

League Lines

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Letter from the President

Hi All!

I can hardly believe that we are getting ready to wrap up the League year! What a busy and fun spring we have had. One of the most exciting happenings this spring has been the official start of our G2 - Girls Graduate - mentoring program at Anniston High School. Our first meeting was in March and we have nine girls from the ninth grade participating. The program will consist of bi-monthly after school meetings as well as monthly impact field trips to participate in culture, team building, or volunteering opportunities. Along with these meetings and trips, our group of League mentors will be supporting the students in needs that arise to help encourage and support them to graduation. Each fall we will add a new group of ninth graders to G2 and mentor each of them until we are cheering them on at high school graduation. Another community impact project this spring is our Adopt A Mile on Quintard Avenue. Each month our members take a Saturday morning to clean up our mile and keep Anniston beautiful. If you have not seen them already, be on the lookout for our Adopt A Mile signs! Among our largest community impact projects for the spring was Kids in the Kitchen at Noble Street Festival! Though the weather may have been dreary, we still had a great turnout from members and the community! We served about 350 kids through our booth with healthy snacks, a KITK cookbook and backpack, and a tomato plant to plant themselves and take home. We also partnered for the second year with the Colgate Bright Smiles Bright Futures Dental Bus. Kids visiting the bus were offered a free dental screening along with a bag of dental hygiene items to take home. We were excited to learn that we almost doubled our numbers on the bus this year by serving 136 children. A special thank you to our local dental professionals who volunteered their time to serve on the bus.

Along with our busy spring of community impact, we also enjoyed many member socials including Saturday hikes on Cheaha, a paint night at Paintology, and meals shared after meetings and at our Restaurant Riot fundraising events. As part of fulfilling our mission, League members were also offered the opportunity to participate in Leadership training events, gaining skills and knowledge that they can use in the League, their careers and with their families. This spring, these included a Member Development Event with Nicole Simmons, the Junior League of Atlanta Women's Forum, AJLI Winter Leadership, AJLI ODI, and AJLI Annual Conference, as well as Junior League of Lee County's Empower workshop. We also continued our monthly GMMs (general membership meetings) with guest speakers and trainings.

To support these leadership training and community impact work, we held a fundraiser in April that created a lot of buzz in our community. This inaugural event was such a success that there are plans to keep it on our annual fundraiser calendar! Designer Handbag Bingo was attended by over 80 women who played for their chance to win one of ten designer handbags! Along with the bags were some fabulous door prize giveaways. It was such a fun night that raised over \$5,000 to support our work in the community.

As this League year draws to a close, I am looking forward to celebrating all the League's service and accomplishments. It has been an honor to serve the Junior League of Anniston-Calhoun as their President for the 2017-18 League year! Thank you for allowing me this opportunity. I look forward to continuing my League service and working alongside the best group of women volunteers in our community! Together we are unstoppable!

Yours truly,

Amanda Martin

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JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
ANNISTON-CALHOUN

Kids in the Kitchen

On Saturday, April 7th, 2018, the Junior League of Anniston-Calhoun held our 4th consecutive “Kids in the Kitchen” (KITK) booth at Anniston’s annual Noble Street Festival. Our first booth was managed by Sustainer, Kristi Yates, during her 2014-2015 term as VP Community Impact, and our League has gladly continued in her footsteps, annually offered our free booth to the children of our community. The children plant tomatoes and learn how to make healthy snacks, both of which they freely take home. Each year’s KITK Chairwoman tweaks the event a little to allow our booth to remain exciting to children attending.

Kristie Goodson had met a Colgate representative at AJLI’s 2016 Annual Conference. 2017 KITK Chairwoman, Laura Jones, was then able to secure the Colgate Bright Smiles Bright Futures van for our booth, and Colgate served 76 children that day! This year, despite the cold, windy and rainy weather, our booth was steadily busy from 10am until 4pm! In addition to our traditional tomato plants and trail mix, we gave away drawstring backpacks with jump ropes. Colgate served 136 children this year, which nearly doubled last year’s amount, and JLAC served over 400 children at our booth. Afterward, we were able to donate our leftover tomato plants to the local on-profit 2nd Chance, Inc. who divided our plants between the gardens of two of their safe-houses. What a blessing we were allowed to be!

Special thanks is extended to the following:

1) my Co-Chairwoman, Michelle Bain, who was my sounding board and helper, 2) Lana Dilleshaw, for all the manual labor and direction she happily provided, 3) Kalie Bible Chatham, for organizing our snacks and helping set-up and run errands the morning of, 4) Elizabeth Kirk, for working on trail mix and making a grocery run for more items, 5) Crystal Vinson, Timeka Toyer, and Jasmyne Turner for bringing our AHS G2 mentees, who served happily and helpfully beside them, 6) Downing & Sons, for giving us an incredible deal on our tomato plants, 7) Suzen Robertson (2018 Noble Street Festival Coordinator), for giving our booth and our Colgate van such a visible and highly foot-trafficked location, and 8) all the Actives, New Actives, and Sustainers who worked behind the scenes and/or in the booth. Without the teamwork and service of our Members, the annual Kids in the Kitchen even would not be possible. I am so pleased to be associated with all of you as a member of the Junior League of Anniston-Calhoun!



With much appreciation and gratitude,

Lori Ellis

Co-Chair, 2018 Kids in the Kitchen

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G2 - Girls Graduate

Hello Everyone!

I would like to tell you about our amazing G2 Mentoring Program. We have 9 awesome young ladies that are a part of the program and are currently in 9th grade at Anniston High School. We look forward to adding another 10 girls to the program next school year from the new 9th grade class. Our vision for this program is to provide these young ladies with the tools they may need to be successful through loving and believing in themselves, working productively with others, the importance of great work ethic, volunteerism, making good grades, and knowing who they are and the greatness they come from.

Each month, we take impact field trips. We have taken them to a fine dining experience at Hubbard's on Main in Oxford to teach proper dining etiquette, and then we topped the evening off with frozen yogurt at 32 Degrees. The young ladies volunteered with Junior League of Anniston-Calhoun at our Kids in the Kitchen program at Noble Street Festival. We were privileged to go to JSU for dinner and a student production of *The Giver*. (We want to thank Randy Blades and Linda Adams for the tickets, and Tyler Brown for our dinner vouchers!).

The upcoming trips we have planned include visiting Camp Lee for team building exercises, reading the Rosa Parks story, and a trip to Montgomery to visit the museum. We have some guest speakers coming in to talk with the ladies about civil rights and succeeding through adversity. We are also working on ways to get the girls volunteering in the fields of studies they are interested in, as well as, reading more books. We want to prepare the girls for an unlimited future and are always looking for individuals or companies who are interested in partnering with us to help us give our youth the best advantages to succeed. We are enjoying the program and I appreciate all the mentors and those who have been supporting the program.

Sincerely,

Timeka Toyer
G2 Chairwoman



Adopt-A-Mile

Junior League of Anniston-Calhoun promotes volunteerism in many different ways within our community. This spring, we added the Adopt-A-Mile program to our list of community impact projects! Our mile is on Quintard Avenue, between about 5th Street and 14th Street, in Anniston. Every month, our League ladies take a Saturday morning to clean up our mile and enjoy the amazing opportunity to help beautify Anniston and make it a better place to live.

Looking for a Done in a Day? Adopt-A-Mile! Looking to get some fresh air? Adopt-A-Mile! Looking for a chance to wear a snazzy neon green reflective vest? Adopt-A-Mile!



Procurement

The Procurement team would like to thank Simmons Staffing and Shawn Snider - State Farm for signing on as new Community Sponsors to Junior League of Anniston-Calhoun. We would also like to thank the JLAC Board of Directors and BR Williams for their continued support as renewed Community Sponsors. Thank you to all for supporting our League!

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JUNIOR LEAGUE OF ANNISTON-CALHOUN

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