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# JLI Task Force Addresses Member And Community Needs During Coronavirus Pandemic

By: Ali McNichols, COVID-19 Response Task Force Co-Chair

When the COVID-19 global pandemic hit the country in March 2020, the JLI knew action would be needed to support both JLI membership and the community. While the pandemic has hampered the JLI's ability to physically serve, our commitment to the community remains the same. In early April 2020, the 2019-2020 JLI Board of Directors established an emergency task force to operate as a committee of the Board. Thus, the JLI COVID-19 Response Task Force was created.

The mission of the task force was to help guide the JLI's response during the COVID-19 pandemic. The goal of the task

force was to identify needs of the Indianapolis community in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, evaluate and create ways for the Junior League of Indianapolis to address those needs, and aid our members and the community through engagement projects.

## The Task Force

Ten ladies stepped up to serve on this task force, taking on additional responsibility on top of their continued League leadership commitments and constantly changing personal lives during an unprecedented time. We thank the following ladies for their service:



**Top row, starting left:** Alex Blackwell, Kim Bugg, Ellen Fitzgerald, Amanda Gallagher

**Middle row, starting left:** Lindsay McGuire, Ali McNichols (Task Force Co-chair), Erika Steuerwald (Task Force Co-chair), Emily White

**Bottom row:** Alli Badgero, Laura Bliss

## Projects

In combination with the plethora of crisis communication provided by JLI executive leadership and the constant flow of resources being provided by the Training Committee, the Task Force got to work on the following projects:

### Evaluation Survey (April 2020)

For its first project, the task force conducted a survey of membership to evaluate how JLI members had been affected (so far) by the pandemic and which areas of community need our members would most like to support through JLI efforts. 103 members participated in the survey. Response to the survey provided the following key insights which informed future actions and planning:

- One-third of respondents indicated their household income had been affected by the pandemic (so far) due to job loss, pay cuts, furloughs, etc.
- 45% of respondents indicated they would favor the JLI supporting our community through providing assistance to food banks, food pantries, or organizations addressing food insecurity
- 30% of respondents supported the JLI providing donations or support to organizations focused on preventing domestic violence
- 64% of respondents indicated they were interested in JLI member engagement offerings focused on at-home activities such as mask making or letter writing
- 76% of respondents were interested in the continuation of virtual training and development opportunities

*JLI Task Force  
(Continued on page 2)*

## JLI Task Force

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- 53% of respondents were interested in participating in virtual social activities

### Donations (March, May, June 2020)

In March 2020, the JLI donated \$7,000 to The Patachou Foundation to help address food insecurity during the COVID-19 outbreak. The donation covered the production of 6,000 meals for Indianapolis children and their families affected by the closure of Indianapolis Public Schools.

In May 2020, JLI contributed \$1,000 to the People for Urban Progress (PUP) Indy Mask Project. Funds supported the production of 200 protective fabric masks for community health centers, childcare centers for families of first responders and long-term care facilities.

In June 2020, the JLI donated \$3,500 to Coburn Place to help fund their emergency shelter program. The donation provided week-long hotel stays to 11 survivors of domestic violence/abuse and full access to Coburn Place's well-being services, including financial assistance, therapy, children's programming, food and hygiene needs, and more. JLI members will be given the opportunity to help with setting up Coburn apartments for survivor families as a CICP project.

### Angel Initiative (April 2020)

The Angel Initiative was created after recognizing the JLI needed to have a formalized method of providing additional support and time to members going through difficult times, such as this pandemic. This initiative was specifically created to support JLI members who serve our community in their professional capacity, such as doctors, pharmacists, social workers, nurses, media, grocery store workers, etc., a.k.a. members on the "front lines".



### The JLI donates \$1,000 to the People for Urban Progress (PUP) Indy Mask Project

Funds will support the production of 200 protective fabric masks for community health centers, childcare centers for families of first responders and long-term care facilities.



### Junior League of Indianapolis Makes Emergency Donation to Coburn Place to Address Coronavirus Impact

Funds to Coburn Place to provide emergency shelter and food to those fleeing domestic abuse during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Support manifested in different forms depending on the particular person and their circumstances. To date, the Angel Initiative has worked to provide support in the form of phone calls, text messages, cards, or a meal train to 10 members. In addition, 10 "members on the front lines" were given featured recognition through JLI social media posts. The Angel Initiative aimed to show members how much their efforts for our League and community are appreciated and we hope they felt the love.

### Lunchbox Letters for the Patachou Foundation (April, May, June 2020)

As an opportunity for members to stay engaged with local volunteer efforts through the JLI's Patachou Committee, members were encouraged to write "lunchbox letters" to the children served by The Patachou Foundation. Over 150 letters were written by JLI members in a 3 month span.



### Resource Webpage (May 2020)

A new webpage was constructed for [www.jlindy.org](http://www.jlindy.org) to serve as a resource page for community members and potential members wondering about the task force, donations and volunteer efforts of the JLI during the pandemic. Visit the page at <https://www.jlindy.org/covid-19-resources/>.

### Mask Making (May, June 2020)

The Task Force provided mask making training to its members, who gathered virtually several times to sew masks for Eskenazi Health. The mask making initiative held 3 trainings with 30 attendees. JLI member Blake Walsh even led a live demonstration via Facebook Live. Using Blake's pattern, a custom step-by-step tutorial was created by Digital Chair Amanda Cash, for members to download and use at their own time to make masks. Access the tutorial here: <https://www.jlindy.org/face-mask-tutorial/>



### Katasha S. Butler



### Songwah Ly



### Jenni Pierle



### Rachel Riley







## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

## Officers & Staff

### JLI BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Patrice Dawson, *President*

Stephanie Flittner, *President Elect*

Tiffani Taylor, *Secretary*

Katie Fischer, *Treasurer*

Olivia Dole, *Director-at-Large*

Suzanne Brittain, *Director-at-Large*

Laura Bliss, *Director-at-Large*

Elizabeth Kinder, *Director-at-Large*

Catherine Seat, *Director-at-Large*

Alli Badgero, *Nominating Chair*

### MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Amanda Gallagher, *Vice President of Training and Civic Engagement*

Maeleen Hurley, *Vice President of Resource Development*

Lindsay McGuire, *Grant Council Vice President*

Megan Montague, *Community Council Vice President*

Michele Peterson, *Membership Council Vice President*

Elizabeth Scott, *Marketing Council Vice President*

Erika Steuerwald, *Nominating Chair Elect*

### PRESIDENT'S SUPPORT COMMITTEE 2020-2021

Madeleine Kellner, *President's Assistant*

### JLI HEADQUARTERS

Main Line ..... 925-4600

Fax ..... 926-7658

After Hours ..... 713-0905

### JLI OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Tuesday, Wednesday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Thursday, Friday: 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.



## BETTER TOGETHER THE JUNIOR LEAGUE

As we enter our 99th year during these challenging times, all in person events have been postponed however our mission continues. This requires us as members to think outside of the box to find ways to help provide fundraising, leadership and training and volunteer opportunities in a virtual and/or social distanced environment. We will continue to increase our diversity and inclusion efforts to ensure our membership reflects the community in which we serve. In addition, there is a continued focus on membership retention, community and resource development.

We are still excited about 2021 AJLI Conference which is scheduled here in Indianapolis in May 2021 which will lead to the kickoff of our 100th Anniversary in the 2021-2021 league year.

In order to accomplish our league goals and support for the community this year, we must work together. In fact, we all work better together. This doesn't necessarily mean we must physically be together, it means we match our strengths with the strengths of our fellow, friends, family to help us achieve success.

This is an unprecedented year full of many challenges, however, with everyone working together, we can do great things because we are: BETTER TOGETHER!!! ■

**"I can do things you cannot, you can do things I cannot; together we can do great things."**

**– Mother Teresa**

Welcome to the 2020-2021 league year! As I sit and write this welcome message, I could never have imagined we would be starting the year during a global pandemic, racial unrest and the cancellation of our signature fundraiser, Holiday Mart.

First, I want to express my thanks to all of you during this extraordinary time. I am encouraged by your leadership, commitment to the community, and support of each other. You have all risen to the occasion exceptionally well, continuing service to the Junior League of Indianapolis in a nimble, graceful manner.

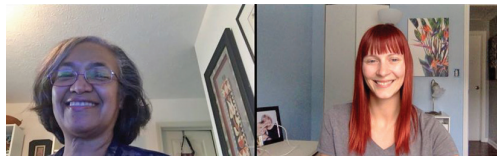
### JLI Task Force

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### Sustaining Connections (May, June, July 2020)

Given the indicated interest by Active and Provisional members for at-home activities and a desire for connection displayed in the evaluation survey, the Task Force created an opportunity to build connections between generations of League members. In a three month span, 25 Active members mailed 167 handwritten cards and made 50 phone calls to Sustainer members aged 70+. The goal of this project was to connect generations of JLI members, provide support during a challenging time, and learn more about the Sustainer's experience in the JLI. The project received resounding positive feedback, with

several responses thanking Active members for the outreach. Two members even connected over Zoom to meet face to face!



JLI Sustainer member Anita Harden and Active member Lindsay McGuire meet over Zoom.

### Results

In total, the Task Force built six projects, made three major donations to community non-profits, and engaged 418 Active and Sustainer members

during a four month period. The task force has decided to sunset efforts for the time being, but will potentially reinvigorate if a second wave of the virus affects the Indianapolis community. We thank all members of the JLI for their perseverance, solitude and dedication to our organization during a challenging time. To learn more about the task force, or to join efforts in the future, please email JLIResponse@gmail.com. ■

## Keeping Children Safe: Safe Use of the Internet and Cell Phones

On February 18th, members of the Junior League participated in a presentation by Detective John Pirics of the Hamilton County Metro Child Exploitation Task Force and Detective Greg Loveall of the Carmel Police Department on Keeping Children Safe: Safe Use of the Internet and Cell Phones. Detectives Pirics and Loveall presented information to members on how to protect children in the digital era. The Detectives spoke about the challenges and difficulties of these type of investigations but also the rewards when a child is rescued from an abusive situation. Detectives encouraged attendees to be attentive to their kids' internet and cell phone activity and provided strategies to speak to children about potential exploitation. The Detectives also stressed that if members discovered any suspicious activity directed at a child to report it to law enforcement.

As an added bonus, Officer Jamie Reynolds and K-9 Officer Axl stopped by to speak about their partnership and their duties as members of the Carmel Police Department K-9 unit. Officer Reynolds also spoke about the mentorship and friendship she received from Axl's previous handler, Sgt. Katie Malloy when Sgt Malloy was promoted to a new position in the department. Before leaving to resume their shift, Axl took a break from his favorite tennis ball and posed for pictures with the members. ■



## Enneagram Training

The Training Committee kicked off the new year with an Enneagram Training with JLI member Kiristi Michels! For those who are unfamiliar with the Enneagram, it is a system of personality typing that describes the pattern of how people see the world and manage their emotions. It helps individuals bring more awareness to their unconscious behaviors - doing so helps individuals better understand their triggers (fears and desires) or automatic reaction to things occurring around them in their daily life. Understanding your Enneagram, and the Enneagrams of those around you, can benefit your relationships and communication skills.

During the training, hosted at the WFYI building, Kristi walked the attendees through the 9 Enneagrams, their strengths, and their weaknesses. Members who attended found the training to be extremely beneficial and gained a better understanding of why they respond to certain things and what motivates them.

Want to learn more and find out your Enneagram type? There are countless resources online that can help you determine your Enneagram. We highly recommend you do! ■

## Training Committee COVID-19 Response

When the JLI made the necessary, but hard decision to suspend all in-person meetings and activities for the foreseeable future, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Training Committee jumped in to help members continue to feel connected and supported virtually. Each day, Training Co-Chairs Alexandra Blackwell and Ellen Fitzgerald and members of their committee have posted daily resources for members on topics from homeschooling help and free online workouts to recipes for cooking with pantry staples and at-home ways to combat anxiety.

"Our goal is to ensure that members stay engaged, feel encouraged, and that the League has their back during this time when we aren't able to be together," Ellen and Alex said. "Our committee has been outstanding in stepping up to share resources and support this effort during this challenging time, and we feel very lucky to be working with them during this 'new normal'."

Want to follow along? Join the JLI Facebook Group. Just search "Junior League of Indianapolis" on Facebook and request to join. ■



# In Remembrance: Judith “Judy” Christofolis

Strong, generous, compassionate, selfless, and humble are some of the many words that describe Judy Morford Christofolis, 58. Judy passed away peacefully in her home in Indianapolis, IN, on March 12, 2020. Judy was born on January 19, 1962 in Indianapolis, IN to Gerald and Martha Morford. She attended Moorehead Elementary, Woodview Junior High, graduating from Warren Central High School in 1980, all in Indianapolis, IN. Judy attended Butler University, graduating in 1984 with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting and Finance. She was a member Delta Gamma Sorority and served as sorority treasurer, followed by sorority advisor after graduation.

Judy began her career as a CPA with Geo. S. Olive, a regional CPA firm. There she met Ted Christofolis and they married on September 20, 1986. Judy then moved on to Controller at Baker and Daniels Law Firm. Judy subsequently started Windsor Accounting Services later to become Redwood Accounting Services. In 1998 she and Ted started Redwood Investment Advisors, an independent fee only investment advisory firm, where she was 50% owner, Vice President, and Chief Compliance Officer. Later in her career, Judy also worked as campaign treasurer for her friend Congresswoman Susan Brooks.

Judy was a member of the Junior League

of Indianapolis where she served on numerous boards. She was also instrumental in developing the investment strategy for the endowment, making the Indianapolis chapter one the most successful chapters in the country. Judy also served on the Board of Directors for the Indianapolis Art Center where she offered her skills in finance and investment strategies. Ted and Judy always enjoyed taking clients and friends to the party of the summer at the Indianapolis Art Center, ArtSparkle. Judy was involved in the American Cancer Society, where she was a founding member and served as treasurer for the Indianapolis American Cancer Society Guild. Also, Judy was a board member of the Day Nursery, Indiana's oldest and largest early childhood education non-profit. She was an avid reader and a devoted member of the Junior League Book-club.

Judy was a member of Old Bethel United Methodist Church where she later taught Sunday school. She and her parents enjoyed summer vacations on Lake Wawasee in Syracuse, IN where she developed her love for lake life. She shared her love for the lake with Ted after they married and they subsequently purchased a home on Lake Syracuse. Frank Lloyd Wright inspired her love of design, and she brought to life this style in both of her homes in Indianapolis



and Syracuse. Judy had a brilliant sense of style. Her décor, her homes and her attire were always impeccable. She was always proud of her husband Ted, who contributed to selecting her wardrobe. Throughout the years, she designed and renovated six homes.

Judy and her parents traveled the world. Her love of travel began when they visited her brother, Dick Morford, whose career was with the Foreign Service. They visited Japan, Indonesia, Korea, and France. Judy and Ted continued to travel the world which included several cruises on the Queen Mary II, as well as multiple trips to Europe and Asia. They developed a love of all things Disney enjoying annual visits to Orlando as well. ■



## Sustainer Book Club

Our JLI Sustainer Book Club met this December for their Christmas 2019 meeting.



## Trust Fund Grants Awarded

The Junior League of Indianapolis (JLI) awarded nearly \$30,000 in trust fund grants to local nonprofit organizations that serve children with physical or developmental disabilities. Given the current environment and the impact of COVID-19 on nonprofits, JLI decided to give at least \$1,000 to each organization.

Congratulations to our Trust Fund Grant Recipients!

- ArtMix – \$5,000
- Best Buddies Indiana – \$5,000
- Freewheelin' Community Bikes – \$3,914
- Joseph Maley Foundation – \$3,914
- Jameson Camp – \$3,500
- Indianapolis Children's Choir – \$1,000
- Indianapolis Parks Foundation – \$1,000
- Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra – \$1,000
- Muscular Dystrophy Family Foundation – \$1,000
- Riley Hospital Occupational Therapy Department – \$1,000
- Visually Impaired Preschool Services – \$1,000

JLI also awarded grants to Riley Hospital for Children through the Anne Collett Hensley Memorial Fund (\$2,374) and the Emily Kathryn Gilroy Memorial Fund (\$313). ■

## LEADERSHIP

### Lugar Lunch Series

Ladies supporting ladies! Junior League Board Member, Erika Steuerwald, was recognized during today's 30th Richard G. Lugar Excellence in Public Service Series class luncheon. Erika is pictured with fellow JLI members Madison Weintraut, Alex Blackwell, Erin Lucas, Catherine Seat, Erin Moorhous, and Elizabeth Rogers. Way to go, ladies! ■



# Centennial Giving Efforts Underway

By: Liz Hollinger, Maddie Kellner, and Joslyn McGriff

2022 will mark the centennial year for the Junior League of Indianapolis. As we plan to recognize this in the '21-22 league year, preparations for giving, training, and celebrating this momentous milestone are already underway.

We plan to honor our past, celebrate our present, and secure our future—so with that in mind, we developed a fundraising objective of \$100,000 from individual donors. Our goal is to reach 100k before May 2022. This effort is to secure JLI's future so we may continue to support Central Indiana charities and continue the JLI mission for our members.

As a valued member, you know the JLI has been developing women leaders and improving Indianapolis since 1922. Over the decades, the JLI has been involved with more than 163 community projects and donated nearly 11 million dollars to the central Indiana community.

Are you ready to make your commitment to the Centennial Fund? We created several levels to encourage a spirit of giving for all our members, regardless of personal situation. We understand that this

year in particular many of our members may experience financial hardship, so these levels were designed with that in mind. As you give what you are able, your dollar amounts will be totaled until May 2022.

Regardless of your financial contributions, we're so excited to share the development efforts of the Centennial celebration with you. If you cannot personally contribute, please consider sharing our donation page with your friends and family!

To make a one-time donation go online to <https://www.jlindy.org/donate/>; to set up a recurring monthly donation, watch for the PayPal link in the LeagueLink, or reach out to [jli100@jlindy.org](mailto:jli100@jlindy.org). Please note, all donations to the Junior League of Indianapolis are tax-deductible.

Thank you for your contributions to the success of the Centennial. This will be a celebration of all the historical work the League has done and the future work we aim to do. For real-time updates, stay tuned to our social media platforms and the LeagueLink for upcoming events and ways you can be involved. ■

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Charlotte Scott Moxley Level</b> | \$5,000 or above. In 1922, founding member and first President, Charlotte Scott Moxley, had a goal to equip and maintain the Occupational Therapy Department at Riley Hospital. Let's keep the giving spirit alive in her honor!                               |
| <b>Schnull-Rauch House Level</b>    | \$3,000-4,999 - The Schnull-Rauch House is the only remaining historic home of its era along Meridian Street. This is due in part to the JLI establishing its headquarters there from 1981 to 2008. This level represents a commitment to preserving our past. |
| <b>President's Club</b>             | \$1,000-2,999 - A good president knows that in order to be successful, they must be forward-thinking. This level of donation will help JLI to continue making strides in the community for years to come.  |
| <b>Sapphire</b>                     | \$500-999 - Spare change lying around? Even a cumulative penny each day for a year can land you with more than \$650. Start the Penny Challenge today and become a member of this tier.  |
| <b>Ruby</b>                         | \$100-499 - Love that JLI red? Love swag? Who doesn't! Looks like you've found your level to gain a JLI token.   |
| <b>Onyx</b>                         | \$50-\$99 - Avid coffee drinker? Skipping just one cup of Joe each week will earn you a spot in the second tier of our giving pyramid.   |
| <b>Pearl</b>                        | \$20-49 - Were you aware these little gemstones are symbolic of the wearer's loyalty, generosity, and integrity? That makes this level a great place to be!  |



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF  
**INDIANAPOLIS**

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**DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION  
COMMITMENT**

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

**OUR VISION**

*The Junior League of Indianapolis  
will be a catalyst for lasting  
change in the lives of children and  
their families in our community.*

**PLAN AHEAD**

*The complete schedule of events will  
be posted at [www.JLIndy.org](http://www.JLIndy.org) as soon  
as they are scheduled.*

**BE SOCIAL**

Follow our Instagram  
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**HOTLINE**

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