annual report 2023

ONEJAX
DIFFERENT TOGETHER

throughout the year

Sandy Miller Metrotown Institute. The complete 3-day experience for high school students built new connections, leadership skills, empathy and appreciation for all people.

Young Professional Delegation. OneJax hosted representatives to network and make them aware of YP opportunities with OneJax.

Christian Nationalism Forum. Amanda Tyler, a national expert, lifted the veil on the rising threat of Christian nationalism and its potential for undermining our constitution and democracy.

No More Hate. OneJax brought the community together for a "Candlelight Vigil for Unity & Hope" following a flurry of displays of antisemitic messages.

Interfaith Thanksgiving Gratitude Service. The community came together with leaders from each faith sharing stories of kindness and compassion from within their faith traditions.

OneJax Humanitarian Awards. For their dedication to Jacksonville: (L-R) Stacey Goldring, Lad Daniels, Jr., Nina Waters, Cindy Funkhouser, MSW, and Kimberly Allen, Ph.D.

to our friends & supporters,

One word encapsulates the last year—CHANGE.

First, OneJax was directly impacted by many of the new guidelines imposed on the state's public university system. As an Institute of the University of North Florida for 11 years, we enjoyed a very positive relationship with the administration and operated fairly autonomously, while raising our own funds, supporting both the community at large as well as the the university's students and faculty. Our activities and messaging, however, no longer comply with these new policy changes. As a result, we made the decision to leave and terminate our Memo of Understanding with the University in March. As of July 1, OneJax Institute is now proudly and independently OneJax, Inc.

In the fall of 2022, deplorable instances of antisemitism and hate were displayed on highway overpasses, projected on the walls of EverBank Stadium and several downtown buildings—even flown as banners above the stadium and other parts of downtown. These were some of the worst displays of hate in our city in recent memory and shook the entire community. In response, OneJax expressed our outrage and vocally reinforced that there is a great deal of love and respect for differences in our community. We declared, unequivocally, that there is no room for hate in Jacksonville. Within three days, a candlelight rally at James Weldon Johnson Park was arranged, speakers were lined up and the event was publicized. Hundreds of people, from every part of the city, turned out to stand in unison against hate.

Following that event, OneJax dedicated itself to a community engagement initiative. Beginning in 2024, a series of neighborhood gatherings will bring people together with their neighbors with no other agenda than to get reacquainted or to meet new friends. When people come together, we discover commonalities. People need to begin talking to each other again. Face to face. Different perspectives need and deserve to be heard, discussed and understood. This is one pathway to creating unity.

Since the decision to separate from UNF, there has been a rush of renewed enthusiasm and dedication at OneJax. Youth programming is expanding, thanks in large part to a multi-year grant from the Florida Blue Foundation. Two new members have joined the staff and new initiatives in our Interfaith programming are launching soon.

The final change (which just very recently occurred), was the resignation of our previous CEO, Rev. Kyle Reese. His next calling returns him to the pulpit with a church in Savannah. We are grateful to Executive Committee Board member, Patricia McElroy, president of the VyStar Foundation, for stepping in as interim CEO until a new CEO is identified and onboarded.

The Board commends our exceptional staff of professionals for keeping everything operating as usual during these uncertain and often unsettling times. Where some might be rattled by so much

change within such a short period, the OneJax staff rose above and moved forward with positivity, dedication to the mission and commitment to tackle the tasks at hand. For that, we are incredibly grateful.

Many thanks, as well, to all of you for maintaining your faith in OneJax as we take the next step on our journey. We have steadfastly and proudly served the Jacksonville community for 53 years. We hope and pray for an ever brighter future in the years to come.

Patricia McElroy
Interim CEO

Mobeen Rathore, M.D.
OneJax Board Chair

by the numbers

SOURCE OF FUNDS: $671,093.36

- **44.41%** Corporate Giving
- **37.03%** Individual Giving
- **11.18%** Grants & Foundations
- **2.63%** Misc./Other
- **0.99%** Sandy Miller Metrotown Youth Camp Revenue
- **3.76%** Nancy Broner Internship

USE OF FUNDS: $764,488.47

- **34.46%** Adult Programs
- **27.28%** Youth Programs
- **20.04%** Events
- **7.72%** Fund Development
- **10.5%** Admin & Salaries

NET INCOME: ($93,395.11)

Shortfall came from OneJax reserves.

1,524
ADULTS ATTENDED ONEJAX PROGRAMS

Young Professionals: **35**
Christian Nationalism Event: **170**
Against Antisemitism: **300**
Interfaith Thanksgiving Gratitude Service: **201**
Honoree Reception: **38**
Project Breakthrough: **25**
Community Suppers: **50**
Humanitarian Awards: **505**
Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Belonging Workshops: **200**

1,109
YOUTH ATTENDED ONEJAX PROGRAMS

Diversity Education
864 Students
35 Programs

Metrotown-In-A-Day
194 Students
10 Programs

Leaders of United Diversity
13 Members
5 Meetings

Metrotown
18 Middle School
20 High School

Sandy Miller Youth Education

We consider our work with students and young people to be among the most important work we do. Helping to discover more about themselves and how they see the world, the youth also receive the opportunity to look beyond themselves to better know and understand their classmates. These programs—which include in-classroom Diversity Education, Metrotown Institute, Metrotown-In-A-Day (MIAD) and Leaders of United Diversity (LOUD)—help young people develop compassion and empathy for others, leadership skills and greater self-awareness. All of these traits are needed to help students become successful and respectful as they grow and enter the broader community.

OneJax has worked with The Bolles School frequently for about 10 years. Tom Hopkins, Freshman Health Seminar Teacher and Student Advisor, expressed his thoughts about the OneJax youth programs and their positive impact on students.

“OneJax has definitely helped bring a better understanding of diversity to our students and has helped create a better culture of understanding among our students at Bolles. And we look forward to continuing that relationship.”

Take a look at more of what Tom had to say by scanning this code with your smartphone.

board & council

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Dr. Mobeen H. Rathore, *Chair* • Michael J. Korn, *Past Chair*
Jerry Mallot, *Chair-Elect* • Rev. Patricia McElroy
Shari Shuman, *Treasurer* • Tracy Williams, *Secretary*

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Bill Bond • Nancy Broner • Sol Brotman, DDS
Pam Chally, Ph.D. • Frank Denton • Ronnie Ferguson
Dan Foley • Wilfredo Gonzalez • Steve Halverson
Connie Hodges • Michael J. Korn • Dr. Sherry Magill
Marc Mayo • David Miller, *Convener*
The Hon. Audrey Moran • Pam Paul • Sabeen Perwaiz
Dr. Mobeen H. Rathore• Darnell Smith
Clay B. "Chip" Tousey, Jr.

BOARD MEMBERS

Sunil Ancha • Elizabeth Andersen • Rabbi Maya Glasser
Rev. Marsha Evans Holmes • Rev. Dr. Christopher McKee, Jr.
Jason Roth • Shah Faisal Sayed • Valerie Stevenson
Nicole Thomas • Dr. Richmond Wynn

STAFF

Patricia McElroy, *Interim Chief Executive Officer*
Jacey Kelley, *Chief Operating Officer*
Jan Phillips, *Administrative Coordinator*
Deidre Lane, *Associate Director of Programs*
Matt Hartley, *Director of Interfaith Programs*
Lisa Drew, *OneYouth Coordinator*
MaShonna Hughes, *Social Media Specialist*
C. Mickee Brown, *Consultant* • Evin Willman, *Consultant*

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