 2015-2016 a fun year. Our committee is excited to forge ahead with further projects and events at TMC in the next two years, including researching and developing a literacy program, implementing the high capacity kitchen and creating events that allow us to become more involved with the youth attending TMC.





Teresa Fout President

President's Perspective

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." - Margaret Mead

The Junior League of Stark County is a small but mighty group of approximately fifty active members. When you look at what we have accomplished this year, it seems that surely we must have an army of volunteers!

2015 - 2016 has been a year marked by high morale, high involvement, and unification around working with The Martin Center. Members seem to enjoy working directly with the youth by serving meals each month, and the newly renamed Community Impact Committee is planning some very big projects for the next year: building a high capacity kitchen for TMC, and designing a literacy project. The beauty of the three-year community impact project, is the flexibility that we have to deploy our resources at the best possible time, even if that does not fall within a single League year. Our members have also formed a small grant-writing committee that has had a major impact on TMC already this year, in the form of a \$25,000 van.

I am so proud of our members, and so grateful for their tenacity as we are now in this together. Here are just a few of our accomplishments this year: Members provided and served meals twice a month to teens at TMC; members researched zoning and other issues regarding the Clifford Compass House shelter for homeless teens; JLSC offered financial support for TMC purchasing new windows, fire doors, and a floor cover for the basketball court; we volunteered at the Early Childhood Resource Center's Big, Big, Very Big Toy Box event; we handed out Halloween candy at TMC; painted and redecorated Andre's House – a group home for mentally ill adults; decorated a Christmas tree for the Hoover Historical Society; planned and put on a day of pampering for the mothers at the Pregnancy Support Center; and raised approximately \$35,000 for future projects at our fundraisers this year with tremendous support from so many of our community partners.

I am inspired by our members' hard work and dedication to League and our community. As President, I have a unique perspective because I get to see all of the moving parts. I am able to see just how much everyone is contributing to the greater good. I am so appreciative of our members and our community, and it has been my great privilege to serve as president this year.

Thank you for everything that you do,

Teresa Fout President 2015 - 2016

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Major Fundraiser Gala

The Major Fundraiser was a very busy committee during the beginning months of the new year! This year's annual gala was held on Friday, March 11th at the Cultural Center for The Arts. This year's theme was "Celebrate Canton". The night began with a silent auction where each table was named in accordance to the theme. During the silent auction, guests were entertained by a DJ and enjoyed a meal catered by Joe Pileggi from Fisher's Catering. After the silent auction, an entertaining live auction took place. Guest bid on such items as a trip to Florida (donated by Sustainer Sally Bernard), an exercise bike, a trip from Buckeye Travel Biz, a fruit carving from Steve Baity and an overnight stay at Geravasi. At each table, guests were treated to chocolates from Honadle Chocolates and entertained with rare facts about Canton, Ohio.

The night was filled with many laughs and fun was had by all the guests that were able to attend. This year's gala successfully raised \$33,000 to put into our major project! The entire Major Fundraiser committee is beyond thankful for all of the support and help that was received during the months leading up to gala and the night of the event. We would like to thank everyone in JL, current members, sustainers, board members and Cindy Fisher for every thing you did to help make this year another successful year for Gala!

Friend of the Junior League Award

The Friend of the Junior League Award is given each year to acknowledge those in the community who have been particularly generous. This year's winner is MeLana Parks, General Manager at Jerzee's Sports Grill. This year's winner went above and beyond to help the Junior League of Stark County by providing various items that were used to help our Community Impact project, as well as, our fundraisers. She provided to-go containers all year for the League meals at The Martin Center to allow students to take extra food home. She also provided the kegs for our Reverse Raffle. MeLana, on behalf of Jerzee's Sports Grill, also donated two gift baskets and many gift cards used as silent auction items for the Annual Gala.

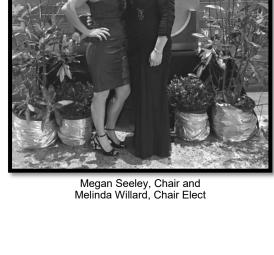
She was chosen to be honored with the Friend of the Junior League Award because of her willingness to serve our community with a generous spirit. Thank you for being our "Go to Girl." Congratulations to the 2015-2016 Friend of the Junior League, MeLana Parks.

Sustainers Giving Back

Sustainers have been a busy group this year! In support of the JLSC's three-year commitment to the Martin Center, we have prepared and served nutritious meals to the young people there on a monthly basis.

Many thanks to Sally Bernard, Susie Cook, Amy Goehring, Denise MacNealy, Amy Mast, Kathy Mihalik, Kathy Poporad, Sue Sokolowski, and Cheryl Stewart for their selfless and generous giving of time, resources, and serious cooking skills!

Sue Sokolowski, Kathy Mihalik, Amy Mast and Cheryl Stewart





THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF STARK COUNTY, OHIO, INC.



Volunteering is a way of life for Junior League 2016 Women of the Year recipients

Article by Brian Lisik Suburbanite correspondent

JACKSON TWP. The Junior League Women of the Year Awards are given annually to two women who have gone that extra mile, usually quietly and without fanfare. This year's recipients more than extol those virtues.

"I gave up my job in banking 25 years ago so I could come back home and be a better mom," said Natalie Weinsz, of Green, this year's recipient of the Community Award for outstanding service across a broad spectrum of volunteer organizations. "Volunteering, for me, was about my faith – I began volunteering at my church, Christ Presbyterian."



She and Canton resident, Renee Skinner, were honored May 12 at the Junior League of Stark County's 69th Women of the Year Awards Luncheon at Glenmoor Country Club.

Renee Skinner and Natalie Weinsz

Nominated by Habitat for Humanity, Weinsz's community involvement eventually led to leadership roles with Habitat for Humanity and Christ Presbyterian, along with the Stark Community Foundation's Women Fund, Congress Lake Women's Golf Association, Green Middle School and High School parent organizations, Central Catholic High School bookstore, Summit County Art Expo, Canton Country Day School, The Junior League of Stark County, YWCA, New Horizons Investment Club, Kappa Alpha Theta House Corporation, and Sitter Service Co-Operative.

"It is very humbling," Weinsz said of the award. "And it is the best performance review I've had in 25 years. In fact, it's the first performance review I've had in 25 years."

Small focus, big impact

Skinner, who was nominated by Fairless High School, is the 2016 recipient of the President's Award for outstanding volunteerism in a concentrated area - in this case, education.

Her volunteer career has included service on the Fairless Alumni Association Board, and she is a founding member of Fairless Helping Fairless. Through her efforts, thousands of dollars have been raised, and hundreds of hours given back to the community annually.



The Back to School event at Fairless Elementary School - in which she also involves area businesses, clergy, and individuals - provides backpacks filled with school supplies to any student free of charge. The event includes free back-to-school haircuts, new shoes, clothing, food, and family fun.

Like Weinsz, Skinner too called received the Junior League award a humbling experience.

"It is so out of our comfort zone to be (rewarded) – we're not used to it," said Skinner, whose Fairless Helping Fairless program grew from a small Bible study mission at Otterbein United Methodist Church called "World Changers."

"The kids I would see would have holes in their shoes and shoes that did not fit," said Skinner, a retired teacher.

Not for the accolades

Of course, as affirming as the recognition may be, it is the last thing women like Skinner and Weinsz have on their mind when they volunteer.

For 69 years, The Junior League of Stark County, Ohio, Inc. has honored women who have excelled in their service to others. The Junior League of Stark County 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.

"It's a wonderful way for us to honor woman volunteers," said Women of the Year Awards chairperson, Sandy Turner. "It is not a fundraiser for us, but just a way to show the community the volunteering efforts of these fabulous women. And most of them are so humble, they don't want the recognition."

Work is the reward

With volunteering, Skinner said, the work itself is every bit of the reward.

"Everyone benefits and the volunteer gets so much out of it," she said.

Weinsz said organizations like Junior League are vital to fostering not only the spirit of volunteerism, but in forming and supporting the structure and framework of various volunteering efforts.

In short, it is likely there are far more people who would like to volunteer, but do not feel they have the skills or the time to do so effectively, Skinner said.

"One of the things I have gotten from it is that you don't realize how many people you touch – how you can plant a seed," she said. "My granddaughter would always go with me, delivering bags of clothes and she once told me 'I'm going to go to college and get a good job so I can give people clothes."

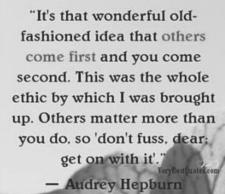
The spirit of volunteerism has likewise rubbed off on Weinsz's daughters as well, she said.

And while their personal histories differ – Weinsz making volunteering a focus after leaving her full-time career and Skinner starting long before retirement – both agreed that finding the time is actually one of the least challenging parts.

"When you see the results and feel it in your heart, you find the time," Skinner said.

Provisional Project

The Provisional class has worked extraordinarily hard collaborating with The Martin Center. The center currently has a predominantly male attendance and wishes to bring in girls so they can enjoy the amenities as well. In order to do this, the Provisional class decided to provide a prom experience for a set of 15 carefully selected girls from McKinley High School who were seen as having a bright future and needed some financial help. They were given the opportunity to pick out a prom dress, shoes, jewelry and a hand bag at no cost. A sit down dinner, corsage, photographer, make-up and nails were also offered at no expense. The pre-prom party took place on April 30th and was full of laughs, love, and memories.









THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF STARK COUNTY, OHIO, INC.

Community Advisory Council

The Community Advisory Council (CAC) is a group of twelve members (6 Sustaining members of League and 6 community members) that provide input on community needs. This year, the CAC provided input on benefits and challenges of the two future projects the Strategic Planning committee has been researching as well as suggested partners that we can collaborate with. Additionally, the Community Representatives assisted with selecting League's annual Women of the Year honorees.

The Junior League would like to thank the 2015-2016 CAC members:

Sarah Buell - Stark Parks, Community Representative

Ben Carter - Canton City School District, Community Representative

Lada Gibson-Shreve Ph.D. - Stark State College, Community Representative

Eric Smer - ystark! A department of the Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce, Community Representative

Sandra Watkins Cleaver - Cleaver & Sokolowski, LLC, Community Representative

Kathy Yaros - North Canton Community Building YMCA, Community Representative

Stephanie Bradford, JLSC Sustainer

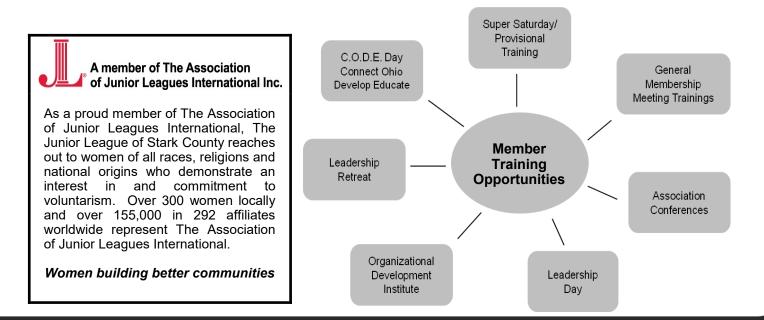
Suzanne Halm, JLSC Sustainer

Cynthia Lazor, JLSC Sustainer

Nancy Platek, JLSC Sustainer

Connie Rubin, JLSC Sustainer

Judy Scheurer, JLSC Sustainer



JLSC and Endowment donors

For years, donors have entrusted millions of dollars with Stark Community Foundation. They benefit from the experienced staff, community leadership and professional investment management. The foundation invests your gifts so they are sustainable in perpetuity.

The Junior League of Stark County, Ohio, Inc., is pleased to continue its endowment fund with Stark Community Foundation and thanks all of the donors from 2015-2016 who have helped continue growth and sustenance of our fund. Earnings from the JLSC Women's Fund for the Future will be used to support our charitable mission. Your gift is a permanent source of community capital, helping to do good work today and in the future.

Annette McCann Barb Armitage Barbara Fordyce Candy Wallace Cheryl Stewart Darlene Violet Emily Klink Franca Bugh Gretchen Hansen JoAnn Ovnic John Mansfield Joyce Deuble Judith & Ed Libbey Julie Worstell Karla & Philip Smith Kathleen Prasnal Kathrine Pelanda Kathryn Hamilton Kathy & Emil Poporad Kay Flood Kim Anderson Laurie Keeney Linda Bender Lisa Oakland Louise & Ed Mahoney Megan Pellegrino Nancy Hansen Nancy Leach Natalie & Mike Weinsz Pamela Burkhardt Pat Fuller Patricia Miller Polly Hartung Renee & Jim Skinner Rosanna Fierro Sandy Turner Sharon Luntz

Motivational Speaker Vicki Clark is coming November 12th Save the Date

Vicki is a favorite speaker at nearly every AJLI conference. She has devoted the past 30 years of her life to building capacity in organizations and inspiring community leaders. Each year she speaks to thousands of community, business and government leaders, and has made presentations in 48 of the 50 United States. She has amazing insights into Junior League issues ranging from member engagement to community impact. Vicki can be described as a cross between Oprah Winfrey and Ellen DeGeneres. She is brilliant, insightful, funny, inspiring, and she LOVES Junior League. Anyone who has heard her speak loves her too.

Please save the date to attend this special day with the Junior League of Stark County, Akron, and Youngstown. You will leave feeling rejuvenated and inspired.





THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF STARK COUNTY, OHIO, INC.

The "Celebrate Canton" gala was held on Friday, March 11th at the Cultural Center for The Arts. The night was filled with many laughs and fun was had by all the guests that were able to attend. This year's gala successfully raised \$33,000 to put into our major project! A special thank you to this year's donors.

4 Cookie Divas 91 Wood Fired Restaurants Akron Art Museum **Akron-Canton Airport** Akron Fossils and Science Center Akron Racers Akron RubberDucks Alex and Ani All Sports Camp Ambiance. The Store for Lovers! Amy Napoleon Amy Walther Andreas Furniture Company Angry Barbeque Ann Renkert, Sustainer Anthony Petitti Garden Center and Landscaping Anthony Rossi Photography Arby's Arrowhead Golf Club Aveda Baia Pizzafish Barbara Jean Winston, Mary Kay representative Belden Village Mall Bellstores Best Mold & Manufacturing, Inc. Blaire Gamble, Thirty-one representative Blue Fin Studio **Boulder Brands** Buckeye Travel Biz Buffalo Wild Wings (BW3) @ Belden Village Cain BMW Canton Ballet Canton Chair Rental Canton Charge **Canton Palace Theatre** Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce Canton Symphony Orchestra Carole Easterday, Sustainer Center Ice Sports Complex Chick-fil-A, Doug Pugh Chipotle Mexican Grill Chris and Cheryle Paxos Christine Kruman, Past President Cici's Pizza Cincinnati Reds **Cinemark Movies 10** Cleaver & Sokolowski, LLC **Cleveland Botanical Garden Cleveland Browns Cleveland Cavaliers Cleveland Gladiators**

Cleveland Indians Cleveland Orchestra Columbus Crew Columbus Museum of Art **Comfort Inn Canton** Common Ground Canopy Tours COSI Country Fest Craven Dance Studio Covelli Enterprises dba Panera Bread Dairy Queen-Jackson location Dave's Wood Shop DeHoff Realtors/Linda DeHoff Deli Ohio Dollywood Domino's Pizza Don and Barb Cockroft Dover Landscaping Drs. Ash and Babics **Dumonts Sporting Goods** Edgewood Community Center **Elevation Performance Training** Ellsworth Auto Body Face Up Aesthetics Institute Family Video Farm at Walnut Creek Feld Entertainment Fiestaware/The Homer Laughlin China Co. Five Guys Fox & Hound Friend of JLSC Friend of the Junior League Friq & Fraq, Inc. Gasser Fine Jewelers Generations Women Health - Dr. Danielle Kiko and Dr. Steve Willard George's Lounge Gervasi Vineyards Giant Eagle-Raff Road location Giant Eagle-Strip Ave. Glenmoor Country Club Golf Tec Graffiti Carving (Fruit and Vegetable sculptures by Chef Steve Baity Greentown Fire Dept. Hall of Fame Fitness Center, Inc. Hartville Hardware Haymaker Tree & Lawn Health & Fitness Equipment Centers Heggy's Nut Shop

Highlights Magazine Hilton Garden Inn - Akron/Canton Airport Hocking Hills Adventures HOF Marathon Holiday Valley Mountain Resort & Conference Center Hub Victor Hyatt Place Canton Impulse Personal and Sports Training Jackson Nails Jan Brett, Children's Jane Lauritzen Janet Diamond Jensen Endodontics, Inc. Jerzee's Jim and Vicki Conley J&K Subway Joanne Dye JoAnn Ovnic. Past President Joe and JoAnn Ovnic John and Nancy Baker John and Nicole Spain Joyce Farrell Julie Worstell, Past President K-9 Hairstyles Kames Sports Kari's Kitchen Katherine Pelanda Kay Leath, Sustainer Kendall House Inc. Kennedy's BBQ Kings Island Kozmo's Grille Ladies Super Fitness Lake Cable Recreation Lake Erie Monsters Laura Fortner, Arbonne Laura of Pembroke Lazer Quest Canton Legends Hospitality Lifeway Christian Bookstore Lindsey's Pizza LoDano's Footwear Louise and Ed Mahoney L.R. Hoover Lucca Restaurant Lucia and Joseph Pileggi Lynn Kelley Lynn Kelley, Rodan and Fields consultant Main Stream Boutique Maps Air Museum Marco's Pizza Mark Willard Mary Stires Schumacher Mathnasium M Bar **McKinley Grand Hotel** McKinley Presidential Library

Mellion Orthodontics Merle Norman Cosmetics and Day Spa Michael and Melissa Lombardi Mids Pasta Sauce Milk and Honey Morgan, Bernard & Associates Orthodontics Mulligan's Pub Mutt & Jeff's Beauty Pawlor Nancy Platek, Past President Natalie Weinsz National Interstate Insurance Neil Leeson Decor and Floral Nom Nom Popcorn North Canton Skate Center North Canton YMCA North East Dog Training Ohio Pools and Spa **Ohio State Athletics** Ohio State Reformatory Old Carolina Barbeque **Outback Steakhouse** Outerwall aka Redbox Park Acura Party Place Patricia and Richard Seiple Patricia Miller Pellegrino Music Center P. Graham Dunn Factory Store Phyllis Milligan, Past President Piada Italian Street Food Pickwick & Frolic Restaurant and Club, Home to Hilarities 4th Street Theatre **Pittsburgh Pirates** Pizza Hut - Jackson Twp. Pizza Hut - North Canton Plain Township Planet Fitness **Players Guild Theatre** Portrait Innovations Pousoulides Law Offices Inc. Pro Football Hall of Fame Progressive Foam Technologies, Inc. Rack Room Shoes Rae Ellen Smedley Raintree Country Club Red Carpet Car Wash **Rice's Landscape Redefined** Robert J Events & Catering **Robert Mayone** Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum Roosters Rosanna Fierro R.T. Hampton Plumbing & Heating, Inc. Sally Bernard Salon by Gina @ Michelle James Salon and Suites Salon Mystique



THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF STARK COUNTY, OHIO, INC.

Scott Talbot Salon Second Sole Sesame Street Live, A Vee Corporation Production Shady Hollow Country Club Sheetz Sheraton Suites Cuyahoga Falls Shine Salon & Spa Signature Services/Stephanie Jackson Silpada Designs Sluggers & Putters Family Fun Park Snow Trails Spread Eagle Tavern & Inn Stampin' Up Stan Hvwet Hall & Gardens Stark Art Studio Stephanie Skemp Steve and Melinda Willard Stone Armory Taggarts Ice Cream Teresa Fout **Texas Roadhouse**

The Belden Brick Company The Cleveland Improv Comedy Club and Restaurant The Dale Earnhardt Foundation The Deuble Foundation The District Boutique The Dragonfly Tea Room & Gift Shop The Lodge at Geneva-on-the-Lake The Mustard Man The Sangria Stand The Step 2 Company LLC Tim Rice, Merrill Lynch Tricia Dever, Past President Utterback Dental Group Viking Community Animal Hospital Vista Psychological & Counseling Centre, LLC Walt Disney World W.S Badger Company Wyndham Cleveland at Playhouse Square Zoobooks

Grants received

The three-year partnership with The Martin Center (TMC) enables JLSC to support TMC's mission in many ways. This includes hands-on projects like serving meals, providing produce, and cleaning and prepping the Clifford Compass House for occupants. Another way that JLSC serves TMC is through compiling information and aiding in the completion of grant applications to fund larger projects like the kitchen renovation, backpack program, and literacy projects. TMC is a relatively new organization with a lot on their plate providing services to the local youth. Exposing and helping TMC learn about the local non-profit community and helping them tap into those resources is a key component of the relationship with the JLSC. The JLSC Grant Committee is dedicated to finding appropriate funding sources for TMC. These include grants from local sources within Stark County and northeast Ohio, and state and national grants.

In the first year of our partnership, TMC received a \$25,000 grant from Northeast Ohio Golf Charities to purchase a 15 passenger van. This van will enable TMC to transport youth to and from basketball camps and other activities

around the area. The van was recently used to transport teens to and from McKinley's prom as a part of the Provisional class project, 4TheGirls. Other grants have been submitted for the kitchen renovation project at both the local and national level. TMC has also submitted a proposal to The United Way of Stark County's program called Stark SOUP for a literacy project. SOUP is a micro-granting dinner celebrating and supporting projects in the Stark County community and is a great way to get the word out in the community about TMC. Finalists for the latest round of SOUP will be announced on July 29, 2016. One of the main goals of the JLSC partnership with TMC is to help create a sustainable organization for years to come to serve Canton's youth population. These grant opportunities are a great way to solidify TMC's future and to provide unique opportunities to the students that attend.





The Junior League of Stark County, Ohio, Inc. 4450 Belden Village Street NW, Suite 106 Canton, Ohio 44718

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mission

The Junior League of Stark County, Ohio, 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: Women around the world as catalysts for lasting community change.