CELEBRATING 25 YEARS | JUNIOR LEAGUE OF NAPA-SONOMA

March 19, 2021

Dear Junior League of Napa-Sonoma Member,

Please continue to support the Junior League of Napa-Sonoma (JLNS) by paying your annual dues on time. In this unprecedented time, sustaining the League is a top priority. We value your membership both at a Sustainers and Actives level. Should you require financial assistance in paying your annual dues, please do not hesitate to contact your N&P (Nominating & Placement) Placement Adviser. JLNS has the Bunny O'Brien Fund that assists members with partial or full financial scholarships and is available to support like-minded woman who share our Mission.

We started our League year "virtually" however it was still a league year to remember. I do want to take a moment to thank Katie Bivin for leading us into our virtual meetings from last year. I can say this made my transition from PEE to President a lot easier in my 1st year. Thank you Katie.. I would also like to add I was not alone. I stepped into my presidency feeling I had all the support of every member in our league along with an amazing board of directors sitting at my "virtual" table to support me in this term year.

I would like to take this opportunity to reminisce what the Junior League of Napa-Sonoma has accomplished this 2020-2021 League year.

July was a busy month! VP of Membership, Norelia Urena, kept the momentum going during her 2nd year in her position. Virtual recruitments started in July, two each month, and took place every month until December. New member classes and training modules also had a new way of being done virtually this league year. The Membership Committee did not miss a beat in keeping up with the technology and posting these online for new members to go at their own pace. Way to go Norelia! From our new member class, Cake4Kids was born. Many cupcakes were made this month and supported foster kids with birthdays and still goes strong with our Member's support. We also had our Community Outreach put together a virtual school supply DIAD (Done in A Day) in support with The Living Room which is a shelter for homeless women and children. Even with social distancing we were still supporting our community to make a difference! We also had a board retreat, what seems like the final face-to-face get together, at my house 6 feet apart in July.

In August, the board had their first board meeting after an amazing retreat The League also had their annual welcome back virtual with a speaker from, UpValley Family Centers, one of our grant recipients of the $25,000 we gave to last League year.

September was a busy month with our Social Committee putting on the 1st annual virtual Kentucky Derby social with hats and all. This was a great morale builder and helped kept us feeling a little bit more social. The Community Outreach Committee set up Food for Thought in Forestville where 10 members packed wheel barrels full of groceries for the local community while maintaining social distancing and giving back! Our GMM took place on Zoom with another grant recipient. Forget Me Not Farms. the end of the month our community endured the Glass Fire and Shady Fires within a day of each other that went far and wide and turned into the North

Complex Fir, this resulted in countywide evacuations and many offer members were displaced for weeks.

At the October board meeting, Brooke was voted. On for the open position of Parliamentarian. October also included more Council meetings and the GMM was a costume-themed evening with Valley of the Moon talking about their organization and the devastation they faced from the fires from the previous month. The go-bags that are sent with the children when they are placed on foster care were completely destroyed from smoke damage. We enjoyed SPAC putting on Ballots and Bubbles along with a social for Oktoberfest, beer tasting 101. In late October, we also had 4 members attend AJLI's Special Fall Meeting "virtually" bringing back ideas that help foster community and increase engagement during a trying year.

In November, during our GMM, JLNS had VOICES come and speak of all the good this organization does for homeless youth in the community and how the pandemic has been affecting the youth. Thanksgiving VOICES looked a lot different than past years. The Community Outreach Committee also set up a DIAD to assist Napa Valley Food Bank for a day of bagging food for fire victim families and Daylight Foods donated $2500 to the name of The Junior League of Napa-Sonoma's honor. JLNS also took part in gathering and donating over 40 books to UpValley Family Center daycares for children under 5. Our social chairs set up Nailed It Cake Decorating Contest judged by our very own Maria Thom.

December was different with our yearly holiday party. Our first virtual Blingo Party with some mimosa mixology from Norelia. The bling was defiantly amazing, and we had some sustainers show up that we had been missing! Come visit us more!

January we brought back our Sustainer spotlight and raised awareness for human trafficking awareness month with two presenters who are survivors of human trafficking as well as Truckers Against Trafficking JLNS additionally placed our logo on the SCHTTF annual billboards and continues to be one of the founding members of the Sonoma County Human Trafficking Taskforce (SCHTTF). JLNS collected and donated gently used handbags that the survivors will give directly to current victims. The Community Outreach Committee also set up a DIAD with the Redwood Food Bank for members to continue to give back to the community while still social distancing.

In February JLNS attended the AJLI Winter Conference virtually with 10 members in attendance. JLNS was still able to assist in our annual Valentine's Pizza Party with The Living Room day shelter where JLNS. boxed over 70 meals to be distributed in the community. JLNS also took 10 go-bags to Valley of the Moon to help replace damaged ones that were collected in January and February. Our members were also able to enjoy Vicki Clark for a very informative Leadership Day with another one scheduled for April. Our very own Maria Thom gave us an amazing social on skincare and meditation.

At the March Board Meeting, yet again the board voted, this time the vote was to place. Brooke in the open position of PresidentElect. Congratulations Brooke. The social chairs held a virtual Murder Mystery party. Great job Lisa and Rachel. Thank you for a League Year of socials which kept us all involved and let us know we were not alone during these times of social distancing.

Our. League welcomed many new members throughout this year from Norelia and her membership committee's relentless recruitment meetings. Great job.. Membership Committee this League year has taught us all to remain hopeful and find new ways of being social. I know

our members have enjoyed these get togethers while helping us remain driven in all we have been able to do for our Community.

Lastly, I would like to thank the 2020-2021 Board of Directors, Active & Sustainer Members and Community partners for the unwavering support during this unprecedented time.

Thank you for your continued support of the Junior League of Napa-Sonoma's mission of promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.

In Community Spirit,

Penny Herman

President 2020-2021