

The Junior League of Galveston County, 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.

As we gear up for a new year with JLGC, it's good to remember why we are here. We have a powerful mission statement that demonstrates our purpose and our strength. Our organization started in 1925 as the Junior Welfare League, and in 1949 we joined the Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc., which allowed us to become part of a larger initiative of improving communities. We have put many years of service into this community. Through these efforts, we have made an impact in different programs like Ronald McDonald House Galveston, Reading is Fundamental through our Adopt a Schools, Fuel-4-School, mentoring through Junior-Junior Leaguers and our many Done-in-a-Day projects, just to name a few.

Our community has had a tough year. One year ago, Hurricane Harvey ravaged the area and many of you were personally impacted by this storm. This past May, we had a very sad day at Santa Fe High School, where 10 people did not go home.

I want to remember these events and that our of darkness came light: the outpouring of support from our neighbors and our members. To those of you at the forefront collecting donations, cleaning out homes, helping your neighbors or complete strangers, organizing fundraisers and a safe space for the community to come together, I say thank you!

"Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not."
-Dr. Seuss

Many of us have been working hard all summer to prepare for the new year. Several of you continue to amaze me with your dedication and enthusiasm. Still I think it is good to ask yourself: "Why am I doing this? Why JLGC?" This year we will be making efforts to get this information from our members. We want to understand what fuels you so that we can work toward a common goal. We will continue to remember and respect our past, while also planning for our future. This summer, the Board of Directors worked with a skilled facilitator to determine our League's biggest opportunities for improvement. We narrowed this down to three key areas of focus, giving our new Strategic Planning Team a place to start. Our goal is not to "change everything" but rather to engage all our members, Sustainer, Active and New, to help us find common ground where our members are getting what they want out of the league while simultaneously meeting our mission.

I look forward to spending the next year working with these ladies who have already accomplished so much. We have an amazing and diverse group of new members and rock star vice presidents and chairs. I have been blown away by their ideas and plans and cannot wait to see what they accomplish this year!

As your 2018-2019 President, I welcome open and honest discussion in the year ahead. JLGC will always be a safe space to grow and learn from each other. This organization is a great one and we will continue to push the boundaries of social reform.

"We have before us the glorious opportunity to inject a new dimension of love into the veins of our civilization."

-Martin Luther King, Jr.

Terry Lynn

Terry Lynn Jones
President, 2018-2019
Junior League of Galveston County, Inc.