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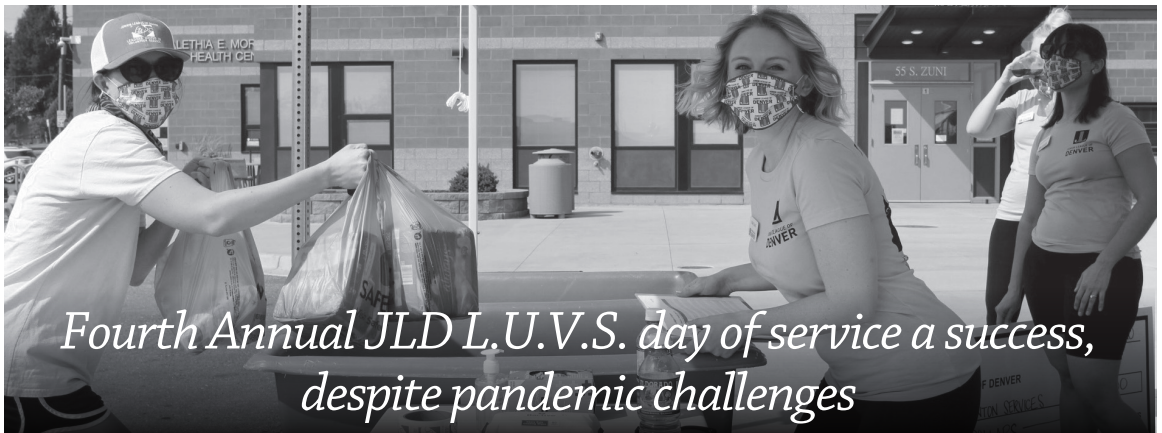
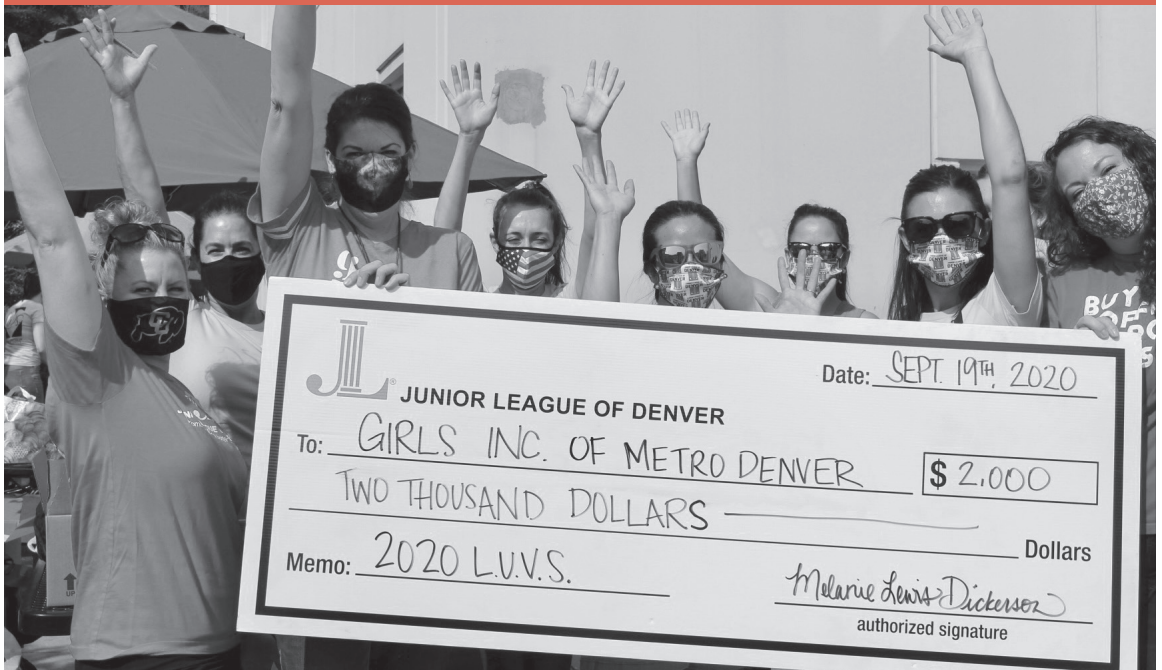


JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
DENVER

Fall Issue

Volume 2021 - Issue 1

A publication of The Junior League of Denver. A 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization.



*Fourth Annual JLD L.U.V.S. day of service a success,
despite pandemic challenges*

Grow:

to increase in size, number or degree.



*Melanie Lewis
Dickerson*

Message from the President

Dear Members,

Welcome to our 2020–2021 League year!

For 102 years, the Junior League of Denver has been a connection point for our members and an anchor in our community. Of course, this year looks very different than any of us had planned, but the League remains a healthy, Mission and member-focused organization. With challenging years like this one also come great opportunities. We have the unique opportunity to support our neighbors and to **give** back to our community and our League. We have the opportunity to **grow** together and build new leadership skills that are all the more urgent right now. And finally, we have the opportunity to **get connected** and support each other.

This year, our League will advance several priorities to deepen our impact and respond to the needs of our members and our community:

- **Centering on Diversity, Equity & Inclusion:** After forming a special committee last year, we've made the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Committee a permanent placement on our Membership Council. The team is working to craft both a long-term plan for our organization and to provide opportunities in the short term to train our members on topics that are a critical part of community dialogue today.
- **Finishing the expansion of our Future Focus:** Following a year of research and listening to our members, our Future Focus Special Committee is working to complete the first phase of our expansion by bringing a recommendation to all of you later this year about how we can amplify our impact.
- **Building a culture of data-driven improvement through our Strategic Plan:** We are also working to implement our new Strategic Plan and begin building a culture of using data for improvement within our organization. We're excited to begin measuring the impact of our Strategic Plan and exploring how we can embed the use of data across our work.

Throughout all of this, we'll be working together to ensure our League is nimble, resilient and can meet our members where they are throughout the pandemic. We have all had to adapt quickly in our personal and League lives, and we will continue to be flexible and creative. Our aim is to bring as much normalcy to this year as possible, while ensuring that we always keep the safety and experience of our members at the forefront. JLD members are hosting a mix of activities that include socially distanced and virtual events, to ensure we are providing options for members to participate at their comfort level. Our League's ability to quickly adapt to our rapidly changing environment allows us to reach more members while continuing the tradition of our favorite annual JLD events.

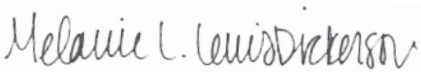
- Membership Council adapted their processes to support and retain over 1,600 members, including welcoming 144 new members as part of this year's Provisional Class!

- The Community Council and our L.U.V.S. Committee hosted a successful fourth annual day of service, with more than 260 members participating through small in-person volunteer opportunities and donation drop-offs.
- Our Training Council is leading the way, hosting seamless hybrid events and fully virtual trainings that help us reach more members than ever before. We had nearly 300 members participate in our first General Meeting!
- Public Policy provided critical training on the voting process and ballot measures, including a virtual version of their signature Wine & Ballots event.
- Our Fundraising Council continues to find creative ways to build a culture of philanthropy across the League by starting new traditions and adapting signature events like our Virtual Mile High Holiday Mart. Be sure to shop through December 31 at milehighholidaymart.com.
- Communications Council is helping us tell our story and lifting up all of the amazing work that's happening across the League.
- The Finance & Operations Council is supporting all of us to ensure we remain financially healthy and manage our expenses this year.
- Our Sustainer members continue to support the League and each other to ensure our success for another 102 years.

I could not be more impressed or grateful for the way that our members have risen to this challenge. In difficult years like this one, we learn and grow the most. We've seen time and again the powerful and lasting impact that a group of passionate and determined women can have on our society. There is no doubt that we are meeting this current moment in the same way.

Thank you, to each of you, for all that you do to ensure that the state of our organization remains strong.

In Partnership,



Melanie Lewis Dickerson
2020–2021 JLD President
president@jld.org

Welcome to our 2020–2021 Board of Directors & Advisory Board

2020–2021 JLD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President

Melanie Lewis Dickerson

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Caryne Mesquita

Treasurer

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Meagan Burgio

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Amy Marty Conrad

Public Policy VP-Elect

Lindsay Johnson

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Elizabeth Hipp

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Amy Johnson

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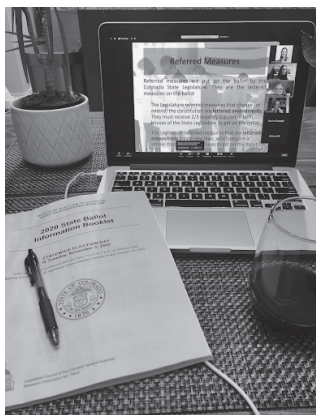
Tiffany Deines

Immediate Past President

Julia Lazure

Grow:

to increase in size, number or degree.



Voters participated in Wine & Ballots with their Colorado Blue Books in hand

Wine & Ballots 2020 goes virtual

A tradition for the Public Policy Council, Wine & Ballots features a review of statewide ballot measures with impartial analysis to help our members understand the purpose and effect of ballot measures before they cast their votes. Held on October 13, the event looked a little different this year in a pandemic-friendly format, but it was no less informative and fun.

The Public Policy Council was excited to open up this event to the general public, offering the training to Colorado friends and family outside the League. Because the event was hosted virtually, more than 265 voters attended the annual event. Guest speakers broke down the complicated amendments and propositions on this year's ballot. Feedback from the event was largely positive. Most attendees stated that they valued the speaker selection, format and content.

This year's program included not only a presentation from Count Me in Colorado on all ballot measures, but also a focused ballot measure discussion on **Prop 118**, Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program and **Amendment B**, the Gallagher Amendment Repeal and Property Tax Assessment Rates Measure.

The Public Policy Council also made a recording of the event available on JLD's YouTube Channel, to share with friends and family. One survey respondent commented, "Thank you for recording and opening to friends/family of the League! It is really time-consuming to research all of this on your own so having an event that explained everything was amazing."

Thank you to our Public Policy Council for providing this wonderful opportunity!

Save the dates for upcoming JLD events and deadlines

November 13 – December 31: Virtual Migh High Holiday Mart

December 8: Colorado Gives Day

January 3-11: JLD Board of Directors interviews and slating

March 19: The Journey, Featuring Keynote Speaker Carli Lloyd

Get connected:

join together to provide access and exchange.

The Junior League of Denver grows, virtually

The Junior League of Denver was just getting started when the Spanish Flu hit Colorado back in September of 1918. Much like today, officials were trying to control the spread of the virus by asking Coloradans to use face masks and restrict public gatherings. JLD's first members joined during a tragic and tumultuous time, but they persevered, allowing today's members to celebrate more than 100 years of voluntarism and charitable giving.

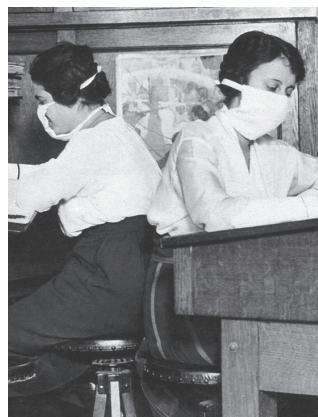
The League's membership has continued to grow and stay strong through the years. With the expectation that recruitment of new members would be a challenge this year, due to restrictions brought on by the pandemic, Laura Dietrich, Membership Council VP, reiterated our commitment to creating an exceptional experience for our members: "The quality of the women we recruit and their engagement and satisfaction in JLD is what is the most important."

Just as JLD founders persevered in 1918, so has the Provisional Recruitment Committee, as they quickly shifted gears, canceling previously planned events and introducing a completely virtual program. The committee surpassed their goal and recruited 144 new members to this unique Provisional Class. The Transfer Committee has also been creative in attracting Transfer members, exceeding expectations and surpassing last year's number with 61 incoming Transfers.

The next obstacle is one that every committee is facing this year: keeping members engaged in a virtual setting. Transfer Chair, Kristina Zwettler, shared, "I'm very proud of my group for being creative, thinking outside of the box and being innovative when it comes to meetings."

For women who needed in-person connections, socially-distanced Transfer meetings were held in local parks. The committee also provided online options for women who may be at risk or choose to participate from home. Both committees have gone above and beyond to create a meaningful and fulfilling experience for each new member joining JLD.

Welcome to all Provisionals and Transfers!



1918 Spanish Flu

JLD recruitment in recent years

TRANSFERS

70

2018

56

2019

61

2020

PROVISIONALS

179

2018

220

2019

144

2020

Give:

*to present voluntarily and
without expecting compensation.*



Masked and socially-distant, League members participated in community projects and donation drop-offs across the Denver metro area.

Fourth Annual JLD L.U.V.S. day of service a success despite pandemic challenges

The fourth annual JLD L.U.V.S. (Leaders United in Volunteer Service) day of service was held on Saturday, September 19 at community partner locations across the Denver metro area. This year looked very different from previous years. With the safety of League members and community partners as the highest priority, the L.U.V.S. Committee coordinated more than 260 participants in socially-distant, masked service projects and donation drop-offs throughout Denver.

At **Girls Inc. of Metro Denver**, a previous L.U.V.S. community partner, JLD members donated and organized supplies to create care packages for young women heading to college in the fall. Donation items included masks, hand sanitizer, hygiene products and school supplies.

JLD members at **The GrowHaus** worked outside to prep 100+ boxes to support children's virtual education programs.

League volunteers at **Family Tree**, a new partner this year, hosted a drive-through event collecting totes, large purses and travel-sized toiletries and tissues to fill welcome bags for women escaping domestic violence.

L.U.V.S. volunteers also received donations from members to support partner programs at **Denver Children's Advocacy Center**, **Family Tree** and **Florence Crittenton Services**.

JLD provided \$10,000 in grants to our community partners as well. A huge thank you to our L.U.V.S. Co-Chairs, Brenda Garcia and Angela Maramba, for coordinating a fun and safe event that makes a difference in the Denver community!



Virtual Mile High Holiday Mart

Please join us for our Virtual Mile High Holiday Mart, running through December 31, 2020! Help us raise funds for the League and support local businesses hit hard by the pandemic. Visit milehighholidaymart.com to get a head start on your holiday shopping! Questions? Email holidaymart@jld.org.

Save the date for The Journey on March 19

JLD is pleased to announce that The Journey, scheduled for March 19, 2021, will feature keynote speaker Carli Lloyd, two-time Olympic Gold Medalist and U.S. Women’s Soccer World Cup Champion. Carli serves as a mentor and role model to young soccer fans, coaching them in mental toughness and empowering them to achieve their goals.

“I am ecstatic that Carli will be speaking this year and that JLD was able to work with her to bring her back,” said Bonnie Keyes, Sponsorship Committee Chair.

With continued safety concerns surrounding the pandemic, JLD is working to host The Journey as a flexible, hybrid event, allowing guests to attend in-person or virtually. The in-person event will take place at Mile High Station, located just south of Empower Field.

L.U.V.S. Co-Chair, Brenda Garcia, commented that “Mile High Station is such a beautiful venue. I absolutely love the industrial look and the authentic style the venue captures!”

It is JLD’s priority to provide flexibility for in-person and virtually hosted events this year, to allow members to make decisions that are comfortable for them.

“Journey Committee members are working closely with all parties involved and continuously reviewing the county and State guidelines. I can’t wait to get my tickets and hear Carli Lloyd speak!” shared Keyes. The Journey Committee is maintaining a waitlist of members that wish to attend in person. Questions? Email journey@jld.org.



*Carli Lloyd, 2021
Journey keynote
speaker*

Game Day Dip

Even virtual football-watching parties need good snacks! Make this hearty, fall chicken dip from *Centennial Celebrations* for your household football fans! With the holidays around the corner, don’t forget to add all six JLD cookbooks to your gifting list. Members receive special pricing.

SERVES 10

INGREDIENTS

- 6 chicken breasts
- 12 ounces buffalo wing sauce
- 16 ounces cream cheese, chopped
- 16 ounces blue cheese salad dressing

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Combine the chicken with enough water to cover in a large saucepan. Bring to a boil. Boil for 15 to 20 minutes or until cooked through; drain.
2. Preheat the oven to 325 degrees.
3. Shred the chicken and spread in a 9 × 13-inch baking dish. Pour the buffalo wing sauce over the chicken and toss to coat.
4. Combine the cream cheese and salad dressing in a saucepan. Cook over medium heat until the cream cheese is melted and the mixture is smooth, stirring frequently. Pour over the chicken mixture and stir to mix.
5. Bake for 20 minutes. Serve with blue corn tortilla chips and celery sticks.



ink Committee

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Mission

Junior League of Denver, Incorporated, founded in 1918, is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Our purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.



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DENVER

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