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Mission	<i>The Junior League of Springfield 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.</i>
Focus	The Junior League of Springfield (JLS) provides volunteers, program funding and technical assistance to the community within our focus area of concentration, child abuse and neglect prevention.
Impact	JLS has contributed over 1.3 million volunteer service hours and over \$4.6 million to the community. On average, JLS members donate over 20,000 hours of volunteer service annually to the community.
Training	JLS trains members to serve the community through our training programs, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Elevate – a program designed to prepare members for leadership positions in the league and community.</li><li>– Admissions training and community awareness program for new members.</li><li>– Association of Junior Leagues International sponsored workshops.</li><li>– Board and committee leadership training.</li></ul>
Community Involvement	JLS works to assess and meet community needs. Programs and corporate sponsorships are utilized to form partnerships with community organizations.
Membership Information	<p>JLS reaches out to women of all races, religions and national origins who demonstrate an interest in and a commitment to voluntarism.</p> <p>JLS began as the Community Service League of Springfield in 1959 and became the 231<sup>st</sup> member of the Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI) in 1976. Today, AJLI consists of over 300 member leagues internationally. JLS membership currently exceeds 600 women.</p>
Funding	JLS funding is raised through corporate partnerships and fundraisers, including <i>Sassafras!</i> and <i>Women Who Can Dish It Out</i> cookbooks, the Plaid Door Resale Boutique, the Pitter Pat 10K/5K Run and One Mile Fun Run, and our annual Charity Ball dinner and dance.

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**DIAD Community Projects  
2010-2011**

**Ambassadors for Children, an operating agency of the Council of Churches of the Ozarks, Kid's Clothes Closet: \$2,500**

The Kid's Clothes Closet provides clothing for Greene County foster children. The children can go to the Kid's Closet twice a year and select three complete outfits. Additionally, they receive one winter coat. Many of the children served have very little clothing. The majority of these children have never experienced new clothing and it is a tremendous boost to their self-esteem as it empowers them to have pride in their appearance. The project serves over 800 children. JLS volunteers will purchase clothes for the children and organize them in the Kid's Closet.

**Boys and Girls Town of Missouri, Pink Power: \$2,499**

The Boys and Girls Town of Missouri helps children who have suffered from abuse, neglect, emotional or behavior problems. While at Boys and Girls Town the children receive all aspects of care from the physical to emotional. The young women who live at the facility need access to information about their developing bodies and self image especially breast health. For this project, girls will be assembled in the campus dining hall for a special pancake breakfast to hear speakers on breast health and a demonstration/ discussion on how to measure to achieve proper bra fit. The JLS volunteers will work with the girls to help create life-sized posters of themselves for their bedrooms. The posters will be a tracing of their bodies on paper, which will be decorated with positive traits about these girls that the JLS volunteers help them discover.

**Freedom's Rest, a Christian County Family Crisis Center: \$2,500**

Freedom's Rest is a facility for abused women and children. The facility has been open since October 2004 and since opening has provided safety to 294 women and 280 children. The primary goal is to help keep women and children safe by providing emergency shelter. The women who come to the shelter are often terribly traumatized. The JLS volunteers will help provide a comfortable space that will aid in the healing process. They will help with repainting and making two rooms more children friendly. The volunteers will also help paint hopscotch at the end of the parking lot providing an outside play activity for the children in the shelter.

**Isabel's House, the Crisis Nursery of the Ozarks: \$5,500**

Isabel's House, the Crisis Nursery of the Ozarks, is the Signature Project of the Junior League of Springfield. Isabel's House provides safe refuge for children birth through 12 years old that are at a high risk of abuse and/or neglect. Each child receives a new outfit, pajamas, undergarments and shoes upon arrival. Due to the fact that many of the children are arriving from potentially hazardous environments, it is imperative to provide the children with clean and appropriate clothing. JLS volunteers will be utilized to purchase clothes each season and to re-stock the closet.

An additional DIAD opportunity is for volunteers to help at Isabel's Open House in both April and September. The open houses allow for the community to learn about Isabel's House and the impact it does and can have on the community. Volunteers would help prepare before the event and help secure/shop for prizes, snacks, and give-a-ways. Other volunteers would help set up, prepare, and engage for the open house and celebration. These volunteers would help with food, raffles, and games for the children.

**Lighthouse Child and Family Development Center: \$2,400**

The Lighthouse Child and Family Development Center strives to educate and support Springfield families with aim not only to reduce poverty and increase self-sufficiency, but also diminish many of the risk factors for child abuse and neglect – unemployment, low self-esteem, lack of social support, parenting skills, and coping skills. The JLS volunteers would help implement four monthly parent education workshops – two in the fall and two in the spring. These events consist of a family meal and social time, childcare for young children, and a community agency that provides at least one hour of parent education. The monthly events provide quality parent education opportunities for parents to learn age-appropriate behavior, positive discipline techniques, financial management, and more.

**Ozarks Regional YMCA, on behalf of Girls on the Run of the Queen City: \$5,000**

Girls on the Run is an interactive life skills program for pre-adolescent girls 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> grade girls. The goals of the program are to empower girls to develop a positive self-image, respect others and cooperate in a group, build supportive personal goals, strive to achieve personal goals, and improve health and physical fitness. Girls on the Run is a 12-week program that meets twice a week to teach girls life lessons at the low income schools in the Springfield area with the end goal of running or walking a 5k race. The Junior League will be working with Girls on the Run through Campbell Elementary School. The volunteers will either come to the 5k race and be matched up with a girl to run with during the race, helping her finish the race or they will help with a celebration banquet for the girls at the end of the program.

**Springfield Regional Arts Council: \$1,000**

The Springfield Regional Arts Council has a variety of programs aimed at reaching At-Risk children through the arts. The specific project the JLS volunteers would be helping support would be Free Art Day. Free Art Day is a bi-monthly free program that provides arts activities to children and families in Springfield. Each Free Art Day consists of three to five stations with visual activities that the JLS volunteers would be helping staff. The projects are simple and repeatable and hope to stimulate positive communication within families. The goal of the project is for parents to witness their child's motor, cognitive and language skills developing through the arts. Junior League will staff this project once in the fall and once in the spring.

**Project History  
(Partial Listing, beginning 1959)**

More than 1.3 million volunteer hours and \$4.6 million have been contributed to the community through JLS projects and collaborations, including the following:

1960	Children's Clothing Bank Visiting Nurses Association
1963	Girls Club (Now Boys and Girls Club)
1972	KOZK Public Television
1973	Regional Girls Shelter
1974	KOZK Tele-Auction
1976	Child Advocacy Center History Museum of the Ozarks Plaid Door Thrift Store
1977	Community Needs Assessment Survey The Springfield Ballet
1980	Dickerson Park Zoo Educational Amphitheater
1981	Hospice Program
1982	Ozarks Food Harvest
1983	Leadership Springfield Reading Is Fundamental (RIF)
1985	Kids on the Block Puppet Troupe
1987	American Red Cross Blood Mobile
1989	Discovery Center of Springfield Teen Parent Program
1990	First Night Springfield
1991	Homebound Shoppers' Service
1993	Dickerson Park Zoo's Asian Elephant Exhibit
1996	Hall of Leaders Lecture Series at Springfield Public Schools Teen Court
1997	Family Violence Center's ABCs & 123s Educational Program
2000	Library Story Garden at the Springfield Library Center
2001	Boy Scout Nature Conservation Trail
2002	Mobile Dental Care Unit in partnership with Ronald McDonald House Charities of the Ozarks
2003	Boys and Girl's Club Learning Center at the Bill Stalnaker Unit Done In A Day efforts initiated
2004	Independence Workshop -Regional Girls' Shelter Community Needs Assessment
2005	Crisis Nursery Development, Signature Project Read. Dream. Believe
2007	Signature Project: Isabel's House, the Crisis Nursery of the Ozarks