



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
THE PALM BEACHES

Past President

Courtney Stafford Hickey (2018-2019)



Board of Directors – The Board of Directors consisted of 11 women including President, Courtney Stafford Hickey, Melissa Perry, Executive Vice President, Laura Wissa, President-elect, Carley Bockmeyer, Treasurer, Alex Chase, Secretary, Ilene Passler, Nominating Chair, and Board Members At Large, Marcelle Burke, Pam Schanel, Xiomi Penn, Sue Gibson, and Sabra Ingeman.

The BOD members began this year by mapping out a new Strategic Plan identifying what we see for the future of our League. These 11 women worked collectively to identify Diversity & Inclusion, Community Impact, Fiscal Responsibility, Brand Awareness, Creating Community Leaders, and Increasing Engaged Membership as the pillars by which we are going to strive and work into the future.

Looking at these initiatives the BOD voted unanimously to approve the Diversity and Inclusion Task Force. For the first time, this organization started meaningful conversations around Diversity & Inclusion and what it means to our members and the future of JLPB. The task force was spearheaded by Board member Marcell Burke and Xiomi Penn and past president Shelly Albright and went on to include 10 more equally amazing women. These women unilaterally sought out and partnered with other non-profits in our area who shared the same Mission as JLPB but whose membership looked a little different than our own. Our outreach included Compass, The Links, Best Buddies, Urban League of Cities, The Jewish Women's Foundation, and Women Helping Women in Recovery.

The Task Force successfully integrated D&I into all four of our councils. The Communications Council reflected our commitment to Diversity & Inclusion in all internal and external communications from social media, Eblasts, agendas, and marketing materials. The Community Council held volunteer sessions and socials with our newfound partners. The Membership Council incorporated Education and Training sessions and General Membership Meetings around D&I topics to raise awareness. And more than once, we have hosted these community partners at our fundraisers. We look forward to the Task Force continuing their work into the 2019-2020 year.

The BOD to also began work on Community Impact. The BOD identified an unmet need in our community that was in our focus area of foster care. They researched and developed a plan by which JLPB could address the need with a potential brick and mortar project. Research indicated group foster care homes were closing due to federal legislation and sought for a way to address the need in PBC for



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more residential foster care homes. ChildNet's statistics indicated that 68% of the sibling sets that are placed in foster care are separated from their siblings upon removal from their biological parents. As such, JLPB will further research a program called "Operation Impact" to investigate how to address this need in Palm Beach County.

Operation Impact is proposed to be a residential home aimed to keep foster siblings together as they navigate the foster care system. A Case for Support was written and shared with the membership. An Ad Hoc was formed for the 2019-2020 year to work towards further research into creating a new 501c3, writing a Mission, planning a budget and timeline, carrying out a feasibility study and executing grant writing and a capital campaign for the project.

The BOD began and completed Bylaw and Member Policy revisions with the guidance of Board member Pam Schanel and Megan Rogers. Both revisions were passed by the BOD and the membership. The BOD also established the first set of written Management Policies and Procedures and officially adopted BOD Policies and Procedures. The Board went on to assess and adopt additional Risk Management Policies and Procedures. Sixteen more policies addressing emergency preparedness, the angel fund, investment policy statement, endowment policy, independent candidate policy and many more were adopted and can now be found in Digital Cheetah. These governing documents aim to make our League stronger, fairer, more efficient, and more effective moving forward into the future.

Community Advisory Council - This year the Community Advisory Council, spearheaded by Laura Wissa, the President Elect, was comprised of 8 community leaders: Katie Alexander an active volunteer, Jessica Cecere, CEO, Non-Profits First, Julie Demar, Chief Program Officer, ChildNet, Jeff DeMario, CEO, Vita Nova, Stephanie Glavin, Community Engagement, Bank of America, Christina Lambert, City Commissioner, City of West Palm Beach, Charlotte Pelton, President, Pelton & Assoc., and Jill Weiss, Attorney, & President of the Board of Directors, Susan G. Komen

This Council allocated mini grants, distributing \$15,000 to support other non-profit's missions and community programs. Out of 18 applicants, 6 were awarded grants.

The mini grant winners are:

- Compass - \$1500 toward the Lavender Graduation and the Equality Prom for LGBTQ Teens
- Dress for Success - \$2500 toward their Next Step Job Readiness Program for children who are aging out of Foster Care and need guidance in the job process. The goal is to help break the cycle of poverty
- Friends of Foster Care - \$3500 for the Kinship Care Program so children in Kinship care can attend and be involved in extra-curricular activities
- Homeless Coalition - \$3000 toward first, last months rent and security deposit for an apartment to help a young man or woman aging out of foster



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- Path to College - \$1500 - a new non-profit helping high performing, low income Teens get to college This organization helps with filling out applications, interviewing skills, applying for scholarships and grants and understanding campus life.
- YWCA - \$3000 - to purchase computers for their children's program at Harmony House.

Finance Council - This year, the Finance Council took a closer look at JLPB's Endowment. The management documents were updated to allow JLPB more flexibility in how to use and manage the funds, and we are now working on advertising the Endowment in order to make it an integral part in our community project funding streams.

Membership Council - The Membership Council under the leadership of Kristin Kellogg (Membership VP) worked tirelessly to provide a variety of engaging programming for our membership over the 2018-2019 year.

The New Member Committee welcomed 100 New Members to our League in the Fall and continue to have exceptional retention as the year ends. Those New Members, along with the KITK co-chairs, hosted almost 400 attendees during Kids in the Kitchen at Mounts Botanical Gardens. For the 2019-2020 year, we already have 35 New Members (with a goal of 100) as a result of the efforts of the Recruitment Committee, including a well-attended mingle at 123 Datura.

The Special Events Committee hosted the Holiday Luncheon at The Jupiter Beach Resort and the theme was "Winter White Wonderland." May Dinner was at Eau Spa and the theme was "Ocean Breeze and Palm Trees".

The Education and Training Committee excelled in planning numerous forums for us to grow and learn. Some highlights from our Education in Training programming include the panel on opioid addiction, a course on financial literacy, a floral arrangements class, a grant writing workshop, and this committee hosted a panel discussion at the January GMM on "Focusing on Foster Care."

The Arrangement Committee oversaw our General Membership Meetings which were held at Doubletree Hotel in Palm Beach Gardens in the fall and at South Florida Science Museum in the spring. At the April GMM, the Arrangements Committee hosted a Placement Fair where we "Taco'ed About Placement."

Member Engagement hosted Cluster meetings in November and March around Palm Beach County and the Transfer Liaisons hosted a variety of socials from North to South County, making sure to offer something for every member's geographical location. The Member Engagement team called and emailed all members to keep them up to date and check in throughout the year regarding dues, financial obligations and points requirements.



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Behind the scenes, the Points Trackers posted points in record time to keep all member obligations accurate on our Digital Cheetah program throughout the year.

The Membership Chair processed countless status changes, including welcoming several Sustainers back as Actives. We also began outreach for exclusive JLPB Member Benefits to be made available for all members soon.

Communications Council - The Communications Council under the leadership of Sarah Kudisch (Communications VP) was hard at work this year and achieved all goals set forth on the JLPB Annual Plan.

The Communications Chair position was truly established this year as the right-hand to the VP. This role helped keep projects on time and helped organize various requests as they came in.

The Digital Media team oversaw the branding project for this year with JLPB and streamlined our visual appearance and messaging. We also received a free version of Canva to help create graphics on the go which was helpful. Creative items were saved so future use could update with brand creative and use the templates to cut down on time. This team also successfully visually incorporated our D&I Commitment into all creative.

The eLeague Committee had an overwhelming amount of accomplishments, but to list a handful: aligned our volunteer hours with spokes of our Mission, updated member playbook and public website, rolled out Merchant Corner for Deck the Palms, incorporated new fundraiser into website, added SEO into our public website to help us achieve a high organic search rating, and researched and implemented new modules in Digital Cheetah for Donor Relations & Self Check-In.

The Publishing Committee successfully completed three Undercurrents on time and within budget. The Historian added historical information from Closerware into DC.

Community Impact worked with Digital Team to create the first JLPB infographic.

The PR Committee was grateful to PATHOS for their in-kind donation and for oversight of social media platforms on Facebook and Instagram.