

2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT



CELEBRATING

100 YEARS

1923-2023

JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
COLUMBUS

WOMEN BUILDING BETTER COMMUNITIES SINCE 1923



OUR MISSION

The Junior League of Columbus, Inc. is an organization of women whose Mission is to advance women's leadership for meaningful community impact through volunteer action, collaboration, and training. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.



OUR VISION

The Junior League of Columbus is the leading resource for trained volunteers. Through our programs and the Kelton House Museum and Garden, we educate the community, preserve the past and build for the future of Columbus.

OUR VALUES

Collaboration: We believe lasting societal change is achieved through both collaboration and meaningful disagreement. Living the value of collaboration inspires us to accomplish more together.



Community: We believe a strong sense of community is essential to human well-being. Living the value of community provides a foundation of inclusion, which allows us to make a greater impact on the world around us.

Empowerment: We believe that the empowerment of women is a necessary requirement to create positive, lasting societal change. Living the value of empowerment fosters trust and confidence in each other.



Leadership: We believe in the unique power of women's leadership abilities to transform communities for the better. Living the value of leadership allows us to make a collective difference.

Respect: We believe respect is a fundamental human right. Living the value of respect instills in us an unconditional positive regard for others.

Service: We believe it is through service that we build core relationships with others. Service is the lens through which we decide how we will invest our time and resources. Living the value of service empowers us as catalysts for lasting community change.



OUR COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

IN DIVERSITY THERE IS BEAUTY AND STRENGTH. The Junior League welcomes all women who value our Mission. We are committed to inclusive environments of diverse individuals, organizations and communities.



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jennifer Shea, 2022-2023

Dear Junior League of Columbus Members and Supporters,

As we reflect on the accomplishments of the past year, I am honored to provide the Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2022-2023. It is with immense gratitude that I share the great strides we have made together in fulfilling our mission.

Through 2022-2023, our dedicated members, alongside our valued partners and supporters, worked tirelessly to advance our mission and make a meaningful impact on the community we serve. Through our Bridging the G.A.P project, we provided unique support to foster youth during a transitional period in their lives. The increase in total visitors to the Kelton House Museum and Gardens this year, along with running the 20th year of the Underground Railroad Learning Station and sold out educational events, demonstrates the breadth of reach in our local community. We also provided support to the community through seven quick impact projects, as well as awarded competitive grants to community organizations that are helping to advance our community focus areas. These accomplishments are a testament to the collaborative spirit of our organization.

The Junior League of Columbus' commitment to transparency and accountability remains of utmost importance. Included in this annual report is an overview of the League's financial performance, as well as how the support received has been used to drive positive change through the impact of our projects and programs. With your support, financially or through time given, the Junior League of Columbus has been able to provide programming to the Central Ohio Community for 100 years.

I extend my heartfelt appreciation to each and every one of you who has played a role in the League's success - from members and dedicated staff to our generous donors and community partners. Your commitment to our shared vision is the driving force behind our accomplishments. As we look ahead to the next 100 years, and with your continued support, I am confident that the Junior League of Columbus can build on the foundation of the last 100 years and create an even more significant impact in the future.

Best Regards,
Jennifer Shea
JLC President 2022-2023



2022-2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Jennifer Shea

President-Elect: Rochelle Toth

Executive Vice President: Nicole Bergman

Executive Vice President-Elect: Chauna Mason

Vice President of Kelton House: Amber Wozniak

Vice President of Kelton House-Elect: Kayla Shawver

Recording Secretary: Lorie Huff

Treasurer: Kristina Ellis

Sustainer Representatives: Molly McGhee O'Reilly & Mandy Slack-Baker

2022-2023 AWARDS

Outstanding

New Member Award

Virginia Reutzel

Rising Star Awards

Katie Persico

Ann Toews

Team Player Award

Marci Leveillee

Presidents' Awards

Kristina Ellis

Devin Henry

Community Award Recipient

Kim Eckhart

2023 Sustainer Honoree

Jennifer Peterson

2022-2023 MANAGEMENT COUNCIL

Executive Vice President: Nicole Bergman

Executive Vice President-Elect: Chauna Mason

Management Council Administrator: Raya Cupler-Sayadi

Vice President of Finance: Kathryn Persico

Vice President of DEIB: Nicole-Lucas-Lee

Vice President of Community Impact: Ann Toews

Vice President of Fund Development: Kim Burns

Vice President of Membership Development: Amanda Parks

Vice President of Membership Development-Elect:

Michele Marcinick

Vice President of Marketing & Operations: Nicki Stanley

Sustainer Representative: Amy Deverson Roberts



IT STARTS WITH A WOMAN

Celebrating 100 Years 1923-2023

On February 1, 2023, the Junior League of Columbus (JLC) marked a century of making a positive impact, celebrating its Centennial Anniversary. To acknowledge the resilience and purpose-driven efforts spanning the past century, the JLC crafted a Centennial Plan with the goals of commemorating 100 years of community impact, reestablishing connections between members and the community through the JLC's mission, and establishing sustainability for the next century. Various Centennial activities included hosting General Membership Meetings (GMMs) at historical venues like the Greater Columbus Arts Council, Columbus Children's Theatre, and Columbus Library. In January, the implementation of a historical exhibit across the Ohio Statehouse showcased the history of the Junior League of Columbus, complemented by a premier event to inaugurate the exhibit. Additionally, the League initiated a Centennial Campaign scheduled to conclude in the fiscal year 2023-2024.



2022-2023 CELEBRATIONS

- 100th Year Anniversary of the Junior League of Columbus
- 20th Year Anniversary of the Underground Railroad Learning Station

AWARDS

- 2022-2023 AJLI Advocacy & Public Policy Award for the Kelton House Underground Railroad Learning Station and HB 340
- 2022-2023 AJLI Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging (DEIB) Award for our DEIB work over the last 3 years and our partnership with Black Girl Rising
- 2023 Collaborative Effort Award by the MLK Holiday Commission for the State of Ohio in partnership with Black Girl Rising

RECOGNITIONS

- Proclamations in recognition of our Centennial year received from Governor Mike DeWine, City of Columbus Mayor Andrew Ginther, Columbus City Council, and Franklin County
- Recognition from the Senate acknowledging our MLK Collaboration Award
- Recognition from State Representative Dontavius Jarrells acknowledging our MLK Collaboration Award
- Recognition from State Representative Dontavius Jarrells of our 20th Anniversary of the Underground Railroad Learning Station and our Collaboration with Black Girl Rising
- Recognition from Columbus City Councilmember Emmanuel Remy acknowledging our Centennial.

IN THE MEDIA

- NBC4 | JLC Centennial interview with Monica Day | February 2023
- City Pulse | 10-page feature of the JLC as the headliner article | Fall 2022
- Channel 10 | Kelton House feature with Tracey Townsend | March 2023
- Essence Magazine | Top 6 Places for Black History in the Country | March 2023
- WOSU's Columbus Neighborhoods | Kelton House feature highlighting Cathy Nelson | February 2023
- 614 Magazine | Kelton House highlighted in their haunted edition | October 2022
- CW & ABC 6 | Feature on show segment, Out and About Columbus | October 2022
- Faith & Family Radio | JLC interview with Dr. Carolyn Pettigrew | November 2022
- City Pulse | JLC highlighted in their bi-annual Charity Guide | 2022, 2023

CURRENT SIGNATURE PROJECTS

Even after 100 years, the Junior League of Columbus (JLC) is still making an impact in Central Ohio. With its two signature projects - Bridging the G.A.P. and the Kelton House Museum and Garden - the JLC has reached and connected with the community in a multitude of ways.

Bridging the G.A.P.

1. Bridging the G.A.P. (Guide, Advocate, Provide) is a project that supports youth aging out of the foster care system.

- a. **Project Guide:** In partnership with Franklin County Children Services, JLC members taught a “Life Skills” program that assisted young adults preparing to graduate high school. Class topics ranged from personal finance to rental housing and interview skills. These topics aimed to prepare participants for independent living after graduation. The JLC also offered its first-ever enrichment workshops in areas of interest to youth. Workshops included self-defense, holiday ornament making on a budget, and creative writing. To ensure our own members would be prepared to interact with youth served by our programs, the JLC held two separate trauma-informed care training sessions, in partnership with Star House and Franklin County Children Services.
- b. **Project Advocate:** During the month of May, the JLC ran a social media campaign called “Fostering Change by Bridging the G.A.P.” This campaign was aimed at raising awareness about the experience of youth aging out of foster care in Ohio, as well as providing tangible ways supporters could help. JLC members also convened weekly on an advocacy call, which helped keep the community’s various experts engaged with each other on issues pertaining to foster youth.
- c. **Project Provide:** Through Project Provide, the League was able to provide sixty high school graduates currently in foster care with high-quality suitcases containing household and personal necessities. The success of this project was due, in large part, to a \$15,000 grant received from AEP. Additionally, the JLC led a holiday drive for young people served by Huckleberry House, an organization that supports central Ohio youth struggling with homelessness, family conflict, poverty and violence. This year, the holiday drive was able to meet the wishes of 150 young people.



KELTON HOUSE MUSEUM & GARDEN

The Kelton House Museum and Garden (KH) had a banner year in 2023, celebrating several significant milestones and accomplishments. One notable achievement was the 20th Anniversary of the Underground Railroad Learning Station, a program that pays tribute to the courageous journey of Martha and Pearl Hartway, who sought freedom through the Underground Railroad at the Kelton House. Since its inception in 2002, this educational initiative has impacted nearly 100,000 students, teachers, and parents.

A key event in the KH calendar was "An Evening of Honoring the Quiet Warriors of the Underground Railroad: Rosetta Armistead and the Radical History of Town Street." This celebration held extra significance as it coincided with the successful advocacy efforts of the Junior League and Kelton House Staff for Ohio House Bill 340. The bill, establishing September as International Underground Railroad Month, received widespread support.

The Junior League of Columbus (JLC) was honored with the Advocacy and Public Policy Award from the Association of Junior Leagues, International (AJLI). This prestigious recognition acknowledged the JLC's outstanding work on the Kelton House's Underground Railroad Learning Station and its advocacy for House Bill 340. The accolade came with a \$5000 award, underscoring the impact of these initiatives on a broader scale.

In terms of visitation, the KH experienced a remarkable increase of twenty-three percent, welcoming over 9,000 visitors throughout the year. These individuals attended for various purposes, including tours, educational programs, private events, and meetings. The popularity of the educational program "Fernando's Funeral" resulted in a sold-out event, and the JLC continued its tradition of hosting the annual HERStory Girl Scout Patch Program.

To further support its mission, the Kelton House received over \$29,000 in grants and donations during the League year, highlighting the community's commitment to preserving history and promoting educational initiatives. Overall, the year was marked by success, recognition, and a growing impact on the community served by the Kelton House Museum and Garden.



Other Programing

Adopt-a-Backpack for Children (ABC) Project Sunsetted

Since 1999, the Junior League of Columbus has worked to meet the needs of economically challenged children and families by providing over 65,000 school supply-filled backpacks through the Adopt-a-Backback for Children (ABC) Project. This year, however, the Junior League paused the ABC Project to evaluate the overall impact of this project. Due to a lack of specific funding to support the Project, and the oversaturation of this area of need by organizations with greater reach, the JLC Board of Directors made the decision to sunset the ABC Project.

Quick Impacts

Many times, organizations identify a need for assistance or resources, but do not have the volunteers or staff to fully meet those needs. Quick Impacts allow the Junior League of Columbus (JLC) to assist with these challenges by providing full or partial funding for a project, as well as volunteer services. These events also afford members the opportunity to work directly with other community partners in Central Ohio. This year, quick impact events included assembling and distributing holiday meal kits for The Columbus Early Learning Centers, completing blankets for youth in foster care with My Very Own Blanket, receiving and organizing donations for Fairy Goodmother, assisting ACTION Ohio with their Thanksgiving Dinner for youth and families currently and formerly in the foster care system, helped support the Kaleidoscope Youth Center's annual fundraiser, and assembled care packages for both Huckleberry House and the YWCA Family Center.

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Belonging Partnerships & Recognition

In Fall 2022, the Junior League of Columbus (JLC) partnered with another local nonprofit, Black Girl Rising, Inc., to help address the issue of premature deaths of Black girls in Columbus through the Love Letters to Black Girls Campaign. The League assisted with logistics, marketing, and providing volunteers for these events, as well as hosted one event at the Kelton House Museum and Garden. In recognition of these efforts, the Junior League of Columbus and Black Girl Rising, Inc., were selected by the Ohio Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission as recipients of their Collaborative Effort Award. Additionally, the Junior League of Columbus also received the DEIB Award from the Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI) for the League's DEIB efforts over the past three years and the more recent collaboration with Black Girl Rising, Inc. This recognition also came with a \$10,000 monetary award to help further support the JLC's DEIB efforts.





FUNDRAISERS



Holiday Tour of Homes

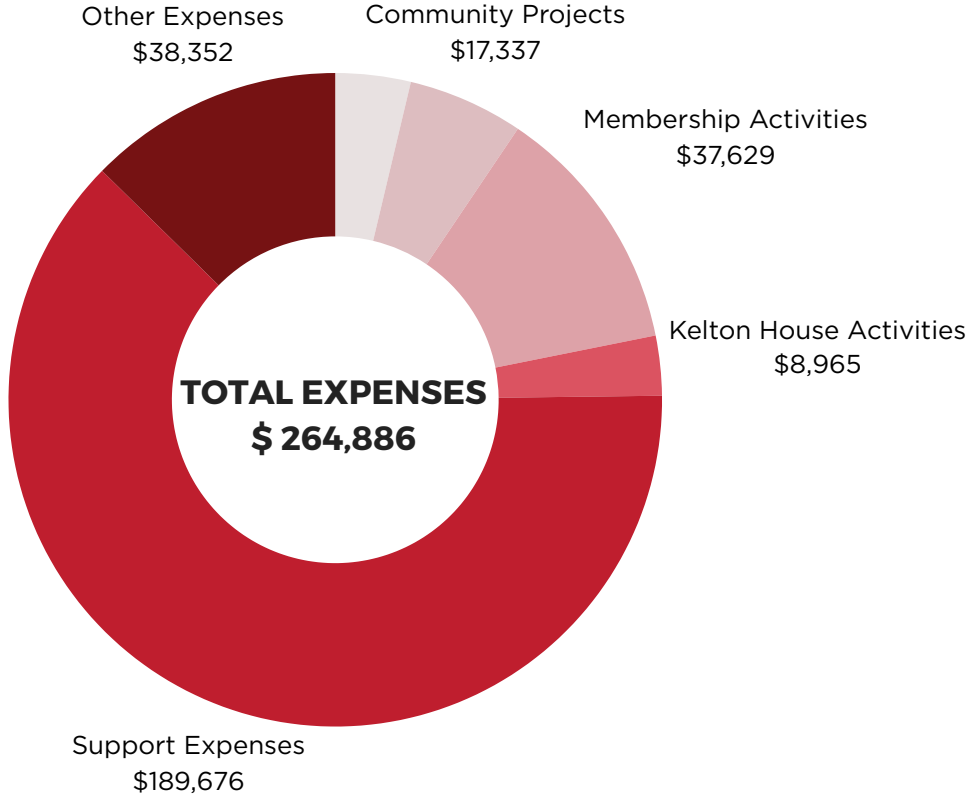
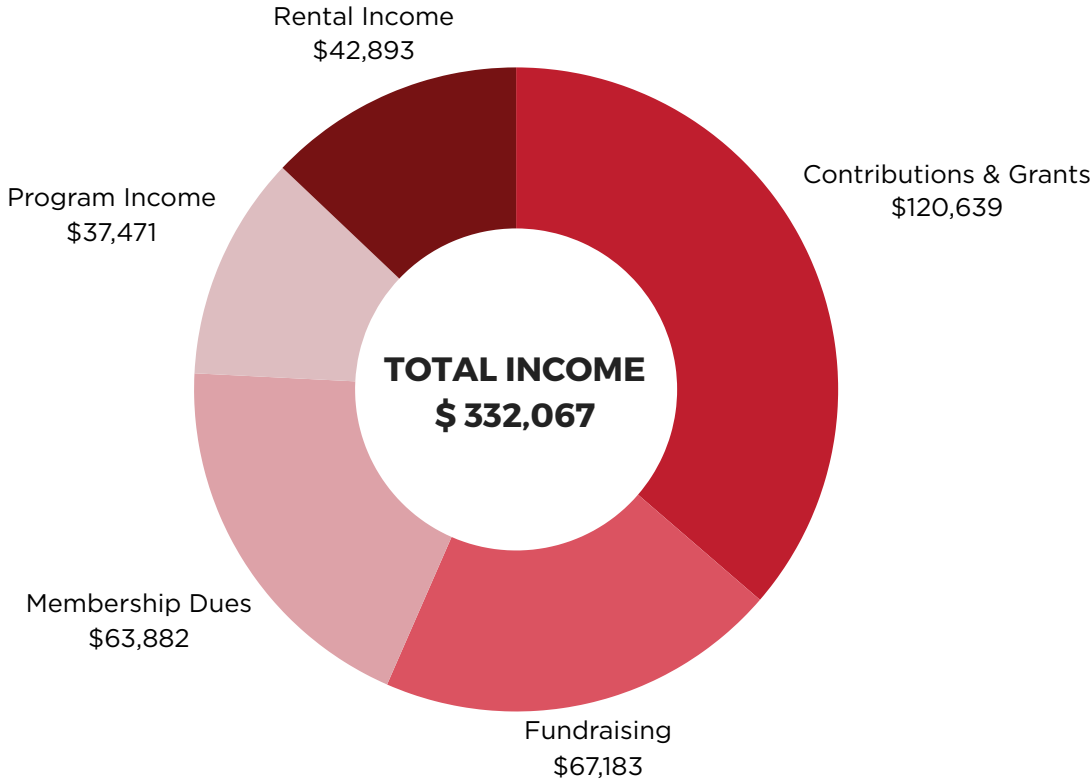
In December 2022, the JLC hosted its annual Holiday Tour of Homes fundraiser. This Tour was the first in-person tour in two years due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Not only did the Tour feature five beautifully decorated homes in the Tartan Fields area of Dublin, the JLC brought back the Kickoff Party where guests gathered in one of the Tour's homes for an evening of mingling with friends, entertainment, and a silent auction. These events were such a success, raising over \$31,000 to support the League's Mission.



Kelton House Garden Party (formerly the Kelton House Gala)

The Kelton House Museum and Garden's largest fundraising event of the year was held on June 2, 2023, raising over \$9000 for continuing support to the Kelton House Mission - providing historical education and preserving the decorative arts in Central Ohio. This year's theme - A Victorian Garden Party - celebrated the beauty of the Gardens and its history.

**JUNIOR LEAGUE OF COLUMBUS
PROFIT AND LOSS
JULY 2022 - JUNE 2023**



ORGANIZATIONS, BUSINESSES, & GENEROUS GROUP GIVING

FOUNDATIONS AND GRANT SUPPORTERS

American Electric Power Foundation
The Association of Junior Leagues
International, Inc.
Columbus Foundation
Grace Kelton Fund
The Reuter Fund

SPONSOR- PLATINUM \$2.5K+

Poling Law

SPONSOR- GOLD \$1K+

Anne DeVoe - Coldwell Banker
Annie's Wine Cottage
Betley Vistain Builders
The Cleary Company
CPS Solutions, LLC
Ferguson
Graumlich Funeral Home
The Slates Wealth Management Group
Tailored Management

SPONSOR- SILVER \$500+

City Park Interiors
First Commonwealth Bank
Great Lakes Insurance Group
Pickle Shack LLC
Vutech Ruff | Cutler Real Estate

SPONSOR- BRONZE \$250+

Adam and Jennifer Shea
Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Platinum
Realty Group
Christin and Jason Smith
Chula's Corner
Go Mortgage
KA Menendian Rug Gallery
CH Interiors
Laurie Schmidt-Moats
Lisa Han and John Kirsner
Mr. Mulch
Ray Insurance Agency
Rita Boswell Group, eXp Realty
Zumba Fusion
Seven Brothers Distilling
Zen Business

SPONSOR- FRIEND OF THE LEAGUE \$100+

ImprovEdge

PARTNER- EMERALD \$5K+

Autumn Dawn Design
NB3 Photography
NB Creative Solutions

PARTNER- SAPPHIRE \$2.5K+

Flowerman
Skyline Chili

PARTNER- RUBY \$1K+

BOXT
Five Star Planning
Donatos
Kitchen Kapers
Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course & The Mid-Ohio School
Nothing Bundt Cakes

PARTNER- OPAL \$500+

Magnum Printing
The Bella Bean
Buffalo Wild Wings - Dublin
Deya Medina
Street Sotheby's International Realty - Marisa
Nye & Sally Wolfe
Tartan Fields Country Club

PARTNER- FRIEND OF THE LEAGUE UP TO \$499

A Cake for Leroy
All in Bloom
Crumbly Cookies - Dublin
Fourth Home
DeSantis Florists
GryphonUSA
Lesli and David Lawrence
Penn and Beech Candle Co.
Petals That Inspire
Cortney Porter
Tom and Amy Roberts
Todd and Stephanie Rodgers
Sadie Baby Sweets
Sweet Tooth Cottage