About: The Junior League

The Junior League, one of the oldest, largest and most effective women’s volunteer organizations in the world, has matured and evolved since it was founded by social activism pioneer Mary Harriman in 1901. Our mandate, however, has remained unwavering: to develop exceptionally qualified civic leaders who collaborate with community partners to identify a community’s most urgent and pressing needs and address them with meaningful and relevant programs and initiatives that not only improve lives, but also change the way people think. This type of work has won us dedicated community and corporate partners and loyal supporters for more than 119 years.

True to their legacy, today’s members are at the forefront of tackling society’s thorniest issues—addressing and acting as advocates on an array of critical issues including human trafficking, foster care, juvenile justice, teen self-esteem, cybercrimes, literacy and the environment, among others—for the purpose of enhancing the social, cultural and political fabric of our civil society.

As a result of this work, The Junior League—and the more than 125,000 women in 290 chapters in the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada and Mexico who comprise its ranks—have amassed an archive of irrefutable results and an indisputable reputation as thoughtful and influential change agents for the public good. They have been instrumental in building into our daily lives many of the privileges we now take for granted, including free school lunches, literacy programs, children’s theaters and museums, clean water, children’s nutrition, and greater awareness about the vices of modern society, such as domestic violence and alcohol abuse.