

2016 to 2017
ANNUALReport
Junior League of Waterloo-Cedar Falls



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
WATERLOO-CEDAR FALLS

A Note from the PRESIDENT

Certainly, one of the best parts of being the President of Junior League is seeing the work of the Members come to fruition and sharing these stories with you, our sponsors and Sustainers. I'm happy to say that we have one such story that was actualized this spring. League's Lockers is a new partnership that we've embarked on with Waterloo West High School. This need was identified by one of our own Members who heard about other similar programs. Many students at the high school have shown a need for uniform polos, khakis, school supplies and other everyday products. Although currently there is a room at the high school where students in need can access these items, it is frequently out of supplies due to high-need. That's where we come in. The new League's Lockers program is a commitment from our League to provide both financial and itemized donations to West High so that teens can access the items they need to be successful in school.

Teens are already a vulnerable population, often feeling insecure of themselves as they attempt to navigate the world and transition from children to adults. The challenges of this transition time can be compounded by not feeling they have the physical tools to do well in the class room. League's Lockers will help with these needs so that students can focus on school and not on their insecurities, giving an opportunity for students to create their own bright futures.

At Charity Ball this year, we raised over \$2,650 for this program and we will continue to look for funding avenues to uphold this work. I would like to personally thank you, our donors, Members and Sustainers, for your support of the Junior League in the past. I hope that when you read about this project, you consider supporting us further. Every dollar counts for the Junior League. We use our resources to put funds and volunteers into the community to not only support our own work, but to support other non-profits as well. If you have yet to give to Junior League this year, please be a part of our story and contribute to the work we do.

Thank you.

Yours truly,



Sarah Pauls
President, Junior League of Waterloo-Cedar Falls



Membership Development

We are excited to begin implementing the new Transformation Rollout Membership Model in our League! This new approach to membership includes some important target outcomes, including:

- Members' voices in deciding the strategic direction of the League
- Greater flexibility for members in adjusting their League commitment to the time they have available
- Onboarding that takes advantage of members' professional, personal, and civic talents
- Opportunities to develop knowledge and skills for community leadership
- Various avenues for meaningful connections within the League and the Association. Examples include Opt-In events such as socials and development classes; special interest affinity groups; and small group and one-on-one connections through social events, ice breakers at GMM, and discussions with Placement Advisors.

The new model will impact our slating timeline and approach in the months ahead, including the incorporation of a Member Compact and a shift toward an interviewing process. AJLI is doing an outstanding job with the training sessions, live 1:1 coaching calls, and providing tremendous documentation and support to guide us through this process. Julie Girsch and Traci McCausland are the members of our Rollout Team and will be joined by the Placement Advisors in the months ahead. It's an exciting time for our League to shift to a more deliberate, intentional focus on the true talents and gifts of our members and an increased focus on the Members' voice in our strategic direction. Stay tuned for more exciting updates!

Welcome New Members

This year's New Member Committee, chaired by Brooke Ullom and Suzanne Dripps, had a successful year recruiting new members. The chairs organized a New Member Welcome Event, held July 28, 2016 at the Cedar Falls Visitor Center where several potential new members had the opportunity to learn about our organization. We had many Active members volunteer working at "stations" to showcase the various areas of our League. Prospective members were able to visit each station at her own pace and ask specific questions. We then had a group discussion, made introductions, and answered additional questions.

We welcomed 11 new members into active status at our November General Membership Meeting. The new member class completed two, extensive trainings and planned our Prom's Closet event in February.

PLEASE WELCOME THE NEWEST MEMBERS OF
THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF WATERLOO-CEDAR FALLS!



Top L to R: Laura Moorhead, Jill Chelesvig, Kristen Mather, Heather Cue, Nicole Slater. Bottom L to R: Heather Skeens, Heather Bockes, Kelly Kopriva, Stephanie Mobley, Joanna Moroz. Not Pictured: Mary Kelly.

Community Impact

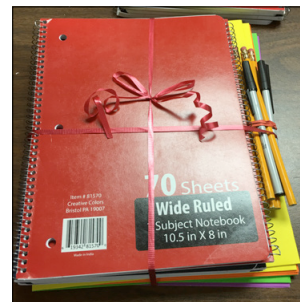
The Junior League of Waterloo-Cedar Falls piloted a new Community Impact project in 2016-17 called League's Lockers. This project was proposed by a Junior League member and embraced wholeheartedly by administration at Waterloo West High School. League's Lockers covers two areas of need: uniforms and school supplies. Junior League is providing polos, khakis, and belts in compliance with the school uniform guidelines. While West does have some of these items, their supply is often limited and donations they receive are sometimes unwearable. Junior League will also provide school supply bundles for new students arriving during the school year. These students frequently come from other areas of the world and often arrive in need. School supply bundles will include notebooks, folders, pens, and pencils, to ensure that these students have the appropriate materials for success in their classes. League's Lockers was established thanks to funds raised at the annual JLWCF Charity Ball and contributions from many JLWCF Active and Sustaining members.



Plans are being made to increase the reach of this project, including a student clothing exchange at the end of the school year and a public drive for supplies prior to the start of the next school year. If this project proves successful at West, the intent is to expand to additional schools in the Cedar Valley.

2016-17 is the second year JLWCF has partnered with The Job Foundation, a local non-profit organization that promotes financial literacy for children and teenagers. To date, we have provided dinner for four quarterly Parent Advisory Committee meetings, which allows The Job Foundation staff to focus on other responsibilities during the event. We do the cooking onsite with assistance from the middle and high school program participants, which provides both an activity for the older students and a chance for us to make an impact in our focus area of teen issues. The last meeting this year is in May.

In the fall of 2016, JLWCF also provided treats and volunteers for Future Fest, a new event designed to aid foster youth successfully transition to life out of care as independent young adults. The event had informational booths and interactive activities from area resources. There were 35 youth as well as some parents in attendance. Finally, JLWCF once again provided treats for the Mayors' Top Teen Awards in the spring of 2017, a partnership with the Volunteer Center of the Cedar Valley that has been ongoing for numerous years.



Fund Development

Charity BALL

Charity Ball 2016 was a fabulous event, and we thank all who attended and supported The Junior League of Waterloo-Cedar Falls. We welcomed 125 guests at the UNI Commons Ballroom in December. Together, we raised \$19,498 for the general fund.

Sam Barrett, Vice President of Community Impact and Andy Mieke, Waterloo West High Principal, rolled out the new League's Lockers project during the event program. The appeal for the evening was directed in support of the new initiative and raised \$2,650 for League's Lockers. Thank you to all for your support of this awesome new project!

The evening was full of games, live and silent auction events, dinner including Hollen wine, an appeal for League's Lockers, as well as live music. Special thanks are due to Mr. Tracy Bantz for his great skills as emcee and auctioneer. Music from the Chocolate Crackers rounded out the evening.

Thank you to the Charity Ball committee: Amanda Kline, Melissa Legg, April Ramsey, Sarah McSweeney, Lindsey Butters and Annie Gougler who worked tirelessly to make this event a great success.



Touch-A-TRUCK

The 7th annual Touch-A-Truck was held on a beautiful August Saturday at the National Cattle Congress. We had great support from the community and were able to raise \$2,722.00.

Attendees were entertained by Magician Eric Michaels, enjoyed balloon animals styled by Loonie Balloonies, and were able to get up close and personal with snakes provided by The Grout Museum.

The City of Waterloo continued to be a great supporter bringing a total five vehicles. Guests were treated to a ride in the boom truck to get a bird's eye view of the event. To protect our visitor's ears, Cedar Valley Sertoma provided hearing protection for all guests.

A big thank you to all of our supporters and our JLWCF volunteers for helping to make this year's event possible. Unfortunately, 2016 was the last year that we will be hosting Touch-A-Truck.



Proms CLOSET

This year marked another successful Prom's Closet event, selling a total of 165 dresses, 14 pairs of shoes, and approximately 62 accessories (jewelry, earrings, purses, etc). A total of 63 raffle tickets were sold and 34 prizes were given out. Collectively, we raised just over \$5,000 total for this year's event.

Our lead Sponsor for this year's Prom's Closet was Kimball & Beecher Family Dentistry. Other large monetary donors included: UICCU, Community Bank & Trust, CMND, Casey's, and Little Ceasars. Large in-kind/services donors included: Crossroads Mall, Q92.3, Milroy's Formal Wear, and Alliance Printing. Raffle in-kind donors included: Bryan's on 4th, Montage, Kate & Co Salon & Spa, Key West Tanning, Dolly's Party Bus, Little Caesar's Pizza, and Dillard's.

Quotes from customers at the event:

"I love it! I want this place to be here for every prom!"
-Akira

"I've never seen so many beautiful dresses for such great prices!"
-Alanis

"So many great dresses and the ladies here were so nice!!"
-Hope



Thank You Sponsors

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Jim Lind Service
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JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
WATERLOO-CEDAR FALLS

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OUR MISSION

The Junior League of Waterloo- Cedar Falls, Iowa Inc. 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.