



JUNIOR LEAGUE
AKRON

ROTARY CLUB

AUGUST 25

Introduction



Maddie Nicholas

President 2026-2028

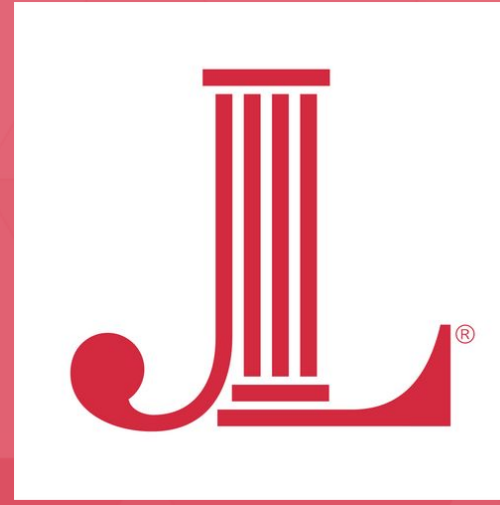
Active member since 2022



Kelsey Graf

EVP 2026-2027

Active member since 2023



ABOUT JLA

MISSION

The Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc. is an organization of women whose mission is to advance women's leadership for meaningful community impact through volunteer action, collaboration, and training

*Developing Women
to do a
World of Good!*



JUNIOR LEAGUE AKRON

- The Junior League of Akron started with 67 members as the “The Junior Charity League” in 1923
- The core of the Charity League was formerly the Babies Aid Society of Children’s Hospital
- The Junior League of Akron joined the Association of Junior Leagues International (AJLI) in 1926 and became Junior League of Akron



JUNIOR LEAGUE AKRON

Today, we continue to promote and perpetuate social change in our community. By empowering women and providing valuable leadership training, we are giving local women the tools to get involved, to put their talents to work, and to positively impact the communities of Summit County.



The Junior League of Akron has established or collaborated on over 40 Akron community programs over the years. Including:

- Akron Child Guidance Center
- Guardian Ad Litem
- Junior Leadership Akron

COMMUNITY IMPACT

VOLUNTEERISM

- League Members Volunteer in Many Capacities in our Community.
 - Done-in-a-Day Projects
 - Supporting Local Non-Profit Fundraisers
 - Community Events
 - Service Projects at Local Nonprofit Organizations
 - Group Service Projects Hosted at the JLA House
 - Focus Project
 - Advocacy Events
 - Direct Service Aligned with our Focus Project
- The JLA also hosts regular donation drives to support our community partners in meeting their needs. These drives are always optional for members to participate in.



FOCUS PROJECT

- In the 2024-2025 league year, the league adopted “Period Poverty” as our focus project
- The League hopes to foster period equity in the greater Akron area, especially amongst individuals who also experience food insecurity
- We believe free or low-cost access to period products eliminates a potential barrier to upward mobility and success, allows menstruation to be experienced with dignity and without shame or stigma, and contributes to mental and physical well-being



FOCUS PROJECT

Thanks to the generosity and support of our members and community partners, we have already provided **more than 6,000 one-month supply packs of period products** to local community agencies serving individuals in need.

OUR IMPACT

- In 2025-2026, JLA members volunteered over **712** hours of direct service to help our community across **48** volunteer events
- We supported **16** local organizations through direct service hours and in-kind donations
- We were able to:
 - Donate **\$10,186** worth of menstrual products
 - Collect approximately **\$2,600** worth of goods such as toys, household items, and food
 - Our in-kind donations totaled **\$12,786**



- ACCESS Women's Shelter
- Akron Children's Hospital
- Akron Snow Angels
- Akron Symphony
- Akron Zoo
- Blessings in a Backpack
- Feeding Hope Food Pantry
- First Church Feeds
- Friends in Tents
- Giving Meiracles
- Hope and Healing Survivor Resource Center
- Limitless Ambition
- Ronald McDonald House of Akron
- Stan Hywet
- Summa Health
- Summit County Metroparks



The background is a solid blue color with a subtle, repeating pattern of light blue triangles pointing in various directions, creating a textured, geometric effect.

LEADERSHIP

LEADERSHIP

Members of the JLA have ample opportunity to take on leadership roles if they wish.

The JLA has a board and other leadership roles that Active members may join.

Each member joins a council and can take on smaller leadership roles helping to plan service and member events.

Board of Directors

Maddie Nicholas, President

Kelsey Graf, Executive Vice President

Whitney Dronzek, Treasurer

Shelby Schaffner, Secretary

Janis Worley, Sustainer
Representative

HOW TO SUPPORT JLA

SUPPORT JLA

1. Women who are interested in joining can learn more on our website
2. Our website also has a donation page for anyone who would like to contribute to our mission
3. Spread the word about period poverty!

Website: akron.jl.org

Upcoming Recruitment Events:

- Saturday, 09/12 at 647 Coffee, 9:00AM
- Thursday, 09/24 at JLA HQ, 6:00PM



CELEBRATING 100 YEARS

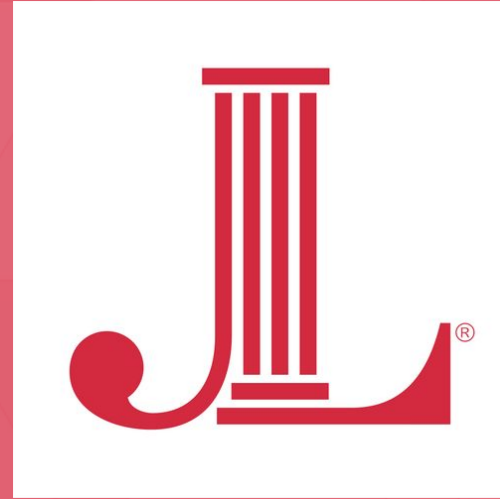
- We are celebrating our Centennial in the 2025-2026 league year!
- We celebrated in April with our Centennial Gala and are hosting a Legacy Luncheon in September to highlight influential women who have been in JLA.
- Consider donating to our Capital Campaign, which will benefit our mission, our members, and our Headquarters.





JUNIOR LEAGUE
AKRON

Q&A



THANK YOU