The Junior League of Orange County, California, Inc.

2004-2005 Report to the Community

A member of The Association of Junior Leagues International Inc.
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Mission

The Junior League of Orange County, California, Inc. is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

The Power of Association

The Junior League of Orange County is a member of the Association of Junior Leagues International.

In 1901, Mary Harriman founded the Junior League. Today there are 294 Junior Leagues in four countries and the Association of Junior Leagues International Inc. (AJLI) has been providing support, guidance and leadership development opportunities to member Leagues for more than 80 years.
The 800 plus members of the Junior League of Orange County, California (JLOCC) are truly committed to “Making the Difference” in Orange County. Our Provisional, Active and Sustaining members are passionate and committed to their work in our community. This year, our Provisional members worked directly with Orangewood Children’s Home and the Florence Crittenton Center to provide the children with a fun day filled with mentoring experiences and social activities. They also helped with our fundraising efforts by hosting the Nordstrom Tile Painting Event and Lucy Store Reception. Our Active members worked with the YMCA Service Corps., Canyon Acres Children and Family Services, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), Laura’s House, and Impact Orange County and touched the lives of many children throughout the county and helped to reduce teenage pregnancy and child abuse. Our Sustainer project, Bear Hugs, is an amazing collaboration with the Orangewood Children’s Foundation and clearly makes a difference in the lives of emancipated teenagers.

Our dedicated members volunteer tens of thousands of hours working on projects, raising funds and performing other administrative functions that enable the JLOCC to continue to provide needed programs, grants and scholarships within Orange County. Yet we could not do this alone. Our Community Partners and Advisors also dedicate their time and energies to our projects, fundraisers and ongoing training and planning activities.

The women of the JLOCC are a fabulous group of dynamic women who can make anything happen! We come from all walks of life; we are educated and are talented leaders in various fields. We are moms, students, and working professionals in a broad variety of disciplines. We all share the common goal of wanting children to grow up in a world free from violence, where they are supported and encouraged to live out their dreams. The JLOCC is a unique organization as our members are given the opportunity to work together in the community, receive training that allows them to learn new skills and try new things while establishing lifelong friendships.

I am honored to have had the opportunity to work with such outstanding women this year. It is exciting to see the impact we have made and to look forward to the exciting milestones ahead — Celebrating our 50 Years of Service and the 30th Anniversary of The Christmas Company. This year we developed a new Strategic Plan that will guide us through the next few years as we continue to “Make the Difference” in Orange County.

Respectfully,

Kathleen A. Hill
2004-2005 President
A Training Organization

The JLOCC incorporates training into many aspects of the JLOCC experience. It is part of our mission to develop the potential of women, and makes us unique from many other non-profits. We allow our members to challenge themselves and boost their skill set in a wide variety of areas including personal and career development. Our training enables members to take their expertise into the community. This can include taking on new responsibilities in a non-threatening League environment and using the learned know-how to transition into a new career.

We offer many types of training opportunities. Some are formal and include classroom-style trainings with professionals, community and JLOCC members. The training council incorporates new ideas to keep our trainings fresh, and they evolve each year to meet the needs of members. Outside formal training includes the California Governor’s Conference for Women, Organizational Development Institutes (through AJLI), AJLI conferences, and Southwest Exchange.

JLOCC also provides countless informal training opportunities. League members learn new talents during their provisional year and through their active placements. Each year, each active member has a new placement. Members may elect to learn a wide variety of skills by serving in new and different placements or go deeper with the ones they already have by volunteering in areas they are more comfortable. Members learn mentoring, working with children, fundraising, communications and accounting.

Finally, the JLOCC mentoring programs play a significant role in our training opportunities. We give and receive mentoring informally within the League by being with great, inspiring women; learning from them, and developing life-long connections to other women. The Board of Directors mentors their committee chairs; committee chairs mentor their committee members, and so on. In addition, many placements offer opportunities to mentor children in the community. One of the best parts of mentoring children is that our League members gain as much, if not more, than the children.

Our League was organized as a means of expressing the feeling of social responsibility for the conditions which surround us. We have the responsibility and the opportunity to conscientiously act to affect our environment...It is my hope that each member will become a real and helpful part of that life.

Mary Harriman, Founder of the Junior League
**Get Involved!**

If you are a woman interested in promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers, the Junior League is looking for you!

The Junior League of Orange County, California, Inc., reaches out to women of all races, religions, and national origins who demonstrate an interest in and commitment to volunteerism. If you are interested in joining, please call (949) 261-0823 or email us at jlocc@sbcglobal.net. You can also visit JLOCC online at www.jlocc.org.

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**Adolescent Pregnancy**

Because the JLOCC believes that teens should have the opportunity to complete high school without being encumbered by parental responsibilities, we are committed to developing and supporting programs that will assist teens in reducing and/or eliminating the behaviors that lead to adolescent pregnancy in Orange County.

Because the JLOCC recognizes that, despite positive community and home influences, adolescent pregnancies may occur, we will develop and/or support programs for teen parents to ensure access to appropriate support services during and after pregnancy.

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**Child Abuse**

The JLOCC believes that every child should grow up in a nurturing, caring and safe home environment, and therefore, the JLOCC is committed to working toward the establishment of an integrated and comprehensive system of services aimed at reducing the behaviors which lead to child abuse in Orange County.
The JLOCC Strategic Plan

Staying focused on the strategic direction is pivotal to the success of any organization. The Junior League of Orange County is no different and as part of an ongoing effort to maintain our focus on the needs of Orange County, our members and our mission, the Junior League of Orange County, California spent the past year updating and revising our Strategic Plan.

Throughout the process, information from three key areas that directly influence the League’s future success and longevity — membership, community and finance, was gathered and conclusions verified with the general membership and the JLOCC Board of Directors.

The information gathered drove the development of the JLOCC Strategic Plan which was approved by the membership in April. The plan identifies three Areas of Emphasis: League Identity and Awareness, League Effectiveness and League Membership and is designed to encourage the JLOCC Board of Directors and members to work closely together to coordinate activities. In addition, the plan is designed as a living document to evolve as the needs of the community, membership and funding sources dictate. The Strategic Plan highlights are outlined below.

Areas of Emphasis:

1. League Identity and Awareness
   Provide clear communications of purpose and accomplishments within the JLOCC membership and the community to broaden the understanding of the value the JLOCC brings to the community and women. This in turn engages the key drivers of the league — members, community and funding.

2. League Effectiveness
   Enhance and promote the League’s ability to develop the potential of women through the development of trained volunteers ready to take action in the community.

3. League Membership
   Increase the loyalty and longevity of membership through the growth and promotion of initiatives to increase satisfaction and purpose identification.

The JLOCC is a strong organization of women that must choose their next destination. Our new strategic plan will help guide us through the next few years as we enter our 50th Year of Service to Orange County and look forward to future decades of helping the community.
CASAs Provide Support for Abused and Neglected Children

By Susana Ertac, CASA committee member

The Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Orange County was established in 1985 with major support from the Junior League of Orange County, Inc. It is one of 900 CASA programs nationwide that provides quality intervention and advocacy services for abused and neglected children.

Adult volunteers, known as CASAs, receive 30 hours of intensive training and commit to a two-year period to serve as a mentor and advocate for a child in the dependency court system in Orange County. The children are either living in foster care, a group home, or at a county facility, such as Orangewood Children’s Home. Many have been in and out of several homes and have had a very turbulent childhood. Advocates serve as a constant presence, regardless of their current living situation.

The charter of CASAs is to provide in-depth information to the court to assist in making decisions about the child’s future, to be sure the court knows what the child wants, and to encourage timely pursuit of a permanent placement for the child. Advocates spend five to six hours with their appointed child every two weeks, planning inexpensive outings or activities to get to know the children. CASAs also meet with social workers and the child’s family or caretakers and attend all the child’s court dates. There are currently 300 children in the CASA program with more than 200 children waiting for CASAs. The CASA Organization’s goal for next year is to serve 65 additional children. To make this possible, they rely on committed adult volunteers and financial funding.

The JLOCC’s current involvement with CASA is hosting six special events per year for the CASAs and their children to help defray out-of-pocket expenses for volunteer CASAs, as well as provide fun experiences for the children. Many CASA children have lived together in group homes and had not seen each other since being moved into foster care. They really look forward to the JLOCC sponsored events that provide treasured opportunities to see old friends while also spending time with their advocates.

CASA Special Events is a terrific way to see the JLOCC’s mission of “building a brighter future for children” translate into smiles on children’s faces.

More information can be found online at www.casaoc.org.
Since 1980, Canyon Acres has provided integrated residential and foster family care, specialized treatment and supportive services for local severely abused and emotionally troubled young children and their families. Canyon Acres Children’s Services is the only facility in Orange or surrounding Counties serving the most severely abused and emotionally troubled children between the ages of six to 12. It is here that children are provided with the highest level of care and therapeutic treatment. Most importantly, Canyon Acres provides a home to these children who suffer from a variety of emotional and psychological disorders. These disorders are due to a family history of child abuse, substance abuse, family violence and mental illness. Canyon Acres intervenes in a loving, realistic and effective manner, helping these abused children adjust and succeed in their family, a foster or adoptive family, group care and ultimately in their adult lives.

Canyon Acres’ residential treatment center, called “The Ranch,” is a 30 bed facility located on 4.6 acres for six to 12 year old boys and girls. Two-thirds of these children have lived in more than six other out-of-home placement centers before coming to Canyon Acres. Children graduate from “The Ranch” into family-like homes called “Intermediate Treatment Residences” which are six bed group homes. In these group homes, the children function at a level where they attend neighborhood schools and begin to integrate into the community.

The Junior League of Orange County has had the honor of working with the children that are living in the Integrated Treatment Residences for the past two years. JLOCC’s volunteers work with the children as they are beginning the process of transitioning back into the community and learning how to live as a family. JLOCC’s main objective is to serve as positive role models for children who have had few, if any, positive adult role models in their lives. JLOCC works to provide activities designed to let the children experience various events such as plays, musicals and education activities and lastly, strives to develop and nurture relationships that the children and the JLOCC members will always cherish.
The Junior League of Orange County was presented the newly established Founders Award by Rebuilding Together Orange County (RTOC) on January 6, 2005, given in recognition of the JLOCC’s contribution to the fledgling organization in 1991. The gift to what was then “Christmas in April,” was made at a critical time and allowed the organization to build a program that today is considered one of the strongest and most extensive in the more than 250 RTOC affiliates nationwide.

The “Christmas in April” tradition is an old-fashioned barn raising…neighbor helping neighbor…American initiative at work! In keeping with this historical context, the dedicated and enthusiastic JLOCC members helped fund and coordinate sponsors and volunteered to work on the first four homes in Midway City. In 1994, “Christmas in April” became an independent non-profit organization under the direction of League members Kay Kelly, Cindy Brauer, Donna Sears and others. By Fall 2001, the “Christmas in April, Serving Orange County” affiliate already had become one of the largest in a nationwide organization known as “Rebuilding Together”…and so the name change was made.

Since the early beginnings and a single signature annual National Rebuilding Day in April, the Rebuilding Together tradition has developed into a year-round program providing free rehabilitation services to more than 200 households and non-profits annually. More than 800 homes and non-profit properties have been assisted to date in Orange County for an estimated fair market value of $7 million.

According to Rebuilding Together Orange County, “the Founders Award was created to recognize the individual, organization or corporate partner best exemplifying, the profound impact the Junior League has had on the quality of the lives of children and families in our community.” RTOC intends to pass along the award annually to a recipient who has perpetuated the organization’s mission and values.

JLOCC is honored to be the first recipient of this award symbolized by a miniature home. The perpetual Founders Award House is an ongoing symbol of the care and work being done in the community by Rebuilding Together. It will be located at JLOCC headquarters until it is passed along to the next recipient.
Mary Ann Del Fante has worked for JLOCC at headquarters for the past seven years. This year, she decided to become personally involved with the CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) program by becoming a volunteer advocate. JLOCC supports CASA by sponsoring events for the CASA and their assigned child. I sat down with her for an interview to learn more about her experience as a CASA.

**SE: What attracted you to the CASA program and how did you become involved?**

**MD:** A few years ago, I learned one of our part-time assistants had been in the foster care system in Orange County most of her childhood, living in and out of various group and foster homes. She had recently emancipated from the system and had completed her first year of college. She was a bright, lovely and educated young lady. I was so impressed at how she had flourished that I asked her who made the biggest difference in her life. She said it was her CASA. That got my attention!

I started looking into becoming a CASA. I was very impressed by the judicial component of this program. CASAs are sworn in by the judge, legitimizing the volunteer CASA’s work and that of the entire organization.

I realized I could make a significant contribution by becoming a CASA and that it would fit in my schedule. I went through the comprehensive CASA orientation last May and met my child in August. I felt ready to begin, but knew that there would be a lot to learn along the way. The CASA organization provides support 24 hours a day, seven days a week, so I felt certain I could handle any problem.

**SE: Tell me about your child and her situation.**

**MD:** My child was removed from her abusive home when she was five years old and has lived in various group homes, including two unsuccessful foster home placements. She is now 13, with one foot in childhood and one foot in adolescence. She is extremely bright, eager to learn and enthusiastic.
Interview With CASA Volunteer, Mary Ann Del Fante (continued)

In September she was fortunate to be in mainstream classes, which had a positive impact on her self-esteem — she was thriving. Recently, she lost her foster home placement and is temporarily back at Orangewood and is attending classes there. As you might imagine these inconsistencies in her life become a big issue in her progress.

SE: How often do you spend time with her?

MD: I usually take her out every other Saturday or Sunday for about five to six hours each day. I call and send her cards during the week that I don’t see her. However, due to the recent loss of her foster home, she has been going through a very difficult time. It is important for me to be there for her more often, so I’ve been taking her out every Saturday for four hours and visiting or calling in the middle of the week.

SE: What types of activities do you do with her?

MD: We have been to the beach a couple of times, movies, dinner or lunch, shopping, out for ice cream and I have helped her with her scrapbook. She loves art, so we have shopped for art supplies and I am now looking into art classes for her. One of our most exciting outings was a trip to the Orange County Performing Arts Center to see “Hairspray.”

SE: What has been her favorite JLOCC CASA Event?

MD: She loves the CASA Christmas party (she proudly says that she has been to five), but the CASA event to Color Me Mine was extra special for her. She enjoyed it so much we went back again a month later to work on Christmas gifts for her foster parents.

SE: Do you have any advice for people who are thinking about becoming CASAs?

MD: Attend the CASA Orientation to get more information and to find out the specifics of the commitment without the obligation to volunteer.
Laura’s House Volunteers Show Abused and Neglected Children That Life Without Violence Does Exist!

By Amy Friedli, Projects Council Director

Tragically, each year more than 20,000 Orange County children are reported as abused and/or neglected. The sad reality is that individuals abused as children are more likely to be arrested as juveniles and adults. Fortunately, most forms of abuse and neglect are 100 percent preventable.

Laura’s House is a non-profit domestic agency that has served as a safe harbor for hundreds of Orange County women and children since 1994. Beginning in 2000, JLOCC has partnered with Laura’s House to bring a little light into the lives of the children.

Laura’s House generally has between five to ten children in residence at any given time. Ranging in age from preschool through adolescent, these children often arrive at the shelter with little more than the clothes on their backs. The children temporarily residing in Laura’s House have borne witness to the violence perpetrated against their mothers and many are victims of violence as well. They will most likely carry the scars of this violence, both physical and emotional, for the rest of their lives. The JLOCC’s partnership with Laura’s House was developed to help these children in the present by serving as role models and friends, and to help in the future by breaking the cycle of violence. Statistics show that those who endure violence as a child are more likely to inflict violence as an adult.

Laura’s House requested that the JLOCC provide opportunities for the children to get away from the trials and tribulations that necessarily are part of life at an emergency shelter — a chance for them to escape on a regular basis and to interact with caring, responsible people who can give them a sense of optimism and show them that life without violence does exist! JLOCC volunteers sponsor, plan and participate in six to ten outings annually. In addition, they oversee a home improvement project at either the Laura’s House Children’s Center or Laura’s House shelter. JLOCC volunteers receive many benefits from Laura’s House, most notably the unique opportunity to serve as role models for and special friends of the children. In November 2002, the Junior League of Orange County was recognized by Laura’s House as an honoree in the category of Outstanding Volunteer Group, and awarded the Spirit of Philanthropy Medallion. While JLOCC is very proud of this honor, the real reward is the hope that is brought into the lives of these children, as evidenced by their warm smiles and the knowledge that JLOCC is making a dent in the cycle of domestic violence.
Learning to Serve
By Amy Friedli, Projects Council Director and April Young, YMCA Project Committee Chair

Beginning in September 2004, the JLOCC and YMCA of Orange County formed a partnership based on their mutual desire to develop a model for instilling a pattern of life-long volunteerism in at-risk youth. This partnership arose following research demonstrating that involvement with one’s community helps lead to a reduction in the rates of adolescent pregnancy. In fact, of all forms of intervention, volunteerism in the form of broad-based community service, makes the strongest impact on adolescents deemed to be at-risk.

Service learning is a deliberate process through which people of all ages and in all areas of the YMCA are empowered to develop skills, knowledge and civic awareness while making meaningful contributions to their communities. This service learning program is designed to develop a model for instilling a life-long pattern of volunteerism in at-risk youth. The JLOCC’s YMCA Committee works with these youth to plan, implement and evaluate service learning projects such as this.

Serving as mentors and friends, JLOCC volunteers work hand-in-hand with seventh and eighth graders from Costa Mesa High, who have been identified as at-risk-for-retention in school, to plan and implement service projects that the kids select throughout the year. While not specifically identified as being at-risk for adolescent pregnancy, these youth are in need of positive adult role models and it has been determined that they would likely benefit from participating in a broad-based community service program. The fact is that students who do not do well in school and are at-risk for retention may also be at an increased risk for adolescent pregnancy.

Developing projects based on service learning principles is a new experience for the JLOCC. Of great importance, the youth selected to participate in this project are involved in every step of the process, from brainstorming and selecting community service projects to evaluating them once completed. In addition to learning a great deal, YMCA committee members are enjoying getting to know these youth and hope to inspire them to reach for the stars.
Women and children are the focus of the Junior League of Orange County. In general, younger children receive the attention of many philanthropies. Older teenagers are often neglected; specifically those who have been removed from their homes and placed in protective custody in county facilities or foster homes. The Bear Hugs project reaches out to these teenagers.

Each year approximately 300 teens emancipate from county care when they turn 18 years old. These teens lack the support systems normally present for teens at a time when they are finishing high school and planning their futures. Bear Hugs provides these emancipated teens a collection of items to ease the transition to independent living.

Bear Hugs provides the “bare necessities”: a duffel bag filled with essentials such as toiletries, towel sets and a blanket, stationery supplies, an inspirational book, phone cards, maps, flashlights and alarm clocks and includes a list of resource agencies and programs and a small stuffed animal. Sleeping bags are also available on an “as needed” basis for those teens that will “couch surf” or are in danger of homelessness. The Orangewood Children’s Foundation is the liaison for Bear Hugs through their Independent Living Program.

The goal of Bear Hugs is to have a duffel available for every teen at the time they emancipate. JLOCC keeps bags on hand for teens who do not finish high school; the bulk of the duffel bags are distributed at a graduation ceremony and dance held in June.

From June 2001 through December 2004, the Bear Hugs project donated more than $50,000 in stuffed duffels and sleeping bags.

The JLOCC would like to thank those organizations who have generously supported this project:

- Arden Realty
- Bivar, Inc.
- Day Runner, Inc.
- El Pollo Loco
- The Gund Foundation
- Impac Mortgage Holding, Inc.
- John O. Butler
- Mag Instrument
- Mark Victor Hansen & Associates
- Mead Products
- Mission Hospital
- Pentel of America, Ltd.
- Russ Berrie and Company, Inc.
- Saddleback Community Church
- Sam’s Club
- Sprint
- Staples
- Taco Bell
- Tiffany & Company
- Unilever Home & Personal Care - USA
- Viking Office Supplies
As the temperature was dropping, ovens around Orange County were heating up to begin the holiday baking season. Kids from The Boys and Girls Club of Garden Grove joined The Impact OC Committee along with volunteers from the JLOCC Board of Directors at Orange Coast College on November 20, 2004 for a holiday cookie exchange, co-sponsored by Gold Medal.

Fifteen JLOCC members teamed up with 12 lucky boys and girls to bake 12 different cookie recipes. The recipes were based on America’s favorite holiday cookies sponsored by Gold Medal and the makers of Press’n Seal wrap. Peanut Butter Blossoms topped the list, followed by Sugar Cookies, Snickerdoodles, Gingerbread, Macaroons, Pecan Sandies, and Mexican Wedding Cakes to name a few. The children thoroughly enjoyed the opportunity, as for many of them, this event was their first occasion to bake.

After baking all the cookies, JLOCC members and the kids shared lunch donated by Gold Medal and recapped the exciting day. The cookies, as well as the additional baking ingredients, were donated to a local women’s shelter. The 12 sets of cooking supplies, including bowls, mixers and utensils, were donated to Canyon Acres and Laura’s House.

The event enabled JLOCC members to provide the kids with essential life and leadership skills and gave the children some time with adult role models. Gold Medal flour and the makers of Press’n Seal wrap provided an in-kind donation of $5,000 in supplies to JLOCC to host the exchange.
Nordstrom and JLOCC Partner for a Day of Painting and Fun
By MeeRan Kim, Fund Development Director

Orange County kids got creative at the Nordstrom Tile Painting Party in February, 2005. More than 200 kids ages three to 15 attended the event at the beautiful Soka University of America campus in Aliso Viejo to put their artistic skills to work. With the help of their parents and guidance from a professional artist, the children used their imagination to paint tiles in a sea life theme. The tiles will be permanently installed in the Kids’ Wear floor of the new Nordstrom store opening at the Irvine Spectrum in September, 2005.

Once the new Nordstrom opens, the mini-Monet’s will be invited to the store for a special scavenger hunt to locate their tile in the children’s department.

Nordstrom generously donated the artist, food and drinks, a face painting and balloon artist, the popular “sandy candy” activity, fabulous decor, t-shirts for our volunteers, photos and party favors for the kids. Many thanks to Nordstrom for sponsoring this wonderful event that raised more than $9,000 to support JLOCC projects. The JLOCC would also like to extend a big thank you to Soka University for providing the facilities and to all of the provisional members who cheerfully assisted during the event.

“Nordstrom was so happy to be able to partner with the Junior League of Orange County on this Tile Painting event. It is important for us as a company to support the communities in which we serve, and raising money is one of the best ways to do that. We also hope that the boys and girls that participated in the event will visit their little masterpieces for years to come.”

Rachel Jackson, Nordstrom Event Marketing Manager, Southwest
JLOCC Awards $15,000 in Scholarships

The JLOCC is dedicated to empowering young women and men in our community. The Scholarship program is just one of the many ways JLOCC seeks to promote their well-being and self-sufficiency.

This year the JLOCC will award a total of $15,000 in scholarships to deserving students who are aiming to realize their dreams of a college education. The awards range from $500 for a community college up to $5,000 for four-year institutions. The recipients must have participated in past or ongoing JLOCC sponsored programs or organizations, and must currently be a high school senior or post-secondary student with a minimum grade point average of 2.0.

Over the past seven years, more than 20 young women and men have benefited from our scholarship program. Once such winner, Krista Skustad is currently attending Orange Coast College with hopes to transfer to the Art Institute of California. She hopes to one day become a movie director, and is interested in the Institute’s video production program. Krista was involved with one of the League’s mentoring programs, the World is Mine. She valued the time JLOCC volunteers spent with her through the program, and is now grateful for the educational benefits the scholarship program has provided.

“The scholarship program is one way we can encourage young men and women who might not otherwise been given the chance, but who have already shown great potential to make a difference in their lives and their communities with a little help from someone who cares,” says Kathleen Hill, 2004-2005 JLOCC President. “These students are truly an inspiration as to what they have overcome, and they are to be rewarded for what they have already achieved under difficult circumstances, as well as for their tenacity.”

JLOCC is very proud of this year’s recipients, and for all of our past recipients. We are pleased to help support these wonderful young people in their future educational endeavors. We wish all of them the best as they continue to pursue and achieve their dreams.

“[The funds that the JLOCC has given me has helped me a lot. I was able to buy my books with it and some of my tuition.”
- Krista Skustad
Community Grant Program

The JLOCC’s grant program has been in existence almost as long as the League itself. The very first grant was awarded in 1956 to the Volunteer Bureau, which is now the Volunteer Center of Orange County. The Newport Harbor Service League (predecessor to the JLOCC) was responsible for initiating the Volunteer Bureau in Santa Ana to coordinate and encourage volunteers to work with agencies in the area and not only granted funds over the years, but also provided volunteers and facilities to bring this concept to the local community.

The Grants and Scholarships Committee is charged with awarding funds to organizations aligned with the Junior League of Orange County’s goals of supporting children and families. The program has evolved over the years and has come to the assistance of many wonderful organizations. This year, the JLOCC awarded $35,000 to eight different organizations in Orange County.

Organizations awarded funds from the JLOCC will have a significant impact on the community, including:

- **Art and Creativity for Healing** — their “Art for Healing Expressing Feelings with Color” program will provide art workshops as therapy for underprivileged and at-risk children.

- **Project Cuddle** — will use their grant funds for a 24-hour Crisis Hotline that will provide legal alternatives and counseling for young mothers who are considering abandoning their babies.

- **Stop-Gap** - will bring plays and workshops to low income teenagers in Orange County. The teenagers will act out and dialog about real life situations on bullying, violent relationships, date rape and adolescent pregnancy so they learn how to deal with similar situations they may face in the future.

- **Big Brothers/Big Sisters** — was awarded funds for their “Bright Futures” program, which matches at-risk minority girls, ages 10-18, with professional female community volunteers. The volunteers will mentor the girls and teach them life skills. The program will impact approximately 150 girls.

The JLOCC also awarded funds to Kid Singers, The Gary Center, Laurel House, and Saint Joseph Ballet.
Public Affairs

The Junior League of Orange County, CA (JLOCC) is non-partisan, but is active in educational and advocacy efforts that support its focus areas of adolescent pregnancy prevention and child abuse prevention.

JLOCC’s public affairs committee is responsible for building relationships with the local legislative delegation, promoting the League’s community outreach efforts, and educating the JLOCC membership about legislative issues and public affairs. The committee provides member trainings, organizes the annual “It Ought To Be A Law” contest, arranges workshops on ballot propositions, and plans events and activities to build relationships with local legislators.

In November 2004, the committee hosted newly elected legislators Assemblyman Chuck Devore and Senator John Campbell at a reception intended to give JLOCC members the opportunity to meet their local elected officials. The legislators spoke about their goals and intentions while in office and encouraged the League to further its volunteer efforts as they are needed now more than ever.

Two committee members serve on the State Public Affairs Committee (SPAC) of the Junior Leagues of California. SPAC is comprised of delegates from 16 California leagues and represents more than 12,000 women. Collectively, the delegates represent the interests and issue areas of member leagues to policy makers at the state and local levels. The SPAC delegates:

- Advocate for specific legislation relevant to member league issues
- Educate Junior League members
- Coordinate the exchange of information from community based projects to policy makers

Delegates research and study bills related to League project areas and present their findings to SPAC. The delegation then votes in support of, opposition to, or to take no position on the legislation. The year 2004 marked the end of a two-year legislative session during which SPAC’s four subcommittees, Education, Family Support, Health and Violence Prevention, reviewed a total of 126 bills. Support positions were taken on 28 bills, of which 43% were sent to the governor, mirroring the Legislature’s success rate.

SPAC also votes to sponsor or co-sponsor legislation. During the 2003-2004 legislative session, SPAC sponsored AB2661 (Steinberg). This bill establishes a centralized database for
Public Affairs (continued)

agencies to use when certifying foster families. It was found that a family decertified by one agency could be certified by another simply because there was no common system to check that family’s status. AB2661 was signed into law by Governor Schwarzenegger. Clete Menke, the executive director of Canyon Acres Children’s Home, spoke about the importance of this bill at the JLOCC’s February general membership meeting.

The two SPAC delegates also met with Assemblywoman Lynn Daucher to share information about the Junior League and discuss ideas for legislation. Assemblywoman Daucher provided insight into the state’s current fiscal situation and gave recommendations on how to further enhance the League’s advocacy efforts.

The public affairs and advocacy efforts illustrate the JLOCC’s commitment to establishing the systems, services and programs necessary to reduce and eliminate the behaviors that lead to child abuse and adolescent pregnancy.

“Gallo of Sonoma partners with the Junior League of Orange County because of the group’s extensive involvement with the community and the loyalty of its well respected members and volunteers. Because of the hard work of JLOCC’s members, Gallo of Sonoma continues to support its various events and programs.”

Suzanne Kempf - Trade Marketing Manager - So. Cal. - Gallo Wine Company
Community Advisors

The Honorable Pamela L. Isles
Judge Orange County Superior Court
Judge Isles was appointed to the South County Municipal Court in 1983, and later elevated to Orange County Superior Court in 1998. In addition to consulting with the JLOCC, she has long sat on many commissions and committees, including the Republican Task Force on Child Abuse (National Organization of Victim Assistance).

Deborah Mayhew
Public Relations Consultant
Deborah Mayhew is a public relations consultant and freelance writer with a strong background in agency and corporate communications. She has developed and implemented comprehensive public relations and advertising programs and projects for a diverse range of clients in the areas of health care, tourism, television, and the retail sector.

Mary MacIntyre Hamilton
Hamilton/Beyl Consulting
Mary MacIntyre Hamilton is a local philanthropy consultant, and is an owner/partner of Hamilton/Beyl, which specializes in leadership development, strategic planning for nonprofit organizations, foundation program development, fund development and executive recruitment.

Jeffrey R. Wilcox, CFRE
Management Consultant
Jeff Wilcox is a Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE), and is a national trustee for Camp Fire USA, the incoming president of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) in Orange County, a member of five local boards and a full-time management consultant.

Genevieve Anton
Anton Communications
Genevieve Anton is the president of Anton Communications, Inc., a public relations firm. Her clients represent a variety of industries including real estate, tourism, insurance, investment and public service. A former journalist with more than 20 years of print and broadcast experience, Genevieve now specializes in media strategy and training. Prior to becoming a journalist, Genevieve was a member of the Executive Staff of the White House, where she worked on the political team that briefed Congress.

The Honorable Marian Bergeson
California State Senator (Retired)
A former teacher, school board member, president of the California School Board Association, California State Senator, State Assemblywoman and Orange County Supervisor, Marian Bergeson was appointed October 1, 1996, by Governor Pete Wilson as the second Secretary of Child Development and Education for the State of California.

Ms. Pat Halberstadt
Chief Professional Officer
Girls & Boys Clubs of Garden Grove
Pat Halberstadt has been Chief Professional Officer for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Garden Grove for more than 29 years. Currently, Pat is a member of the State School-Age Care Advisory Committee, on the Steering Committee for Boys and Girls Clubs of America Safety and Child Welfare Programs, and Member and Former-Chair of the Council of Funded Organizations for United Way of Orange County.

The Honorable Tom Wilson
Chairman, Orange County Board of Supervisors
In December 1996, Thomas W. Wilson was appointed by former Governor Pete Wilson for the leadership role of the Fifth District on the Orange County Board of Supervisors. In June of 1998, he was elected to a 4-year term on the Board, and was re-elected in March of 2002. He served as Vice-Chairman of the Board in 1998, 1999, and 2002. He was elected Chairman of the Board in 2003, and was re-elected to serve a second term in 2004.

Shelley Hoss
President, Orange County Community Foundation
Shelley Hoss has extensive experience in the nonprofit field, focusing primarily on program serving at-risk children, and is currently the President of the Orange County Community Foundation. She most recently served as executive director of Girls, Inc and spent 10 years overseeing programs for the Orangewood Children’s Foundation.

Genevieve Anton
Anton Communications Inc.
“The Junior League of Orange County is one of our community’s best-kept secrets. Few people are aware that many of our county’s most exemplary non-profit organizations started as projects of the Junior League. The JLOCC represents a long history of applying skill, talent, and passion to our community’s most difficult social problems – with extraordinary results. It was my pleasure to work closely with JLOCC volunteers in my leadership of Girls Incorporated of Orange County, and in the early days of my career at the Orangewood Children’s Foundation. I am now delighted to continue my association with the Junior League of Orange County as a Community Advisor for their efforts. It is truly an honor to have had the opportunity to be both a beneficiary and a supporter of the Junior League of Orange County. The best is yet to come!”

Pat Halberstadt
Chief Professional Officer
Boys & Girls Clubs of Garden Grove
“The Junior League certainly exemplifies voluntarism at its best through their long history of commitment to Orange County. JLOCC brings energy, creativity, talent and resources to every project that they support, which has translated to a legacy of positive impact on the lives of families and children as well as the quality of life for our community as a whole.

We at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Garden Grove know from first-hand experiences how the Junior League can make a difference in people's lives. The women of the League have mentored our youth, trained our teens, and coached our parents.

Most importantly, the individual JLOCC members have given us members aspirations for the future and tools for achieving their goals; they have provided positive adult role models who have taken the time to listen, used their impressive skills to teach and their great hearts to care.”

Shelley Hoss, President
Orange County Community Foundation

Genevieve Anton
Anton Communications Inc.
“Perhaps like every working mother with small children, I feel like there is not one shred of spare time in my life. I run my own public relations firm full time, my four-year-old daughter has a disabling neurological disorder and my eight-year-old son still thinks I should be his mom-nurse-chef-chef-and best friend. However, being a community advisor to the Junior League has been a happy compromise between juggling my own boy’s life and giving something meaningful back to my community. To volunteer means to give freely and I have always believed this is an essential part of our humanity and spiritual survival. It feels good to give, even if it’s not a lot. And there is no one I would rather give my time and help to than the children who need it most. Orange County is so fortunate to have such a strong and selfless group of women as the Junior League, which has launched so many worthwhile programs.”

The “lights” were shining, the “cameras” were on and the “action” was rolling at Christmas Company 2004. Everyone got out their best dress, put on their stilettos and shined their lips for the 29th year of The Christmas Company, “Hooray for Hollywood”. From October 16-20, all the glitz and glamour of the old and new Hollywood made its way to The OC.

More than 900 guests experienced the red carpet treatment first hand by attending the glamorous opening night gala on Saturday, October 16. The night consisted of a star-studded Silent Auction, celebrity impersonators, a fabulous 10-foot martini bar and delicious cuisine from 15 Orange County restaurants. Following this, everyone indulged themselves in the ultimate holiday shopping extravaganza. The shopping boutique “starred” more than 90 vendors that satisfied everyone’s shopping appetite. Each guest had the opportunity to experience the explosion of fashion and color in the areas of clothing, accessories, collectables, home décor, children’s apparel and toys, jewelry, food and gifts galore.

As if an opening night gala and fabulous shopping weren’t enough, The Christmas Company also featured exclusive events. This included the chic Preferred Breakfast, the ever popular American Girl Fashion Shows and a unique Luncheon with Erin Cole of Erin Cole Couture Bridal.

This year, The Christmas Company raised more than $268,000. More than $58,000 was contributed by Silent Auction and more than $48,000 from Business Support. The funds raised at this event help fund the JLOCC’s efforts to prevent child abuse and teen pregnancy in Orange County. The Junior League of Orange County thanks everyone for their attendance and generous support. We congratulate the Christmas Company 2004 Steering Committee for an “award-winning” production.

“For over 10 years we have been supporting the Junior League of Orange County and their amazing programs. What got us involved back then still holds true today, and that is the dedication of these amazing women to give of themselves. In a day and age when life moves so fast for all of us, the ladies of the Junior League take the time away from their jobs and families so that others can live in a better world. That’s something any business would be proud to support.”

Al Nassar, President - Alvaron Entertainment
JLOCC Heated Up April with White Haute Nights

Spring was sizzling this year at The Junior League of Orange County’s Annual Spring Fundraiser, White Haute Nights. The event was held April 2, 2005 at the Balboa Bay Club & Resort in Newport Beach, California. Guests agreed that the South Beach Miami themed event was a night of Latin inspired fun they would never forget!

The evening started with an outdoor VIP party set among the palms and pool where guests enjoyed the cool bay breeze and the company of celebrity attendees including American Idol finalist Matthew Rogers, USC Football Champions Collin Ashton and Dallas Sartz, and hosts of Cox’s adventure program, Out of Boundz. Sipping on cocktails provided by event sponsors Grey Goose Vodka, Gallo of Sonoma Winery, and Miller Brewing Company, the music of the Steel Drum Band set the mood as Cuban inspired hors d’oeuvres were passed. Cigar Aficionado sponsored a cigar bar for guests to enjoy as cards were read by Tarot by Terese, advising attendees on their future fortunes.

The casino tables were hot as the main event began and the action moved into the ballroom. A stunning white décor adorned the room transporting guests deep into the South Beach night. Gamers placed their bets on blackjack, craps, poker, and roulette while dining on a Cuban inspired buffet. The Silent Auction tables delighted revelers with fantastic baskets as the bidding wars began for the highly desirable items available to take home. Guests danced the night away as the DJ kept the beat and the energy at a high. Anticipation peaked during the Opportunity Drawing for a 6 night, 7 day trip to Fiji generously donated by FijiVacations.com. The lucky winner will look forward to a relaxing vacation on the beautiful beaches of the Fiji Islands.

The JLOCC membership is proud of the success of White Haute Nights and the funds raised by the event to support League programs and projects in the Orange County community. Thank you to everyone whose sponsorship, donation, attendance and hard work made this event a spring sensation!
**Statement of Activities** For the Year Ended May 31, 2004

### UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS

**Net revenue and support:**

- **Fund-raising events:**
  - **Christmas Company:**
    - Christmas Company revenue: $603,958
    - Direct expenses: $(328,806)
    - Net direct support from Christmas Company: $275,152
  - **Spring Fundraiser:**
    - Spring Fundraiser revenue: $67,505
    - Direct expenses: $(34,645)
    - Net direct support from Spring Fundraiser: $32,860
  - **Funding Boutique:**
    - Funding Boutique revenue: $18,463
    - Direct expenses: $(1,775)
    - Net direct support from Funding Boutique: $16,688
  - **To t a l  n e t  f u n d - r a i s i n g  r e v e n u e:** $324,700

- Contributions: $9,638
- Donated materials and services: $12,680
- Dues and fees: $84,291
- Interest and dividend income: $12,749
- Unrealized loss on investments: $(9,984)
- Other revenue: $1,561

**Total net revenue and support:** $435,635

### FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES

- **Program services:** $327,622
- **Supporting services:** $41,980

**Total functional expenses:** $369,602

**Increase in unrestricted net assets:** $66,033

### TEMPORARILY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS

**Support and revenues:**

- Unrealized gain on educational scholarship: $4,256

**Increase in temporarily restricted net assets:** $34,401

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**PERMANENTLY RESTRICTED NET ASSETS**

- Increase in permanently restricted net assets: $0
- Increase in net assets: $100,434

**Net assets at beginning of year, as restated:** $1,117,691

**Net assets at end of year:** $1,218,125

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**Statement of Financial Position** May 31, 2004

### ASSETS

**Current assets:**

- Cash and cash equivalents: $364,953
- Investments: $436,477
- Accounts receivable: $1,245
- Prepaid expenses and other assets: $7,757

**Total current assets:** $810,432

**Beneficial interest in perpetual trust:** $42,095

**Property and equipment, net:** $609,995

**Total assets:** $1,462,522

### LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

**Current liabilities:**

- Accounts payable and accrued expenses: $32,392
- Due to the Association of Junior Leagues International: $31,105
- Deferred revenue: $139,900
- Scholarships payable: $41,000

**Total current liabilities:** $244,397

**Net assets:**

- Unrestricted: $1,146,858
- Temporarily restricted: $33,267
- Permanently restricted: $38,000

**Total net assets:** $1,218,125

**Total liabilities and net assets:** $1,462,522

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These statements have been excerpted from the audited financial statements and report performed by Conrad & Associates, LLP.
Thank You!

JLOCC thanks the Taco Bell Corporation for generously donating meeting space for general membership meetings.

“Taco Bell is proud to support the Junior League of Orange County and enable the dedicated volunteers to fulfill their mission. We’re honored to be associated with such a great group of trained women who are champions of Orange County’s youth. It’s a privilege to provide the meeting facility for such an outstanding group of women so they can devote increased financial resources to their projects and programs.”

Laurie Schalow - Taco Bell Corp.

Thank you to the members of the JLOCC Communications Council who helped with the Compass:

Katherine Barnes
Danielle Combs
Monica Fascher Johnson

Kaysie Fitzpatrick
Elaine Marshall

Jackie Popper
Erin Stone