

A Change is Gonna Come...

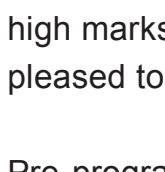
In about a month, on July 1, OneJax, Inc. will be an independent 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. Our departure from the University of North Florida will be complete, including a move to new space. Our staff will continue its hybrid work model. New tech will keep us networked so we don't expect to miss a beat. A new website is in the works and will launch soon. You may still make donations from our landing page. Go to www.onejax.org and click on the "Donate" link.



You'll receive more complete and detailed information about our new address and contact information prior to the move.

At the same time, we undergo and experience these changes, we're also turning the page to a new era for the work of OneJax. We have begun and are more committed than ever to our Community Engagement Initiative. Our ultimate goal is to begin to bridge the divide in our community by bringing people together in nonthreatening situations so that they can start talking. The "I Am Jacksonville" campaign that ran on tv, outdoor and social media in April will be back in the fall to reinforce that we are ALL Jacksonville—no matter our color, faith, identity, ability or orientation.

That will be followed up in the fall and throughout next year with planned neighborhood gatherings all around the community where neighbors can re-connect or meet new friends. More details will be available soon.



"Thumbs Up" Feedback from the Humanitarian Awards

An intimate crowd of almost 500 attending the recent 2023 Humanitarian Awards event gave high marks to the evening—the reception and program. It was a friendly, animated group pleased to be there to recognize our Honorees and to support OneJax.

Pre-program activities during the reception included two "Connection Booths." Two people at a time—strangers who did not know each other—went into a private booth, drew a question from a rack of cards and answered their questions for each other. As a result, they began a conversation that allowed them to connect and get to know each other. Which was exactly the point.

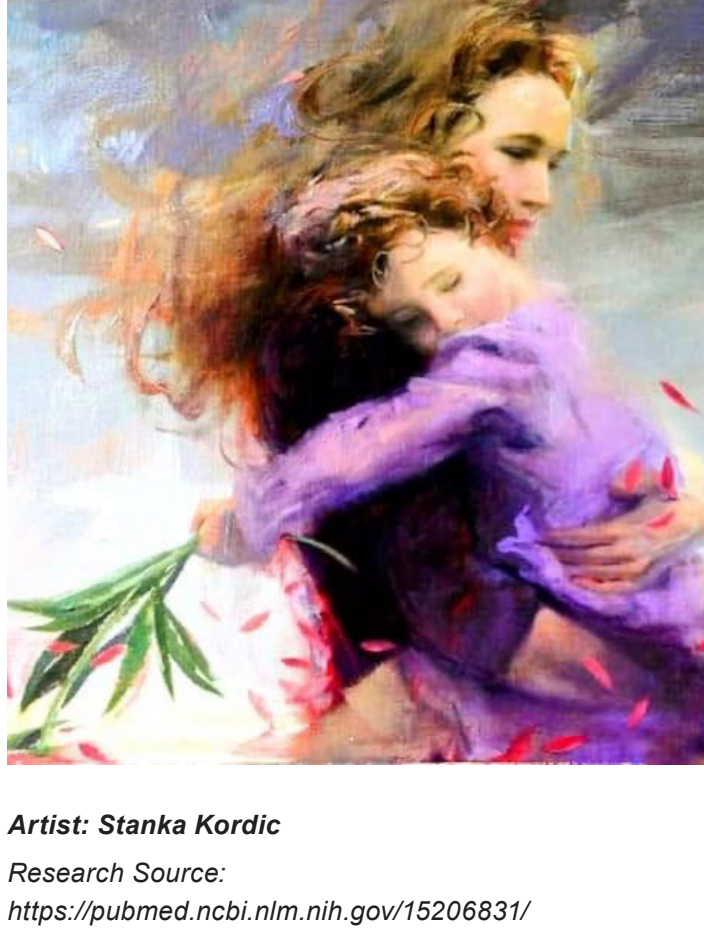
The theme of this year's event was "Together We Can." We attempted to spotlight the success and impact of this year's Humanitarians in relation to their collaborations and group efforts on behalf of the community. This reinforced our belief that even when people disagree, we can still accomplish many good things when we work together on issues we mutually support.

Enjoy the few photos published here. To see many more from a very memorable evening, [follow this link](#).



Top Left: The 2023 OneJax Humanitarian Honorees: Stacey Goldring, Lowry A. "Lad" Daniels, Jr., Nina Waters, Cindy Smith-Funkhouser, MSW, and Kimberly Allen, Ph.D.
Top Right: Emcees Casey Roth and Rhianna Scyster
Bottom Left: The Circle of Honorees (former recipients of Humanitarian Awards) welcome the 2023 Humanitarians into their group.
Bottom Right: Guests enjoyed great food and time to catch up with friends during the reception.

We Could All Use A Few More Hugs



Artist: Stanka Kordic
Research Source: <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/15206831/>

The average length of a hug between two people is 3 seconds. But the researchers have discovered something fantastic.

When a hug lasts 20 seconds, there is a therapeutic effect on the body and mind.

The reason is that a sincere embrace produces a hormone called "oxytocin", also known as the love hormone.

This substance has many benefits on our physical and mental health, and helps us, amongst other things, to relax, to feel safe and calm our fears and anxiety.

This wonderful tranquilizer is offered free of charge every time we:

- Hold a person in our arms,
- cradle a child,
- cherish a dog or a cat,
- dance with our partner,
- or simply hold the shoulders of a friend.

- A Woman's Soul

BITS & PIECES – Info and Insights About Philanthropy and the Nonprofit Sector



GIVING TO NONPROFITS FELL NEARLY 2% IN THE LAST QUARTER OF 2022

"Giving took a turn for the worse during the last three months of 2022, with both the number of donors and total revenue falling below the previous year's levels. The finding comes from the latest report from the **Fundraising Effectiveness Project**, a research collaborative that examines trends in giving and is among the first definitive signs of challenges ahead for fundraising in 2023.

Nonprofits saw year-over-year growth in revenue during the first three quarters of 2022, but it fell nearly two percent during the end-of-year giving season. There were fewer donors over all at the end of 2022, but the decline was sharpest for the 83 percent of donors who gave \$500 or less. At the end of 2022, 15 percent fewer people gave \$100 or less than at the end of 2021. Likewise, the number of people who gave \$101 to \$500 in the last three months of 2022 declined more than 8 percent from 2021 levels." — *The Chronicle of Philanthropy*, April 2023

This means that OneJax and many other small nonprofits need to work even harder to capture and retain smaller donors, many who make monthly contributions or who donate several times during the course of a year. These are the supporters who also have the greatest potential for becoming larger—even major—donors down the line.

With the transfer of wealth from the Baby Boomers to their children, the tenuousness of the financial markets and no relief from inflation on the horizon, the future of philanthropy is changing and will continue to shift for the foreseeable future.

How has your philanthropy or giving philosophy changed in the last few years? Let us know what factors have informed, or are informing, the change.

WHAT AMERICANS THINK ABOUT PHILANTHROPY AND NONPROFITS

"What Americans Think About Philanthropy and Nonprofits," a new study from the Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy polled about 1,300 Americans over the summer of 2022 to learn more about how the American public perceives philanthropy and the nonprofit sector.

Here are a few of the key findings:

- Americans generally define philanthropy as the giving of time and/or money to nonprofit organizations.
- Americans trust nonprofits more than government or business, but levels of trust in all three sectors of society are low.
- Religious charitable organizations are seen as the most trustworthy and transparent type of philanthropic entity, followed closely by Community Foundations.
- Americans do not know much about the philanthropic sector nor are they aware of many nonprofit entities or the rules that govern their activities.



Sandy Miller Metrotown Institute Summer Schedule



MIDDLE SCHOOL – JUNE 20-22, 2023
(Students entering 7th and 8th grades)
112 W. Adams St., 4th Floor
STILL ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

HIGH SCHOOL – JULY 17-20, 2023
(Students entering 9th – 12th grades)
Hendricks Avenue Baptist Church
APPLICATION DEADLINE:
JULY 11, 2023

Please let the teens in your life know that OneJax is now accepting applications from youth entering grades 7 and 8 (Middle School) and grades 9-12 (High School) for the 2023 sessions of this experiential teen leadership program.

Each program has space for 50 students, who will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis. The registration fee is \$50 for middle school students and \$100 for high school students. Fees include daily lunch and snacks as well as dinner on the final evening of each session. Students must be referred to the program or endorsed by a sponsor such as a parent, teacher, counselor, clergy member, or community leader. Students will earn community service hours for their time at Metrotown. Some scholarships are available.

For close to 40 years, Metrotown has helped youth in our community explore options for living successfully in an increasingly diverse and inter-dependent world. At Sandy Miller Metrotown Leadership Institute, students share ideas and feelings, discover their own unique talents, experience a variety of perspectives on diversity issues, multicultural communication, religious traditions, and self-esteem. Participants create strategies for living and working with a multitude of differences.

The goal of Sandy Miller Metrotown Leadership Institute is to promote respect and understanding among all people. This goal is achieved through small group discussions and workshops, creative and artistic expression, recreation, outdoor experiences, and personal reflection on our diverse community.

[Visit the OneJax website for more information](#) or to access the application for each session.

For answers to specific questions about the program, please [email Deidre Lane](#).

Upcoming Events

- **June 20-22, 2023:** Sandy Miller Metrotown Middle Institute (Middle School)
- **July 17-20, 2023:** Sandy Miller Metrotown Institute (High School)
- **November 16, 2023:** OneJax Interfaith Thanksgiving Gratitude Service at The Church of Oakland

