

 JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
CEDAR RAPIDS

IMPACT.

Supporters of JLCR,

As we begin to wrap up the end of the 2020-2021 league year, our league members have many things to be proud of! We were given a year with many challenges and we persevered. As the times continued to change, so did we, going above and beyond to provide to our community.

We started out our year with a new governance and management structure. Overall, this transition has gone very well and provided greater focus for our mission. We look forward to the continued success this new structure provides!

Letter from the President

Then, after many ups and downs to start the year with a pandemic and the derecho, last fall we took a step back to realign our priorities. We knew it was time to go back to the basics, focus on our members, and ensure we had enough resources to support our mission.

We were able come up with new, creative ways to get funding through different grants and newly designed fundraisers, all of which were successful! We have continued to go above and beyond to ensure the foster youth in our community feel supported and have the necessary resources to thrive.

The continued success of our league wouldn't be the same without all of you! We look forward to your support in the 2021-2022 year.

Sincerely,



Nicole Kintzle
2020-2021 JLCR President

SURVIVING AND THRIVING

Members navigate needs during the coronavirus pandemic, derecho and more.

After closing out the prior League year via Zoom, the 2020-2021 League year started with challenges.

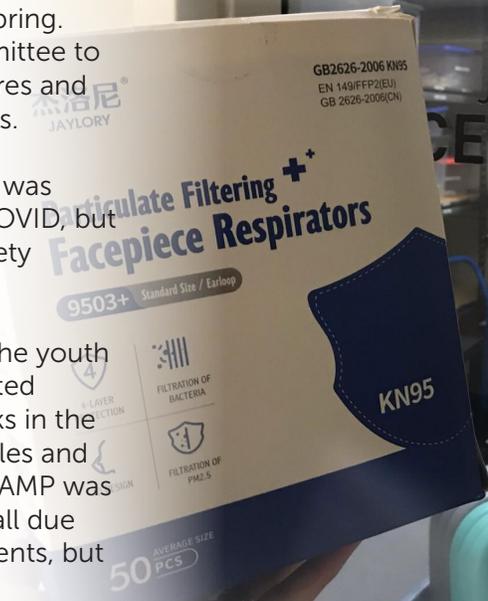
Just a few days before the scheduled August General Membership Meeting, a derecho storm hit central Iowa, impacting every member in some way. Many members had damage to their homes, lost power for days or weeks, were displaced or unable to report to work, and more.

As a League, the boards reached out to all members, checking on safety and needs and offering support. Those who regained electricity early offered dining room tables for those needing to work from home. Others offered to drop off supplies if anyone needed things.

To encourage social distancing due to COVID-19, virtual meetings were held through the fall, winter and spring. JLCR created a COVID Committee to discuss needed safety measures and how to best support members.

The Human Services campus was closed this summer due to COVID, but has since re-opened with safety measures in place.

Committees also supported the youth we serve with pandemic-related expenses including face masks in the Apartment in a Suitcase bundles and additional in-kind donations. AMP was temporarily canceled in the fall due to social distancing requirements, but resumed in late winter.



SERVING THE COMMUNITY

The Community Council adapts to fill changing needs for the young people we serve

The Community Council has utilized members' creativity and strategic thinking to adapt to new requirements during the pandemic and derecho recovery.

This summer, JLCR members coordinated catered meal pick up so that youth could still have a meal while

minimizing contact. When the prior location was no longer available, the committee also worked to make the HSC available for AMP meetings during the winter and spring.

The Housing First program has resumed and has six participants for the 2020-2021 year. It was hugely successful last year and greatly appreciated by Foundation 2 Crisis Services. This fall, a food drive provided additional donations to support the young people living independently.



CHANGING THE GAME OF FUND DEVELOPMENT

The Fund Development Council changes the fundraising landscape as virtual events continue to be the most viable option.

After Fostering Strength was canceled in spring 2020 due to the coronavirus pandemic, the Fund Development committee started rethinking the fundraising strategy, which previously relied on multiple in-person events each year.

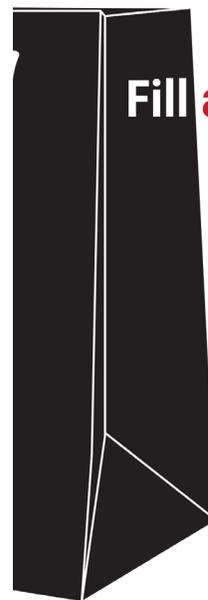
In early fall 2020, the Fund Development and Communications councils partnered to host a social media fundraiser to raise money and in-kind items for the young people we serve. Donations were dropped off at HSC during September, and totaled \$750 in monetary donations and significant in-kind donations.

The Unstoppable JLCR Virtual 5K event was hosted in late October, the first large-scale virtual event of the year. Participants signed up and ran the 5K on their own route and schedule.

In February 2021, the committee held a Virtual Trivia Night with Andrew's Bar Exam. The event garnered over 75 teams for the first event of its kind for JLCR.

Additional grant and funding opportunities were sought and secured to fill funding gaps due to the cancellation of Fostering Strength.

We will continue to work to navigate these challenges to best serve our members and community. We look forward to be opportunity to be innovative and find new solutions to the new challenges we face.



Fill and donate your
Little Black Bag
so youth can

get rid of theirs.



COORDINATING COMMUNICATION

The Communications Council increases committee collaboration across League to promote events, membership recruitment and more.

With everything almost entirely virtual this year, the need for strong digital communication only increased. The Communications Council worked to produce consistent, branded social media communication, website updates and eNewsletter communications.

By partnering with other Councils, the Communications Council promoted multiple recruitment events, promoted advocacy campaigns, and advertised multiple fundraising events. Many JLCR members contributed their graphic design and photography talents to help make the campaigns successful.

The website also got a refresh including COVID-response information, and official responses to ongoing events and national events. Several new pages were added to support new events and make it easier for donors to connect with JLCR.

Stay connected with JLCR all year by following us on social media or signing up for the weekly eNewsletter!



juniorleaguecr.org

PIONEERING NEW MEMBERSHIP

The Membership Council offers new opportunities to learn about JLCR online.

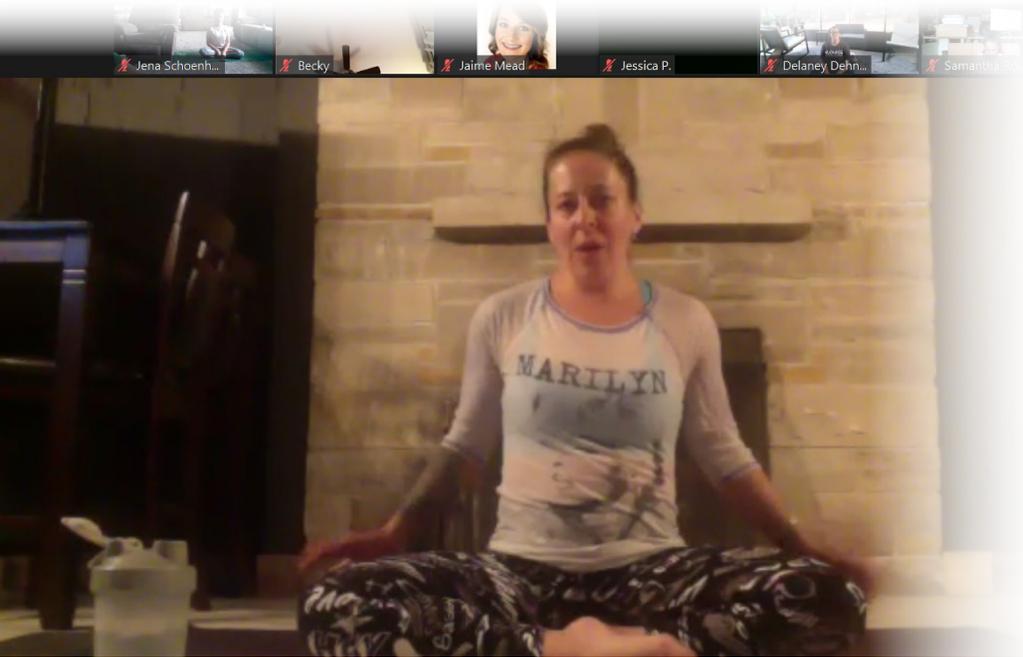
The Membership Council started the year off with multiple virtual options

to attract new members and engage with current members.

The council held a virtual yoga night, game night and other events as introductions to JLCR. Multiple interested ladies attended each event. .

Membership hosted the annual JLCR 101 training in October and approximately 7 women were welcomed as new members - a great accomplishment amid the current challenges!

The Membership Council launched this year's Diversity, Equity & Inclusion efforts with a Food and Film club to help introduce members to various cultures and spark meaningful conversations.



MODELING A NEW STRUCTURE

JLCR launches new organizational model for the 2020-2021 year, following AJLI recommendations.

In the 2019-2020 league year, JLCR approved the new JLCR management structure, creating a governance board and a management team. These two teams were implemented with the 2020-2021 year.

focuses on linking member development, community impact and operational excellence.

This structure was proposed and supported by AJLI to help Leagues operate more efficiently.

The governance board focuses on long-term, strategic planning and ensuring community impact. The management team implements the strategic plan and

2020-2021 Governance Team

President: Nicole Kintzle
President Elect: Katie Curtis
Treasurer: Amanda Lane
Secretary: Emily Teeter

2020-2021 Management Team

EVP - Management: Jessica Netolicky
EVP - Management Assistant: Kelsey Veldhuizen
VP of Communications: Jena Schoenhofer
VP of Fund Development: Heidi Goettsch
VP of Operations: Carrie Kellogg
VP of Membership: Samantha Rogers
VP of Community: Amanda Zhorne
Active Member at Large: Elyse Garlock



LEAGUE YEAR IN REVIEW

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1. Heidi Goettsch and friends ran the JLCR Virtual 5K in October. All funds from the race helped support JLCR community programming.
2. Amy Fell donates gently-used items at STUFF, Inc. Consignment Store. The Advocacy committee encouraged members to donate their items through the "Little Black Bag" initiative.
3. Paige Webster, Samantha Rogers, Melissa Miller and Allison Witters have a virtual game night on Zoom, one of the virtual socials held during the year.
4. Sustainers pose with donated cookies during the cookie drive for young people in the Foundation 2's Fostering Futures program.
5. Angie Jungling and her two daughters pose in the JLCR office. Angie managed the office during the pandemic and HSC shut down.
6. Mandy Ferrante and Nicole Kintzle prepare an AMP meal for teens.



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CEDAR RAPIDS

IMPACT.



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Want to learn more? Visit
juniorleaguecr.org

Questions? Concerns? Contact
info@juniorleaguecr.org

See pictures, learn about
opportunities and support JLCR on
social at



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