# ANNUAL **REPORT** 2019 2020



EMPOWERING WOMEN TO LEAD

# **MISSION, MODEL & HISTORY**

### OUR MISSION

Founded in 1926, the Junior League of Miami (JLM) is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

### OUR MODEL

Central to the mission of JLM is the personal and professional growth of our members. We have been building the capacity of women leaders in Miami for nearly 100 years. Through trainings that build specific skills and volunteer leadership positions that contribute to holistic growth, our unique model places members in JLM leadership roles that mirror positions found at both for-profit and nonprofit organizations. Governed by a Board of Directors and managed by a separate Executive Management Team, JLM is a 501(c)(3) organization and our volunteer leaders promote diversity, build teams, steward budgets, and deliver impactful results. Our current and past leaders are executives across a wide array of industries in Miami.

### OUR HISTORY

JLM has been training, developing, and empowering women throughout Miami-Dade County for 94 years. Throughout the League's history, the volunteering women of JLM have planted the seeds for many programs that are still part of this community today. Some have grown into major institutions, like the Children's Home Society (begun in the early 1930s), the Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science (started by JLM in 1949), and Inn Transition North and South (started in 1988 with Inn Transition North opening in 1990 and Inn Transition South opening in 2002).



### CONGRATULATIONS TO THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF MIAMI SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

**Uppaluri Family Foundation Scholarship:** *Milarvi Paul* 

The Kathryn Menke Miller Scholarship: Massiel Cobblah

**The Kathryn Menke Miller Scholarship:** Natalia Fermin

This year's winners of the Junior League of Miami Scholarships are Milarvi Paul, Massiel Cobblah, and Natalia Fermin. In addition to sponsoring this year's winner, the Uppaluri Family Foundation and our own Anita Uppaluri also continue to sponsor, and mentor the past winners of her Family Foundation's Scholarship.

From left: Natalia Fermin, Massiel Cobblah, and Milarvi Paul



### MESSAGE FROM THE **PRESIDENT**

This year the over 800 women of the Junior League of Miami are united by our common interest in building a stronger community and cultivating civic leaders among us. Our simple mission is a powerful one, to promote volunteerism, develop the potential of women, and improve our community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

Our members are as diverse as our community hailing from an assortment of various backgrounds, and we come together around this passion for making Miami a better place for all of us. We pride ourselves on the training we offer to our members, along with the diverse opportunities to make an impact while developing effective leadership skills.

Our impact is made through the preparation and empowerment our members receive in the work we do. This year we may have been cut short due to the Covid-19 pandemic, but we were still able to accomplish so much through service. We hosted over 65 community-based events, including assisting families who are survivors of domestic violence get back on their feet, serving over 300 meals to homeless neighbors, delivering holiday meal baskets to families in need, and helping hundreds of children improve their reading skills through our Therapy Dogs program.

Since our founding in 1926, the Junior League of Miami has been dedicated to nurturing and training women to become community leaders and catalysts of change. Our volunteers are everywhere in the community, from serving on other nonprofit boards and for-profit boards, leading nonprofits, or running businesses.

We know this year has been one of unprecedented circumstances, so we want to thank you for supporting this network of inspiring women who hope to inspire young women for generations to come. Your involvement ensures that we continue to deepen our community impact and develop strong civically-minded women for another century. We may be distanced, but we are always stronger when we work together.

Yours in Service, Cecilia Dubon Slesnick President, 2019-2020 president@jlmiami.org

#### JUNIOR LEAGUE OF MIAMI FOUNDATION, INC. BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2019-2020

President Keith Warren Landon

Vice President Sarita Courtney Baigorri

**Secretary** Katie Lane Arriola

**Treasurer** *Catherine Lorié* 

Immediate Past President Mary (Mimi) Bradley Shafey

**JLM President** *Cecilia Slesnick* 

JLM President-Elect Jennifer Williams JLM Executive Vice President Jessica Delgado

**JLM Treasurer** *Heather Freeland* 

JLM Immediate Past President Deborah Koch Members Michele Battle Maria Byrd Marianne Devine Ann Goldman Lauren Harrison Anne Helliwell Erin Dolan Knight Kelly Lederman

### **LEADERSHIP**

#### JUNIOR LEAGUE OF MIAMI BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2019-2020

**President** *Cecilia Slesnick* 

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Sustainer Advisor Helen Picard

Nominating Chair Megan McIntosh

Bylaws/Parliamentarian Ava Habif

### JUNIOR LEAGUE OF MIAMI EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM 2019-2020

**Executive Vice President** Jessica Delgado

Vice President-Elect Faequa Khan

Vice President-Community Engagement: Tammy Reed

Vice President-Financial Stewardship Marcia Koo

Vice President-Fund Development
Angela Carrillo

Vice President-Leadership Development Sara Walkup

Vice President-Marketing Halley Peters

Vice President-Membership Engagement Shannon Egan

**Placement Chair** Sara Camacho

Sustainer Liaison Monique Greenberg

Sustainer Advisor Debbie Korge

#### ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION OF JUNIOR LEAGUES INTERNATIONAL

Since its founding in 1901 by social activist Mary Harriman, The Junior League has evolved into one of the oldest, largest, and most effective women's volunteer organizations in the world, encompassing more than 140,000 women in 291 Leagues in four countries.

### WHO WE ARE

The Junior League of Miami is an organization of over 800 volunteer women of all ages and backgrounds who live throughout the Miami area. Our volunteers include executives, community leaders, entrepreneurs, mothers, and professionals from a wide range of industries and backgrounds. We welcome all women who value our mission of improving our community, promoting voluntarism and developing the potential of women.

### WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT US

#### Join Junior League of Miami

Join JLM and make a mark in your own backyard—join JLM's diverse and passionate group of volunteers today. *https://www.jlmiami.org/join-us/* 

#### Donate to our Annual Fund

Proceeds are allocated to our programs and projects focused on empowering Miami's women, children, and families at risk. Donate today and make an immediate impact in the community. https://www.jlmiami.org/system/donate\_summary/

#### Donate to JLM on Give Miami Day

Each November, support JLM on Give Miami Day, one of the biggest annual giving events in the U.S.

#### Attend our Women Who Make a Difference Luncheon

JLM hosts an annual luncheon to recognize 3 to 4 women who exemplify the League's mission of promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities.

MEMBER

### MEET JOANNA AND SARAH KATE STONE!

Joanna Stone and Sarah Kate Stone joined the Junior League of Miami this year and excelled as New Members! The mother-daughter duo both reside in Miami and throughout the year, contributed their time, energy and enthusiasm to an array of volunteer projects. To recognize their devotion, we are spotlighting Joanna and Sarah Kate. Let's get to know our fellow Leaguers!

Joanna recently took a certification in Montessori and aging. In addition to starting a home health company channeling Montessori

principals with the elderly community in Boston, here in Miami, she began to work on a brain injury program that fosters independence and community building alongside her sister, a fellow Junior Leaguer.

Sarah Kate is Joanna's daughter and recently graduated from Eckerd College. She has worked with Royal Caribbean's luxury brand, Azamara, in its Product Development Department.

#### WHY DID YOU JOIN THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF MIAMI?

• *Joanna*: I joined the Junior League of Miami to work with people that wanted to elevate women, support children and strengthen our community.

• *Sarah Kate:* I joined [the] Junior League to find a community designed to build others up. I found friendship, guidance, and an extraordinary group of women.

#### FAVORITE JUNIOR LEAGUE EXPERIENCE:

• *Joanna*: I enjoyed meeting and planning with my [New Member] group and community leaders to support our event. People were very kind, creative and generous! I'm grateful to the folks at [Inn Transition South] "ITS," I learned so much about challenges women face in this community! I also enjoyed and am grateful to JLM leaders, mentors and Sustainers. I met a wonderful, kind, smart, ambitious group of women committed to lifting each other and the community

• *Sarah Kate:* My favorite experience in [the] Junior League this year was collecting materials to create the Thanksgiving baskets [delivered to Inn Transitions North and South in coordination with Done In A Day]. It was fun to coordinate with my mentor (shoutout to Lucy!!). It was nice to pause and celebrate community during busy holiday times.

# **COMMUNITY IMPACT**



#### **INN TRANSITION**

Inn Transition is a creative and vital answer to transitional housing for victims of domestic violence and their children. In a partnership created with Miami-Dade County, these apartment facilities provide housing, counseling, and child-care for a period of three to 24 months for families. The facilities need our help to continue to provide a safe living environment for shelter residents.

#### DONE IN A DAY

Done in a Day provides volunteers and resources to local organizations for short-term, one-day events that fall within the Junior League's mission.

#### THERAPY DOGS

JLM works with libraries throughout Miami-Dade to bring certified therapy dog teams to help children connect with books and develop a love of reading.

#### **CASA VALENTINA**

Casa Valentina is a residential facility providing at-risk and former foster care youth with safe, affordable housing, life skills and continued support to achieve and maintain self-sufficiency. JLM partners with Casa Valentina by providing monthly activities that teach residents life skills.

#### PACE CENTER FOR GIRLS, INC.

The Pace Committee develops and implements Saturday sessions for alumni from the Pace Center for Girls. The sessions focus on life and leadership skills. Junior League members work closely with the girls to provide resources and mentoring to guide the girls into adulthood.

#### PROJECT OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS

A committee of volunteers works with families moving out of Inn Transition North and Inn Transition South to help facilitate a successful move into their new home.

#### SCHOLARSHIPS

JLM is proud to sponsor college scholarships awarded to three female, high school seniors in Miami-Dade County Public Schools, who have exhibited superior community service involvement during their high school careers while maintaining high academic achievement. Two of the three scholarships are awarded in memory of Junior League of Miami member, Kathryn Menke Miller. The third scholarship is administered by JLM with funds provided by the Uppaluri Family Foundation.



### 2019-2020 DONORS

A special thanks to our donors. We could not do all we do without help from people in the community who offer their generous support.

#### **PROMOTER** (\$10,000-\$19,999)

The Northern Trust Company Uppaluri Family Foundation

#### SUPPORTER (\$5,000-\$9,999

Mary Bradley Shafey Parlor Interiors The Jayne and Leonard Abess Foundation Inc.

#### **CONTRIBUTOR** (\$1,000-\$4,999)

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#### FRIENDS (\$500-\$999)

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#### **IN-KIND DONATIONS**

Arcs and Sparks Ashley Cusack Atlantic Pacific Community Builders Ballast Construction Julia & David Bianchi Kristen's Confections / Kristen Reyes LATAM Cargo Lopefra Nave OJ Painting Stephanie Heller Norman, Founder of RKVIST





Each year, JLM hosts the Women Who Make A Difference luncheon to recognize outstanding women who exemplify the League's mission of promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities. Honorees have made a positive contribution to the residents of Greater Miami and at least one honoree is a JLM Sustaining Member. Proceeds from this event fund our community projects, including transitional housing facilities and support for survivors of domestic violence at ITN and ITS, our Therapy Dogs reading program, and Done in a Day volunteer opportunities.

On March 11, 2020 we held our VIP party at Navé to kick off the WWMD celebration. In attendance were the 2020 honorees and many of the event sponsors, in addition to this year's scholarship recipients. Though pushed back due to the coronavirus pandemic, the Women Who Make a Difference Luncheon is slated to go virtual on September 10, 2020.

# Congratulations to the 2020 JLM Women Who Make A Difference Honorees

### Lileana de Moya

A longtime advocate for the rights of children and young adults with disabilities, Ms. de Moya is the founder and CEO/ President of The de Moya Foundation, a 501(c)(3) charitable trust that is committed to creating employment opportunities for young adults with unique abilities, building hope, confidence and independence.

### Maria Clara Harrington

For more than 18 years, Maria Clara Harrington has been serving young survivors of sexual abuse, sexual exploitation and sex trafficking through counseling, advocacy, and outreach. At the Chance Program, she is in a role that enables her to combine her understanding and compassion for survivors, with her skills as an educator, to raise awareness of child sex trafficking. Maria Clara led the launch of the first drop-in center for young female survivors of sex trafficking in Miami and continues to collaborate with other organizations for a community-based approach to end sex trafficking.

### **Rebecca Roper Matkov**

Rebecca (Becky) Roper Matkov, a preservation consultant and writer, served as CEO of Dade Heritage Trust, Miami's largest nonprofit historic preservation organization for 18 years. She is a past president of the Junior League of Miami and the current president of the Deering Estate Foundation's Board of Directors. In 2015 she received the Florida Secretary of State's Award, given to one "whose passion for historic preservation has forever changed the face of Florida."

### Ana VeigaMilton

Ana VeigaMilton presides over the José Milton Foundation (JMF) and guides Social Responsibility for the Milton family business, United Property Management (UPM), one of the largest property owners and managers in South Florida. JMF was established to support programs in South Florida that improve quality of life and close the opportunity gap, with a special focus on education, research, and healthcare.

# **FINANCIAL SUMMARY**





## YEAR IN REVIEW

60





84 community service opportunities provided

backpacks delivered to children at ITN and ITS









733 members



**12** families, including 31 children, moved from transitional housing to homes of their own



**47** holiday gifts distributed to families at ITN and ITS



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