OUR FIRST 90 YEARS

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF HARTFORD
Founded in 1921, the Junior League of Hartford, Inc. is a charitable nonprofit organization comprised of women, developed as civic leaders, creating demonstrable community impact. Our 400+ members come from across greater Hartford and from all walks of life. We welcome new members with a passion for voluntarism, regardless of race, religion, or national origin.

As a member of the Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc., we are a part of a network of 155,000 women in 293 Leagues located in four countries. Collectively, we constitute one of the largest, most effective volunteer organizations in the world.

Our strength lies in each League’s ability to provide local solutions to community challenges, just as the Junior League of Hartford has for the past 90 years. For nine decades, we have worked tirelessly to develop women leaders, encourage volunteer civic engagement, and create effective programs to meet Hartford’s community needs. Our Annual Report highlights some of our past achievements, while celebrating our current efforts. With deep respect and appreciation for our past, we look ahead to what the Junior League of Hartford will offer to our community in the next 90 years.

Our Mission:
We are an organization of women promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Our purpose is exclusively educational & charitable.
What We Do
For 90 years the Junior League of Hartford has been the driving force behind initiatives that make our community a healthier, more vital place to live. Today, our members continue to identify community needs and develop programs to meet those needs. Our Backpack Program, Soup Sustainers, Kids In the Kitchen, Done In A Day, and Freshplace initiatives mimic the goals of our earliest endeavors, when the League cared for Hartford’s impoverished children through community clinics and by establishing a milk dispensary.

But our programs are only half of the story. Our greatest impact is not our long history of programs, but the effect our members have had on our community. Like a pebble thrown into a still pool, League members take the experience they have gained through the Junior League, and create a ripple effect as they use their knowledge on behalf of organizations across our city. Junior League leaders serve virtually every cultural, civic, and community organization in greater Hartford. Our members are a dynamic force that leverages our expanded leadership capacity, personally and collectively, to promote the value of volunteer service and increase civic engagement across greater Hartford.

1920s
- Prior to electric refrigeration and the invention of formula, infants in poor families lacked access to milk. The JLH founded Hartford’s first maternal milk station, distributing 2,500 oz annually.

1930s
- The great depression brought few opportunities for children’s educational enrichment. In response, Junior Leagues across the U.S. produced educational plays and puppet shows for children.

1940s
- The JLH raised funds with an annual variety show, “The Folies” to help establish a camp forcrippled” children. Later, rummage sales were used to sustain the camp. The success of these sales led JLH members to open a thrift store—the Clothes Horse.

Our Mission in Action
Hartford makes a positive and lasting community impact in three ways. First, we serve as a program incubator, creating new projects and non-profit collaborations that improve and strengthen our community. The League uses the program development process as a hands-on learning tool, cultivating the leadership potential of our members and honing their skills. Finally, we leverage our expanded leadership capacity, personally and collectively, to promote the value of volunteer service and increase civic engagement across greater Hartford.

Our Vision
As the Junior League of Hartford, we envision a vibrant place for all who live here, where every cultural, civic, and community organization in greater Hartford is supported by the Junior League, and where our members are a dynamic force that makes our community a richer, more vibrant place for all who live here.

Our Values
- ENRICHMENT: In response, Junior Leagues across the U.S. produced educational plays and puppet shows for children.
- PROMOTING VOLUNTEERISM: The JLH raised funds with an annual variety show, “The Folies” to help establish a camp for “crippled” children. Later, rummage sales were used to sustain the camp. The success of these sales led JLH members to open a thrift store—the Clothes Horse.
- DEVELOPING THE POTENTIAL OF WOMEN: Junior League of Hartford members created all elements of children’s theater workshop plays, including sets, props, and costumes. These shows were as well funded raisers for the League and as educational opportunities for area children.
DEVELOPING THE POTENTIAL

1950s

Elsie Presley, Don’t Be Cruel/Hound Dog
Kitty Darrell, Mack The Knife - Elvis Presley,
All Shook Up - Bill Haley & His Comet, Rock
Around The Clock - "Teenagers" Ernie Ford,
Sixteen Tons - Elvis Presley, Heartbreak Hotel -
The McGuire Sisters, Strangers in the Night -
Chaddy Chaves, Let’s Twist Again

1960s

The Beatles, Help! - The Rolling Stones, Satisfac-
tion - Roy Orbison, Pretty Woman - Ervis
Presley, Are You Lonesome Tonight? - The
Righteous Brothers, Unchained Melody - Frank
Sinha, Strangers in the Night - Chaddy
Chaves, Let’s Twist Again

1970s

One Does, Stayin’ Alive - The Beatles, Let it Be -
John Travolta & Gilla Hovet-John, You’re the
One That I Want - The Wilberg People, YMCA -
Carl Douglas, Kung Fu Fighting - John Lennon,
Imagine - Ali, Dancing Queen - Queen, Bohemian
Rhapsody

1980s

Iron Man, Flashdance - Michael Jackson,
Billie Jean - The Police, Every Breath
You Take - Kim Carnes, Buffy Days Eyes
Wanted Me - Peter Gabriel - Siren, Eye
of the Tiger - Stone Wolfer, I Just Called
To Say I Love You

1990s

Celine Dion, My Heart Will Go On -
Whitney Houston, I Will Always Love
You - Dolly Parton, Baby One More Time - Eliza
Henderson, Candle in the Wind - Rod Stewart,
Don’t Speak

2000s

Rihanna & J. U., Umbrella - Outkast, Hey
Yay - Backstreet Boys - The Black Eyed
Peaches, Where Is the Love? - Lady GaGa,
Fisher Price - Beyonce, Crazy In Love -
Kanye West, I Kissed A Girl - Katy Perry,
Can’t Stay Out of My Head

Bono, Just the Way You Are -
Bono, Only Girl - Tiara, Dynamic
Rita Parry & Speak - California
Girls - Katy Perry, Firework - The Black
Eyed Peas, The Time - Black Eyed
Peas, There’s Only One -
Lady GaGa & Boyz II Men,
Telephone

2010s

The Artist, The King’s Speech

1950s

Debra Culp Heston (JL of Houston) is 1st
Secretary of the Dept of Health, Education and
Welfare & 1st female member of a Presidential
Cabinet.

1960s

Julia Child (JL of Pasadena) publishes
Mastering the Art of French Cooking.

1970s

Kitty Ford (JL of Grand Rapids), First Lady,
Hunter, Annie Hall - Woody Allen -
Rosemary’s Baby - 2001: A Space Odyssey,
Psycho, Japenese American Internment -
Frank Sinatra, Are You Lonesome Tonight? -
The Roy Orbison, Elvis - The Beatles, Help! -
The Beatles, Help! - The Rolling Stones,
Satisfaction - The Beatles, Help! -
The Beatles, Help! -

1980s

Don’t Be Cruel/Hound Dog - Elvis Presley,
Heartbreak Hotel - The McGuire Sisters,
Strangers in the Night - Chaddy Chaves,
Let’s Twist Again

1990s

I Will Always Love You - Whitney Houston,
I Want To Be Like You - Elton John,
Baby One More Time - Eliza Henderson,
Candle in the Wind - Rod Stewart,
Don’t Speak

2000s

Can’t Stay Out of My Head

2010s

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Peas, There’s Only One -
Lady GaGa & Boyz II Men,
Telephone

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2010s

The Artist, The King’s Speech
Do we still make a difference?

Junior League of Hartford volunteers have always produced a legacy of effective community programs and projects, addressing women and children, health and nutrition, the arts, basic human needs, and education. Once a program, incubated by the League, has become self-sustainable, we seek to transfer it to a community partner or like-minded agency. In this way, many past Junior League programs have been rolled off to community agencies and are now on-going fixtures across Hartford. In some cases, League initiatives have also been replicated throughout the State of Connecticut and beyond.

But Junior League members are not content to rest on their well-earned reputation for launching effective programs. Instead, we continue to roll up our sleeves and seek solutions to the social challenges of today. League members contribute thousands of volunteer hours each year, not only in support of our own programs, but also on behalf of other community agencies. Our work fills gaps in community services and strengthens our social capital, improving the lives of those who call Hartford home.

This works endures in 2012, as Junior League of Hartford volunteers continue to nurture good ideas into great community solutions. In this regard, our impact is felt far beyond our own organizational walls, building a brighter future for all who live and work in greater Hartford.

JLH RESULTS PRODUCED

- 1050 backpacks delivered
- 3.1% increase in membership
- 24,000 pounds of food distributed at Freshplace
- 21 community agencies supported
- 1,646 volunteer hours in the community
- 3850 Show House visitors welcomed
- 1,440 meals served by Souper Sustainers
- Started in Hartford, 1921...

Now 428 members strong

6 7
Clothes Horse

The Clothes Horse is the Junior League’s resale shop, located at 175 Park Road in West Hartford. The neighborhood store’s friendly staff and volunteers offer high quality, well-organized merchandise, including clothing, books, home décor, and vintage jewelry. Supported through community and member donations, as well as clothing trade-in events with Stackpole, Moore, Tryon Tuesday’s, the Clothes Horse is well known for being far more than just a thrift shop. The Clothes Horse is the Junior League’s longest-running fundraising program, bringing over $30,000 each year to support the League. In addition, the Clothes Horse gives back to the community, providing clothing vouchers and job training to those transitioning out of incarceration, or aging out of foster care.

SUSTAINING PERSPECTIVE ON THE CLOTHES HORSE
A conversation with Barbara Cambria
LEAGUE MEMBER SINCE 1970

You have a long history with the Clothes Horse. In fact, when the store was closed at one point, you and another League member stepped in and ran it. What did you see in the store that made you want to save it?

BC: It’s a lot of things. First of all, it’s always been a good fundraiser for the League and it didn’t make any sense to let that go. But then it’s also the fact that the store is such a part of the community.

Even after you moved on from running the store, you continued to be active there.

BC: Yes! We had a group of 7 of us who worked a shift together two Wednesdays a month for many years. We’d bring cheese and wine and work from 5-7pm. It was a way for us to stay in touch. We shared all of life’s ups and downs while working in the Clothes Horse together.

What has stayed the same?

BC: When Mary Millican, Store Manager, came, she was determined to make sure that we offered consistently high quality merchandise. She had a clear vision and lots of energy. She really believes in the vision and lots of energy. She really believes in the store’s mission and how its mission can intersect with what we do here. Serendipitous things happen here all the time. It’s amazing. We have the chance to really connect with people and touch their lives. Whether it’s saying “Hi” to a regular customer or sensing that someone is really in need, our customers appreciate what this place offers.

What do you see as the “State of the Clothes Horse” these days?

MM: The Clothes Horse is an institution in Hartford. I brought retail experience and a vision of how I thought the store could grow. It has remained a place where people can engage. The staff has been so loyal to the store and the League through the years. They understand what the League does for the community and how its mission can intersect with what we do here. We’re more than just a fundraiser; we are a community connection.

COMMUNITY IMPACT THROUGH RESALE
A conversation with Mary Millican,
Clothes Horse Manager

When did you start working at the Clothes Horse and what drew you to the store?

MM: I started in January of 2005. The timing was perfect. I felt strongly that I was at a point in my career when I was ready to give back and I’d be able to do that here. I thought I’d stay only 3 years...this is my eighth year!

What is it about this store that has kept you “hooked”?

MM: I get to connect with the community on so many levels every day. I would never have the chance to make such connections otherwise. Serendipitous things happen here all the time. It’s amazing. We have the chance to really connect with people and touch their lives. Whether it’s saying “Hi” to a regular customer or sensing that someone is really in need, our customers appreciate what this place offers.

What have you seen as the “State of the Clothes Horse” these days?

MM: The Clothes Horse is an institution in Hartford. I brought retail experience and a vision of how I thought the store could grow. It has remained a place where people can engage. The staff has been so loyal to the store and the League through the years. They understand what the League does for the community and how its mission can intersect with what we do here. We’re more than just a fundraiser; we are a community connection.
Decorators House is the Junior League of Hartford’s largest event-based fundraiser whose proceeds support the League mission and community programs. Every three years we showcase a unique home or estate in greater Hartford, select designers and landscapers to make over the interior and grounds, and sell tickets for tours of the completed house.

This year’s Show House featured the Senator Alfred Wechsler estate, located on Scarborough Street in Hartford’s historic West End. During the month-long event, approximately 4,000 visitors from across New England toured the home and grounds along the Park River. The 2012 Show House generated $125,000. Thank you to all of the visitors, supporters and volunteers who made the 2012 Show House a success!

$1.35 Million has been raised from our 12 Show Houses and returned to the greater Hartford community through League programs since 1979.

**Proceeds from the 2012 Show House were derived from:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>87%</td>
<td>Ticket Sales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6%</td>
<td>Special Events</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5%</td>
<td>Sponsorships</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2%</td>
<td>Decorator Sales</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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TREASURER’S REPORT

YEAR ENDING MAY 31, 2012

Statements of Financial Position

ASSETS
Current assets
Cash and cash equivalents $238,668
Marketable securities - mutual funds 317,412
Accounts receivable 16,120
Prepaid expenses 3,560
Total current assets $575,760
Equipment and software (net) 5,965
Security deposits 3,100
Total assets $584,825

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS
Current liabilities
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities 81,895
Total current liabilities 81,895
Net assets - unrestricted
Undesignated 447,930
Conditional promises for future contribution 55,000
Total net assets (unrestricted) 502,930
Total liabilities and net assets $584,825

REVENUES AND OTHER SUPPORT
Program revenues
Clothes Horse $177,623
Golf 19,660
Freshplace 10,077
Backpack 7,786
Show House 227,498
Membership dues and other revenue 59,427
Contributions 18,331
Total revenues and other support $520,402

EXPENSES
Program expenses
Clothes Horse $140,983
Golf 4,840
Freshplace 35,077
Backpack 12,346
Show House 102,800
Other programs and projects 79,094
Supporting services 33,898
Association dues 16,668
Total expenses 425,706

OTHER CHANGES IN NET ASSETS
Investment income $13,172
Realized losses on investments (647)
Unrealized gains/(loss) on investments 3,593
Net other changes in net assets $16,118
Change in net assets 110,814
Net assets, beginning of year 392,116
Net assets at end of year $502,930

As an organization, the Junior League of Hartford holds even greater value than is represented by a summary of our finances, our nine decades of community service, or our record of civic leadership. We are also an organization of friends. Although friendship cannot be adequately reported on a balance sheet, it is paramount to who we are, what we do, and how we operate. Our members are our greatest organizational asset. Working together, League members exhibit professionalism and energy, all in an atmosphere of caring and support. Members come to the Junior League for our mission, but they remain with the League for the friendships and personal enjoyment they receive. We hold these as some of our greatest assets.
**OUR VALUED DONORS**

**ANNUAL FUND**

The Junior League of Hartford relies on the support we receive from our members and friends through Annual Fund donations. These funds contribute to League operations, making it possible for us to provide volunteer service to the community and training opportunities for tomorrow’s women leaders. To donate to the Annual Fund, please visit our website at www.JLHartford.org.

McKiley Albert
Kristie Allen
Anne Anderson
Wendy Avery
(In Honor of all Past Presidents)
Janet Babbitt
Helen Bennett
Lorenda Bigler
Valerie Bischoff
Merideth Burns
Alison Bush
Caroline Bush
Kristen Catlin
Dennie Callan
Barbara Cambria
Megan Y. Caramante
Laura Cardillo
Richard Carter
Kate Cassen
Francine Christiansen
Susan Riley Chadwick
Jeanmarie Cooper
Mary H. Crary
Martha Schall Cruzees
Eileen Dally
Janet Davis
Elainy Deady
Shelley B. Delang
Gina Detmar-Pines
(In Memory of Josephine Richards Brown & Grace Brown Sargent)
Shelley Dickinson
Nyla Dorsey
Susan B. Dunn
Mary Jo Dunn
Janet Edwards
Susan V. Ely
Patty Fish
Katy Fisher
Linda Fiske
Jennifer Fletcher
Noelie Flynn
Karen B. Francis
Kristie Fritz
Megan Gallant
Jessie Gagnon
Christina N. Giannopolos
Marlyn S. Glover
Lee Good
Meghan Guerrero
Karen B. Huberlin
Patricia Hadlow
Susan G. Hatch
Paule Healy
Amanda Herzberger
Donna F. Hirne
Carolyn V. Hoffman
Carolyn Trumble Hinds
Laura Hughes
Valerie S. Jaszinski
Mary Jorden
Carol Lee Josle
Rozza Kang
Eileen S. Kraus
(In Memory of her mother, Janet Main Taylor, R. Orange/Short Hills)
John Krug
Nancy La Perla
Cynthia Lahn
Melissa Lambert
Janet M. Larson
Melissa Lefeld
Bobbie Logand
Peggy Lorance
Lyne Lumsden
Kelly Luther
Kristine Marcus
Mary Martie
Allison E. Mason
Lindsey Mecham
Kelly G. Miley
(In Honor of Mary Jo Dunn)
Jennifer Millard
Ann Mittelmann
Catherine Sanford Morgan
Carle Mowell
Nancy C. Murray
Amy Muslin
Sarah O’Connell
Ashley O’Dublin
Betty Bisell O’Rest
Rosesmarie Papa
(In Memory of Mary Camia)
Rosesmarie Papa
(In Memory of Raul Sigmund Smith)
Rosesmarie Papa
(In Memory of Graziella Rinaldi)
Rosesmarie Papa
(In Honor of Mary Jo Dunn)
Judith C. Parker
Michelotta Parrotta
Maureen Press
Jean Ramaker
Jeanne Redfield
Susan Remhart
Sally Martin Richter
Annette Weimer
Maura Riley
Hadley Rosen
Eli Ross
Susan Robin
Julie Rukle
Betty Russell (Mrs. Peter)
Irwin Sanka
Mary Scanlon
Wendy Scaringe
Allison Schmitz
Carolyn L. Schatz
Kim Schraden
Kathleen Schuster
Franzess Seymour
Julie Simplicio
Julie Ann Honey Simmons
Robin Smith
(In Memory of Randi Sigmund Smith)
Keri Smith
S.D. Smith
Linda Smith
Tiffany Spinella
Mary E. Stoughton
Melinda Martin Sullivan
Ceren Majka Sundre
Hean Tan
Carol Terry
Ann E. Thomas
Sarah Thrall
(In Honor of Mary Jo Dunn)
Janet Tracy
Anne Van Newkirk
(In Memory of Carolyn & Lee Hoffwa)
Gara Van Schaack
Jennifer Van Scoter
Julie Ann Watton
Barbara Washburn
Jane C. Walsh
Judith Weares
Lisa Westerson
Jan Wildner
Evelyn Williams
Holly Wilson
Martha Shoeb
Peggy Lorance
Kristine Marcus
Allison E. Mason
Carle Mowell
Amy Muslin
Michelle Parrotta
Ann Louise Price
Susie Warlow
Mary Ann Huelsen
Allison Schmitz
Kathleen Schuster
Martha Shoeb
Mary E. Stoughton
Melinda Martin Sullivan
Ann E. Thomas
Sarah Thrall
(In Memory of Abigail, Jillian, Maggie, Mains Taylor, JL Oranges/Short Hills)
Peggy Lorance
Carie Mowell
Marisol S. Adelfio
**SHOW HOUSE PRINCIPAL**
Cynthia B. Hedart
(In Honor of Mary Jo Dunn)
**SHOW HOUSE PARTNER**
Cynthia B. Hedart
(In Honor of Mary Jo Dunn)
**SHOW HOUSE PATRON**
Katie Baker
(In Honor of mary Jo Dunn)
Lynn Carey
Margaret Carroll
Kate Cassen
Kristin Connelly
Jeanmarie Cooper
Susan B. Dunn
Linda Fiske
Janet M. Larsen
Sally Martin Richter
Mary E. Stoughton
Wade Anders Vanney
Pamdy Wehler
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Wade Anders Vanney
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(In Memory of Dorothy Perkins)
**SHOW HOUSE SUPPORTER**
Wendy Avery
(In Honor of Kate Cassen & Laura Hughes)
Mary H. Crary
Gina Detmar-Pines
(In Memory of Jacqueline Richards Brown & Grace Brown Sargent)
Mary Lynn Gorman
Paula Healey
Courtney Hendrickson
Dene Keithline
Nancy La Perla
(In Memory of Gretchen Hill)
Janet M. Larsen
1996 Show House Co-Chair
Barbara H. McDonald
Mary McKone
Ann Louise Price
Julie Rukle
(In Honor of 1996 Provisional Class)
Carolyn L. Schatz
Sarah Thrall
(In Honor of Kate Cassen & Laura Hughes)
Lisa Westerson
Evelyn Williams
Holly Wilson
Joanna Woodin

**ENDOWMENT FUND**

The Junior League of Hartford’s Endowment Fund was established in honor of our 90th Anniversary and is managed by the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving. Endowed funds ensure the Junior League’s future financial stability, allowing us to remain a vital and vibrant resource where women can gain experience, skills and friendships, while improving our community.

**SHOW HOUSE FRIENDS**

**SHOW HOUSE DONORS**

**SHOW HOUSE PARTNER**

**SHOW HOUSE PATRON**

**SHOW HOUSE SUPPORTER**

**SHOW HOUSE PRINCIPAL**

**SILVER SPONSORS**

**BRONZE SPONSORS**

**PRESENTING SPONSOR**

**SILVER SPONSORS**

**BRONZE SPONSORS**

We are extremely grateful to our Corporate Sponsors for their generous support of the 2012 Show House.
A Fund Established in Honor of Our League’s First and Next 90 Years
BEVERLY BOYLE, LEAGUE MEMBER SINCE 1981

Do you ever think about why you joined the Junior League? I made my decision, over 30 years ago, because of the League’s notable history of providing leadership in community problem-solving, coupled with volunteer efforts to help make our community a better place to live, work and play. What could be more rewarding than working alongside like-minded women in this effort? However, what I gained was more than I could have imagined. I take great pride in many of our projects, such as Community Health Services and Friends of the Family, which are independent and well-established. Many of the friendships I made are still among my closest. The skills I developed not only strengthened my volunteer efforts, but also provided the foundation for my future career.

Consequently, my decision to support the Junior League of Hartford Endowment Fund came very easily. How appropriate that its establishment coincided with the League’s 90th anniversary – a time of reflection, celebration and renewed commitment? The League has given me so much that I want to ensure that future generations of women will have these opportunities, and equally important, that the League will have the resources to continue to provide the needed leadership and services to enhance the community good, long into the future. The support the Endowment Fund has received to date is a testament to these shared beliefs. Deciding whom to partner with in establishing the Endowment was critical. In choosing the Hartford Foundation for Public Giving we identified not only a community foundation with an extraordinary commitment of more than 85 years to the Hartford community, but also an organization that is equally committed to making a significant and lasting impact on our community. This is the commitment the Endowment Fund will enable the Junior League of Hartford to fulfill.

REASONS WHY OUR DAUGHTERS WILL JOIN THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF HARTFORD
☐ THE FRIENDSHIPS
☐ THE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
☐ CIVIC LEADERSHIP TRAINING
☐ THE PROJECT EXPERIENCES
☐ TRANSFERABLE SKILLS
☐ THE FRIENDSHIPS!!

TO DONATE TO THE JLH ENDOWMENT FUND:
www.hfpg.org/JuniorLeague

GIVING TO THE LEAGUE

WHY DO THEY GIVE?

1. “I donate to the JLH with my United Way contribution. What could be easier than taking advantage of payroll deductions to make year-round, sustained contributions? I’m able to budget my donations, and the organizations can count on a steady revenue stream.”

2. “The League provides organized volunteer opportunities and gives you the resources and knowledge you need to be productive. I know that my time and dollars make a difference.”

3. “I am committed to ensuring that current and future members of the League have access to the best that the League has to offer, just as I did. I have included the JLH in my estate plan in recognition of the contributions that it has made.”

4. “I love how hard the League works to develop effective projects. We don’t just pick up and leave because it is hard. We carry through. We make it work. We make it better.”

5. “I love how tangible the Backpack Program is. Arriving at the school every Friday morning and seeing the empty backpacks waiting for us – it is immensely gratifying to leave them filled and know that a child will eat that night.”

6. “I love being a part of JLH because it provides women with busy personal and professional lives an organized, hands-on way to get involved and make a real difference in the greater Hartford area.”

THE VALUE OF VOLUNTEERING

Each year, League members donate over 10,000 hours of volunteer time to our programs. But our community work is only part of the Junior League volunteer story. Because we are also managed and operated by our member volunteers, the Junior League is different from other nonprofit organizations. Our members give over 6,000 hours each year to govern our organization, train our members, oversee our finances, chart our strategic direction, and slate our leaders.
Alleviating Hunger in Hartford

Hunger is a significant problem in greater Hartford and exacerbates many social problems, including crime, drug dependency, and poor educational outcomes. The Junior League of Hartford alleviates the hunger in our midst through a menu of programs designed to offer a multi-pronged approach, including short- and long-term solutions, to this critical community need. In addition to our own programs, League volunteers and community capacity-building efforts support other nonprofit organizations that address related problems, including childhood nutrition, poverty and homelessness.

FRESHPLACE

Founded by Chrysalis Center, Foodshare, and the Junior League of Hartford, Freshplace is an innovative food pantry that tackles chronic hunger and its underlying causes in Hartford’s Upper Albany neighborhood. Freshplace provides client-choice selections of fresh foods and pantry staples, along with comprehensive, wrap-around intake and referral services. Acting as a community hub, Freshplace assists in the revitalization of Upper Albany, while supporting the network of existing area food pantries and creating a center for community involvement.

BACKPACK PROGRAM

Each weekend, the Junior League of Hartford fills backpacks with child-friendly, vitamin-fortified foods for at-risk students in Hartford’s Martin Luther King Elementary School. We distribute enough to nourish each child and provide some family meals. The backpacks also contain tips on healthy eating, personal care items, school supplies, hats and mittens, and information on area social services. The Backpack Program operates in association with the Unitarian Society of Hartford, Watkinson School, and the Village for Families and Children.

The Junior Leagues’ Done In A Day and Kids In the Kitchen initiatives provide volunteer and programmatic support to area nonprofit organizations. When nonprofit agencies are limited in achieving their goals due to lack of manpower, Done In A Day provides small, dedicated groups of JLH members as intense, short-term support. Similarly, area non-profits host our volunteers to run Junior League’s Kids In the Kitchen, a nationally recognized, hands-on program that educates children regarding nutrition and healthy food choices.

HUNGER IN HARTFORD

128,000
Greater Hartford residents rely on food pantries

90%
of Hartford Students qualify for Free or Reduced School Meals (2010-11)

49,000
in Hartford receive SNAP benefits (highest in state) (2011-12)

18 19

STATS COURTESY OF FOODSHARE

SOUPER SUSTAINERS

Founded in 1986, Souper Sustainers meets a critical need, while also encouraging the continued involvement of seasoned League members. Operating at Loaves and Fishes Ministries, a neighborhood soup kitchen providing education and economic development programs, Souper Sustainers purchase, prepare, and serve a healthy mid-day meal to 120 hungry individuals each month. Now in its 25th year, Souper Sustainers has served more than 36,000 meals to those in need.
Civic & Community Leaders

We are an all-volunteer force, empowering members to develop new skills, become civic leaders and build rewarding relationships with other like-minded, dynamic women. In addition to the work we do within our organization, our members use the skills we gain through the Junior League to serve non-profit organizations throughout greater Hartford and beyond, building social capital and promoting civic engagement.

Junior League women make things happen - they form strategic partnerships, create innovative programs and raise funds for exciting community initiatives. So what sets Junior League volunteers apart from the rest? They are not only women who want to improve communities; they are women with the training and skills to make it happen!

In 2012, the Junior League of Hartford received the Vision Award, presented by The Association of Junior Leagues International. This annual award celebrates Leagues that "are able to align their members, activities, projects and communications with their overall goals, purpose and core values, demonstrating an awareness of community needs and trends and an outstanding ability to engage in Mission-based strategic thinking and planning." The award recognized a five-year effort by the JLH Board of Directors and Leadership Team to align our community efforts around the critical and compelling goal of alleviating hunger in Hartford.

LEAGUE MEMBERS CAN:
- PLAN FUNDRAISERS
- WRITE GRANT APPLICATIONS
- SOLICIT CORPORATE SPONSORSHIPS
- GENERATE IN-KIND SUPPORT
- MANAGE ANNUAL CAMPAIGNS
- GENERATE ENDOWMENT FUNDS

FUND DEVELOPMENT

JEANMARIE COOPER, JLH MEMBER SINCE 1999

The JLH offers members so many ways to get involved in raising funds. You can follow your passion and figure out where YOU can make a difference... get involved with the Clothes Horse, step up and lead a Show House committee, participate in the annual Golf Outing, grab a group of fellow JLHer’s and plan a fundraiser around a favorite pastime or in support of a favorite program. Your JLH fundraising experience will be a tremendous asset to you professionally and in your community service career!

BUILDING COLLABORATIONS

APRIL PATERNO, JLH MEMBER SINCE 2004

The JLH collaborations I’ve participated in have allowed me to gain knowledge of the community and share my talents, and have offered me the opportunity to develop relationships with community leaders and civic-minded people who are also interested in improving the community in which we live. These unique experiences have been extremely rewarding.

LEAGUE MEMBERS ARE:
- PASSIONATE AND ENGAGED IN OUR COMMUNITY
- SERVANT LEADERS
- STRATEGIC THINKERS
- CAPACITY BUILDERS
- RESPONSIBLE FISCAL MANAGERS
- COMMUNITY ADVOCATES

LEAGUE MEMBERS DO:
- FOSTER SHAPED COMMUNITY VISION
- ALLEVIATE HUNGER IN HARTFORD
- ALIGN OUR EFFORTS AROUND CRITICAL AND COMPPELLING GOALS
- SUPPORT COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS
- PROVIDE INCREDIBLE OPPORTUNITIES FOR TRAINING AND GROWTH
Training in Action

Since Elinor Ingersoll first convened the Junior League of Hartford in 1921, our emphasis has been on learning. Realizing that knowledgeable and skilled volunteers could produce effective programs with lasting community impact, the earliest League members believed that training should be central to our mission. Today, members receive both formal and informal training through conferences, presentations, webinars, service-learning, and hands-on activities. Members foster skills in leadership and organizational development, community needs assessment, strategic planning, communications, advocacy and fundraising.

ONLINE LEARNING

The Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI) Online Learning Initiative consists of self-paced courses, web workshops, and on-demand recordings available at no cost for any League member. Members are able to access the tools they need to support their leadership development at the time, place and pace that works for them.

WEBINAR WEDNESDAYS

AJLI’s webinar series provides one-hour trainings, designed to appeal to every Junior League member as an easy way to increase her knowledge of and interest in community and civic leadership. Webinars are offered at 1pm on the second Wednesday of the month from September through May.

ASSOCIATION CONFERENCES

AJLI organizes several conferences each year to create opportunities for networking, collaboration and shared learning among Leagues.

LEAGUE SPEAKERS, RETREATS AND BOARD TRAINING

The Junior League of Hartford invites a series of community and national leaders to address our members through summer training programs, general membership meetings, and leadership retreats.

LEADERSHIP GREATER HARTFORD

Each year the JLH sponsors a delegate to Leadership Greater Hartford’s Quest Program. This program brings together emerging and established leaders from all sectors – corporate, government, small business, academia, and nonprofit. Over the course of eleven months, delegates learn leadership skills through workshops, community tours, and collaborative task force projects that address pressing community needs.

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF JUNIOR LEAGUES

The six Junior Leagues within Connecticut host a daylong conference each fall emphasizing shared learning, collaboration, and best practices.

THE LEAGUE TOMORROW

Emerging Community Needs

While our projects have varied throughout our 90-year history, one thing remains the same: the Junior League identifies unmet needs in the community and develops programs to fill those needs. Robust community research provides the foundation for our new program development process, as the League seeks to build collaborations with community stakeholders and issue experts.

The Junior League is now embarking on a new community research phase. We have begun to identify needs regarding obstacles to securing the health and wellbeing for women and girls in greater Hartford, and are currently seeking to partner with organizations dedicated to empowering women and girls to overcome these hurdles. We welcome participation, conversation, and collaboration with community leaders and change agents interested in working with the Junior League in our new endeavors.

FACTS ABOUT WOMEN & GIRLS IN CONNECTICUT

- Women make up 51% of Connecticut’s population and 48% of Connecticut’s workforce.
- 3/4 of single parents in Connecticut are women.
- 41.2% of female headed families in Connecticut with children under 5 live below the poverty line.
- 63% of teens girls in Connecticut know a teenager who has experienced unwanted sexual behavior.
- Women are 59% of people 65 and older who rely on social security benefits. Without social security, 46% of elderly Connecticut women would be poor.
- Of the top 100 Connecticut companies, 92% of the top three positions are held by men while 8% of these positions are held by women.
- 54% of teen girls in Connecticut believe that attitudes or discrimination limit their career choices.
- In Connecticut women earn 76 cents for every dollar that men earn, compared to 77 cents nationally.

(Information courtesy of the CT Permanent Commission on the Status of Women.)
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

In 1921, when seventy women decided to organize a Junior League in Hartford, they declared their intent “to foster interest among [its] members in social, economic, educational, cultural and civic conditions of the community and to make efficient their volunteer service.” Those same women wrote in their Annual Report, at the conclusion of their first year as a League, “Upon making a thorough survey, we found that not only were there a sufficient number of organizations to take care of the city’s needs, but that in some cases the work overlapped. We decided, therefore, that our services would be of greater value assisting the organizations already in existence.” From those early days, the original principles of our organization can be seen. The principles include the desire to form collaborations which can simultaneously improve the community and serve to educate our members in the conditions and realities that exist in Hartford AND the intent to prepare volunteers so that the service they provide is maximally efficient and effective. As our League has lived out these principles year after year, we have inextricably woven ourselves into the fabric of the greater Hartford community.

This Annual Report’s aim is to outline the results of all our members’ efforts so that our organization’s impact can be clearly appreciated. But the intention is not to rest on our laurels...the hope is that a glimpse of our history will help fuel and inspire all those who are busy, even now, charting our League’s new paths.

Please stay tuned, whether you are a future member of our organization, one of our many collaborators and friends, or a current JLH member. Follow our progress on our website (www.jlhartford.org) and through social media, as we take the first steps into our next 90 years, with those same founding principles as our guide.

OUR WEBSITE: WWW.JLHARTFORD.ORG
FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK and TWITTER
THIS ANNUAL REPORT WAS WRITTEN, PHOTOGRAPHED & PRODUCED ENTIRELY BY VOLUNTEERS.