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JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
DENVER

Summer Issue
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Thank You for a Fantastic Year, JLD Members!

Grow:

to increase in size, number or degree.



Lindsey Talafuse

Message from the President

What a year! They say “time flies when you’re having fun,” and it turns out it goes even faster when you’re having fun watching the amazing women of the JLD make a difference. I am so proud of our accomplishments over the past year. We stayed focused, on Mission, and made an impactful difference in the lives of so many. I truly hope you found a way to “lean in” and grow as individuals, while creating lasting friendships and connections.

Let’s take a moment and reflect on this wonderful 2022–23 League year!

- The renovation has been completed on our new JLD HQ building, and we are officially moved in! We are also proud to say that our new home is **owned free and clear**, providing us additional financial freedom in the future. Being mortgage free as an organization will allow us to make an even greater impact on our community!

- **104 New Members and 41 Transfers** joined us this year. We can’t wait to see what all of you do for the League. Thank you to our Membership Council for the hard work and year-round recruitment efforts.
- **We made history on Colorado Gives Day**, raising \$23,449 from 140 donors! We also held our second annual Drive for Change Golf Tournament, annual Garden Tour, 43rd annual Mile High Holiday Mart, and 11th annual Journey event!
- Together, we contributed more than **2,500 volunteer hours, served nearly 7,000 children and adults**, granted \$25,000 to two new community partners, Colorado Village Collaborative and We Don’t Waste, and made an incredible impact by supporting eight local nonprofit partners during our sixth annual L.U.V.S. day of service.
- We recently gathered to celebrate our **Sustainer Emeritus members** (80+ years young) and **Helen Daly Peale Society** with a beautiful Spring Luncheon at Denver Country Club! It was an absolute joy to spend time among the women that not only created our JLD Foundation, but truly embody what it means to be a member and proud supporter of the League. Without them, we would not be where we are today!

Our dedicated **JLD Staff** worked all year at our temporary HQ and are now settling in at the new building! A special thanks to Vanessa Banker and Celeste Sims for their tireless efforts this year. We’d also like to welcome Marilyn Pelech, our new Development & Operations Director. Once the doors to our new building are officially open, stop by and say hello to these hard-working ladies.

I would like to thank the **2022–23 Board of Directors, Advisory Board** and **Standing Committee**. We accomplished so much this year and I will be forever honored and grateful to have served alongside each and every one of you.

THANK YOU to all of our members! Your desire to serve others and leave a legacy is incredible. I enjoyed the many conversations and getting to know so many of you this past year. I encourage you to continue to pour into the League. You will make lifelong friendships, grow as an individual, and be able to hold your heads high, knowing that you made a difference in countless lives. **LEAN IN!** You won't regret it.

Thank you for an incredible year!

Sincerely,



Lindsey Talafuse
2022-2023 JLD President
president@jld.org

Help Us Grow Our League

Everyone has a story about why they joined the League and the impact being a member has made on them. Learning new skills to take the next step in your career, expanding your network, giving back to the community, or finding a new group of friends are a handful of the benefits that come with joining the League.

Share your stories with your friends, family, and coworkers and encourage them to join the JLD this summer. You can do this in person or by sharing a note on social media and tagging a JLD account. Growing our membership supports our Mission to empower women to become civic leaders and impactful community volunteers.

Several recruitment events have been planned. These include virtual informational sessions, in-person coffees and happy hours. These wonderful opportunities for women curious about the League to find out more. Encourage the women in your life to visit [JLD.org/join](https://jld.org/join) to sign up. Questions? Email join@jld.org.



New Member Holiday Event

Get connected:

join together to provide access and exchange.



End of Year GM

Congrats to Our 2022–23 Award Winners!

Our end of year General Meeting on May 18 was an uplifting celebration of a job well done. Awards were given out, we recognized our grant recipients, Past Presidents officially passed the gavel to our 2023–24 President, Claire Juneau and much more. A huge thank you goes out to all members for your ongoing dedication to, and passion for, the JLD!

President's Cup: Keli Edwards

Outstanding Committees: Get on Board (Chair: Corinne Abele) & Membership Coordinators Chairs (Abby Smith & Allison Hurley)

Outstanding New Member: Emily Nilson

Outstanding Sustainer: Meg Bierman

Outstanding Transfer: Shelby Enke

Outstanding Volunteer: Ashley Yuan

Spirit of Service: Bri Schlesinger

Shining Star (November): Ellie Venafro

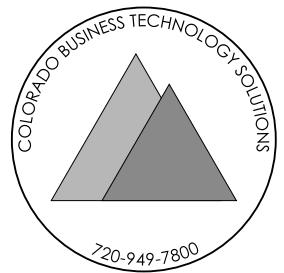
Shining Star (February): Barbara Bible

Shining Star (May): Melissa Magee

Junior League of Denver Inspires Giving

As we settle into our new JLD Headquarters, we're excited to share that our work as an organization inspired one of our contractors to make a sizable donation to our new building!

Gary Allen, President of Colorado Business Technology Solutions, a locally-owned technology consulting firm, was brought into our new building to provide an estimate on needed technical support work. While doing his walk-through, Megan Elder (Johnson), Building Committee Chair, and Lindsey Talafuse, 2022–23 President, chatted with him about our League's Mission and focus, and how we work within our community to make positive changes. Inspired, Mr. Allen, after doing some additional research into the JLD, offered to **donate all of the technical support work we needed — an estimated \$20,000 value!** Mr. Allen said one of the reasons he decided to donate is that he was raised by a single mom and the types of programs we provide support for are the types of programs that helped his mother. Thank you to Gary Allen and Colorado Business Technology Solutions for providing such a generous donation! We are so grateful.



Summer Vegetable Ratatouille over Polenta

This recipe from *Centennial Celebrations* includes wonderful fresh summer produce currently available — perfect to enjoy with friends or family al fresco! If you'd like to purchase a copy of *Centennial Celebrations* or any of our other cookbooks at the special member rate, call us at 303.692.0270 or email us at info@jld.org to order and arrange a pick-up time.

Serves 6

1 medium red onion, thinly sliced
1 red bell pepper, thinly sliced
2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
1 medium eggplant, thinly sliced
1 medium zucchini, thinly sliced
1 pint cherry tomatoes, cut into halves
Italian seasoning to taste
Salt and pepper to taste
Parmesan Polenta (recipe included)
Chopped fresh Italian parsley
Shredded Parmesan cheese



Saute the onion and bell pepper in the olive oil in a skillet over medium heat for 3 minutes. Add the eggplant and zucchini. Saute for 3 minutes. Increase the heat to medium-high. Add the cherry tomatoes. Cook for 5 to 7 minutes or until the vegetables are tender, stirring occasionally. Season with Italian seasoning, salt and pepper. Serve over the Parmesan Polenta and sprinkle with parsley and Parmesan cheese.

Parmesan Polenta

1 cup dried polenta
½ cup grated Parmesan cheese
5 cloves garlic, minced
1 teaspoon Italian seasoning
½ teaspoon red pepper flakes
Salt and pepper to taste

Cook the polenta according to package directions until thickened. Remove from the heat. Stir in the Parmesan cheese, garlic, Italian seasoning, red pepper flakes, salt and pepper.

Save the dates for upcoming JLD events and deadlines.

July 1:

New Member Applications Open

July 25:

Drive for Change Golf Tournament

July 31:

New Member Applications Close

August 20:

New Member Retreat

September 9:

Centennial Celebrations Cookbook Dinner

September 13:

Sustainer End of Summer Soirée

September 23:

L.U.V.S. Day of Service

November 10–12:

44th Annual Mile High Holiday Mart

Give:

to present voluntarily and without expecting compensation.

2022–23 Grant Awards go to Colorado Village Collaborative and We Don't Waste.

2022–23 Grant Award Recipients

We're proud to present our grant recipients, Colorado Village Collaborative and We Don't Waste. These two impactful organizations are involved in work directly related to our focus, disrupting the cycle of systemic poverty for women and families in Denver. We're excited to partner with them — look for volunteer opportunities with these great organizations in the 2023-24 League year! And also look for the kickoff to our 2023-24 grant season with the Community Open House in August 2023.

We Don't Waste

JLD granted We Don't Waste \$12,500 to support the Mobile Food Market. We Don't Waste increases food access and protects the planet by rescuing and repurposing food, while educating and advocating to increase food security and decrease food waste. We Don't Waste's Mobile Food Market program delivers nutritious food directly to residents of Denver's food deserts — areas generally defined as low-income neighborhoods without easy access to healthy food choices. Through the Mobile Markets located in high-need neighborhoods, We Don't Waste is providing easy access to nutritious food for more than 500,000 food-insecure individuals each year, including over 150,000 children. Learn more at wedontwaste.org.

Colorado Village Collaborative

JLD granted Colorado Village Collaborative \$12,500 to support the Welcome Village. Colorado Village Collaborative (CVC) exists to bridge the gap between the streets and stable housing by creating and operating transformational housing communities in partnership with people experiencing homelessness. With an empowerment-based and anti-oppressive lens, CVC reaches across sectors to address the current housing crisis. Together with their partners, they design and produce housing that is affordable, quick and easy to build, community focused, and environmentally friendly. Established in 2017, CVC built the first ever tiny home village and the Welcome Village (their second installment) opened in Dec. 2020. Staff assist Welcome



Village residents in their individual paths toward stable housing that include providing resources and wrap-around services related to employment, healthcare, mental wellness and more. The goal is to provide meaningful and holistic support that propels an individual toward greater independence and permanent affordable housing. Learn more at coloradovillagecollaborative.org.

Register for Third Annual Drive for Change Golf Tournament

Register today at JLD.org for the 2023 Drive for Change Golf Tournament! Enjoy a fun-filled 18 holes of scramble golf at the beautiful Arrowhead Golf Course. Compete in on-course games including Longest Drive, Closest to the Pin, Beat the Pro, Hire A Pro, Charity Hole, and Fastest Par 3. Members of the University of Denver Men's Golf Team will be directing the on-course games, providing some friendly competition, and showing their amazing talents. Your registration also includes a cart, practice balls, food, drinks, games and prizes.

All skill levels are encouraged to play. Active members will receive a Fund Development credit for playing in the tournament, securing a sponsor (email fundraising@jld.org), or volunteering at the event (see the JLD member calendar for available volunteer shifts).

Celebrating with our Legislator of the Year, Dafna Michaelson Jenet



The JLD Public Policy Council is proud to honor Representative Dafna Michaelson Jenet as the JLD's 2023 Legislator of the Year!

Legislator of the Year is given in celebration of the tireless efforts our advocates make to alleviate poverty for Colorado's women and families. Each year the Public Policy Council awards an individual whose dedication to public service and outstanding commitment renders paramount. This award is a

token of gratitude and recognition of the hard work and support the legislative community has in the advancement of the League's Mission.

Representative Michaelson Jenet represents House District 32. She was elected to the Colorado State Legislature in 2017 and currently serves as Chair of the Public and Behavioral Health and Human Services, the Education Committee, and the Legislative Audit Committee. Throughout her tenure as a legislator, her primary focus has been sponsoring/introducing legislation for youth (particularly foster care), mental health and healthcare access.

The Junior League of Denver would like to congratulate and thank Representative Michaelson Jenet for her tireless efforts over the years related to alleviating poverty for women and families in Denver.



Join us for the 2023 Drive for Change Golf Tournament!

Tuesday, July 25, 2023 Arrowhead Golf Course

10850 Sundown Trail
Littleton, CO 80125
\$200/golfer or
\$750/foursome

Schedule

- **12-1 pm:** Registration (last Registration at 1 pm)
- **12:30-1:45 pm:** Explore the sponsor vendor market, warm up on the driving range, set up your provided golf cart, eat some light bites and quench your thirst at the drink bar!
- **2 pm:** Shotgun start, 18-hole scramble, games throughout the course
- **4:30 pm:** Dinner at the 9-hole turn
- **6:30 pm:** Prizes/Raffle to end the day!



ink Committee

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Celeste Sims, *Operations Manager, ext. 100*

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Junior League of Denver

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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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