



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF BAKERSFIELD

Women building better communities®

WILDFLOWER • FALL 2017



Who We Are...

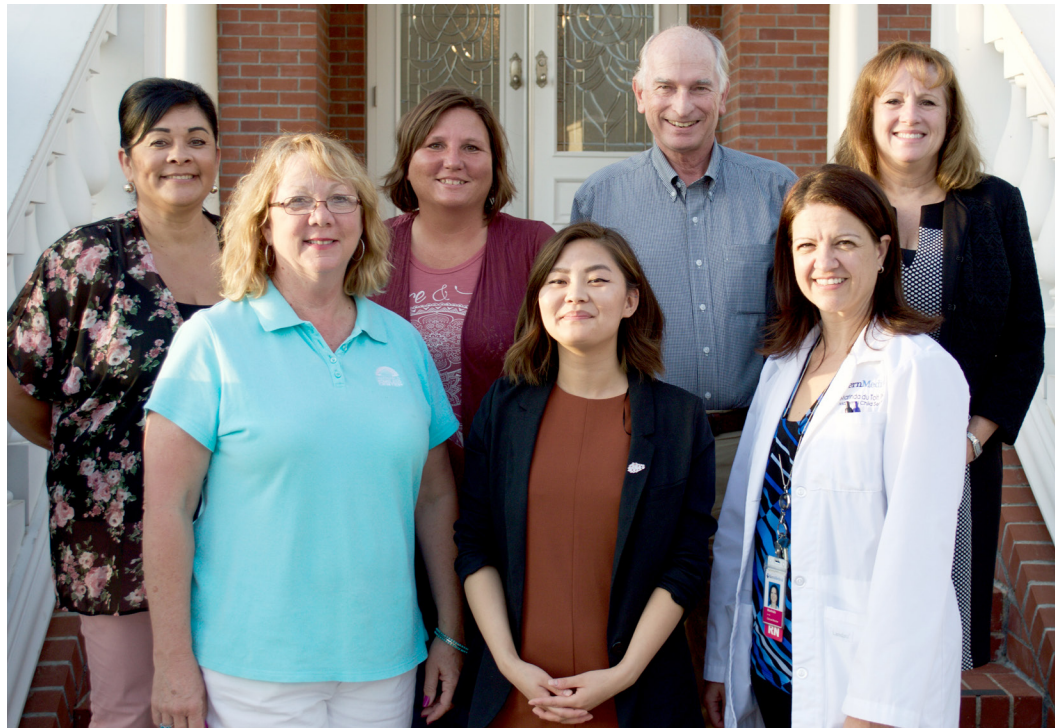
Since 1952, the Junior League of Bakersfield has been committed to promoting voluntarism and to training its members for community leadership.

Junior League members share a strong commitment to service. We seek women of all races, religions and national origins who are interested in the benefits of working together to positively impact our community.

The Junior League of Bakersfield makes a difference in Kern County through project and enabling fund grants, given annually to local non-profits.

The organization has been instrumental in funding numerous projects and activities focused on women and children.

To learn more about how to join Junior League of Bakersfield, email memdev@juniorleagueofbakersfield.org or call 661-322-1671



Junior League Awards \$23,000 in Grant Funding

In September 2017, Junior League of Bakersfield awarded over \$23,000 in grant funding to local non-profits who share the mission of improving the lives of women and children in Kern County. Grant recipients included:

- **Alliance Against Family Violence and Sexual Assault** received \$5,000 to purchase child-appropriate furniture for their day care facility.
- **Bakersfield Homeless Center** received \$3,000 and a committee of JLB volunteers to organize and fund their Birthday Parties Program.
- **Boys and Girls Club of Kern** received \$4,500 in order to purchase industrial kitchen equipment so that they can make and provide approximately 19,800 meals to the children participating in their programs.
- **Kern Medical Foundation** received \$2,415 in order to purchase supplies for their breast-feeding education program at Kern Medical.
- **Kern Partnership for Children and Families** received \$1,000 and JLB volunteers to continue their Reading Enrichment Program at Jamison Center.
- **M.A.R.E. (Mastering Abilities Riding Equines)** received \$2,550 to purchase new helmets and safety equipment for the children participating in their therapy program.
- **New Advances for People with Disabilities (NAPD)** received \$5,000 in order to purchase equipment for and build a Multi-Sensory Environment (MSE) room for their Training and Participation for Social Skill-Building (TAPSS) program.



Vern Pike, 2017-18 President
Junior League of Bakersfield

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Contact Us

Junior League of Bakersfield
1928 19th Street
P.O. Box 2920
Bakersfield, CA 93303
661-322-1671

www.juniorleagueofbakersfield.org
info@juniorleagueofbakersfield.org



(pictured left to right) President Vern Pike and Reading Committee members
Leslie Manning and Maria Schweer at the Jamison Center

Members connecting to children through reading at the Jamison Children's Center

This is Junior League's second year collaborating with the Jamison Children's Center for a once a month reading night. Our goal this year is to focus on introducing the kids to real life around them through nonfiction text. Each month we will focus on a different topic in hopes to connect with the children in some way. The children have access to all of the books we have purchased in the past and the new books we bring monthly. We look forward to the interactions and memories we will make this year! The program kicked off this year on October 3rd.

The Jamison Center is an emergency shelter and protective custody facility for children in Kern County. It is the only emergency shelter in the county for abused, neglected and exploited children. Jamison Children's Center temporarily houses children who are taken into protective custody by law enforcement agencies or social workers. The average length of stay at the center is five days. Some children remain for longer periods of time. The children are provided the basic living essentials: food, clothing, shelter, education and health care.

Junior League transitioning toward Issue Based Community Impact

The Community Research committee has started working towards transitioning to Issue Based Community Impact (IBCI). Our league has raised money and volunteered for a wide variety of projects and activities which affect our mission to help women, children, and families in our community. However, with an IBCI approach, we will narrow our focus like a laser on an issue that our membership is passionate about, and one in which our community needs our help.

The committee will spend the fall researching community needs and surveying our membership about their interests. The goal of the committee is to identify the issue this year, and move from project based impact to issue based community impact next year.

While this work is going on, the committee will still be announcing and accepting grant applications in hopes of funding many worthy projects within our community next spring. It is a busy season for the community research committee, and an exciting time as well.



Former professional football player and Bakersfield native Jeremy Staat helped celebrate summer birthdays at the homeless center in August.

JLB brings birthday smiles to Bakersfield Homeless Center

The Bakersfield Homeless Center Birthday Parties Committee is having a wonderful year so far! We have currently hosted two birthday parties resulting in lots of smiling faces. Our August birthday party celebrated all the children at the center who had a birthday in July and August. The theme was sports and we were blessed to have Jeremy Staat, a former NFL player come and visit. He spoke to the children about staying in school and to always keep on learning. Afterwards, the children enjoyed pizza, soda, cake and ice cream before doing sports related games and activities. Lastly, the birthday kids each received presents and every child was given a goodie bag.

The September birthday party was smooth sailing with an ocean theme! Captain Carl and his mobile tide pool from Long Beach, California came to visit. The children learned about creatures of the ocean and were even able to touch and hold some animals such as starfish, sea urchins, and a shark! There wasn't even time for activities and games this month, they were having too much fun with the sea creatures!

Special thanks to all the people that come together to make this possible every month! Our speakers, one of our sustainers for goodie bags, private donors for cake and presents, a local restaurant for pizza and soda, and Junior League members who raise money every year to help those in our community with fun and meaningful events such as these!



CalSPAC represents 17 member leagues to policy makers at the national, state and local level

CalSPAC: Working together in Sacramento

Since 1971, the Junior Leagues of California State Public Affairs Committee (CalSPAC) has represented the interests of its member Leagues and their community projects to policymakers at the national, state, and local levels.

Since 1992, CalSPAC has sponsored six bills and co-sponsored three bills that are now California Law; sponsored two California Resolutions; and co-sponsored one Congressional Resolution.

CalSPAC represents 17 member Junior Leagues comprised of over 10,000 women who volunteer over 140,000 hours to 111 community projects, and give over \$1 million dollars annually to their communities.

CalSPAC delegates serve two years and travel to four conferences per year including a Spring trip to Sacramento. This day at the Capitol allows members to meet with local government officials to advocate for bills and needs in our respective home leagues, such as foster youth or education.

Your SPAC Committee members are looking forward to a year of learning how to best serve the women and children of our community through working with legislators on both the local and state levels.



Bakersfield Uncorked Annual Fundraiser set for Nov. 11

Enjoy an evening of fabulous food, wine and live entertainment at the Junior League of Bakersfield's premier event, Bakersfield Uncorked. Delight in wine from many of your best-loved wineries and cuisine from your favorite local restaurants. Proceeds benefit the projects and activities of the Junior League of Bakersfield.

Tickets are \$75 and available at juniorleagueofbakersfield.org. Interested in a VIP table? Contact Tamara Mazzei at uncorked@juniorleagueofbakersfield.org.



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Women building better communities

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