



JUNIOR LEAGUE OF CEDAR RAPIDS TO HOST FOURTH ANNUAL FOSTERING STRENGTH ADVOCACY LUNCHEON ON MAY 19TH

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CEDAR RAPIDS – The Junior League of Cedar Rapids (JLCR) will host the fourth annual JLCR: Fostering Strength event on Thursday, May 19th. This year's event will be a luncheon from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the DoubleTree by Hilton Convention Complex in downtown Cedar Rapids. Fostering Strength is Iowa's largest foster care advocacy event.

JLCR is excited to welcome keynote speaker, Travis Lloyd to speak at the event. Lloyd is a foster care expert, mental health professional, and hip-hop artist. An Iowa native, Lloyd is a leading authority on overcoming adversity, has personal experience with the foster care system, and is the author of *Overcoming Emotional Trauma*.

A cash and carry market begins at 11:00 AM and features goods from local businesses. The luncheon and presentation begin at noon. Proceeds from the Fostering Strength fundraiser support the Bridging the G.A.P. project to assist local foster youth in the Cedar Rapids area.

JLCR's current project, *Bridging the G.A.P. (Guide. Advocate. Provide.)*, began in June 2011, and focuses on the approximately 350 foster teens in our community. JLCR's efforts include support of bi-monthly meetings with foster youth (providing meals and teaching life skills), educating the public about the foster care system, advocacy efforts for those in the foster care system, and the donation of an "apartment in a suitcase," items young adults need to enter independent living, to every teen who ages out of foster care.

JLCR is an organization of women committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers. JLCR's membership is a diverse group of more than 300 active and sustaining members.

JLCR's purpose is exclusively educational and charitable. In 2016, JLCR celebrates its 82nd year of positively impacting the Cedar Rapids community.

Event: JLCR: Fostering Strength

Date/ Time: Thursday, May 19th 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Location: DoubleTree by Hilton Convention Complex

For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit: <https://www.juniorleaguecr.org/fostering-strength-2016/>

For more information on Bridging the G.A.P., please visit: <http://juniorleaguecr.org/projects/bridging-the-g-a-p/>

Junior League of Cedar Rapids is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

Junior League of Cedar Rapids

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