



The Junior League of Miami, Inc.

Annual Report

2003-2004



The Junior League of Miami, Inc. was founded in 1926 to help improve the lives of women and children in Miami. Since its founding, Junior League volunteers have devoted countless hours of service and leadership to hundreds of projects in our community, with \$2.3 million given in direct funding. Today, the Junior League of Miami continues to fulfill its 79-year tradition of providing trained volunteers to the community through:

- Direct Service
- Effective Advocacy
- Financial Gifts
- Support & Guidance
- Mentoring
- Member Training and Leadership Opportunities

Vision

To empower Miami's women, children, and families to conquer tomorrow's challenges and to build a united community.

Mission

The Junior League of Miami, Inc., is an organization of women committed to promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

Focus Area

Families at risk with projects and activities involving homelessness, family violence, children's and women's health, early childhood education and foster care.

Reaching Out

The Junior League of Miami, Inc. reaches out to women of all races, religions, and national origins who demonstrate an interest in and a commitment to volunteerism.



Message from Karen Cabrera

President, 2003-2004



It is with great pride and pleasure that I look back on the last year of the Junior League of Miami. Our work covered the county from north to south, continuing our strong tradition of promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

Our members worked in our community. With our continued focus of empowering at risk families, we made great strides in breaking the cycle of domestic violence at the Inn Transition South facility during its first full year of operation. We continued our work at Inn Transition North; we helped children and moms become better readers through the All Aboard Story Hour and had an opportunity to be Big Sisters during our Project Reach outings. We entered new areas of the community at the Hurwit Crisis Nursery and in the Foster Care Review project and returned to a member-favored project at Gladstone Center for Girls.

Our members raised money in our community. The Community Partners Campaign completed a third highly successful year. The *Chili Cook-Off* and the *Women Who Make a Difference Luncheon* continued their tradition of past successes at new venues. *Miami Who Makes a Magic City* made its debut under the stars at Fairchild Tropical Garden. At the end of our year, we bid a bittersweet goodbye to the Encore Shop.

Our members trained and learned in our community. We met with community leaders in our county and in our capital, advocating for our projects. We brought in new provisionals, developed new projects and trained chairs and leaders for the future of the Junior League of Miami.

We look forward to 2004-05 under the leadership of our wonderful new President Amy Sussman and a very cohesive Board that represents the interest(s) of our members and our community. They are bright, capable, caring and involved.

Thank you to our members and to our many community and corporate partners, advisors, contributors, supporters, friends, families and employers who have helped us to realized and sustain our vision of empowering Miami's women, children, and families to conquer tomorrow's challenges and to build a united community. We are women building better communities.

Sincerely,


Karen K. Cabrera

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Volunteers work throughout the community

PROJECT COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2003-2004

Joelle Allen

Family Literacy

Tina Boresow (CO-CHAIR)

All Aboard Story Hour

Karen Clement

Program Development

Ashley Cusack (CO-CHAIR)

*Family Resource Center/Hurwit
Crisis Nursery*

Stephanie Demos (CO-CHAIR)

Inn Transition South

Kelly Hughes-Johnson

Done In A Day

Vicki Lopez Lukis

Girls Advocacy Project

Hillary Scurtis

All Aboard Story Hour

Morgan Park Smith (CO-CHAIR)

*Family Resource Center/Hurwit
Crisis Nursery*

Liz Spivack (CO-CHAIR)

Inn Transition South

Thomasina Turner-Diggs

Foster Care Review

Meg Valls

Inn Transition North

Kristin Wherry

Big Brothers Big Sisters

Libby Witherspoon

*CHARLEE/Gladstone Center
for Girls*

All Aboard Story Hour

This past year concluded three successful years of the All-Aboard Story Hour project in which volunteers read stories and conducted hands-on activities with children at the Homeless Assistance Center and at JLM's Inn Transition North and South. The children were extremely receptive to the story hours and craft activities, and cherished the free books they receive at the end of each session.

Done In A Day

Volunteers assisted in facilitating community events within the Junior League of Miami's focus areas. At a major annual event, 70 JLM volunteers organized by the Committee assisted the 8,000+ runners in the Race for the Cure at Bayfront Park.

CHARLEE/Gladstone Center for Girls

Volunteers provided material and instruction for recreational therapeutic programs for girls in this residential program who have been removed from their homes following allegations of serious abuse. JLM volunteers worked with the girls of Gladstone on various projects, including decorating pumpkins for Halloween, creating Turkey sculptures for Thanksgiving, and hosting a holiday party complete with presents for each girl and a trip to the theater for *Annie*. Volunteers used these projects as ice breakers for conversation with the girls to help them realize there are people who care about them and want to help.



“...For a few hours, the pain of incarceration and the painful experiences that too often made them vulnerable to participate in crimes were forgotten. They were just teen girls enjoying the attention [of JLM volunteers], the nurturing and love that help our children to thrive.”

-Eileen Nexer Brown, describing the GAP project

Family Literacy Project

For nearly four years the Junior League of Miami worked with the Early Childhood Initiative Foundation to create a signature project in the League's focus area of early childhood education. In March 2004, the JLM general membership approved the plan for "Building a Family of Readers" as that signature project. The 2004-05 Committee will provide parenting skills training to families living in the League's domestic violence shelters (Inn Transition North and South) and with families in the dependency court system. In addition to their planning work, the 2003-04 committee held a very special Mother's Day celebration and training for moms on reading aloud to their children.

Family Resource Center/ Hurwit Crisis Nursery

JLM worked with this program that serves as a home for children between the ages of newborn to 12 years old who are between foster homes. JLM volunteers planned and conducted enriching outings with older children, while others remained at the nursery with the babies and toddlers who were too young to attend the outings. In March the committee spent a wonderful day at the Miami Seaquarium where the children were able to pet and feed the dolphins. The children were treated to ice skating, horseback riding, to the Miami Children's Museum, to an IMAX movie and many wonderful memories.

Girls Advocacy Project (GAP)

Working with girls in the Miami-Dade County Juvenile Detention Center, JLM volunteers filled the gaps in the Juvenile Justice System with educational group discussions and activities for the girls. The goal was to provide girls with support while assisting them in improving the decisions they make in their daily lives. One of the year's highlights was their Thanksgiving party. JLM volunteers, advisory board members, distinguished guests and 16 girls participated in arts and craft activities, a performance by University of Miami's Inspirational Choir Concert and of course, a delicious catered Thanksgiving dinner.



Volunteers making a difference for Miami-Dade

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Arnold Greenfield
Dr. Pedro J. Greer, Jr.
Dr. Nilza Kallos
Ann Kashmer
Israel Kreps
David Lawrence, Jr.
Judge Cindy Lederman
Dr. Leda Perez
Anna K. Rentz
Thomas M. Rozek
Judge Deborah White-Labora

COMMUNITY GRANTS

Notre Dame D'Haiti
Children's Home
Society/Greater Miami
Tennis Foundation
Children's Psychiatric Center
All Aboard Mobile
Reading Unit
Voices for Children/
Guardian Ad Litem's
Children's Needs Project
CHARLEE Medical Clinics
Program
Shake-A-Leg Water Sports
Program for Girls
University of Miami Debbie
Institute
University of Miami Child
Protection Team

Inn Transition North

Our flagship project provides housing and resources to women and children who are victims of domestic violence, as part of a public-private partnership with Miami-Dade County. Volunteers from JLM focused on providing informative activities for moms and constructive playtime for kids. September featured a potluck supper where mentees and mentors got to know each other and each resident received a complete set of Tupperware containers with proper food storage tips. October featured a discussion on personal hygiene with gift baskets for moms and naturally, a Halloween party. For Thanksgiving, committee members assembled baskets full of food items and grocery store gift certificates for residents to prepare their own Thanksgiving dinners. December featured a shopping spree at the Encore shop, a Holiday party and gifts for all the children donated by JLM members. Spring activities included a discussion on women's health conducted by Barry University nursing students, a financial advice seminar, an Easter party and a trip to the Miami Children's Museum.

Inn Transition South

Junior League of Miami assisted Greater Miami Neighborhoods in building a 56-unit complex in South Dade to address the needs of homeless families and families who are victims of domestic violence. The facility opened in 2003. JLM volunteers planned the tenant education program and participated in monthly activities with the residents. The December holiday party was a highlight of the year with 200 residents in attendance and 300 gifts collected for the children, thanks to the planning and work of JLM members and community partners. Each family received a huge package of gifts including personal items for the moms, and memories of a special time created by caring volunteers.



Foster Care Review

Volunteers assisted the citizen review panels by gathering specific information from foster care parents about children in their care. They conducted a review process involving direct mail, phone and in-person interviews, reaching out to foster parents representing nearly 2,000 children. They presented their findings in a detailed report.



Project Reach – Big Brothers Big Sisters

For the third year in a row, this committee worked with children in a group-mentoring program involving educational, recreational and cultural outings for the yet-to-be-matched “littles” of Big Brothers Big Sisters. A group of 10 to 15 at-risk children were treated on Saturdays to a variety of enriching outings arranged and hosted by JLM volunteers. Trips included exploring Metro Zoo and Parrot Jungle, sailing on Biscayne Bay with Shake-A-Leg, bowling at Don Carters, cheering on the Miami Heat, touring Fairchild Garden, painting pottery at Color Me Mine, attending the Nutcracker Ballet and lots more. The committee planned and conducted two or three outings each month that the children loved and looked forward to.



IN-LEAGUE COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Tere Acosta

Public Relations

Juliet Bianca (CO-CHAIR)

Membership Directory

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Marketing Team

Bibi Cruz-Ledon

Junior League Journal

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Training Chair

Sandra Fairman

Headquarters Management

Christy Falco

Membership Outreach

Stevie Fay (CO-CHAIR)

Provisionals

Karen Guy

Public Affairs/SPAC

Angela Harrison (CO-CHAIR)

Meetings & Hospitality

Valerie Harvey

Webmaster

Diana Huling (CO-CHAIR)

Meetings & Hospitality

Alise Johnson

Legal Coordinator

Mayra Lindsay

Community Service Award

Leana Marks (CO-CHAIR)

Provisionals

Maria Robbins

Historian

Lori Tashman-Corrada

(CO-CHAIR)

Membership Directory

Volunteers raise funds for the community

FUNDRAISER COMMITTEE CHAIRS 2003-2004

Jamie Adams (CO-CHAIR)
Chili Cook-Off

Maria Beguiristain (CO-CHAIR)
Miami: Who Makes A Magic City

Tina Carlo (CO-CHAIR)
Miami: Who Makes A Magic City

Bibi Cruz-Ledon (CO-CHAIR)
Encore Shop

Erin Dolan
Fund Development

Lauren Harrison
Women Who Make A Difference

Kara Kautz-Moss (CO-CHAIR)
Encore Shop

Meredith Mills (CO-CHAIR)
Community Partners

Sheri Shoup (CO-CHAIR)
Community Partners

Candace Vassillion (CO-CHAIR)
Chili Cook-Off

CHILI IN THE VILLAGE



JANUARY 31, 2004
PINECREST GARDENS

The Junior League of Miami teamed up with the Village of Pinecrest to serve the best of both chili worlds on January 31, 2004. The Village hosted the International Chili Society competition and JLM opened up the "Best Chili in Town" competition to restaurants, caterers and novices.

Along with all the chili one wanted to sample, the day featured live music, craft and food vendors, a kids' zone, an exciting raffle, the South Florida Firefighters and University of Miami Cheerleaders to delight all! Celebrity Judges included Kelly Craig, Stephanie Sayfie and Hunter Reno.

Generous sponsors of this family-fun event included Village of Pinecrest, Burdines, Royal Caribbean International, Bacardi, Anheuser Busch, Dade Paper Co., Diana & Mark Huling, Angela & Kent Harrison, Kathleen & Sean Duran, and Doug, Hunter & Donna Reno.



Miami: Who Makes a Magic City

An event celebrating all that makes Miami spectacular and honoring 22 of Miami's greatest treasures, it was indeed "a night to remember!"

- * Arthur Agatston, M.D.
- * Michael Aller
- * Toby Lerner Ansin
- * Romero Britto
- * Butch Buchholz
- * Marc Buoniconti
- * Alvah H. Chapman, Jr.
- * Suzanne Delahanty
- * Pedro Jose Greer, Jr., M.D.
- * Jack Foley Horkheimer
- * Mitchell Kaplan
- * Dr. Modesto A. Maidique
- * Arva Parks McCabe
- * Budge Mead
- * Bryan Norcross
- * Jean Ellen Shehan
- * Laurinda Spear and Bernardo Fort-Brescia
- * Robert Steinback
- * Norman Van Aken
- * Dolores and Sanford Ziff

The event committee was headed by Tina Carlo and Maria Bequiristain as co-chairs. Committee members were Elizabeth Bacardi, Michele Baker Benesch, Jessica Ann Bennett-Porto, Cristina Courtney, Deborah Maya El-Assad, Zaria Goschalk, Corinne Maya Kayal, Melissa Kent, Kelly Lederman, Megan Lykes, Anne Beaumont Nichols, Hadley Nichols, Kristin Pearce, Jennifer Pflieger, Sharon Polo, Christine Quiñones, Katharine Rubino, Carrie Ruiz, Cybelle Santo Domingo, Meg Stamey, Christina Ureña and Ashley Walter.

Miami: Who Makes a Magic City

November 1, 2003

Fairchild Tropical Garden

Major evening sponsors included Mariposa at Neiman Marcus-Coral Gables, The Yachts of Seabourn, National Distributing Company, Elemis Spa and Menu Men Inc.





2004 Women Who Make A Difference

(FRONT)

Lee Klein

Eileen Nexer Brown

Mindy Cassel, Carol Berns

(BACK)

Lauren Harrison (Chair)

Bonnie Lano Rippingille

Julia Bianchi

Karen Cabrera (JLM

President 2003-04)

WOMEN WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE



The Junior League of Miami celebrated its third annual Women Who Make a Difference luncheon and awards event before a sell-out crowd on Sunday, March 14, 2004, aboard top-rated, premium cruise line Celebrity Cruises' Millennium in Port Everglades. The

ceremony presented the awards in recognition of remarkable women in our community who have made a significant impact through their volunteer efforts in improving the lives of at-risk women and children.

The committee was lead by: Chair Lauren Harrison, with Gretchen Kirtley and Lise-Marie Wertanzl, Assistant Chairs; Teresa Thornburg, Treasurer and Table Host Captain; and Ivette Berisiartu-Hofmann, Auction Chair. Committee members included Alexandra Aymerich, Elaine T. Cuervo, Leslie M. Hoy, Kyla Kowal-Caliendo, Allison M. Machado, Jennifer M. Quezada, Samantha L. Schosberg and Karin Wilborn-English

Generous sponsors of the event included: Celebrity Cruises; Genovese, Joblove & Battista, P.A.; Gibraltar Bank; McClain & Company; Capretto Shoes; Aqua Spa; Montica Jewelry; Elemis Spa; Orchids by Jamie; and Saks Fifth Avenue Dadeland.



Making It Possible

Thanks and congratulations to all those who made our fundraisers so successful!

Encore Shop: \$9,915

Chili in the Village: \$9,200

Women Who Make a

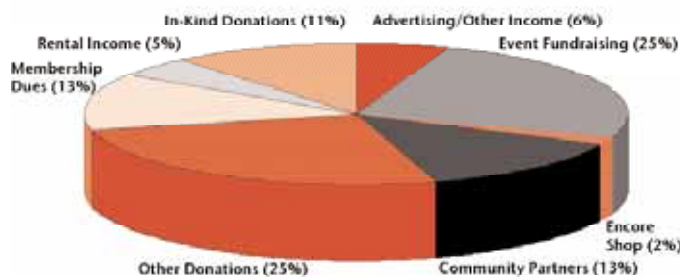
Difference: \$64,915

Miami: Who Makes a

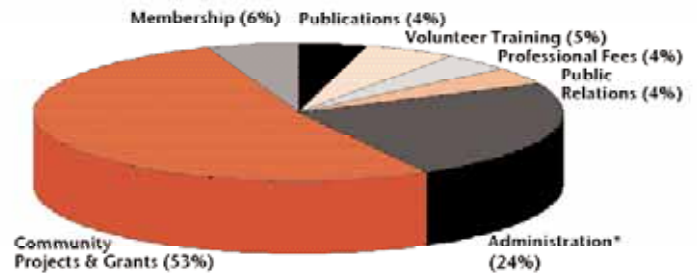
Magic City: \$80,205

Community Partners: \$80,705

JLM SOURCES OF SUPPORT Fiscal Year Ending May 31, 2004



JLM USES OF SUPPORT Fiscal Year Ending May 31, 2004



*Administrative costs are funded through Membership dues. **Figures are pending audited financials from outside accounting firm.

ASSETS		LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Current Assets		Liabilities	
Checking/Savings		Current Liabilities	
Checking/Money Market Funds	\$595,622.85	Accounts Payable	\$12,499.71
Project Fund	43,203.78	Other Payables	2,975.40
Maintenance Funds North & HQ	108,659.96	South Miami Heights CDC Payable	121.41
Ronnie Bermont Endow. Fund	455,952.04	Total Current Liabilities	15,596.52
Total Checking/Savings	1,203,438.63	Long Term Liabilities	
Other Current Assets		Note Payable HQ	39,249.60
Pledges Receivable	42,016.33	Total Long Term Liabilities	54,846.12
Other Receivable	5,967.00	Equity	
Accounts Receivable	15,775.44	Retained Earnings	86,579.46
Total Other Current Assets	63,758.77	Temporarily Restricted	168,458.75
Fixed Assets		Permanently Restricted	287,072.16
JLM Furniture & Equipment	32,326.71	Unrestricted	2,007,933.47
Shop Furniture & Fixtures	9,723.31	Net Income	220,944.12
Leasehold Improvements	34,489.68	Total Equity	2,770,987.96
Inn Transition No. Bldgs./Land	1,245,688.72	TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
JLM Headquarters Building/Land	708,731.54	\$2,825,834.08	
Total Accumulated Depreciation	472,323.28		
Total Fixed Assets	1,558,636.68		
TOTAL ASSETS	\$2,825,834.08		

Encore Shop, Adieu This year we bid a sad farewell to the Junior League of Miami Encore Shop. Founded originally in 1932, the shop served the Junior League and the community well for many years. Changes in retail apparel shopping, cost of operations and lives of Junior League volunteering women shifted the financial equation for the shop as a fundraiser. Like most good-bye's, it was difficult. Many in the community who patronized the shop will miss the great bargains it offered. Legions of members will cherish fond memories of volunteer shifts in the shop where new friendships were forged and funds for the community were raised.

Salute to Community Partners 2003-04

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Brooks Weisblat*

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Frank & Karen Cabrera*
Capretto
Dan & Tina Carlo*
Frank & Debbie Corbishley*
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Genovese Joblove & Battista, P.A. *
Montica Jewelry
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Hooligan's*
Jake's*
JoAnna's Marketplace*
Macabi
Norman Brothers
Patrick's Productions
Sara Sharpe Catering*
Titanic
Tobacco Road*
Doug, Hunter & Donna Reno
Bob & Elaine Tatum

OTHER FRIENDS OF THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF MIAMI, INC.

Burdines*
Orchids by Jamie*
Royal Caribbean International*
Saks Fifth Avenue Dadeland*
Village of Pinecrest

*Previous Donor +Multi-year Pledge

Ways We Made a Difference in 2003-2004

JLM Annual Award Winners



Bonita Whytehead
Rebecca Herndon Bush



Vicki Lukis
Volunteer of the Year



Teresa Zohn
Sustainer of the Year



Elizabeth Sanchez
Provisional of the Year

- We had our inaugural year at full operating capacity at Inn Transition South, 56 units of transitional housing for victims of Domestic Violence and Homelessness, an extension of our already successful Inn Transition North project.
- We advocated for programs in Tallahassee both current and past that were in jeopardy of being eliminated through budget cuts at the state level.
- We worked with more than 100 girls in the Juvenile Justice Center with our GAP program.
- Distributed more than 450 books and tutored and mentored more than 300 children through the All Aboard Story Hour project.
- We collaborated with a network of community agencies to improve parenting skills and to ensure that all Miami-Dade's children enter school with the foundation of literacy skills they need to succeed with the Family Learning Partnership.
- Continued the tradition of providing summer camp to the children of Inn Transition North.
- We continued our Community Partners Campaign obtaining donations for this and future years totaling \$81,405.
- We began our year with \$346,682 in our Endowment Fund and increased to \$534,999 to help fund all of our community projects in the future.



Building Better Communities



- Hosted events for children and provided numerous hours of service through Big Brothers Big Sisters Project Reach, giving children the opportunity to see sites in Miami we all take for granted and do things they may never have had the chance to do.
- We completed a Holiday Gift drive and hosted holiday parties for all of our projects with children.
- We will receive developer fees for our IT South program to help sustain the volunteer component of this project over the next 20 years.
- Hosted a new membership class with 80 new volunteers for our League.
- The Provisional class continued the tradition of a Family Fun Day for the residents of Inn Transition South, North and Safe Space.
- Streamlined the membership process to include online applications.
- Hosted the second annual Past President's Council to share ideas from the past and brainstorm for the future.
- Successfully completed the Fund Development process to propose healthy fundraising efforts for 04-05.
- Audited, updated and revised the Strategic Plan as a working document for 2004-2005.
- We made new friends and made a difference at the same time!

Super Leaguers in 2003-04

June: Michelle Baker-Benesch

July: The Spring Provisional Class:
Dana Martorella, Amy van den
Dijssel, Jill Ecklund, Becky
Herman, Hays Miller, Jessica
Romero and Christina Sherry.

August: Michelle Walgreen

September: Gretchen Kirtley

October: Jennifer Pflieger & Cybelle
Santo Domingo

November: Jennifer Lutton

December: Lise-Marie Wertanzl

January: Allison Freeland

February: Angel Michaels

March: Lorrieann Martin &
Jennifer Quezada

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2004-2005

Amy Sussman
President

Andria Hanley
President-Elect

Cybelle Santo Domingo
VP Communications

Stephanie Demos
VP Community

Gail Scott
VP Development

Lauren Harrison Genovese
VP Finance

Vicky Hucks
VP Membership

Leslie Cooper
VP Planning

Juliet Bianca
Assistant to the President

Maria Beguiristain
Bylaws/Parliamentarian

Keith Landon
*Community Advisory Board
Liaison*

Katie Landsea
Nominating Committee

Jen Green
Placement Committee

Leanne Tellam
Recording Secretary

Margaret Nee
Sustainer Liaison

Mary Lynch
Sustaining Advisor

Candace Vassillion
Treasurer



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Women Building Better Communities