

# 2015-2017 PRESIDENT'S NOTE



Welcome to the Junior League of Boca Raton!

The landscape of our community is vastly different than it was when the Junior League of Boca Raton (JLBR) was established in 1971. The number of non-profits has grown exponentially. Many of these non-profits are the evolution of JLBR projects and many organizations are the result of the vision and leadership of our members.

We have been a non-profit incubator throughout the entirety of our existence, investing the venture capital of our time, our ideas and our funds. The non-profit community that currently exists illustrates the success of our efforts. Our challenge today is to understand this complex puzzle of agencies that service the needs within our community.

A few years ago we recognized that we had to reframe our needs analysis from projects to issues. With agencies offering overlapping services, our greatest asset is our connections. We are able to perceive gaps and recommend solutions. We are able to see synergies and make introductions. We are able to multiply the impact of an agency by fostering collaboration. We do this individually on every committee and collectively at our annual Funders Fair.

In order to have the largest impact for our capacity, we chose to focus on three areas of our community puzzle: Hunger, Child Welfare and **Non-Profit Support**. We are engaging in conversations with our members and our community about responding to these needs within the context of an overall strategy.

We wouldn't be here for over forty years without the contributions made by each of our members. We continue to foster a League that values each woman's capacity for

volunteer commitment and recognizes her time is constantly evolving. We need the perspective of each woman and we need to respect her role each year and over the course of her membership career.

Each one of us has a different way to give to JLBR and to our community. We are an organization that welcomes all women who value our **Mission** of promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving the community through effective action of trained volunteers. We are committed to inclusive environments of diverse individuals, organizations and communities.

I joined JLBR to belong to a community that transcends my frame of reference. My individual perspective is defined and confided by my experience. Having dialogue with women with different views broadens my understanding of issues and impact.

I can quote statistics and assumptive statements of over a million diapers distributed, thousands of pounds of food collected and tens of thousands of hours contributed. Yet, I am reminded that with just one diaper distributed, with one meal provided or with one hour of connection we have had our greatest impact.

Our impact is on the lives we change. I remain a member for that reason.

I am honored to serve as the JLBR President. I encourage you to learn more about our **events** and **join us** as we develop leaders and create positive change in the Boca Raton community.

With warmest regards,

Kirsten Stanley

President 2015-2017

Junior League of Boca Raton