



**JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
BOCA RATON**

Women building better communities

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**THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF BOCA RATON HIGHLIGHTS A DAY IN THE LIFE
OF A FOSTER CHILD**

**Junior Leagues of Florida State Public Affairs Committee
Holds Fall Conference in Boca Raton**

Boca Raton, FL- On September 15-17, the Junior League of Boca Raton (JLBR) hosted the Junior Leagues of Florida State Public Affairs Committee (SPAC) Fall Conference. Participants spent the weekend learning about the challenges of foster families and setting priorities for advocating legislation during the spring session of the Florida Legislature.

“The JLBR is proud to work with other Junior Leagues to make a difference in Boca Raton and across Florida. Raising awareness about the issues facing women and families is at the heart of our organization’s mission,” said Kathy Adkins, JLBR President.

The weekend began with a kick-off party at Adkins’ home where Boca Raton Mayor Steven Abrams welcomed the members of the Junior Leagues. Representative Anne Gannon, who worked with SPAC to increase penalties for human traffickers during the 2005-2006 legislative session, was thanked for her efforts.

On Saturday, conference attendees were able to interact with foster children from Kids in Distress. The Children enjoyed the playground at Temple Beth El while their parents attended a foster parent training session and heard presentations from local foster child programs including Children’s Place at Home Safe, The Haven, and Kids@Home. The group also met with local legislators, Senator Dave Aronberg and Representative Shelley Vana, to discuss health, criminal justice, and education issues. Representative Adam Hasner helped with an “idea raiser” on issues concerning children and families. On Sunday, participants learned about the needs of the Guardian Ad Litem program and set their 2006-2007 legislative agenda.

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SPAC represents more than 18,000 women in Junior Leagues throughout Florida. SPAC will work with state legislators on three priorities during the 2006-1007 legislative session:

1. Modify the Road to Independence Act to make resources available to more young adults who age out of foster care;
2. Require children to use booster seats when riding in cars until they reach their 8th birthdays; and
3. Increase funding for the Guardian Ad Litem program.

For more information about the JLBR or to become a member, call 561-620-2553 or visit www.JLBR.org.

The Junior League of Boca Raton (JLBR) is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving our community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable. Since 1971, the JLBR has been an integral part of our community. The Junior League of Boca Raton is part of the Association of Junior Leagues International, which is comprised of 293 Junior Leagues across the United States and in four countries. ###