



Communications
Committee



MINNEAPOLIS DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

FEATURE – NEW AND TRANSFER MEMBERS

2016-2017 Junior League of Minneapolis New Member Class

The Junior League of Minneapolis welcomes new and transfer members at the beginning of every League year. Membership creates and provides exciting and meaningful opportunities for these Provisional members throughout the year to allow them a placement on a committee that suits their interests. These opportunities include:

NEW MEMBER KICK-OFF

The League officially welcomed 73 new and talented women to the 2016-2017 New Member Class during a kick-off event on September 24th. The event kicked off with a gathering at Cityview Community School in North Minneapolis. Cityview partners with our Backpack Buddies program to provide meals for the students in 3rd-5th Grade.

The setting was perfect for New Members to learn more about one of our beloved programs, and to hear from Principal Renee Montague on her passion for the school, the ways they serve the community, and the affects Backpack Buddies has on the lives of her students. An inspirational picture was the amount of school items that each person brought to donate, well done ladies!

TRANSFER KICK-OFF

The Transfer Kick Off Social was held the evening of October 10th at the home of Transfers Director, Avel Jarka. Twelve active members and five sustainers are joining us from around the globe, from as close as St. Paul, Minnesota to as far as London, England. Nine lovely ladies were in attendance that night and all of them have their own special stories pertaining to their previous experiences and are ecstatic to plug into JLM and find their niche. The common denominator of all of their voices is “to be involved with an amazing community of women, while serving and making an impact on the great city of Minneapolis.”



NEW MEMBER BUS TOUR

Who remembers seeing our beloved city in a new light after the bus tour? On November 12th, our New Members and Sustainers greeted each other over breakfast and ventured out to gain a greater understanding of our community engagements with the Crisis Nursery of Minneapolis, Prodeo Academy and People Serving People.

The mission of the **Greater Minneapolis Crisis Nursery** is to end child abuse and neglect and create strong, healthy families. To connect the dots in service and shift opportunities, Cooking for Kids involves preparing, cooking and serving around 30 children and staff.

Prodeo Academy is a free public charter school in North Minneapolis and the Backpack Buddies program partners with Prodeo to ensure their students have plenty of food over the weekends.

People Serving People is the largest family-focused homeless shelter in Minnesota, and it helps homeless and at-risk children and their families manage crisis situations and build a strong foundation for their future. Two volunteer opportunities exist in the Book Bash shift and a Lunch shift of serving food and working on beautification projects. The Book Bash pilot program is a fantastic way to engage with the children, read to them, and interact in fun and creative ways. Taking advantage of these specific opportunities together is what the heart of the league is all about.



NEW MEMBER HOLIDAY PARTY

The festive event held at Sisyphus Brewing on December 7th was the second annual ugly holiday sweater party for New Members. Donations were brought for the Crisis Nursery and there was a plethora of red and green Christmas cheer. With sips of brew and plates of delights, a handful of the members talked about their hopes and excitement for their New Member Year. New Member advisor, Jenni Ness, and her new member group, Mercedes Martell, Jacqui Crocker, Sally McDonough and Ashleigh Harless, collectively responded to our questions.

Question: Why did you join the League?

I joined for the social aspects, to meet more women that shared the same interests, and to give back to the community in service.

Question: What are you most excited about as a New Member?

I haven't been able to sign up for any shifts yet, but I look forward to starting somewhere and figuring out what different volunteer opportunities look like! It has been a great start with our New Member group and leader to attend events together and learn more.

Question: What has been a surprise so far?

It has been a pleasant surprise that everyone is really nice and has made me feel welcome, especially at the monthly meetings which I thought would be intimidating.

This New Member year offers once in a lifetime opportunities for growth, developing special friendships and giving back to the community. Take advantage of these inspiring opportunities and run with it in 2017!



NEW MEMBER BUS TOUR



NEW MEMBER KICK-OFF



TRANSFER MEMBERS KICK-OFF

Look out for BRAVE NEW WORKSHOP TRAINING
~ January 21st from 9 AM to 12 PM ~
