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JUNIOR LEAGUE OF SPRINGFIELD TO HOLD ANNUAL LOBBY DAY TRIP TO MISSOURI CAPITAL

SPRINGFIELD, MO, February 22, 2009 - The Junior League of Springfield

The Junior League of Springfield (JLS) will travel to the Missouri Capital for the annual JL Lobby Day, Wednesday, February 24, 2010. Lobby Day 2010 allows JLS the opportunity to speak to legislators about issues impacting the league and its members.

"Lobby day is an important opportunity to leverage the power of our trained volunteers to advocate for children in our community," said Andrea McKinney, JLS President.

The Public Affairs committee has officially released the 2009-2010 JLS Legislative Policy / Position Statement which includes:

The Junior League of Springfield, recognizing the needs of children in our community and seeking to prevent child abuse and neglect, endorses and promotes legislation that would:

- Provide funding and or tax credits to child abuse and neglect prevention programs, facilities and organizations.
- Develop prevention education and initiatives that strengthen parents and families and promote intervention before a child is hurt.
- Support educational programming relating to factors contributing to child abuse and neglect including methamphetamine use/abuse, lack of parenting skills, generational cycles of abuse, economic stress and poverty.
- Encourage all child protection professionals to be adequately trained in the science and art of speaking with children to ensure that every child reported into the criminal justice system is treated with dignity and respect.

While in Jefferson City, JLS members will have a chance to Lobby with Junior League members from the Kansas City, St. Louis, and St. Joseph areas. JLS will be introduced on the House floor by Representative Alan Icet, member Sarah Icet's father. The trip also includes a luncheon held at The Gallery, a recently renovated historic opera house in Jefferson City. Speaking at the luncheon this year will be current State Auditor, Susan Montee. The remainder of the day includes a tour of the Governor's Mansion, along with a Tea hosted by First Lady Nixon and meeting with local State Senators and Representative as their schedules permit.

Lobby Day directly relates to the JLS mission in providing training for our volunteers as well as improving the community. For more information, please visit the Junior League of Springfield website at www.jlspringfield.org.

Since 1959, the Junior League of Springfield has contributed more than \$4.6 million dollars and more than 1.3 million hours of volunteer service to the Springfield community. JLS is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving the community through the effective action of trained volunteers. Its purposes are exclusively educational and charitable.

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