

# ANNUAL REPORT

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JUNIOR LEAGUE OF DURHAM AND ORANGE COUNTIES | 2019-2020





JUNIOR LEAGUE OF  
**DURHAM AND  
ORANGE COUNTIES**

900 SOUTH DUKE STREET | DURHAM, NC 27707

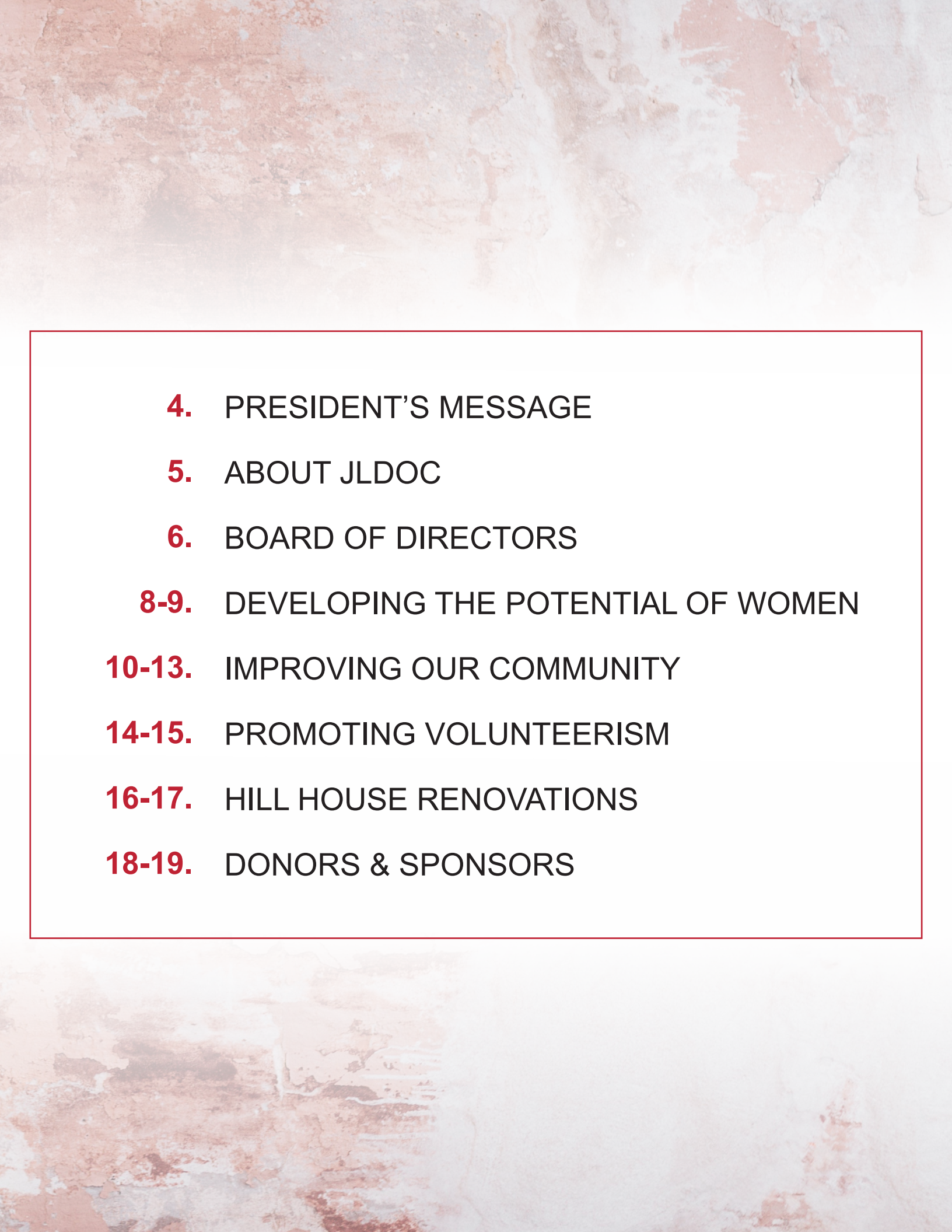


**JUNIOR LEAGUE OF DURHAM  
AND ORANGE COUNTIES**



**@JLOFDOC**



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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



**JLDOP PRESIDENT  
2019-2020**

**It starts with a woman.** For more than 80 years, the Junior League of Durham and Orange Counties (JLDOP) has been on the forefront of training and equipping our community's most impactful and dynamic women, while identifying community issues and finding solutions in a collaborative way. **Our approach is simple.** Through hands-on training and formal learning opportunities, **we give women the skills they need to improve the quality of life in the communities they serve.**

It has been an honor serving as the JLDOP President during the 2019-2020 League Year. I am proud to say even in our 82nd year, we continue to have a significant impact in the lives of our more than **500 members and the communities of Durham and Orange counties.**

This year, we launched **new resources for developing the potential of our members**, such as the Member Circles training series, and continued successful activities like our P.O.W.E.R. mentoring program. We were able to send two members

to the Association of Junior Leagues **International Winter Leadership Conference**, and we continue to offer new and innovative networking opportunities for building relationships among members.

In our local communities, we completed our fourth year of a multi-year commitment to **increasing access to healthy food through our partnership with Durham-based Farmer Foodshare.** This year, we contributed more than 40 hours of volunteer time and 310 pounds of fresh produce, as well as a \$4,000 donation to further Farmer Foodshare's mission of connecting healthy food with people who need it. In addition to Farmer Foodshare, we have contributed a total of **430 volunteer hours to local community organizations** through our member volunteer opportunities.

We have successfully continued our **Girls PLUS after school series** (part of Durham County Public Schools' ENCORE program) where we teach **young women about health living** including food choices, exercise and meditation. When I attended the session, we made healthy apple pies - **wish I had known how to do that in middle school!**

All of this is possible through the generous support of our members' dues, charitable donations, corporate sponsorships and event fundraisers. To ensure our impact and legacy, members stepped up this year to lead a new fundraiser Mardi Gras Masquerade, as well as a new campaign to raise awareness about food insecurity, The Little Black Dress Initiative. Our Annual Report includes more information on these and the other ways our members help the JLDOP continue its mission.

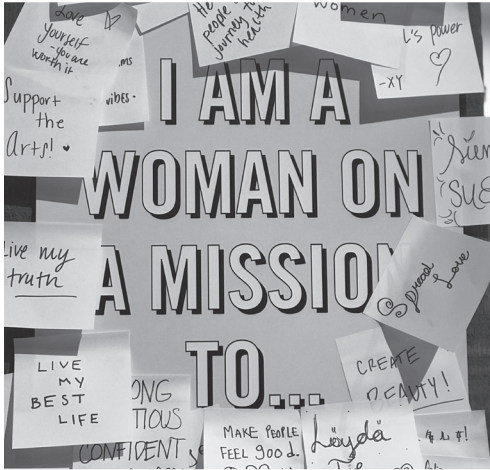
As I thought about the progress the JLDOP has made this year and the many ways we have empowered our members and helped our community, I could not have imagined it would be halted by COVID-19. The spread of the coronavirus has impacted our communities and the JLDOP greatly. Not only do we have **members working on the front lines treating patients and performing other essential business responsibilities**, we were unable to host several spring JLDOP events due to the virus. In response to these challenges, JLDOP members have taken their volunteer and leadership training and have stepped up by **distributing foods to school children, making protective masks, pledging future volunteer hours** to local organizations and many more impactful actions. And thanks to our adaptable nature and fast thinking, we have been able to **continue operating the JLDOP through virtual meetings and training.**

As we end one League Year and begin another, I hope each JLDOP member has experienced another year of new opportunities to grow personally and professionally, to gain new skills and friendships that empower them to be agents of change in Durham and Orange counties. This Fall, we will start a new League Year and will soon be in our newly restored Hill House in downtown Durham. We can't wait to see you there!

With gratitude,

*Jane Yarbrough*





## MISSION

The Junior League of Durham and Orange Counties, 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.



## INCLUSIVITY

The Junior League of Durham and Orange Counties, Inc. reaches out to women of all races, religions, and national origins who demonstrate an interest in and commitment to voluntarism. We are committed to celebrating and leveraging diversity as we strive to achieve our mission. Additionally, we continue to strive for diverse representation of women reflecting our communities' wide range of backgrounds, opinions, races, sexual orientations, religions, and experiences. We recognize that diversity among our members and the programming we support is critical to accomplishing our mission.



## MEMBERSHIP

Over 500 women are members of The Junior League of Durham and Orange Counties, Inc. This includes Provisionals (members in training), Actives (members who have completed their provisional semester), Sustainers (members who have served faithfully for a set number of years and want to stay involved with the League but have decided to step back from active service), and Non-Residents.

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS



## **PRESIDENT**

Jane Yarbrough

## **PRESIDENT-ELECT**

Paige Smith

## **SECRETARY**

Cristina Pérez-Simmons

## **TREASURER**

Lindsay Kellam

## **FINANCE VP**

Courtney Brown

## **FINANCE AVP**

Aleigha Jones

## **COMMUNITY VP**

Ashley Utz

## **COMMUNITY AVP**

Carlton Ocel

## **COMMUNICATIONS VP**

Ellen Fraser

## **COMMUNICATIONS AVP**

Rachaele Andrews

## **TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT VP**

Diana Baer

## **TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT AVP**

Paige Krier

## **MEMBERSHIP VP**

Laina Balafas

## **MEMBERSHIP AVP**

Michelle Macumber

## **NOMINATING CHAIR**

Kelly Preussner

## **NOMINATING ASSISTANT CHAIR**

Pearce Jackson

## **SUSTAINER LIAISON**

Sophia Santillan

Ellen Parker

## **IMMEDIATE PAST-PRESIDENT**

Cat Lunger

## **MEMBER AT-LARGE**

Meghan Hunt



# MEMBERSHIP OVERVIEW

WITH 270 ACTIVE MEMBERS THIS  
YEAR, THE ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP  
**INCREASED BY 17%**

## THIRTY-TWO PROVISIONALS

joined us for the fall of the 2019-2020 league year:

Tiffany Pritchett  
Monique Meadows  
Meiji Stillo  
Emily Allred  
Sydney Chappell  
Alex Pain  
Margaret Hardy  
Carrie Clifford  
Laurie Pendergrass  
Katie Narron  
April Fuller  
Emily Crowder  
Kelly Fitzgerald  
Katy Renfroe  
Kimberly Williams  
Chelsea Barlow

Elizabeth Branton  
Keller Whitlock  
Jenny Peed  
Amanda Baker  
Shana Cappelle  
Velaire Elliot  
Erica Seaman  
Haylee Jenkins  
Emma Hart  
Emily Burleson  
Hallsey Brandt  
Hannah Tilley  
Abbi Tenaglia  
Mira Johnson  
Sarah Trostle  
Towanda Williams

OUR TOTAL ACTIVE  
MEMBERSHIP IS

**322 WOMEN**

(INCLUDING PROVISIONALS)

## TWENTY PROVISIONALS

joined us for the spring of the 2019-2020 league year:

Steffanie Beswilen  
Katie Blue-Pugh  
Lori Bruhns  
Danielle Buchan  
Meredith Bunnell  
Shannon Clarke  
Allyson Cobb  
Natalie Farris  
Alex Hails  
Darlene Hicks

Gillian Horn  
Ciarra Joyner  
Katy Lucci  
Jenessa McElrath  
Anna Ostrowski  
Laney Owings  
Jayme Shoop  
Maddie Smith  
Katie Thore  
Katrina Von Arx

### 2019 FALL PROVISIONALS



**203 SUSTAINERS**  
PLAYED A PIVOTAL  
ROLE IN THE LEAGUE  
THIS YEAR



2020 SPRING PROVISIONALS

# MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

## THE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

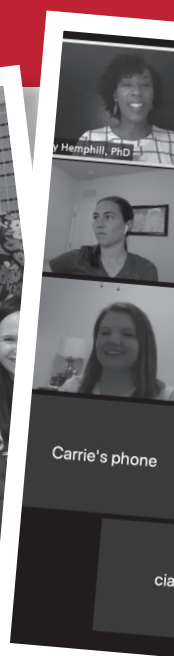
led seven membership development events over the course of the 2019-2020 League Year.

### MEMBER CIRCLES

This fall many league members gathered together as Membership Development led three membership circles. Food, drinks and lively discussions guided our league members to reach their fullest potential by connecting over the words of inspiring women who encourage us to live with courage, vulnerability and honesty. Member Circles met directly in the homes of league members. Discussion was guided by a set of questions and self-reflection activities based around the great works of Brene Brown, Sheryl Sandberg, & Rachel Hollis.

### DESIGN YOUR LIFE WORKSHOP

Based on the New York Times bestselling book and TED Talk Designing Your Life: How to Build a Well-Lived, Joyful Life, JLDOD member, Rachel White (Associate Director of Career & Leadership at UNC Kenan-Flagler Business School) led a design thinking workshop to uncover members' priorities and sources of energy, while also developing a life action plan.





## ➤➤ **MONEY “TALKS” MEMBER CIRCLE DISCUSSION**

League members Courtney Brown (Hunter Rowe Residential Real Estate Brokers and Advisors), Connolly Walker (agent and owner of Connolly Walker State Farm), and Katie Levy (financial advisor and Edward Jones branch owner) led a ‘member circle’ style conversation around investing, home buying and protecting one’s financial future.

## ➤➤ **VIRTUAL LEADERSHIP WORKLOAD**

Regina Bartolone facilitated an interactive discussion on the 15 commitments conscious leaders make from the book *The 15 Commitments of Conscious Leadership* by Jim Dethmer, Diana Chapman and Kaley Warner Klemp. Due to the risks associated with COVID-19, this workshop was held virtually, but challenged league members to think through ways they are able to build a culture of trust and inclusion with those that they lead— either at work, at home or within community organizations.

## ➤➤ **THRIVE IN THE COVID-19 CLIMATE: DR. MARY HEMPHILL**

With so much conversation around the pandemic, Membership Development opened the door for league members by providing additional resources virtually. This virtual event led by Dr. Mary Hemphill, leadership expert and coach, opened discussion about the importance of a leadership mindset to thrive in the COVID-19 climate. This session helped league members define and develop a deeper sense of individual impact. Also, it emphasized the importance of practicing conscious consumerism, added tools for empathetic leadership to member’s strategic toolbox, and ultimately began the journey of positioning league members for post-pandemic success.



## BINGO

IRIS JOHNSON CHAIRED THE COMMITTEE

A League favorite, this event was held on October 30th for a Halloween twist. Bingo players were encouraged to dress in costume as they played several rounds of Bingo. Between rounds, players could refuel with pizza, wine, or beer purchased at the concession stand.

Having this event the day before Halloween was SO much fun! In addition to the Bingo games, a costume contest was held. Nearly all attendees dressed up and we saw some excellent group costumes!

**This event helped the league raise a total of \$5,814.26 to help further the mission of JLDOC.**







## MARDI GRAS MASQUERADE BALL

CO-CHAIRLED BY SARA CHUMBLEY AND MEG FORAKER

The Mardi Gras-inspired silent auction was held at Croasdaile Country Club of Durham. Ticket prices included light refreshments, one drink ticket, and a night of dancing. Guests were invited to bid on various silent auction items; including hotel stays, local sports tickets, and photography sessions.

This was the first year we departed from a golf tournament. There were many twists and turns on the road to planning this event, but our co-chairs led their committee with strength to plan a fun and profitable event on a limited budget. Their creativity and perseverance made this a success!

**This event helped the league raise over \$12,000 to help further the mission of JLDOC.**



## COOKBOOK

ALICIA RAMSARAN CHAIRED THE COMMITTEE

The Cookbook Committee sold 303 Taste of Tobacco Road Cookbooks during the 2019-2020 League Year. Our committee members rallied to pre-wrap books, staff multiple holiday markets, and ship all online orders.

The Cookbook Committee worked on their online presence this year, boosting their presence on social media, and growing their blog. Sales ran during Black Friday/Cyber Monday and during both Provisional Super Saturdays. A special sale ran during the COVID-19 pandemic (to help alleviate stress, bring joy and support the community).

**The book can be found in:** Flyleaf Books | Merle Norman | Refectory Cafe | Vintage Home South | A Little Something | DECO Raleigh

**The cookbook committee's efforts raised over \$7,000 to help further the mission of JLDCC.**  
(This includes the sales of Taste of Tobacco Road, the In the Kitchen with Kids Cookbook, and our special wooden spoon, as well as shipping revenue.)







## LITTLE BLACK DRESS INITIATIVE

CHAired BY ASHLEY UTZ

The Junior League of Durham and Orange Counties launched the Little Black Dress Initiative to raise awareness on food insecurity in Durham and Orange Counties this past February. It illustrated how limited resources affect daily life. This was the first year of launch and our members look forward to making this an annual initiative. JLD OC is thrilled to have raised over \$7000 in our first year.





## PARTNERING WITH COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

The Junior League of Durham and Orange Counties has enjoyed working closely throughout the year with many community organizations such as Caring House and Urban Ministries of Durham. In total, JLDOC has supported **22 local community partners** in a range of projects.

JLDOC hosted **44 events** during the 2019-2020 year, and provided **430 volunteer hours** to support our dedicated community partners.

Ten of JLDOC's Community Partners are focused on improving access to healthy food. From Farmer Foodshare to the Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina, JLDOC has been committed to bringing healthy food to those most in need for the last 4 years.

This year, JLDOC granted **\$4,000** to Farmer Foodshare enabling two food donation stations in Carrboro and Hillsborough. JLDOC members have collected over **310** pounds of food at these stations over the course of the year.



# COMMUNITY PARTNERS

## 2019-2020 HEALTHY LIVING & FOOD ACCESS PARTNERS:

Caring House

Carolina Community Garden

Chapel Hill Carrboro Meals on Wheels

Farmer Foodshare

Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC

PORCH Chapel Hill

Ronald McDonald House Chapel Hill

SEEDS

TABLE

Urban Ministries of Durham



## OTHER COMMUNITY PARTNERS:

Best Buddies

Center for Child & Family Health

Chapel Hill-Carrboro City Schools  
Public School Foundation

Crayons2Calculators

Dress for Success Triangle NC

Girls on the Run

Habitat for Humanity of Durham County

Habitat for Humanity of Orange County

Justice Matters

Keep Durham Beautiful

Museum of Life + Science

# HILL HOUSE RENOVATIONS

## RESTORATION OF THE JLDOC HEADQUARTERS

The 2019 -20 League Year has been a big one for our **beloved headquarters, the Hill House**. This winter, we began a restoration project to bring the internal workings of the house up to modern day standards. Some features to look forward to: **refinished floors, a new efficient HVAC system, fresh paint inside and out, new tile and appliances in the kitchen, and a multi stall ladies room on the first floor.**





# HILL HOUSE RENOVATIONS

The Hill House steering committee has worked directly with the **Annie Watts Hill Family Trust** to secure funding for these improvements. When Hill House reopens, we look forward to welcoming our partners in volunteerism like the Boys and Girls Club, the Durham Women's Club, and the Town and Country Garden Club.

At that time, the house will be available to you and members of our community to rent for a variety of events. The Hill House steering committee thanks our JLDOC members for their flexibility and creativity during this time. **We cannot wait to welcome everyone back to Hill House this fall!**

**HILL HOUSE COMMITTEE:** CAT LUNGER (CHAIR) | ASHLEY UTZ | BETSY LOVELL | CRISTINA PÉREZ-SIMMONS | JANE YARBROUGH | LINDSAY KELLAM | PAIGE SMITH | SARAH MOTSINGER



# DONORS & SPONSORS

The Junior League of Durham and Orange Counties celebrates the close of this year with **extreme gratitude to our many sponsors and donors**. Without your support we would not be able to do what we do. **Thank you for your ongoing partnership, and we hope to continue to work with each and every one of you in the future.**

360Wellness  
A is for Alma  
Alamo Drafthouse  
Aloft Durham Downtown  
Aloft Raleigh  
Amanda Lee Anderson Event Planning  
Bella Trio  
Bond Brothers  
Botanist and Barrel  
Brothers Vilgalys  
Bull City Burger  
Bull City Escape  
Bull City Fair Trade  
Bull City Laughs  
Bull City Solera  
Burger Bach  
Carolina Hurricanes  
Carolina Inn  
Carolina Panthers  
Carolina Theatre  
Chapel Hill Restaurant Group  
Chapel Hill Tire  
Chapel Hill Toffee  
Chick-fil-A  
Chroma Painting  
Chuy's  
Cloche Coffee  
Clouds Brewing  
Cornell Watson Photography  
Cowfish  
Crafts and Drafts  
Cucciolo  
Duke Lemur Center

Duke University Athletics  
Duke University Golf Club  
Durham Bulls  
Durham Distillery  
Dutty Bull Brewing  
Eastcut Sandwich Bar  
Elmo's Diner  
Fancy This Photography  
Feger Furnishings  
Frankie's Fun Park  
Frog Hollow  
Furnish This  
Governor's Club  
Graybeard Distillery  
Grub Durham  
Hand & Stone  
Heidi Joy Photography  
Hi-Wire Brewing  
Honeygirl Meadery  
Iris Johnson Interior Design  
Jack Tar  
JB Duke Hotel  
Jessica Bishop Dental  
Julz Creations  
Kaleb's Kakez  
Kendra Scott  
KIJ Design  
Locopops Durham  
Lowes Foods  
Mad Hatter's  
Makus Empanadas  
Marbles Kids Museum  
Marquis Sales & Marketing



Meg Sanders Art  
Monkee's of Chapel Hill  
Motor Co  
Museum of Life and Science  
Mystic Farm and Distillery  
Namu  
Nasher Museum  
NC Arboretum  
NC Football Club  
NC Symphony  
NC Theater  
NC Zoo  
Next Level Transportation  
Northern Spy  
Oak House  
Offline Durham/Raleigh  
Oliver's Collar  
Pie Pushers  
Pompieri  
Ponysaurus  
Posh Hair Salon  
Pour Taproom  
Prestonwood Country Club  
Pure Barre Durham  
Raleigh Rum Company  
Ramblers  
Rock Paper Scissors Salon  
Rue Claire  
Safia Joy Photography  
Salon Eden

Second Empire  
Sheetz  
SOUTH Chapel Hill  
Southpoint Pediatric Dentistry  
Spectrum Paints  
Stella & Dot  
Styled by Charlotte  
Taste Carolina  
The Askew Family  
The Durham Hotel  
The Mad Popper  
The Oak House  
The Pit  
The Umstead Hotel  
Toast  
Town Hall Burger and Beer  
Tre Bella  
Triangle Rock Club  
Triangle YMCA  
Tribeca Tavern  
U.S. Whitewater Rafting Center  
University Florist  
University of North Carolina  
Unscripted Hotel  
Washington Duke Hotel  
Wegmans  
Winestore  
Winn Paper Co.  
Xtreme Park Adventures  
Zen Succulent

*Thank you for making this league year a success.*



**DURHAM AND ORANGE COUNTIES**