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Spark Change for a Better Kansas City

APRIL 2, 2024

PRESENTED BY



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

Welcome to C3KC



Dear Attendees of C3KC 2024,

On behalf of the Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri, it is my sincere pleasure to welcome you to this year's conference.

C3KC is not just any conference—it's a gathering that delves into ideas and issues shaping our community. Your dedication to sparking change in Kansas City is commendable, and your support plays a crucial role in advancing women's leadership and meaningful community impact.

For over a century, the Junior League of Kansas City has addressed critical community issues. This year's C3KC Steering Committee, along with our Community Advisors, Ambassadors, and Sponsors, has worked tirelessly to elevate the event. We hope today's programming inspires critical thinking, fosters connections, and sparks ideas for positive community impact.

With heartfelt gratitude,

Ericka Duker

2023-2024 President

Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri

OUR MISSION

The Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri (JLKCMO), is a 501(c)(3) organization of women whose Mission is to advance women's leadership for meaningful community impact through volunteer action, collaboration, and training. The Junior League welcomes all women who value our Mission. We are committed to inclusive environments of diverse individuals, organizations, and communities.

OUR VISION

The Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri, has a vision to be a visible group of active volunteers focused on improving the quality of life in our community. The JLKCMO reaches out to women of all races, religions, and national origins who demonstrate an interest in and commitment to voluntarism. Our League currently numbers more than 1,100 strong. We are women who work full-time, part-time, and in the home; single women, married women, and mothers. We are women who share diverse interests and backgrounds as well as a desire to improve our community through volunteer action and grant-making.

Founded in 1914, the Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri, has been associated with more than 350 community agencies and organizations. Since the League's inception, our members have raised \$18.5 million for our Mission and given over 2.5 million hours of volunteer time. League members research areas of need in the Kansas City area and educate the membership and the community about those issues. Currently, our focus area is Women and Children.

C3KC 2024

STEERING COMMITTEE

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Program

- 7:45 am** **REGISTRATION**
- 8:30 am** **WELCOME & OPENING PANEL – GRAND HALL**
- 9:40 am** **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**
Sparking an Empowered Workforce – Chamber Board Room
Transforming Foster Care – Innovation Center
Mattie Rhodes Center: Success Stories in Community
Collaboration – Arthur Stilwell Room
- 10:45 am** **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**
Culturally Intelligent Healthcare – Chamber Board Room
Early Care and Education: Successes and Opportunities –
Innovation Center
Hidden Factors of Successful Health Outcomes – Arthur
Stilwell Room
- 11:50 am** **LUNCH**
**BRANTON/HALL COMMUNITY COLLABORATOR AWARD
PRESENTATION**
KEYNOTE PRESENTATION
- 1:10 pm** **BREAKOUT SESSIONS**
Mental Health Matters – Innovation Center
Rise of Women Entrepreneurs – Chamber Board Room
Healthy Food, Healthy Lives – Arthur Stilwell Room
- 2:15 pm** **CLOSING PANEL – GRAND HALL**
- 3:15 pm** **NETWORKING**
-

For corporate, civic and community stakeholders, C3KC is a collaborative conference to spark change for a better Kansas City.

Since 1914, our League has identified key issues affecting Kansas City and forged collaborative relationships with community stakeholders to find lasting solutions. Whether founding the first public kindergarten in Kansas City, launching a polio immunization campaign, running a bi-state initiative to save Union Station or convening different sectors at C3KC to discuss complex social issues, the Junior League has been at the forefront of positive change.



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C3KC 2024

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Company Holdings
David Oliver, J.D., PLX Corp.
Adriana M. Pecina, Health Forward Foundation
Neal Sharma, dentsu shop
Brenda Sharpe, REACH Healthcare Foundation
Nicole Jacobs Silvey, Connection Coach KC
Susan Wally, PREP – KC
Jamila Weaver, MVPKC.org
Gene Willis, GEHA

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Mina Steen
Gina Stingley
Katie Werner
Leslie Whitaker

Branton/Hall Community Collaborator Award

The Branton/Hall Community Collaborator Award was named in memory and honor of two JLKCMO members – Mary Shaw “Shawsie” Branton and Adele Hall. These women dedicated their lives to making Kansas City a better, more inclusive community.

Shawsie and Adele were model volunteers who worked as catalysts for change, sensing needs in our community and then working diligently to bring the right individuals together to solve some of our city’s most pressing issues.

The Branton/Hall Community Collaborator Award recognizes an individual from the Greater Kansas City area who has played an active role in civic engagement, leadership, fostering a spirit of service to others, and promoting the spirit of collaboration for social good.



SHAWSIE BRANTON



ADELE HALL

2024 Award Recipient MAURICE ALVIN WATSON

Maurice Alvin Watson, co-founder and principal of Credo Philanthropy Advisors, LLP, has more than 30 years of experience in law, social and public policy and board governance as a lawyer, advisor and board member.

Maurice was born in Kansas City and attended the City’s public schools until he won a scholarship, in high school, to attend Barstow School, a college preparatory school where he was its first Black graduate in its history. He went on to graduate cum laude from Harvard College, and he received his law degree from Harvard Law School.

Prior to returning to Kansas City, Maurice served as legislative aide to the Honorable John Danforth in the United States Senate in Washington, D.C. He then went on to enjoy a successful career with Blackwell Sanders Matheny Weary and was elected chair of its successor firm, Husch Blackwell. Maurice was the only African American to lead an AmLaw 100 law firm in the country.

He co-founded Credo Philanthropy Advisors in 2018 with Tracy McFerrin to help individuals, families, private foundations and other donors sharpen their philanthropic focus and realize their vision to change lives and communities through effective grantmaking.



PREVIOUS AWARD RECIPIENTS

2018 – Albert P. Mauro, Sr.

2019 – David Oliver

2020 – SuEllen Fried

2021 – Mamie Hughes

2022 – Sandra A. J. Lawrence

2023 – Dr. Michael Weaver

C3KC 2024 Keynote Presentation

GRETCHEN RUBIN

Gretchen Rubin is the author of several books, including the blockbuster *New York Times* bestsellers, *Better Than Before*, *The Happiness Project*, *Happier at Home*, and *The Four Tendencies*.

With her work, Rubin has emerged as one of the most influential writers on habits and happiness to have emerged from the recent explosion of interest in these subjects. Though her conclusions are sometimes counter-intuitive—for example, she finds that rewards play a very tricky role in the formation of habits, and true simplicity is far from simple to attain, and that used rightly, money can do a lot to buy happiness—her insights resonate with readers of all backgrounds.

Rubin is much in demand as a speaker, and she has addressed corporate audiences at places such as GE, Google, LinkedIn, Accenture, Procter & Gamble, as well as university audiences such as Yale Law School, Harvard Business School, and Wharton. She has appeared at numerous conferences as a featured speaker or keynoter, at places such as SXSW and TEDx. She makes frequent TV appearances on *Today*, *CBS Sunday Morning*, and NPR's *Weekend Edition*.



A graduate of Yale and Yale Law School, where she was Editor-in-Chief of the Yale Law Journal and winner of the Edgar M. Cullen Prize. Gretchen grew up in Kansas City, and her mother is a member of the Junior League of Kansas City, MO.

NICOLE JACOBS SILVEY

Nicole Jacobs-Silvey is a community-minded connector who strives to empower others to live their best lives. With 20+ years in the not-for-profit sector, she is both mission-driven and passionate about Kansas City, the community she calls home.



Nicole is the Co-Founder of the Sisters' Circle GKC, a giving circle for African American women, and the Rise Tribe, a group of African American women who host a podcast (*Life in the Middle*) addressing the unique complexities of life for women of color. She also recently launched Connection Coach KC where she serves as the CCO—Chief Connection Officer. As a connection coach, Nicole connects people to their purpose and passion so they can reach their full potential.

Prior to launching Connection Coach KC, Nicole was the Associate Director of External Relations at UMKC where she staffed the 72 member Board of Trustees. She previously worked for Kauffman Scholars for seven years; first as a Leadership Development Coach for the high school students and then as a member of the leadership team as an Associate Director.

She has a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Rockhurst University and also earned her Not-for-Profit Fundraising Certificate from the UMKC Bloch School of Management.

Nicole has been named one of the 50 Most Influential Women in KC, Woman to Watch by the Central Exchange, is a member of the 2018 Class of Rising Stars (*The Independent Magazine*) and has also been named the 2018 Emerging Volunteer by NonProfit Connect. She has served on several boards including: YWCA, Heart of America Shakespeare Festival, Heartland Women's Leadership Council and HappyBottoms. She is currently on the board of directors for University Academy Charter School and chaired the 2018 gala: Blue Ribbon/Red Carpet.

OPENING PANEL – GRAND HALL

Spark Change: Finding Common Ground and Partnerships

Our day kicks off with an engaging panel of experts delving into the pulse of Kansas City. They'll unravel insights and explore the core focus areas of the conference, sparking discussions that promise to captivate your intellect.



Moderator: Tyler Nottberg, CEO – U.S. Engineering

Tyler Nottberg is the fifth generation of the Nottberg family to lead U.S. Engineering. He has also worked for the Gerson Lehrman Group and as a policy analyst for Senator Richard Lugar. Tyler serves on the Board of Labconco Corporation, various non-profit boards, and is a Trustee of Colorado Succeeds and MRI Global. He is also the founder of Aligned, a group of business leaders focused on improving education in Kansas and Missouri.



Moderator: David Oliver, Co-Founder – PLX Corp

David Oliver, an attorney at Berkowitz Oliver LLP in Kansas City, also co-founded PLX Corp, a unique think tank merging legal expertise with collaborative innovation. With roles spanning non-profits like MRIGlobal, William Jewell College, and DeLaSalle Charter High School, he's dedicated to community advancement. At Rockhurst University, he guides EMBA students in the capstone course.



Hayat Abdullahi, Director of Community Impact – Health Forward Foundation

Hayat graduated from Cairo University and has received several leadership certifications. She joined Health Forward in 2022 and serves as Director of Community Impact and leads work in our People purpose area. Prior to joining Health Forward, Hayat was a Senior Director of Community Health Strategies and Innovation at University Health.



C. Mauli Agrawal, Ph.D., Chancellor – University of Missouri-Kansas City

Dr. Agrawal has served as the Chancellor at the University of Missouri Kansas City since June 2018. He obtained his Ph.D. from Duke University (1989), MS from Clemson University (1985), and a B. Tech. from IIT-Kanpur, India. Dr. Agrawal serves on multiple non-profit Boards in Kansas City.



Torree Pederson, President and CEO – Aligned

As founding President of Aligned, Torree Pederson helped grow the dual-state organization focused on statewide policy reform. Torree also served for over 10 years as the Executive Director of the Greater Kansas City National Tooling & Machining Association. Torree founded BotsKC (www.botskc.org) in 2015 and serves as its board chairwoman.



Dr. Dred Scott, President – The Civic Council of Greater Kansas City

Dr. Dred Scott, President of the Civic Council of Greater Kansas City, was the former President & CEO of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Kansas City. Previously, having earned his master's in school administration and a doctorate in educational leadership, he worked in different capacities in the Raytown C-2 School District for 11 years and then served as Deputy Superintendent of the Independence School District, responsible for all aspects of curriculum, instruction, and assessment across the district (PreK12). Dred is inspired by the desire to prove individuals from marginalized circumstances can achieve at high levels regardless of their past or present circumstance.



Shayla Sullivant, MD, Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist Specialist – Children's Mercy Hospital

Dr. Shayla Sullivant completed undergraduate training at Creighton University and medical school at the University of Kansas, where she also completed a residency in adult psychiatry and fellowship in child and adolescent psychiatry. Since 2010 she has been on staff at Children's Mercy Kansas City where she currently serves as an associate professor and chief of the section of psychiatry. In July 2019 Dr. Sullivant was the recipient of the Shining Star award for having the highest patient satisfaction ratings among the medical staff at Children's Mercy. Dr. Sullivant co-leads the suicide prevention research group at Children's Mercy. Her current work focuses on providing education for parents on ways to reduce suicide risk for adolescents, including safe storage.

9:40 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

SPARKING AN EMPOWERED WORKFORCE – CHAMBER BOARD ROOM

Discover the keys to unlocking employment empowerment! Experts from across sectors will explore the powerful connection between career literacy and network strength in building successful careers and addressing workforce gaps. Attendees will learn how to spark change and expand career pathways for themselves and those around them.



Moderator: Leigh Anne Taylor Knight, Ed.D., Executive Director & COO – The DeBruce Foundation

Dr. Leigh Anne Taylor Knight, a future-focused leader, serves The DeBruce Foundation. She leads an innovative team committed to expanding career pathways. She feeds her soul with faith and family, as well as board service, including her alma maters of MU, UMKC, and KU. She loves mentoring and being mentored.



Dr. Bennett Boggs, Ph.D., Commissioner – Missouri Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development

Dr. Bennett Boggs is Commissioner of the Missouri Department of Higher Education & Workforce Development. Previously, he served as Deputy Executive Director of the Colorado Department of Higher Education, and in Kentucky across the Kentucky Education Professional Standards Board, the Kentucky Council on Postsecondary Education, and the Kentucky General Assembly.



Phyllis Hardwick, Executive Director – Community Capital Fund

Phyllis Hardwick is the Executive Director of Community Capital Fund (CCF), a Community Development Nonprofit that provides grants, technical assistance, and coaching to support under-resourced neighborhoods and businesses in the Greater Kansas City Metropolitan Area. A graduate of the University of Missouri, Phyllis began her career in education and has experience in finance, real estate development, and community engagement. She has remained engaged in civic service by serving on her neighborhood association, non-profit, and education boards.



Jeanette Prenger, CEO – ECCO Select

As CEO of ECCO Select, Jeanette heads one of the nation's top Hispanic businesses. The company provides people, process, and technology solutions to private & public sector clients nationwide, with headquarters in Kansas City. Jeanette holds leadership roles in national and local organizations that support education, workforce, and economic growth.



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AT C3KC CONFERENCE.

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9:40 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

TRANSFORMING FOSTER CARE – INNOVATION CENTER

Explore an initiative aimed at reshaping the narrative surrounding families. Panelists will focus on establishing resilient support systems to promote family unity and security through practical strategies and collaborative efforts necessary to empower families and strengthen their bonds within the community.



Moderator: Denise Cross, Chief Strategy Officer – Missouri Coalition for Children

Denise Cross is the Chief Strategy Officer for the Missouri Coalition for Children, a statewide membership organization. Prior to joining the Coalition, Ms. Cross served as the President/CEO of Cornerstones of Care. In her career, Denise also served as the Director of the Missouri Division of Family Services and the Family Support Division.



Mary Chant, CEO – Missouri Coalition for Children

Mary Chant, CEO of Missouri Coalition for Children, champions child and family well-being statewide. With a background in economic security and asset development, she drives policy and practice to support healthy communities. A dedicated mother, she holds a Master of Public Affairs and instructs karate in Columbia, Missouri, blending leadership with community service.



Weston Charles Gallo – Foster Care Youth Advocate

Weston is an LGBTQ youth advocate for youth with lived experience in foster care while highlighting the importance for same-sex couples to foster and adopt. He was a member of the Youth Speak Out Team in KCMO that helped pass the Bill of Rights for Foster Care Youth in Missouri.



Merideth Rose, President and CEO – Cornerstones of Care

Merideth Rose, President and CEO of Cornerstones of Care, leads transformative change for youth and families across Kansas and Missouri. With a background spanning Community Services League and FEMA, she champions community well-being. A Park University graduate, she's honored for her public service and serves on various boards. Committed to family, she balances leadership with love.

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9:40 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

MATTIE RHODES CENTER: SUCCESS STORIES IN COMMUNITY COLLABORATION – ARTHUR STILWELL ROOM

Organizational collaboration allows for shared resources and efficiency, amplifies and enhances impact, fosters holistic solutions to improve service delivery, increases capacity, and builds organizational resilience. Join us to discuss a legacy of collaborative excellence, spanning 130 years of community service in Jackson County.



Moderator: Edgar J. Palacios, MBA, Founder – Latinx Education Collaborative / Revolución Educativa

Edgar J. Palacios, MBA, founded the Latinx Education Collaborative and Revolución Educativa, dedicated to increasing Latino representation in education. With a Bachelor of Music from UMKC and a nonprofit management certificate from Georgetown University, he's led numerous KC-area organizations and participated in educational fellowships.



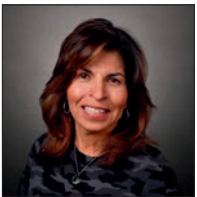
Dr. Marvia Jones, Ph.D., Director – Kansas City, Missouri Health Department

Dr. Marvia Jones has worked in the areas of community health and development, behavioral health, and violence prevention for over 10 years. She earned a Master's of Public Health and Ph.D. in Community Behavioral Psychology from the University of Kansas. She has a passion for supporting the development of strong, healthy families and neighborhoods. Dr. Jones is the Director of the Kansas City, MO Health Department, where she is tasked with overseeing the City's efforts to improve the quality of life for KC residents. Dr. Jones was born and raised in Jacksonville, FL. However, she considers Kansas City, MO to be her beloved adopted home, where she resides with her husband (who is a KC native) and her two young sons.



John Fierro President and CEO – Mattie Rhodes Center

John Fierro is the President/CEO of the Mattie Rhodes Center. He has a proven track record of collaboration on both sides of the aisle. His dedication and passion for Kansas City can be seen through the multitude of professional and community roles he has served in throughout his career.



Theresa Reyes-Cummings, MPA, GPC – Deputy Director, The Community Mental Health Fund

Theresa Reyes-Cummings's career spans over 35 years of experience and expertise in the fields of non-profit and public administration, mental health and criminal justice administration, community development, and government relations. As a public funder for mental health care in Jackson County, Missouri, she has led the implementation of a Value-based Payment structure for behavioral health care. She was also instrumental in addressing mental health disparities and enhancing diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts among mental health agencies serving non-insured populations.

10:45 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

CULTURALLY INTELLIGENT HEALTHCARE – CHAMBER BOARD ROOM

Explore the responsibility of healthcare providers and administrators to comprehend, honor, and address the cultural backgrounds, beliefs, values, and customs of their patients and communities to ensure access to quality healthcare. Advocates will discuss strategies for overcoming barriers, integrating cultural intelligence into medical education and health literacy, and leveraging resources to improve access to culturally appropriate care.



Moderator: Carmen Parker-Bradshaw, Divisional Vice President, Behavioral Health, Community Health, and Quality & Accreditation – Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas City

Carmen Parker-Bradshaw is Division Vice President, Behavioral Health, Community Health, Quality & Accreditation at Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas City. Previously, Carmen served as Chief Administrative Officer & Chief of Staff at Burrell Behavioral Health and in leadership roles with large integrated healthcare systems, Medicaid, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, The Office of Global Affairs, and the World Health Organization. Carmen holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology and Government Relations and a Master of Science in Public Administration and Health Policy.



Dan Cranshaw, Executive Director – KC Health Collaborative

As Executive Director of KC Health Collaborative, Dan works to bring together diverse stakeholders to drive healthcare innovation, improve population health, and promote health equity in the Kansas City region. By fostering collective impact, the Collaborative aims to transform healthcare delivery and create a healthier future for every BODY.



Dr. Tiffany Gladdis, Associate Professor – University of Missouri-Kansas City

Dr. Tiffany Gladdis is an Associate Professor at the University of Missouri-Kansas City and serves as the Perinatal/ Neonatal Psychologist at Children’s Mercy Hospital Kansas City supporting families in the Fetal Health Center, the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, and the Neonatal follow-up clinic. Dr. Gladdis is also the Medical Director for the Office of Equity and Diversity at Children’s Mercy. Dr. Gladdis’ clinical interests include attachment and bonding, trauma, infant and perinatal mental health, and empowering families who identify as Black, Indigenous, or Persons of Color (BIPOC). Dr. Gladdis’ research interests include the impact of psychosocial support for parents on the well-being of their baby and the power of attachment on the developing infant brain. Dr. Gladdis is on the board of directors and a founding member of the Missouri Association for Infant Mental Health and Early Childhood (MOAIMH-EC), on the executive committee for the National Network of NICU Psychologists (NNNP), and an executive board member for Hand To Hold.



Dr. Naiomi Jamal, Chief Health Officer – Swope Health

Dr. Jamal serves as Chief Health Officer at Swope Health and practices as a primary care physician. She is responsible for organization-wide clinical quality, performance, and process improvement. With a focus on health equity, she also teaches at the University of Missouri/Kansas City and serves on several philanthropic boards.

10:45 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION: SUCCESSES AND OPPORTUNITIES – INNOVATION CENTER

Early care and education are critical components of economic development: they support workforce participation, productivity, and diversity. Investments in early care and education infrastructure not only benefit families but also contribute to the overall economic well-being and competitiveness of a nation.



Moderator: Jocelyn Mourning, Vice President of Advancement – The Family Conservancy

Jocelyn, a Kansas City native, is a dynamic CFRE-certified fundraising and communications expert. Since 2012, she's led fund development, marketing, and communications at The Family Conservancy, driven by her passion for transforming children's lives. She holds a Certificate in Fundraising from UMKC's MCNL and is a Centurions Leadership Program member.



Robin Bub, Total Rewards Director – Burns & McDonnell

Robin Bub is the Total Rewards Director at Burns & McDonnell. Robin joined Burns & Mac in 2015 and is responsible for compensation, benefits, wellness, and mobility programs for their 14,000+ employees. She is committed to developing programs and solutions that support overall business strategies and their culture of employee ownership.



Andrew Davis, 8th District Commissioner – Unified Government of Wyandotte County/ Kansas City, Kansas

Andrew Davis is the 8th District Commissioner of the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/ Kansas City, Kansas. He is primarily responsible for representing the interests of 8th District residents and ensuring their needs are met as they pertain to the Unified Government. Commissioner Davis plans to improve the lives of all who live in Wyandotte County by bringing transparency, innovation, and to the Unified Government.



Toni Sturdivant, Ph.D., Director of Early Learning and Head Start Department – Mid-America Regional Council

Dr. Sturdivant is an advocate for equitable, quality early experiences, having served as a teacher, trainer, professor, and executive. As MARC's current Director of Early Learning, she leads a team that supports early educators throughout the region and engages stakeholders to develop initiatives that expand access to quality early learning programs.

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10:45 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

HIDDEN FACTORS OF SUCCESSFUL HEALTH OUTCOMES – ARTHUR STILWELL ROOM

Quality healthcare is a community priority but it doesn't start and end with the medical system. This session will touch on how data, behavioral health, community outreach, and access to prescription drugs play vital roles in the overall health of an individual and a positive outcome for the community.



Moderator: Jamila Weaver, R.N., B.S.N., M.P.A., Chief Operating Officer – MVPKC.org

Jamila Weaver, R.N., B.S.N., M.P.A. has worked in healthcare for 30 years. Her most recent role was in federal service with Health and Human Services, Office of Inspector General, as the agency's Diversity & Inclusion Advisory Board Chair. She now volunteers for MVPKC.org, KC Friends of Alvin Ailey, and Children's Mercy Hospital.



Dick Flanigan, CEO – Digital Health KC

Dick is a retired health information technology leader with over 30 years of experience. He held various senior management positions at Oracle Cerner Corporation, where he led regional and national client organizations, including Cerner's most significant acquisition, Siemens Health Services. He recently co-led Cerner's COVID response to clients, organized a multidisciplinary team of over 400 associates. Currently, he works as an advisor and investor with early-stage companies in the Digital Health space. He also co-leads Digital Health KC, a community-wide initiative that fosters growth and collaboration in the digital health community in the KC region.



Andrea Perdomo-Morales, LSCSW, LCSW, Chief Health Equity Officer – Vibrant Health

Andrea is the Chief Program Officer for Vibrant Health, a federally qualified health center providing medical, behavioral health, and dental care at clinic sites and schools in Wyandotte County. Her focus is building successful partners and collaborations, spearheading complex initiatives, and mobilizing and connecting resources to improve the health and well-being of individuals and communities.



John Yost, PharmD, Co-Founder and Board Chair – Pharmacy of Grace

John Yost has spent many years in the pharmacy and pharmaceuticals business. After graduating with his pharmacy degree from KU, he worked in a community pharmacy and started a pharmacy in Oklahoma. He eventually sold the business to shift his career to selling pharmaceuticals for Roche Labs in Topeka. His experience launched a career in managing and training salespeople until he was promoted to operations director, and then Regional Manager at Agouron, Warner-Lambert (becoming Pfizer, by acquisition) in the HIV treatment space, where he spent nine years. During that time, he finished his Doctor of Pharmacy degree and moved into the medical side of pharmaceuticals in the Rheumatology treatment space with Sobi and Questcor for five years. Yost survived another pharmaceutical acquisition before inspiration hit and eventually felt called to something greater: starting a charitable pharmacy in KCK.

1:10 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

MENTAL HEALTH MATTERS – INNOVATION CENTER



Utilizing expertise and personal experiences, explore the connection between social bonds, stress, and mental well-being. Recognizing the significant influence of these factors offers insight into nurturing healthier connections, alleviating stressors, and fostering supportive environments.



Moderator: Adriana Pecina, Impact Strategist – Health Forward Foundation

Adriana Pecina serves as Impact Strategist for Health Forward Foundation and was previously Director for the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation. Her career in philanthropy has been focused on addressing educational and economic access through a health equity lens. She has served on various boards and commissions and has been recognized by Ingram's magazine 40 Under Forty Power Elite and by the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Nuestra Latina recognition award.



Chad Anderson, Chief Clinical Officer – KVC Health Systems

Chad is Chief Clinical Officer of KVC Health Systems, he oversees all clinical behavioral healthcare services the organization provides across the U.S. He also provides leadership for the KVC Institute for Health Systems Innovation which uses neuroscience and evidence-based practices to transform the experience of childhood for all children.



Jenny Lundgren, Ph.D., FAED, Provost, Professor of Psychology – University of Missouri-Kansas City

Jenny serves as Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor, the Chief Academic Officer of the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC). Dr. Lundgren's research specializes in the interaction of eating behavior, sleep, and stress, with expertise in the assessment and treatment of eating disorders.



Mark Miller, Behavioral Health Leadership Consultant Senior Leadership Team – Swope Health

Mark Miller is currently the Behavioral Health Leadership Consultant for the Senior Leadership Team of Swope Health. Prior to his retirement, he served as the Executive Vice President of Behavioral Health at Swope Health Services for over a decade. As a volunteer leader, Mark has served on numerous national, statewide, and local boards, committees, and task forces. He currently serves as Board President of the Resource Development Institute.

1:10 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

RISE OF WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS – CHAMBER BOARD ROOM

The increase in female entrepreneurs since COVID-19 is linked to the flexibility that entrepreneurship offers, allowing women to navigate their dual roles as caregivers and business owners. This shift underscores the importance of creating work environments that accommodate diverse needs and promote a more inclusive and equitable entrepreneurial landscape.



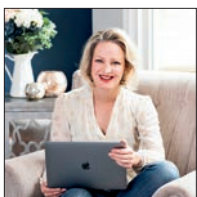
Moderator: Dr. Kirsten Brown Persley, CEO – Persley Advisors

Dr. Kirsten Brown Persley is an author, speaker, and Founder and CEO of Persley Advisors, a strategic advising firm that works with organizations to cultivate cultural competence. Dr. Brown Persley formerly served as a non-profit Executive Director and a founding middle and high school principal.



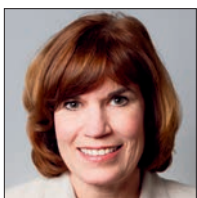
Dr. Brandy Archie, OTR/L, CLIPP, CEO and Founder – AskSAMIE and AccessAble Living

Dr. Brandy Archie, founder of AskSAMIE and AccessAble Living, brings over 15 years of occupational therapy experience to innovate aging in place. Her expertise in Living in Place and Low Vision Therapy, coupled with a doctorate from Creighton University, drives her mission to provide personalized adaptive solutions.



Vanessa Jupe, CEO and Founder – Leva

Vanessa, CEO and Founder of Leva, has spent over 20 years in internet technology, innovating at giants like DIRECTV, USAA, and H&R Block. She is a leader in digital product management and driving profitable growth, leveraging her expertise in human-centered design and data-driven decision-making. Vanessa's academic credentials include a BBA in Information Systems from the University of the Incarnate Word in San Antonio, TX, and a Master of Science in Technology Commercialization from UT Austin, coupled with a Women's Leadership certificate from Cornell University. She is passionate about continuous learning, her family, and freedom.



Maria Meyers, Executive Director – UMKC Innovation Center

Maria is passionate about working collaboratively to build entrepreneurial communities. She heads the University of Missouri – Kansas City Innovation Center, supporting thousands of community members every year in starting and growing businesses. The center includes KCSOURCELINK, a network of 230+ business resources. Across the country, her team has helped over 100 communities build better environments for entrepreneurs.

1:10 BREAKOUT SESSIONS

HEALTHY FOOD, HEALTHY LIVES – ARTHUR STILWELL ROOM

Ensuring healthy food access for all members of our community brings challenges and opportunities. From examining the barriers faced by many communities to discussing innovative solutions and policy implications, this session promises to be both enlightening and empowering.



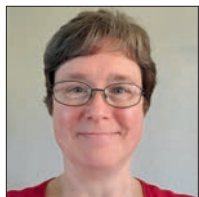
Moderator: Maxfield Kaniger, Founder and CEO – Kanbe's Markets

Maxfield Kaniger is the visionary Founder and CEO of Kanbe's Markets, a nonprofit revolutionizing the food system. Kanbe's now serves over 50 locations, making fresh food available to thousands in our community. With roots in Rockhurst High School and UMKC, his journey reflects a commitment to equity and community.



Jessica Kejr, Director of Programs and Food+ – Harvesters--The Community Food Network

Jessica Kejr is the Director of Programs and Food+ at Harvesters—The Community Food Network. Jessica is responsible for oversight and strategic planning for BackSnack, School Pantry, USDA programs, SNAP Outreach, and Food+. Jessica holds a Master of Social Work from the University of Kansas.



Donna E. Field Martin, Project Director – Double Up Food Bucks and KC Fresh Rx

Donna is Project Director for Double Up Food Bucks Heartland, a healthy food incentive program for SNAP recipients across Kansas and Missouri. She is also Project Director of a produce prescription program in the metro area called KC Fresh Rx.



Janet Rhone, Community Health and Career Outreach Manager – University Health

Janet Rhone brings 23 years of experience in social service at University Health and an 8-year tenure leading the Healthy Harvest Mobile Market. A pioneer of the FoodFARMacy Initiative, she holds a Master of Arts in Secondary Education from Kansas State University. Her dedication to community service earned her numerous awards over the years here in the Kansas City Metro.

CLOSING PANEL – GRAND HALL



Patti Dobrowolski, CEO – Up Your Creative Genius

Patti Dobrowolski, CEO of Up Your Creative Genius, is a renowned visual thinker, author, and change activator. With a TEDx talk reaching 6 million viewers, she empowers global Fortune 100 companies and individuals through her visual and creative methodologies, transforming dreams into reality. Patti's impactful books and collaborations, including integrating Agilities with The DeBruce Foundation, redefine goal setting and career planning. Holder of an MA in Psychology, Patti's strategic illustrations adorn corporate giants like Nike, Microsoft, and Starbucks.



“Draw Your Future with Agilities” is a high energy, interactive drawing and visioning experience that will provide a powerful conclusion to C3KC. Patti Dobrowolski, of Up Your Creative Genius, will lead this dynamic session that challenges us individually and collectively to keep the courageous conversations going that can make Kansas City stronger. Patti is a change activator and graphic illustrator who will engage the audience and bring to life in words and pictures the issues we face as well as promising practices to lead us forward.

Patti actively partners with The DeBruce Foundation to incorporate the Agilities skills framework into Draw Your Future. Agilities define the work skills that can help us achieve collective and individual goals. Prior to the session, you are highly encourage to take the Agile Work Profiler (see QR code) to reflect on your own strengths and interests (Agilities) and consider how you can leverage them during and after the conference.



In memory of Sister Berta.

In memory of a woman
who did so much for the
children in Kansas City.

UNION STATION LAYOUT

LEVEL 1



LEVEL B



LEVEL C



2023-2024 JLKCMO Board of Directors



Sara Harrison, Cathy Cisetti, Lori Longoria, Nikki Hokanson, Monica Curls, Chelsea Chaney, Jennifer Bass, Abigail Kennedy, Courtney Raupp, Becky Haddican, Ericka Duker, Jammy Evans, Savannah Kanneberg, Melissa Coleman, Abbie Rothermich, Victoria Lynch, Amanda Braun, CaitlinFore

OUR HISTORY

For the past 110 years, the Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri, has been a force creating and sustaining organizations that address critical issues in Kansas City, such as the challenges of women’s and children’s health, education, domestic violence, mental health, and physical disabilities.

Following are some highlights from our collaborative successes in Kansas City.

SOCIAL SERVICE

- 1914** Worked with Mattie Rhodes Center, providing funding and volunteers for daycare for working mothers and necessities for their families.
- 1917-1929** Helped found Kansas City’s Florence Crittenton Home, where unwed mothers and sex workers could live and learn professional skills.
- 1977** Founding funder for The Children’s Place, where the youngest survivors of abuse, neglect, and trauma receive healing.
- 1983-1989** Early funder and supporter of MOCSA.
- 1987** Founded and funded Rose Brooks Therapeutic Children’s Program.
- 1992** Founding funder for Hope House, the first domestic violence shelter in eastern Jackson County.
- 2009** Created the BackSnack program with Harvesters, providing weekend meals for students and families at University Academy.
- 2020** Provided nearly \$45,000 in emergency COVID-19 grants.

CHILD & MATERNAL HEALTH

- 1915** Began working with what would become Children's Mercy Hospital.
- 1919** Established first prenatal clinic in Kansas City.
- 1920-1945** Ran the Junior League Free Health Clinic.
- 1987** Early funder to establish first Ronald McDonald House in Kansas City, Missouri.
- 1993** Collaborated with Mid-America Immunization Coalition on a multi-year campaign.
- 2014** Completed a five-year initiative in Children's Nutrition and Fitness, with one result being a 26% reduction in obesity in program participants at University Academy.



SHARED KNOWLEDGE

- 1979-1982** Developed and shared Management and Leadership Training program with KC nonprofit organizations.
- 2013-2020** Prepared members for nonprofit board service through the Civic Leadership program.
- 2014-Present** Co-founder with UMKC of the Advanced Leadership Certification Series, a model of training for nonprofit leadership.

CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

- 1934** Created Docent Program at The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, the first program of its kind and model for the Metropolitan Museum of Art's program in New York.
- 1975** Partnered on Folly Theater restoration.
- 1990** Created Jazzoo fundraiser for Kansas City Zoo and established the Zoo Learning Fund.
- 1994-1999** Involved with Union Station restoration and a significant supporter of Science City.
- 2014** Gave \$1 million lead gift to the Penguin Ice Paradise at the Kansas City Zoo in honor of our 100th anniversary.

EDUCATION & ARTS

- 1914** Established first public kindergarten in Kansas City.
- 1932** Established grade school for children with cerebral palsy.
- 1940/1950s** Produced award-winning children's radio & television programs.
- 1947** Founded Cerebral Palsy Nursery School, now the Mary Shaw Branton Preschool. Operated by Junior League until 1969; became the first desegregated school in Kansas City in 1952.
- 1953** Co-founded Children's Center for the Visually Impaired.
- 1959** Established scholarship at KU for students pursuing social work degrees.
- 1967-1987** Developed "30 Miles of Art," a regional art show to fund educational resources at The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art.
- 2000-2010** Committed a decade to our Children's Literacy Initiative, working with Operation Breakthrough and with the *Kansas City Star* to establish Hooked on Books.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

- 1922-1939** Founded Girls' Advisory and Protective Bureau, the first social service agency to provide case management for both white and black girls.
- 1989** Early funder to establish the nation's first Ailey Camp, using art to educate and empower youth.
- 1995** Early funder to Dramatic AIDS Education Project, a groundbreaking program established in partnership with KU Medical School and The Coterie Theatre to talk to teens about the dangers of unprotected sex.
- 1998** Funded Truman Teen Moms Program, focused on providing prenatal care and family education to help girls avoid teen pregnancy.



MEMBERSHIP *at a glance*



Our Commitment to Community



Signature Programs

League-developed programs in our focus area of Women and Children, specifically on the issues of Abuse and Neglect, Childhood Development, and Women's Self-Sustainability.

Our Current Signature Programs:

Community Kits

are assembled by JLKCMO members containing basic needed items to ease new residents' transitions from abusive situations.

Healthy U Family Meals

program works to address food insecurity and nutrition by providing grocery donations, healthy recipes and cooking instruction to participating families.

Community Resource Fair

provides free resources to the KC community at large. Open to the public, resources include health screenings, housing and financial resources.



Community Volunteers & Grants (CV&G)

The League partners with area organizations that share a goal of improving Kansas City by annually providing funds and volunteers to these organizations. JLKCMO has partnered with over 350 agencies and helped found some of Kansas City's well-known agencies and programs:

- The Children's Place
- Children's Center for the Visually Impaired
- Ability KC
- Jazzoo at the Kansas City Zoo
- Loose Park's Japanese Garden
- The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art Docent Program



Action Team

Our A-Team volunteers fulfill requests from Kansas City area nonprofit agencies and organizations for short-term volunteer needs.



Community Endowment Fund

This fund awards grants for financial assistance to community agencies in the KC metropolitan area in response to critical needs.

Admissions Process

1. Create a Profile

Visit www.jlkc.org/join and create a prospective new member profile. Once you create your profile you will be able to complete your application, and we will include you in application communications

2. Attend an Informational Session

After you create a profile, you will be able to choose a session to attend, meet current members, and learn more about the Junior League's legacy in KC. 2024 Dates are listed on the back.

[Register for the session you plan to attend at jlkc.org/join.](http://jlkc.org/join)

3. Complete Membership Application

Tell us why you want to join JLKCMO! Applications are due by April 30 to be considered for the upcoming League year, which starts in June every year.

4. Submit Application Fee (Dues)

Complete the Agreement to Apply and pay the \$240 application fee, which also includes dues for the first year.



Thank you for sparking change with us at C3KC 2024; we hope you will join us again next year!



corporate. civic. community.

Save the Date!

Wednesday, April 9, 2025

For more information visit
jlkc.org/c3kc.



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

Thank You

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For corporate, civic, and community stakeholders, C3KC is a collaborative conference to spark change for a better Kansas City.