Mission

The New York Junior League (NYJL) is an organization of women committed to promoting volunteerism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Its purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

Contributions to New York City

As one of the largest women’s volunteer service organizations in New York City, the NYJL has 2,600 volunteers who contribute more than 250,000 hours of service annually. More than 50 committees support the community needs of New York City as well as the needs of the organization. The purpose of the NYJL is to improve the lives of women and children in Manhattan in partnership with 20 community-based organizations and public agencies, and to deliver services and assistance directly to those in need.

Community Programs

To ensure consistency and a concentrated level of direct service, NYJL community programs are focused on four areas: Adult Education & Mentoring, Children’s Education, Culture & the Arts, Child Health & Welfare.

Community Partners

Our community programs are staffed with NYJL volunteers who work in partnership with nonprofit, public, and community-based organizations. Community partners include Union Settlement, Gilda’s House, New York Presbyterian Hospital, Boys and Girls Harbor, Covenant House, Andrew Glover Youth Program, Jewish Home & Hospital, New York City Department of Parks and Recreation, Public School 64, Mentoring U.S.A., Stanley M. Isaacs Neighborhood Center, and Supportive Children’s Advocacy Network.

Volunteers

NYJL volunteers bring a vast array of talents and skills to their volunteer work. Approximately 85% of volunteers are employed in a wide range of professions and industries, and many hold professional positions of leadership. The NYJL reaches out to all women and no woman is excluded because of race, religion, national origin or disability.

Training

We believe that effective service is accomplished through the efforts of highly skilled and well-informed volunteers. All new NYJL volunteers are required to complete an intensive training course and choose from a wide range of training programs each year. Through these programs, volunteers acquire the skills, knowledge, and empowerment to effectively serve the community and the organization.

Operation

The NYJL is governed by a Board of Directors and managed by a Management Council both of which are comprised of volunteers who have served the NYJL and the community with distinction. The President is the official spokesperson for the NYJL.

History

Founded in 1901 by social and consumer activist Mary Harriman, the NYJL launched the Junior League movement, which has expanded to nearly 150,000 volunteers in 292 Junior Leagues in four countries, globally. New York was the first League.