



New Member Packet

**Fort Bend Teen Service League
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*Fort Bend Teen Service League is a project of Fort Bend
Junior Service League ("FBJSL").
FBJSL is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.*



Why Should I Join the Fort Bend Teen Service League?

- 1. Learn the importance of volunteerism.*
- 2. Learn the importance of giving back to Fort Bend County.*
- 3. Make new friends from different high schools while helping Fort Bend County.*
- 4. Participate in social activities with new friends.*
- 5. Develop leadership skills.*
- 6. Develop planning and organizational skills.*
- 7. Team-work!*
- 8. Have fun!*

Fort Bend Teen Service League

The mission of the Fort Bend Teen Service League (“Teen League”) is to foster a sense of community responsibility in young women as well as to develop leadership skills through participation in philanthropy, educational activities and cultural events. Our purpose is exclusively educational and charitable as well as providing an atmosphere of friendliness, goodwill and camaraderie for all members. As the area’s leading young women’s volunteer service organization, the Teen League holds the following as its core values:

- * Providing a meaningful impact on our community’s needs
- * Recognizing our members as our most valuable asset
- * Embracing cultural diversity
- * Maintaining a tradition of excellence
- * Developing leadership skills in young women
- * Empowering young women to be leaders
- * Offering the fellowship of volunteering with other young women
- * Building on the FBJSL’s past accomplishments

The Teen League will improve Fort Bend County by providing effective young women volunteers to worthy charitable organizations through our volunteer efforts. We will be a leading organization in Fort Bend County that provides such charitable resources. The Teen League is a new organization of young women dedicated to providing volunteer services, leadership and philanthropy to enrich Fort Bend County. The Fort Bend Teen Service League will be widely recognized for its compassion, integrity and steadfast involvement in community outreach.

History of the Fort Bend Teen Service League

In the fall of 2005, a group of Fort Bend Junior Service League members were interested in encouraging their teenage daughters and neighborhood youth to make a life long commitment to volunteering in the community as they felt it was FBJSL’s responsibility to mentor and encourage their successors. A planning committee was formed in the fall of 2005, and FBJSL went to work developing a service program for Fort Bend County teenage girls. It was in this spirit of responsibility that Fort Bend Teen Service League was formed so that members of FBJSL could pass on to their daughters, nieces, and other special young ladies in their lives the joy of service and charity for the benefit of others. FBTSL welcomed its inaugural class in Spring 2006 with over 80 members and has since grown to over 100 members each year.

As a project of Fort Bend Junior Service League, the overall activities of FBTSL are governed by FBJSL’s Board of Directors. However, Teen League does have an Advisory Board of Directors, composed of FBJSL members, in place to coordinate, plan and oversee the membership requirements and service activities of Teen League members. The Advisory Board members have a Teen League Board counterpart in which they mentor in their respective leadership roles among their peers. Other FBJSL volunteers have chosen to serve as Teen League Mentors, a League placement in which they assist the Advisory Board in mentoring and overseeing Teen League members with their community service and membership responsibilities.

Members of Teen League are involved in various philanthropic activities in Fort Bend County that are supported by FBJSL through FBJSL’s approved core/community placements and fundraising events. When possible, FBJSL is able to extend their community outreach by approving service projects for Teen League that will benefit other local charitable organizations that are not currently supported with either FBJSL volunteers or financial assistance. It is the intent of Teen League to encourage its members to become caring, involved citizens of this community. As membership increases in Teen League, the spirit of responsibility and volunteerism increases and helps to promote life long volunteers.

Past Projects of FBTSL

The following are examples of some of the service projects Teen League has undertaken since its formation:

Red Cross Whales Tales: Several groups of 4-member teams were trained by the Red Cross on their Whales Tales Program which teaches young children about water safety. The trained teen volunteer groups then went to various day care centers during the summer and made a presentation to the children. It was very interactive and enlightening for the children. We hope to do more of these presentations as water safety is so important especially in the summer months.

Red Cross Nursing Home Visits: Our teens had some sensitivity training done by the Red Cross. The teens then used their training and had several visits to local nursing homes. The teens would play games, especially Bingo, do crafts, paint nails and visit with the residents. Many of the Seniors do not have family in the area and these visits benefit them enormously.

Rainbow Room School Supply Sorting: In August, several of our teens went to the Rainbow Room (which is really just a large closet in the CPS office.) They spent many hours organizing and filling social workers' orders for children for school supplies in order to begin the school year.

Rainbow Room Christmas Sorting Project: The teens organized and sorted all the many gifts that go to the children that are part of social services.

Rainbow Room Drives: Throughout the year, the teens have drives for items of specific need for the Rainbow Room. Some of these include Teddy Bears, toothbrushes, snack packs, drink boxes, and school supplies.

Women's Center Holiday Parties: The teens go to the shelter and put on a Halloween Party for about 30 children living at the shelter. It includes costumes, crafts, goodie bags, decorations and games. They also visit the shelter around Valentine's Day and create cards with the children at the shelter while enjoying punch, candy, and other holiday fun.

Literacy Council Multicultural Potluck: The Literacy Council invites their tutors, students and their families to a Multicultural Potluck. Our teens helped decorate and set up for the event by creating a culture themed room with the materials at hand. Each room represented a different culture where participants could learn about the culture and sample foods from that culture.

Child Advocates of Fort Bend (CAFB): The teens provided cookies for and served as hostesses in some of the homes for the CASA Home Tour of Fort Bend County in December.

KSLB Events: The teens volunteered for several Keep Sugar Land Beautiful events over the course of the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 years. Some of these events included the Recycle for Reuse, Boo Bash, planting trees at Sugar Land's Memorial Park, the Texas Trash-off event, and the Earth Day event. The teens learned and shared information about the importance of recycling and helping the environment.

Admission to Teen League Membership

The Teen League uses the following criteria, and the New Member Profile form requests only information based on this criteria:

A prospective member must be a young woman residing in Fort Bend County who will be entering grades 9th through 12th. She shall also possess the following:

1. Interest in volunteerism
2. Commitment to community service
3. Interest in developing her potential for voluntary community participation

A prospective member's mother does not need to be a member of FBJSL.

It is recommended that each prospective member and her parent or guardian attend a prospective member information session, in order to receive information regarding the privileges and responsibilities of this Teen League's membership and to express her interest in volunteerism, commitment to community service and interest in developing her potential for voluntary community participation.

Our league year runs from June 1st to May 31st. This is the timeframe that you must meet your requirements.

Beginning in May 2011, we will have informational meetings for prospective Teen League members. Registration forms and dues will be accepted at these informational meetings. Dates for additional meetings will be posted on our website or published in local publications.

Membership Requirements

A prospective member shall become a member upon the receipt of her dues and registration forms. No prospective member may attend any official Teen League function until she has submitted her paperwork and paid her dues, or her first installment of dues. The following are the requirements of membership:

1. Must attend 5 out of 8 general meetings. If an emergency arises and you are unable to attend a meeting, you should make every effort to contact a board member, primarily the Director of Membership.
2. Attend the new member luncheon on Saturday, August 13, 2011 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Carino's Italian in Missouri City. A luncheon invitation will follow with additional details.
3. Pay annual dues and fees with your registration application.

Members are required to pay annual membership dues of \$75.00.

In addition, a one-time registration fee of \$50.00 is due with your registration forms.

4. All Members MUST complete eight (8) service projects of which four (4) will be done in the Fall and four (4) will be done in the Spring either on a core placement (current core placements include: Fort Bend County Women's Center, Literacy Council of Fort Bend, Fort Bend Community Partners Rainbow Room, Child Advocates of Fort Bend, East Fort Bend Human Needs Ministry, Memorial Herman Sugar Land Hospital, Fort Bend Seniors and Houston Museum of Natural Science), FBJSL project (current FBJSL projects include: Charity Ball, Sugar Plum Market, and the Cookbook), or on another project/event approved by the FBJSL Board and Teen League Advisory Board.
5. 5. Service hours shall be completed by the May meeting and reported by May 31st of that year.

General Meeting Information

General Meetings are held eight times a year at Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce (meeting venue subject to change). Their purpose is to educate members about relevant Teen League issues and to provide a sense of belonging for the members. Each member is required to attend at least 5 of the 8 monthly meetings.

Time: Social hour/Dinner begins at 6:30 p.m.
General meeting begins at 7:00 p.m.

Place: Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce, 445 Commerce Green Blvd, Sugar Land, TX 77478

Dates: General meetings will be held in the months listed below. Meetings are usually held during the third week of the month on various days of the week to allow for more attendance.

September	February
October	March
November	April
January	May

Volunteer Opportunities

Community Placements

FBJSL and FBTSL currently focus our direct service volunteer efforts at eight placements in the Fort Bend community. Our members give tirelessly to Child Advocates of Fort Bend, Fort Bend County Women's Center, Fort Bend Community Partners Rainbow Room, Literacy Council of Fort Bend, East Fort Bend Human Needs Ministry, Memorial Hermann Sugar Land Hospital, Fort Bend Seniors, and Houston Museum of Natural Science.

Child Advocates of Fort Bend (CAFB) is committed to helping children navigate the path to permanency because they believe every child deserves a safe and permanent home. Child Advocates offers the Teen League many volunteer opportunities to participate in, including: working on fundraisers such as the CASA Christmas Home Tour and the CASA Gala as well as coordinating child abuse prevention month activities. Your participation in this placement can make a difference in the life of an abused and neglected child in your community.

Fort Bend County Women's Center focuses on serving the needs of survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault, and their children, by providing emergency shelter, crisis intervention, counseling, support services and educational outreach. The Women's Center provides many volunteer opportunities to the Teen League, including: planning and participating in parties for the mothers and children at the shelter and working on fundraisers benefiting the agency such as the Boogie, Music Fest, and the Girlfriends Giggle. Through these various opportunities, we can help survivors of domestic violence and their children.

Fort Bend Community Partners Rainbow Room is an actual room connected to the Fort Bend County CPS office. This is where children are taken directly after they have been removed from their homes. This room supplies diapers, wipes, teddy bears, blankets, etc., providing comfort items for children. Teen League volunteer opportunities include working on special projects such as the Christmas project and school supply drive. By volunteering at the Rainbow Room, we can really make a difference in a child's life.

The Literacy Council of Fort Bend is committed to providing leadership to Fort Bend County literacy efforts through advocacy and the provision of services to functionally illiterate adults and those with limited English proficiency. The Literacy Council serves adults who have made the commitment to help themselves improve their own lives and those of their families. Teen League volunteers will assist the council by helping with events such as Bike the Bend and the Multicultural Potluck. This direct interaction with the community is a very enriching experience for all.

East Fort Bend Human Needs Ministry is a non-profit organization, incorporated in 1990 to serve the basic human needs of families in temporary financial crisis. The Food Pantry, Financial Assistance Program and Tri-City Churches Resale Shop combine to help alleviate some of the financial pressure on families and individuals while they get their lives back on track.

Memorial Hermann Sugar Land Hospital is a 5-story, 77 bed, full-service, acute care hospital. The hospital is a member of the Memorial Hermann Healthcare System, the largest community-based, not-for-profit health care system in Texas.

Fort Bend Seniors has been committed to helping senior citizens of Fort Bend County remain independent by enhancing their quality of life through services and resources since 1974 through their Meals on Wheels program.

New FBJSL Placement for 2011-2012 – Teen League activities for this placement is TBD.

Houston Museum of Natural Science mission statement is "To preserve and advance the general knowledge of natural science; enhance in individuals the knowledge and delight in natural science and related subjects; and maintain and promote a museum of the first class."

Fort Bend Junior Service League Events

This year, Teen League will help with three projects/fundraisers planned by the Fort Bend Junior Service League for the benefit of our local youth and a variety of other organizations within the community. Our members will be donating their time to the following projects and fundraising events: Cookbook, Charity Ball, and the Sugar Plum Market.

Charity Ball is a formal event featuring a buffet dinner, live entertainment, and silent/live auctions. As a teen volunteer for the gala you will be responsible for helping with setup before the event, signing in guests, acting as a runner for the auction at the event, and taking down on Saturday after the event (March 3, 2012).

Treasures from the Bend, Rich in History & Flavor was launched in Fall 2009 as FBJSLS's second cookbook. Teen League will continue to volunteer at events to sell this award-winning cookbook (year round)

Sugar Plum Market is a fabulous two-day shopping extravaganza held the first weekend in November each year. It is a fun-filled two-day event with food, shopping, raffle, fashion shows, and live entertainment. Teen League volunteers are instrumental in helping man various stations at the Market during event days and helping the committee with setup and tear down the week of the Market (November 4 & 5, 2011) This year Preview Night is on Thursday, November 3rd, which may provide additional opportunities for FBTSL members.



2011-2012 Advisory Board of Directors

The Advisory Board is composed of FBJSL members appointed by the FBJSL Board of Directors.

President:	Shannon Woodruff
Vice President – Administration:	Amy Rowzee
Vice President – Special Events:	Bonnie Amaris
Secretary:	Gina Guerrero
Director of Membership:	Tammy Blackburn
Director of Development:	Wende Lewis Buckley
Director of Publicity:	Aimee Frederick
Placement Coordinator:	Joelle Nelson
Past President:	Susan Bakus

2010-2011 Teen League Board of Directors

The Teen League Board is composed of teens slated by a nominating committee composed of members from the FBJSL Board and Advisory Board and elected by the Teen League membership. The 2011-2012 board will be elected at the May general FBTSL meeting.

President:	Haley McDowell
President-Elect:	Kaitlin McDonald
Vice President:	Priyanka Mehta
Vice President – Special Events:	Avani Patel
Vice President – Special Events:	Sejal Lahoti
Vice President – Special Events:	Katherine Saunders
Vice President – Special Events:	Megan Scruggs
Treasurer:	Joyce Toh
Secretary:	Julie St. Martin
Director of Membership:	Kritika Musli
Director of Development:	Jill Koenighain
Director of Publicity:	Kelly Qian
Historian:	Ailen Vega
Placement Coordinator:	Paige Lambert
Past President:	Katie Kuhn