



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF
RHODE ISLAND
Women building better communities ®

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The Junior League of Rhode Island, Inc. Announces 2016-2017 Board of Directors

Providence, RI – *June 06, 2016* – The Junior League of RI, Inc. (JLRI), is pleased to announce its Board of Directors for the 2016-2017 year. In their roles, board members will be responsible for ensuring that the League fulfills its mission of commitment to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. For more information, please visit www.jlri.org.

Tory Trainor, President

The President, Tory Trainor, has been active in the JLRI since 2002. She was on the Placement Nominating Committee from 2002-2004, the House Tour committee in 2005, the treasurer from 2006-2008, meetings co-chair from 2008-2009, New Member co-chair from 2009-2010, New Member chair 2010-2011, Membership Council Director 2010-2012, Community Outreach co-chair 2012-13, Community Outreach chair 2013-14, and President – Elect 2014-15. She received the JLRI President's Award in 2008.

She was born in San Diego, Calif. After graduating from San Diego State University in 1993, she taught elementary school from 1994-1997. She worked as a Flight Attendant for Delta Airlines 1997-2005. Tory married Dave in 2001. They live with their 13 year old daughter, Abigail, 11 year old son, Sean, 9 year old daughter, Katherine, and 5 year old daughter, Kelly in Smithfield. Her kids keep her busy between soccer, basketball, snow skiing, lacrosse, and softball.

Tory is the PTO President at William Winsor Elementary School and a member of the St. Philip Fall Festival Committee. In the past, she was the Secretary of Winsor PTO, Vice-President and Secretary of Blackrock Elementary School PTO, Girl Scout Leader, Secretary of Books Are Wings, President of the MOMS Club of Warwick, and an active member of MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers). Her husband is a Rhode Island State Trooper.

Alison Croke, Treasurer

Alison is a native Rhode Islander and 15-year member of the Junior League. She first joined the Junior League of Greater Princeton, in Princeton New Jersey, in 1999. She transferred to the JLRI when she moved back to Rhode Island in November of 2002. She has served on many committees and in many positions during her tenure in the JLGP and JLRI including New Member Committee Co-Chair, Project and Project Development Co-Chair, Community Service and Membership Council Director, President-Elect and President (2010-2011). She has also served other nonprofit boards including Shakespeare's Head Association and Bay View Academy Alumnae Advisory Board. She is currently serving her second year of a two-year term as the President of the RI Public Health Association. In her professional life, Alison is the Director of Operations and Strategy, Department of Primary Care, at Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island – a role she began in September 2014. Prior to her current role she was with Xerox State Healthcare, working with the Rhode Island Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS/Medicaid) for approximately 10 years. Prior to joining EOHHS, Alison worked as a Senior Project Manager at Neighborhood Health Plan of Rhode Island, from 2002-2005 and at the Center for Health Care Strategies (CHCS) in Princeton, New Jersey (1998-2002) on several Robert Wood Johnson Foundation funded national programs focused on developing health care delivery systems for vulnerable populations. Alison has a Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences from the University of Vermont, and a Master of Health Administration from the Medical College of Virginia, Virginia Commonwealth University.

Alison's hobbies and interests include travel, cooking, running, biking, hiking, and watching Patriots games. She lives in Wakefield with her husband Matt and three stepchildren, 2 cats and dog (named Brady, after the Super Bowl MVP).

Dana Bernsten, Secretary

Dana Berntsen is the JLRI Secretary. She joined in 2007 after moving back to New England from New York. She has chaired several committees, including the Community Service and Provisional committee. She has also worked on the house tour and the project development committees. She lives on the East Side of Providence where she is president of her condo association.

Jennifer "Jenn" Peters, Community Service Council Director

As a life long resident of Rhode Island, Jenn joined the Junior League in 2009, because she wanted to give back to her community and meet other like minded women. The Junior league was just one of several organizations she chose to give her time to. For a time, she spent time as a hotline volunteer at the Women's Center of Rhode Island, a domestic violence shelter. After leaving the Federal Court, she became more active in local politics, joining the Planned Parenthood Young Professionals. Jenn also began mentoring a youth in foster care through Foster Forward, after becoming so invested in the topic through her work in Community Outreach

Professionally, Jenn has worked in the legal field since graduating from Lasell College in Newton, Mass in 2006. She has spent time at the Federal Bankruptcy Court and private law firms, always focusing on the bankruptcy field. She hopes to one day join her passion for volunteering with her legal experience.

In her free time, Jenn enjoys running, the Boston Redsox, spending time with friends and family, debating politics, a nice cocktail and warm weather. Jenn lives in Bristol with her husband Dan, a mechanical engineer at Raytheon, and their feisty cat Jack.

Stephanie L. Van Patten, Fund Development Council Director

Fund Development Director, Stephanie L. Van Patten, has been member of The Junior League of Rhode Island since 2004. She has previously held the leadership positions of House Tour Co-Chair (twice), Meetings co-chair, Placement/Nominating chair, as well as numerous committee placements. This will be her second time serving on the Board of Directors. Stephanie is quite active in her community serving on several boards including Boys & Girls Clubs of Warwick, Warwick Neck PTA, and Edgewood Sailing School. She is also very involved with Save the Bay, St. Barnabas Church and her neighborhood association.

A native of Rhode Island, Stephanie lives in the Riverview section of Warwick with her husband, George W. Shuster, Jr., and their 2 daughters, Greta and Georgia. Stephanie received an A.B. from Bowdoin College and an M.A. in psychology from Teachers College, Columbia University. In her free time, Stephanie enjoys exercising, reading, traveling, shopping, and boating with her family.

Krystal Kazi, Membership Council Director

Krystal Kazi has been a member of the Junior League of Rhode Island since 2011. Over the years, she has served on the Fundraising Committee, and has chaired the Fundraising, Training, and Membership Committees. Krystal received the JLRI Natalie Henderson Award in 2015 for her work with the Training Committee.

Originally from Farmington, NH, Krystal attended the University of Rhode Island where she participated in their International Engineering Program and graduated with a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering and a B.A. in German. She is employed as a Project Manager with Pentair Technical Products, where she has worked for the past nine years. She also holds a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Rhode Island.

Krystal currently resides in Cranston, RI. In her free time, she enjoys reading, running, traveling, and spending time with friends and family.

Lisa J. Museler, Communications Council Director

Lisa has been an active member of the Junior League of Rhode Island since 2009. She served on the Newport Bed and Breakfast Tour, Fundraising Committee and chaired the New Member, Fundraising (90th Anniversary year) and Communications Committees. During her time on the Communications Committee she started working on the www.JLRI.org website, which she has managed since 2012. Lisa was instrumental in working with our website vendor, Closerware, on our new website which was launched in February of 2016.

Outside Junior League, Lisa served as Treasurer and Vice President of Membership on her local MOMs Club Board for the past four year as well as volunteering at her son's Montessori school, Montessori Centre of Barrington. Lisa is very outgoing and loves to entertain so much that she opened her home to host a number of young British soccer coaches from the UK, Ireland and Australia. Living on the Aquidneck Island in Portsmouth, she is near the Newport Navy base and she and her family sponsor international officers who attend the Naval War College along with Midshipman Candidates attending the Naval Academy Preparatory School. The family has developed some wonderful international relationships.

Originally from Middlesex, NJ, Lisa moved to Rhode Island in 2005 when she got married, after spending most of her life in NJ. She has a BS in Pharmacy from Rutgers University and spent her career working in Clinical Research with a number of pharmaceutical companies in New Jersey. When she moved to Rhode Island she worked from home as a Regional Manager in Clinical Research until 2008. She took an 'early retirement' package so she could concentrate on starting her family.

Lisa currently resides in Portsmouth, RI with her husband, Will, their 6 year old son, Will II and their beagle, Maggie. She enjoys sailing, cruising with her family, sailboat racing, playing tennis, walking, reading, and watching her son grow up.

Elizabeth 'Betsy' Smith, Sustainer Council Director

Betsy Smith is the Sustainer Member Director to the Junior League of Rhode Island Board of Directors for 2016-2018. Betsy has been an active member of The Junior League of Rhode Island since 1994. Prior to joining the Rhode Island League, she was a member of the Junior Leagues' of Indianapolis, New York, Long Island, and Boston. Betsy served as President of JLRI 2002-03.

In addition to her position for JLRI, Betsy is co-chair of the Wheeler Upper School Parents' association, co-chair of the Warwick women's nine-hole golf league and a member of the social outreach committee for Central Congregational Church in Providence.

Originally from Indianapolis, Betsy has been a resident of Rhode Island for the past 22 years and lives in East Greenwich with her husband Rory. They have a daughter, two sons, and 2 Portuguese water dogs. Betsy holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Smith College and a Masters of Business Administration from Boston College. She worked at State Street Bank in Boston as a Commercial Lender in the Non-Profits sector.

In addition to her volunteer activities, Betsy enjoys exercising, activities with her church, reading, golf, and traveling with her family

About The Junior League of Rhode Island, Inc. (JLRI):

The Junior League of Rhode Island, Inc. (JLRI) has been a volunteer powerhouse in the State of Rhode Island and Southeastern Massachusetts since 1921. JLRI is a proven training ground for women to become community and civic leaders - learning how to effectively manage a non-profit organization, fundraise and develop meaningful community service programs.

In its 95-year history, more than 250 nonprofit organizations have benefited from collaboration with JLRI, and JLRI members have contributed more than 1 million hours of volunteer service and over 1.5 million in fundraising dollars. These volunteer hours and dollars have a combined present day value of \$25 million in direct services to women and children in difficult circumstances. Currently, JLRI's focus is to empower the lives of young adults aging out of the Foster Care System.

For more information about The Junior League of Rhode Island, please go to our website at www.jlri.org.

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