



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF RICHMOND

Fall 2020 New Member Information Packet

Dear Prospective Volunteer,

We are delighted that you are interested in joining the Junior League of Richmond (JLR)! Since 1926 Junior Leaguers have been working towards a better Richmond, tackling everything from child welfare during the Great Depression to literacy in the East End today. As our city changes, the League changes with it, but our commitment to service remains steadfast.

What has always made the Junior League of Richmond a strong, vibrant organization is the dedication of our trained volunteers. Each year we welcome New Members who are excited to improve their community and learn more about themselves in the process.

Before applying for membership, please give careful thought to the commitments for becoming a JLR volunteer, including:

- An interest in voluntarism
- A commitment to community service
- An interest in developing leadership skills
- Age and residency commitments:
 - A New Member shall be at least 21 years old before the end of the fiscal year (May 31) in which she joins as a New Member.
 - A New Member must live in the Richmond area. The Richmond area is defined as any location within a 45-mile radius of the center of the city of Richmond (9th and Main Streets).

This packet includes:

- An overview of JLR
- An overview of the required New Member Course
- Required application

The required application must be completed and submitted by **June 12, 2020**. The required New Member Course must be completed before you will be considered for Active membership in the Junior League of Richmond.

Please feel free to contact us with any questions. We look forward to getting to know you and working together to improve our community.

Sincerely,

Olivia Jenkins Langford

2020-2021 New Member Advisors, Chair

Mission Statement:

The Junior League of Richmond 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.

Vision Statement:

An inclusive group of informed thought leaders intentionally serving and empowering women, youth, and families, striving for collective impact through collaboration and advocacy.

Community Focus Area: In 2019, the Junior League of Richmond voted to change its community focus area to women helping women and girls within the greater Richmond community.

Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion:

The Junior League of Richmond welcomes all women who value our Mission. We are committed to inclusive environments of diverse individuals, organizations and communities.

Association of Junior Leagues International

Since its founding in 1901 by social activist Mary Harriman, the Junior League has evolved into one of the oldest, largest, and most effective women's volunteer organizations in the world, encompassing more than 150,000 women in 291 Leagues in four countries. For more than a century, the Junior League has been on the forefront of social reform, identifying problems—pollution, illiteracy, domestic violence, foster children without a safety net—and finding solutions. Founded in 1926, the Junior League of Richmond is proud to have been admitted into the Association of Junior Leagues International in 1927.

Community Impact:

The Junior League of Richmond (JLR) supports community programs and partners through annual fundraisers and the provision of trained volunteers in our community committees. We are able to help other local organizations expand their capacity and deliver a broad range of services to the Richmond community.

Fundraising Spotlights:

- **Touch a Truck**

Touch a Truck is a unique and interactive event that allows children to see, touch, and safely explore their favorite big trucks and heavy machinery and meet the personnel who protect, serve, and build the Richmond community. In 2017, the 12th Annual Touch a Truck event raised over \$56,000 to support the Junior League of Richmond's community programs and attracted 5,100 attendees.

- **Clothes Rack**

The Junior League of Richmond operates two stores that generate funds for JLR programs in our community. Sales are made possible entirely by the generosity of donations of clothing, household items and furnishings by our members and the community-at-large. In 2018, the Clothes Rack celebrated its 70th anniversary with \$601,337 in total sales generated by 1,222 volunteer shifts.

- **Little Black Dress Initiative**

LBDI is a week-long, social media-driven fundraising campaign that uses the iconic Little Black Dress (LBD) to raise awareness about poverty. Ambassadors wear one LBD for five consecutive days and harness the power of their social media platforms to drive online donations. In 2018, JLR's LBDI raised \$36,567 to purchase an EnviraGrow Mobile Learning Center for the East End.

Community Committee Spotlights:

- **Families First**

Families First Committee provides programs, special events, and services that promote the stability and well-being of pre-school and elementary aged children and families in Richmond, Virginia. There are two programs: Families First Early Childhood (FRIENDS Association) and Families First Elementary (Woodville ES).

- **Literacy through Art Outreach**

This committee coordinates workshops at community centers and schools in the great Richmond area that promote literacy through reading a book, sharing a meal and creating an art project related to the book to engage families in creative play and furthering the literacy conversation.

- **Kids in the Kitchen**

This committee is an initiative supported by AJLI and occurs monthly (during the school year) at Anna Julia Cooper Episcopal School. Programs teach middle school students how to live a healthy lifestyle through interactive education, preparing and serving a healthy meal and guest speakers.

NEW MEMBER COURSE

The New Member Course introduces you to life as a Junior League member and includes meetings, training classes, community volunteer shifts, and social events. Throughout this course, New Members learn to navigate their requirements, understand the League's mission and vision, acclimate to the organization, and begin to find their path in the League.

As a New Member, you will be assigned a New Member Advisor (NMA) along with other New Members. With your Advisor as a guide, you'll share your New Member experience with this group, attending projects and socials together. Following the completion of requirements in the fall, you'll spend the spring learning more about our community work.

For the Fall 2020 class, the mandatory New Member kick-off meeting will be on **July 18, 2020**. Super Saturday, as it's known, gives you the opportunity to meet other New Members and be introduced to the New Member Advisors, leaders, and other representatives of the Junior League of Richmond. Subsequent meetings will introduce you to the organizational structure of the Junior League of Richmond and acquaint you with the League's committees and projects.

A list of New Member requirements is included in this packet and will be reviewed at the inception of the course year by the New Member Advisors. The requirements are structured around giving you as many opportunities as possible to gain hands-on experience and develop an understanding of how we fulfill our mission. These opportunities involve our largest fundraiser, The Clothes Rack, along with other fundraising events, Done-in-a-Day (DIAD) community projects, Training Institute for Leadership Impact (TILI) courses, and General Membership Meetings.

Fall 2020 New Member Requirements

UNLESS NOTED, MUST COMPLETE BY DECEMBER 5, 2020

Membership Requirements

- 1 Super Saturday (July 18, 2020)
- 2 General Membership Meetings
- 1 New Member Meeting
- 2 Advisor-Facilitated Social Attendance
- 1 New Member Advisor Meeting (mid-course check-in)
- 1 Update Digital Cheetah Profile

Financial Requirements

- \$65 application fee (due with application by June 12, 2020)
- \$161 New Member Dues (due by July 10, 2020).
- \$161 2021-2022 Dues (due by March 31, 2021). \$10 late fee.

The Clothes Rack Requirement

- 10 New Member Clothes Rack Credit Hours (5 2-hour shifts)

Community Council Shift Requirement

- 2 Community Council Shifts – complete the following:
 - 1 Doorways Shift (with NMA group)
 - 1 New Member Project (with NM class)

Resource Development Requirement

- 1 New Member In-League 3-hour shift at Touch a Truck (October 17, 2020)

Training Institute for Leadership Impact (TILI)

- 3 TILI courses – complete with the following:
 - 1 TILI at Super Saturday
 - 1 TILI at New Member Meeting
 - 1 TILI selected from options provided

New Member Personal Choice Options

- 2 of the following in any combination/multiple:
 - Additional Clothes Rack Shift
 - Donate/buy \$75 worth of merchandise at the Clothes Rack
 - Additional General Membership Meeting
 - Additional NM In-League Service Shift
 - Additional TILI course
 - Attend a Sustainer Event
 - Attend a Community Council committee shift
 - Attend a Done-In-A-Day shift

*Commitments subject to change at discretion of Junior League of Richmond. All members are required to follow the Member Code of Conduct Policy found in our Policies and Procedures.