



## The League Letter

A Monthly Letter From Amber Hubbs Golegos  
President Of The Junior League of Evanston- North Shore

### A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear JLE-NS Members,

Happy New Year! 2020 was a year of ups and downs. It presented us with new obstacles which enabled us to adapt and grow as a League. We were required to change plans and face these obstacles head on. Despite all the challenges of 2020, we are now stronger and much more agile because we were forced to change our original plans. Reflecting on 2020, I'm reminded of a famous quote by Jon Kabat-Zinn describing his teaching of mindfulness. He stated, "you can't stop the waves, but you can learn to surf".

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*"You can't stop the waves, but you can learn to surf" - Jon Kabat-Zinn*

A new year brings hope but it also brings new challenges. How we face those challenges will define our success and those lessons will stay with us for years to come. January is **Human Trafficking Awareness Month**. National Human Trafficking Awareness Month is a month dedicated to education, awareness, and prevention of human trafficking in the United States. Gaining more attention nationally, the Department of Health and Human Services continues to provide funding for the National Human Trafficking Hotline and in Fiscal Year 2018, it funded victim assistance programs that provided benefits and services to more than 2,400 victims. The Department of Transportation committed \$5.4 million in grants to the prevention of human trafficking and other crimes that may occur on buses, trains, and other forms of public transportation.

At our January 20, 2021 GMM, we will be hosting a Human Trafficking survivor as our guest speaker and we will be spreading awareness throughout the month of January about this important topic.

With the New Year upon us, I'm hoping you are able to reflect on all the amazing things we have done together in 2020 as a League! We truly are better together, and I'm so looking forward to a fabulous 2021!

Best,

*Amber Hubbs Golegos*

President, Junior League of Evanston - North Shore

# DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

## *CASA of Lake County Baking Basket Donations for Foster Families*



Throughout the month of November JLE-NS members donated baking essentials like frosting, sprinkles, cookie mix, cookie cutters, baking sheets, etc. to help make the holidays a little brighter and merrier for CASA of Lake County foster care families. Thank you to all of our members that generously donated items to fill the gift baskets. We are thrilled to share that on December 6th we were able to donate 18 baskets!

## *DIAD Purses with a Purpose Sorting Event*



On Saturday, December 5, members of the Junior League of Evanston-North Shore volunteered at the Done In A Day (DIAD) Committee's annual Purses with a Purpose Sorting Event. For the past several months, the DIAD committee collected cleaning products, diapers and wipes, art supplies, home products such as toilet paper and paper towels, and thousands of toiletries. Volunteers organized the supplies which will be donated to four local shelters that support women and victims of domestic violence. The shelters are A Safe Place/Lake County Crisis Center, The Staben House, WINGS Program, Inc., and Sarah's Circle. Thank you to everyone who has made donations, sorted items, and drove donations to the shelters this year!

# DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS



## COMMUNITY GRANT FUND

**\$100,000**

**2020-2024**

At the November GMM the motion to utilize 5% or \$100,000 from our Heartline Investment account per year in community grants from 2020-2024 was unanimously approved! We received 20 votes virtually via GMM attendees and 6 absentee/email votes YES from Active Members (0 votes NO), for a total of 26 votes.

In December the ad-hoc committee met three times to research the highest needs in the community, their alignment to our mission, COVID-19's impact, the organization's commitment to equity and equality, and partnership opportunities including volunteering. The following organizations were selected by the ad-hoc committee to receive funding this year: YWCA Evanston North Shore, Turning Point Behavioral Health Care Center, Connections for the Homeless, Northfield Township Food Pantry, Moraine Township Food Pantry, A Safe Place, and Prairie State Legal Services. This is a very exciting step in helping alleviate the impact of COVID on our community partners who need it most.

*Sending Christmas cheer  
and wishes for a happy and healthy  
New Year!*



*Please note that due to the current restrictions for indoor gatherings the annual 'Sustainer Soups & Sweets' will be rescheduled to a date in spring so we can safely enjoy outdoors.*

*Melanie Glass - Sustainer Director*

# MEMBER IN THE SPOTLIGHT

## SHAUNA MYERS

*Social Committee Chair - Active*



*"My drive is to make a difference in the community where we live."*

### **What's your "why" for being in the Junior League?**

I originally joined the Junior League to meet some new friends and wanted to be a part of the organization raising funds to bring the first children's museum to Central Illinois! I have stayed in the League because of my drive to make a difference in the community where we live.

### **How many years have you been in the JLE-NS?**

I have been in the JLE-NS for almost two years now, but was a member of the Junior League of Peoria from 2010-2016 and the Junior League of Portland, OR from 2016-2019.

### **What has been one of your favorite placements?**

I would have to say this is a tie and I can't decide :) When I was in the Junior League of Peoria, we went to the dual board structure we have today, and I was honored to lead the first Management Team in the position of Director of Operations for two years. I loved creating that role and helping establish a new direction for the League. My other favorite placement was in Portland, when I was the Information Director. I had a committee of 2 others, and we sold out the first ever Rose City Women's Summit with only 4 months to market the actual event.

### **What is one of your favorite JLE-NS memories?**

I have loved getting to know the members of the League this year virtually, despite Covid, and I am really looking forward to the New Year Party!

### **Tell us about yourself:**

My husband and I live in Park Ridge with our 2 year old daughter, Victoria, and two 8-year old puggles, Jack and Sophie. I grew up in Morton, IL and graduated from Bradley University with a double major in Public Relations and French. I have worked for Caterpillar for almost 9 years in various communications and Human Resources roles and currently am the Lead communicator for both the VP of Global Finance and the VP of Enterprise Strategy. My passion has always been volunteering and started in grade school, and continued through high school, college and then after college with joining Junior League, creating a young leaders board at the Children's Hospital of Illinois and continuing my League "career" in Portland and now JLE-NS! In my spare time, I love working out, especially running! I have run 8 half marathons and hope to train for one in summer of 2021!



**JOIN US FOR A  
NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION!**



**JUNIOR LEAGUE OF  
EVANSTON-NORTH SHORE**

# *New Year's Celebration*

Join your fellow JLE-NS members to  
virtually create a beautiful flower  
arrangement with Flowers for Dreams  
and toast together to 2021!

January 14, 2021 at 7pm

Flowers will be delivered to your door  
and this will be a 100% virtual,  
safe and fun event!

RSVP on Digital Cheetah  
by January 4th

# IMPORTANT DATES



We are excited to share upcoming events. Each month will ladder back to a theme rooted in our mission and values. Please save these dates in your calendar but always check Digital Cheetah for the most current schedule as these events are subject to change. Due to COVID to ensure the safety of our members, we will adhere to state guidelines in regards to group gatherings. For in-person events proper PPE will be enforced and we will always offer a virtual or call-in method for attendance to ensure our members feel safe and comfortable.



## DECEMBER: HOLIDAY BREAK

- 1/1/2021: New Years Day
- 1/6 (7:00-9:00): Combined Policy & Management Board Meeting
- 1/14 (7:00): JLE-NS New Year's Celebration hosted by the Social Committee
- 1/20 (6:30-9:00): January GMM
- 2/20: Trivia Night



# Save The Date

## FEBRUARY 20, 2021

TRIVIA NIGHT COMMITTEE PRESENTS  
CELEBRITY CHEF

# Gale Gand



**BETTER** THE  
JUNIOR  
LEAGUE  
**TOGETHER**

The Junior League of Evanston – North Shore