



# JUNIOR LEAGUE OF MARTIN COUNTY

## WELCOME PACKET



**UNSTOPPABLE** 

**LEADERSHIP**  
EMPOWERED



**WOMEN**  
BUILDING  
**BETTER**  
COMMUNITIES

# Welcome to the Junior League!

The Junior League of Martin County (JLMC) sees women as catalysts for lasting community change. Our approach is simple. Through hands-on training and formal learning opportunities, we equip our members with the skills and leadership needed to improve the quality of life in the communities we serve. By identifying opportunities and impact areas focused on women, children, and civic leadership, we address serious issues and have a powerful impact in Martin County.

Since 1992, JLMC has made a lasting impact on the community. Over the past 30 years, the League has invested in tackling community issues, including: poverty, foster children, and the environment. Some of examples of past nonprofit partners, include:

- Florida Oceanographic Society
- Gertrude Walden Child Care Center
- PACE Center for Girls
- Children's Museum of the Treasure Coast
- Project Lift
- 10th Street Community Center

## IN THIS PACKET

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COMMUNITY IMPACT:  
PAST, PRESENT, & FUTURE

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JLMC COMMITTEES:  
ACTIVITIES, OPERATIONS,  
MANAGEMENT

---

MEMBER RESOURCES

---

WHO TO CONTACT

---

JUNIOR LEAGUE  
TERMS TO KNOW

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## Our Mission

To advance women's leadership for meaningful community impact through volunteer action, collaboration, and training.

# JLMC Community Impact: Past, Present, & Future

The Junior League of Martin County has a rich history of creating meaningful impact in our community. We have been on the forefront of social reform, identifying problems and finding solutions in a collaborative way. We've tackled a long list of community issues: poverty, illiteracy, food insecurity, and under-resourced foster children. As we reflect on our League's accomplishments, we are most proud of the following Legacy projects:

- Gertrude Walden Child Care Center provides care and early childhood education to young children of east Stuart. JLMC first started working with Gertrude Walden in 1997 when we began to focus on youth development. We have continued to support the Center over the years, including hurricane relief efforts in 2004, hosting a health fair in 2008, and fundraising for a new playground in 2017.
- Florida Oceanographic Society provides environmental education for our community. Our partnership began in 1997 to provide a hands-on learning experience for children through interactive play. In 2012, JLMC developed another program to facilitate the restoration of our estuary.
- The Children's Museum of the Treasure Coast is one of the go-to local museums for children and their families. JLMC was instrumental in founding the museum, raising capital to build the museum, and sponsoring exhibits.

Today, JLMC provides hands-on training and formal learning opportunities to equip our members with the skills and leadership needed to improve the quality of life in the communities we serve. By identifying opportunities and impact initiatives focused on women, children, and civic leadership, we address serious issues that have a powerful impact in Martin County.

As we look forward to the future of JLMC, our sincerest hope for us all is that our members continue to learn and grow together, while strengthening our friendships and giving back to our beautiful community.

**LEADERSHIP**  
REIMAGINED

**UNSTOPPABLE** 

# Community Impact: Past



## A BRIEF HISTORY OF JLMC

With over 25 years of service to the community, here's a brief history of the Junior League of Martin County.

### 1992-1993

**Beth Conway, Kim DeMeulemeester and Suzanne Karr** began the Junior Service League of Martin County, Inc.

Their drive to start this organization stemmed from the fact that they saw the need for a children's museum in Martin County.

### 1998-1999

We hosted our first **Pineapple Ball**, which became an annual fundraiser and was **ongoing for 12 years**.

### 2000-2001

We became the **296th Junior League** in the Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI), and officially known as the Junior League of Martin County (JLMC).

### 2004-2005

After Frances and Jeanne, the League responded by creating an ad hoc Hurricane Response Committee, which **used \$25K** in approved funds from our reserve and operating budget **to assist with hurricane relief efforts**.

### 2008

The Children's Museum of the Treasure Coast opened.

JLMC was instrumental in their opening and attended many conferences & schools, showcasing exhibits of the future museum.

### 2009-2010

We celebrated our **10th Anniversary** as an official member of AJLI.

We held the **1st Annual Reindeer Dash 5K** and **1st LUNAFEST® Film Festival**.

### 2015-2016

We initiated the **Books for Kids** program which collected new and gently used books to help new teachers in the Martin County School System build up their classroom libraries.

### 2016

The Provisional Class **brought back LUNAFEST®** as an annual fundraiser. This is now our annual spring major fundraiser.

### 2017-2018

**JLMC celebrated 25 years of service in the community.** Founding members organized the Jubilee Junkanoo to celebrate the past 25 years of achievements and raise funds for playground improvements at GWCC.

### 2018

We **celebrated the 10th Annual Reindeer Dash 5K** and added a 10K route to the race to celebrate this milestone.

### 2019

The GWCC playground was **dedicated to Past-President Val Wright** to honor her memory. Val was passionate about their mission and volunteered a lot of her time & energy into this organization.

# LEADERSHIP REIMAGINED

**IT STARTS WITH A WOMAN**

# Community Impact: Present

## Impact Areas and Initiatives

JLMC provides hands-on training and formal learning opportunities to equip our members with the skills and leadership needed to improve the quality of life in the communities we serve. By identifying opportunities and impact initiatives focused on women, children, and civic leadership, we address serious issues that have a powerful impact in Martin County. Some of these initiatives include: health, nutrition & food insecurity; poverty; youth development; mental health; human trafficking; and more.

## Done in a Day (DIAD)

In addition to our community impact areas and initiatives, JLMC partners with other local nonprofit agencies to complete important community projects that can be 'Done in a Day' (DIAD). Examples of these type of projects include donating new books to schools; feeding the hungry during the holidays; stuffing backpacks with peanut butter sandwich supplies at the end of the school year; completing beach cleanups; etc.



## Rudolph's Reindeer Dash 5K & 10K and Other Small Fundraisers

Our annual signature fundraiser - Rudolph's Reindeer Dash 5k/10k - plays an integral role in supporting our community programs. Hosted annually on the first Saturday of December, our Reindeer Dash is a landmark event in the community, attracting over 400 runners to race through historic downtown Stuart and ending with a festive celebration at Memorial Park. In addition to our signature event, JLMC also hosts a series of small fundraisers throughout the year to support our League's operations and impact initiatives.

# Community Impact: Future

As we celebrate more than 35 years of service in Martin County, leadership is also planning for the next 35 years and beyond. The League continues to evolve to fit within a current cultural context and better meet emerging priorities for members and our community. In this effort, JLMC has already established safeguards to secure its future.

## **JLMC Endowment Fund**

Our Junior League established its own endowment fund in 2023 to secure the organization's future success and community impact. Only the interest accumulated each year is available to be spent. As the principal continues to grow, through fundraising efforts, so too will the interest available to be used on meaningful impact initiatives, scholarships, and member training.

## **The Junior League of Martin County Scholarship - Indian River State College**

Established in 2010, this endowed scholarship fund provides scholarships to female students at Indian River State College. Members review applications to select an award recipient.

## **The Junior League of Martin County Scholarship - Martin County Schools**

Established in 2023, JLMC provides annually scholarships to graduating female students in the Martin County School District. Members review applications to select an award recipient.



As we look forward to the future of JLMC, our sincerest hope for us all is that our members continue to learn and grow together, while strengthening our friendships and giving back to our beautiful community.

# Committees:

## Activities, Operations, & Management

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Board is legally and fiscally accountable for our non-profit organization. The primary function of the Board is to make sure that the organization is fulfilling its charitable mission by providing financial oversight, ensuring adequate resources, maintaining legal and ethical integrity, and providing organizational support.

### **MANAGEMENT TEAM**

The Management Team (MT) is comprised of the chairwoman of each committee, and led by the President and Vice President. This leadership team is responsible for the operation, planning, and execution of our activities.

### **ADVISORY-NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Advisory-Nominating is responsible for members' League experience, providing advisory support for members, developing learning opportunities, managing the roster, coordinating League placements and leadership, and more.

### **MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**

Membership's primary function is to expand the General Membership secure the future of the League by recruiting and educating new members. The committee is also responsible for planning monthly General Membership Meetings (GMM's).

### **COMMUNITY COMMITTEE**

Community develops opportunities to advance initiatives in our impact areas of women, children, and civic leadership by identifying our community's most pressing needs, educating members, and coordinating volunteerism.

### **FUND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Fund Development is responsible for organizing small and large fundraisers, including our signature event - Reindeer Dash 5k and 10k - to support our League's operations and impact initiatives.

# JLMC Resources

## JLMC WEBSITE & MEMBER AREA

The Junior League of Martin County website (<http://www.jlmcflorida.org>) is the primary resource for members. Not only can you share our pages to your friends, family, and coworkers when promoting our events and activities, but you can also utilize the website's Member Area to do an array of things, such as pay your dues, read our monthly newsletters, see new announcements, find important documents, and view our member roster. There's so much to do, we encourage you to explore all that the website has to offer yourself! If you forgot your password or simply need access, please click on "I have forgotten my password, and want to reset it" and then use the email address we have on file and follow the prompts.



LEADING CHANGE. TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES.

HOME
WHO WE ARE
WHAT WE DO
DONATE NOW
NEWS
EVENTS
SCHOLARSHIP
BECOME A MEMBER
MEMBERSHIP DUES
MEMBER AREA
CONTACT US
WAYS TO GIVE



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**WOMEN  
BUILDING  
BETTER  
COMMUNITIES**

### OUR MEMBERS

The JLMC membership is composed of a diverse group of more than 100 women who annually give over 500 uncompensated hours of service to projects and community agencies. Members range in age from 21 to 85, come from various backgrounds, and serve on numerous boards and committees throughout the

### WOMEN BUILDING BETTER COMMUNITIES

The Junior League of Martin County, Inc. (JLMC) is a not-for-profit organization of women whose mission is to advance women's leadership for meaningful community impact through volunteer action, collaboration, and training. Through hands-on training and formal learning opportunities JLMC gives members the skills needed to improve the quality of life in the communities we serve.

**LEADERSHIP**  
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# Resources (cont'd)

## MONTHLY E-NEWSLETTER

The Communications Committee develops and disseminates a monthly e-blast or “e-newsletter” to all members. This is a really important piece of e-mail communication, as it includes all of the pertinent information from all of the committees for the upcoming month or two. Complete with any and all necessary attachments, like sponsorship packets, leadership forms, and more, this is a really important e-mail you want to read. Make sure that this e-blast is reaching your inbox each month, and if it’s not, contact your Advisor and the Communications Chair to correct the issue.

## KNOW BEFORE YOU GO (KBYG) E-MAIL

Advisors send out a Know Before You Go (KBYG) e-mail to all of their advisees (all of membership) the week before an upcoming General Membership Meeting (GMM). This brief e-mail just gives you all of the information you need to know before the meeting. If you’re ever not receiving a KBYG e-mail, please contact [Advisory@jlmcfloida.org](mailto:Advisory@jlmcfloida.org).

## AJLI WEBSITE & MEMBER AREA

The official website of AJLI with a TON of resources. Members must have a password to access certain areas. If you don't have access, you can request your login with your AJLI Member ID Number, selecting 'Martin County' in the drop-down box.

## JUNIOR LEAGUE SOCIAL MEDIA

- Facebook      [www.facebook.com/JuniorLeagueMC](http://www.facebook.com/JuniorLeagueMC)
- Instagram      @JuniorLeagueMC
- Twitter      @JuniorLeagueMC
- LinkedIn      [www.facebook.com/JuniorLeagueMC](http://www.facebook.com/JuniorLeagueMC)

# Terms to Know Continued

## **AJLI**

Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI). This is the international organization that monitors and governs all of the Leagues across the globe. This is our parent organization, to whom we pay dues, receive training and resources, and more.

## **Active Member**

A member who has paid active membership dues and sits on a committee. Active members of The Junior League of Martin County are eligible to vote at the annual business meeting in March.

## **Advisor**

A member of the Nominating & Advisory Committee who has the responsibility to connect with League members, share resources, and answer questions or concerns. This is the first person a member should contact with questions or concerns.

## **Annual Dinner**

The last meeting of the League year. It is generally held in May and is a celebration of our accomplishments and the induction of new officers, as well as the installation of our new sustaining members.

## **Bylaws**

The operating rules of the JLMC which include topics such as dues, membership classification, voting rules, officers and other elected positions, and fiscal policies. They may be amended by a 2/3 vote of the voting members. The bylaws can be found on the JLMC website or upon request.

## **Community Project Review (CPR)**

A process by which proposed community projects are reviewed before they are presented to the General Membership for a vote.

# Terms to Know Continued

## **Fiscal Year**

A one-year period that companies and governments use for financial reporting and budgeting. A fiscal year is most commonly used for accounting purposes to prepare financial statements. The JLMC fiscal year starts on June 1 and ends on May 30.

## **General Membership Meeting (GMM)**

Monthly member meetings held on the second Tuesday of each month.

## **League Year**

The period of the year the organization actively meets and operates its programs and activities. The JLMC League Year starts on Sep 1 and ends on May 30. JLMC leadership continues working June 1 through August 31.

## **Organizational Development Institute (ODI)**

AJLI-sponsored trainings that provide mission-based leadership and organizational training.

## **Parliamentary Procedure**

The body of rules, ethics, and customs that governs JLMC meetings and other operations and activities. Parliamentary procedure is used in our League at voting meetings to conduct a debate with the least possible friction in order to as efficiently as possible make group decisions. These decisions are generally determined by a vote.

## **Placements**

The role and committee on which an active member of the JLMC participates each year. Members have the opportunity to voice their interest in a particular role and/or committee. It is the responsibility of the Advisory-Nominating Committee to place each member into a committee and/or leadership position.

# Terms to Know Continued

## **Policies and Procedures**

The regulations of the League. These include general policies, membership-related policies, financial policies, board and committee-related policies, and descriptions and policies related to all committees and positions in the League. The Policies and Procedures may be found in Basecamp Headquarters

## **Slate**

The nominated Board of Directors by the Advisory-Nominating Committee. The positions included in the JLMC Slate includes: President, Vice President/President-Elect, Treasurer, and Advisory-Nominating. It should be noted that the President selects her Sustainer Director for each two-year term. Eligible voting members vote to accept or reject slate at the annual business meeting, generally held in March.

## **Strategic Plan**

An organization's process of defining its strategy or direction, and making decisions on allocating its resources to attain strategic goals. It may also extend to control mechanisms for guiding the implementation of the strategy. Currently, the JLMC strategic plan includes a strategy for achieving goals such as increased membership satisfaction, increase member engagement, increasing the size of membership, improving internal and external communication, and developing leaders.

## **Sustainer**

Sustaining members are those who have served a minimum of seven years as an active member and have elected to forfeit voting rights and serving on a committee. Sustaining members pay slightly less in membership dues than active members.

## **Sustainer Emeritus**

Sustaining members who are at least 80 years of age may request to be granted this status. This membership class is exempt from paying annual membership dues.

# JLMC Who to Contact

- I have questions about membership dues.
  - Contact JLMC Treasurer: [treasurer@jlmcfloida.org](mailto:treasurer@jlmcfloida.org)
- I am an active member with questions about our fundraising events or efforts.
  - Contact Fund Development Committee: [funddev@jlmcfloida.org](mailto:funddev@jlmcfloida.org)
- I am an active member with questions about JL community initiatives.
  - Contact Community Committee: [community@jlmcfloida.org](mailto:community@jlmcfloida.org)
- I am an active member with general Junior League questions.
  - Contact Advisory Committee: [advisory@jlmcfloida.org](mailto:advisory@jlmcfloida.org)
- I am a sustaining member with JL questions.
  - Contact Sustaining Director: [sustainer@jlmcfloida.org](mailto:sustainer@jlmcfloida.org)
- I am an active member with questions about the recruiting process.
  - Contact Membership Committee: [membership@jlmcfloida.org](mailto:membership@jlmcfloida.org)
- I am an active member with questions regarding my placement on a committee or about attending a leadership conference.
  - Contact your [advisor](#).
- I am an active or sustaining member looking for my AJLI member ID.
  - Contact your [advisor](#).

## Connect with Leadership

President - [president@jlmcfloida.org](mailto:president@jlmcfloida.org)

Sustainer Director - [sustainer@jlmcfloida.org](mailto:sustainer@jlmcfloida.org)

Vice President - [vicepresident@jlmcfloida.org](mailto:vicepresident@jlmcfloida.org)

Treasurer - [treasurer@jlmcfloida.org](mailto:treasurer@jlmcfloida.org)

Advisory/Nominating Committee - [advisory@jlmcfloida.org](mailto:advisory@jlmcfloida.org)

Communications - [communications@jlmcfloida.org](mailto:communications@jlmcfloida.org)

Community Committee - [community@jlmcfloida.org](mailto:community@jlmcfloida.org)

Fund Development Committee - [funddev@jlmcfloida.org](mailto:funddev@jlmcfloida.org)

Membership Committee - [membership@jlmcfloida.org](mailto:membership@jlmcfloida.org)

Scholarship - [scholarship@jlmcfloida.org](mailto:scholarship@jlmcfloida.org)

State Public Affairs Committee - [spac@jlmcfloida.org](mailto:spac@jlmcfloida.org)