



FAQs for Prospective New Members

What is the history of the Association of Junior Leagues International, Inc.?

Founded in 1901 by New Yorker and social activism pioneer Mary Harriman, the Junior Leagues are charitable nonprofit organizations of women, developed as civic leaders, making a demonstrable impact on their communities.

True to our legacy, today's League members work at the forefront of social reform, tackling the toughest and most critical issues of the day — including childhood nutrition and obesity, human trafficking, foster care, juvenile justice, teen self-esteem, cybercrimes, literacy and the environment, among others — for the purpose of enhancing the social, cultural and political fabric of civil society.

What is the Junior League of Northern Virginia?

The Junior League of Northern Virginia, Inc. (JLNV) is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving the community through effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. Our purpose is exclusively educational and charitable.

Which organizations do we partner with, and volunteer with, in the community?

Our community initiatives focus on healthy eating, active living and access to healthy food options. Partners in the community include local farmers markets, Arcadia Farms, Bridges to Independence, the Lorton Community Action Center and more.

Why do we focus on childhood obesity? How does the Junior League promote healthy living in local children?

One in five children in Northern Virginia are affected by obesity. We help to prepare children to make healthier decisions through the promotion of nutrition and physical activity education. We have a Kids in the Kitchen program that teaches children how to cook nutritional and tasty meals, we plant community gardens, and we also partner with organizations in the community to create events that promote physical activity, such as our swim camp at Bridges to Independence.

What type of events does JLNV host for its members?

The League has plenty of opportunities for members to socialize, including:

- regional small group gatherings
- affinity groups (such as hiking, book club, professional development and networking affinity groups)
- socials throughout the year

The League also hosts leadership skill-building events that many League members enjoy. Members also have the opportunity to participate in our Leadership Academy program, which is a cohort-based learning experience that takes a deep dive into leadership from a number of perspectives.

How do I get involved?

We are a group of women of all backgrounds, ages, professions, ethnicities and religions. JLNv is committed to remaining a diverse and inclusive organization, and is welcoming to all women who have a passion for voluntarism. **You must be at least 21 years old to join and must reside in the DC-metro area.**

JLNv accepts members twice a year: summer and winter. All new members will be apart of a New Member class, which will give New Members the opportunity to immerse themselves in the League and learn more about our history and the work we are doing in the community. The New Member Class requires a commitment on the part of the New Member to fulfill requirements, but it is also an exciting experience!

To get involved with the JLNv, you can apply [here](#). Once you submit your application and payment, you will be contacted by our New Member chair, who will provide you further information on Orientation Training dates.

What are my requirements as a new member?

Once accepted as a New Member, you must complete the following requirements over the course of your New Member period.

- Attend three (3) New Member trainings
- Attend two (2) General Membership Meetings (GMM) and/ or Small Group Meetings (SGM)
- Attend one (1) social event
- Complete at least three (3) hours of volunteering
- Participate in your committee placement (summer) or class project (winter)

Due to COVID-19, JLNv will comply with social distancing requirements by offering virtual meetings and virtual/social distance volunteering opportunities.

Who will be my main contact if I become a new member?

If you decide to join the Junior League of Northern Virginia, you will be placed in a small new member group, and assigned a new member lead, who will be your main contact for all questions. The leads will also help guide you through your new member period and will host social events for your group.

When does the new member process begin, and when will I become an active member?

The Summer New Member Class begins in August and will officially become Active members in January. The Winter New Member Class begins in January and will officially become Active members in June with the start of the new League year.

For additional questions, contact our Membership Director at membership@jinv.org