



Membership Information

Fort Bend Teen Service League

P.O. Box 17387

Sugar Land, Texas 77496

Phone: 281-636-6272

Email: teenleague@fbjssl.com

*Fort Bend Teen Service League is a project of Fort Bend
Junior Service League ("FBJSL").*

FBJSL is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.



General Information

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 an organization of young women dedicated to providing volunteer services, leadership and philanthropy to enrich Fort Bend County. The Fort Bend Teen Service League is 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 lifelong 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 the spring of 2006 with over 80 members and has since grown to around 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 Committee, composed of FBJSL members, in place to coordinate, plan and oversee the membership requirements and service activities of Teen League members. The Advisory Committee members have a Teen League Leadership Committee 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 Committee 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 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 lifelong volunteers.

History of Fort Bend Junior Service League

In the 1990s, Fort Bend County was an area experiencing tremendous growth, ranked in the top five fastest growing counties in the nation. As the population grew, the needs of the county grew as well. While a number of service organizations already existed to support the Greater Houston area, there was not one specifically dedicated to meeting the needs of Fort Bend County or geared towards the women in the area.

Recognizing this need, an enthusiastic group of women came together in the summer of 2000 for the sole purpose of forming a service organization where they could focus their time and efforts to promote, support, and fulfill the needs of Fort Bend County. With the help of community leaders, a new program for local volunteers was developed. For the next six months, endless hours were spent spreading the word through Fort Bend County that a new service organization for women was being formed.

In January 2001, the Fort Bend Junior Service League was officially incorporated with 16 charter members. These women and their passion for community service helped to pave the way in establishing FBJSL as a caring, committed, and recognizable presence in Fort Bend County today!

Since that time, the League has grown to over 300 members. Today, the League continues to thrive and has made a significant impact on the Fort Bend community in its short existence. In the past year alone, our members donated more than 20,000 service hours to the community. Since the inception of FBJSL, our fundraising efforts have allowed us to raise \$3.9 million for local charities.

General Meeting Information

General Meetings are held two times a year. 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 both general meetings.

Dates:

Sunday, August 25, 2019 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Kick-Off Social and General Meeting

Location is TBD

Dress code: Comfortable casual, no short shorts

Tuesday, May 12, 2020 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

General Meeting and Year End Banquet

Location is TBD

Dress code: Dress or Dress pants

Monthly Mandatory Social Information

In addition to the 2 General Meetings, we will have monthly socials on the third Tuesday of the month from 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. with the exception of November (due to Holiday week) which will be held on the second Tuesday and December there will be no social. Attendance at five of the seven socials is mandatory. Please mark the following dates on your calendar. Socials are held at Sugar Land Market H-E-B, located in the Community Room at 530 Hwy 6, Sugar Land 77478.

September 17, 2019

October 15, 2019

November 12, 2019

January 21, 2020

February 18, 2020

March 17, 2020

April 21, 2020

Fort Bend Teen Service League

Guidelines

Mission

The purpose of the Fort Bend Teen Service 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.

Vision

Fort Bend Teen Service 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 young women's organization in Fort Bend County that provides such charitable resources.

Governance

Fort Bend Junior Service League

1. Fort Bend Teen Service League ("FBTSL" or "Teen League") is a project of Fort Bend Junior Service League ("FBJSL").
2. FBJSJL is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization.
3. FBJSJL Board of Directors ("FBJSJL Board") shall set forth the guidelines of Teen League.
4. All actions of Teen League are subject to approval by FBJSJL Board.

Teen League Advisory Committee

1. An Advisory Committee shall be appointed by FBJSJL Board to oversee the activities of Teen League and mentor the Teen League Leadership Committee and members.
2. The Advisory Committee shall be composed of FBJSJL members.
3. The Advisory Committee shall consist of a Chairman, four ad-hoc members, and an Immediate Past President (optional), collectively referred to as the "Advisory Committee".
4. The number of Advisory Committee members can be either increased or decreased by FBJSJL Board.
5. All actions of the Advisory Committee are subject to review and approval by FBJSJL Board.

Policies

The Teen League does not discriminate on the basis of race, creed, religion or national origin. All policies and actions of Teen League, including any amendments to the guidelines and/or requirements of Teen League are subject to approval by FBJSJL Board of Directors.

Membership

Admission to Membership

1. A prospective member does not need to be related to a current or past member of FBJSJL.

2. A prospective member shall:
 - a. reside in the Fort Bend County area.
 - b. be a young woman entering grades 9th through 12th.
 - c. possess the following:
 - Interest in volunteerism
 - Commitment to community service
 - Interest in developing her potential for voluntary community participation.
 - d. become a member upon the receipt of her paperwork, annual dues (\$75) and one-time registration fee (\$50) on or before the Kickoff Social. No prospective member may attend any official Teen League-only functions until she has paid her dues.
3. A prospective member shall
 - a. have a personal email account
 - b. be willing to create a Sign-Up Genius account.

Reinstatement to Membership

A former FBTSL member in good standing may be reinstated upon receipt of the following on or before the Kickoff Social: Updated paperwork and annual dues in the amount of \$75.

Resignation from Membership

A member may resign at any time in writing. Resignations shall be submitted jointly to the Teen Leadership Committee Chairman and Advisory Committee Chairman. A resignation shall not relieve a member from any obligation incurred before resignation. If all obligations have been met at the time of resignation, the Teen League member shall have resigned in good standing.

Requirements for Good Standing

A member is considered to be in good standing if she has:

1. fulfilled her required financial, service and attendance obligations.
2. satisfied penalties imposed as a result of her failure to fulfill any of her required obligations.

Suspension and Termination of Membership

Membership in Teen League can be suspended for causes including:

1. nonpayment of annual dues and other financial obligations.
2. failure to meet service requirements.
3. failure to meet attendance requirements at the two general meetings.

Membership in Teen League can be immediately terminated for causes including:

1. any use of drugs or alcohol or any participation in felony activities.
2. failure to conduct oneself in a respectable manner at all Teen League or FBJSJL meetings, functions and events.
3. disrespect of any Teen League members, Advisory Committee Members, or FBJSJL Members.
4. failure to comply with rules or laws regarding Teen League or FBJSJL sponsored projects and fundraising activities.

Procedures for Removal from Membership

A member with suspended privileges shall only be removed from membership in Teen League if the following procedures have been followed:

1. The Advisory Committee shall notify the member in writing of the specific cause(s) that have resulted in removal proceedings from this Teen League.
2. Opportunities shall be given to the member to fulfill her delinquent obligations with a specified time period in which to do so.
3. Fines may be assessed if the Teen Member has not fulfilled their obligation(s) within the specified time period. The Advisory Committee shall notify the member in writing of her fine.
4. The Teen Member shall be given the opportunity to pay her fine and/or give an explanation verbally or in writing to the Advisory Committee.
5. If a Teen Member fails to fulfill her obligations, pay a fine, or provide an explanation, she can then be removed from membership by the Advisory Committee with written notification.
6. FBJSJL Board must approve the removal of a Teen Member.
7. The joint decision of the Advisory Committee and FBJSJL Board shall be final.

Financial Obligations

Dues & Registration Fees

1. All returning members are required to pay annual dues in the amount of \$75 on or before the Kickoff Social.
2. Annual dues for returning members shall be considered delinquent if not paid on or before the Kickoff Social.
3. New members shall be required to pay a one-time registration fee in the amount of \$50.
4. All dues and fees are nonrefundable.
6. All dues and fees can be paid with cash, check, or online with a credit card.

Fines

1. A fine of \$25 may be assessed for delinquent payment of dues.
2. A fine of \$20 per project may be assessed for service requirements not completed.
3. A fine of \$25 - may be assessed for each missed meeting or social.
4. A fine of \$20 per project may be assessed to members who sign up for a project and do not attend.

Miscellaneous Fees.

1. Fees may be assessed for attendance at cultural and social events to cover all related expenses.
2. Teen League shall be reimbursed by the member for financial commitments and/or reservations made by the member if reasonable notification/cancellation was not provided by the member to Teen League prior to the specified deadline. *(Example: If you RSVP that you are planning to attend something that has an additional cost and you end up not attending, you are still responsible for the cost if you do not cancel prior to the date of what you are attending.)*

Financial Hardship

In a case of personal financial hardship, the Advisory Committee and FBJSL Board may jointly waive any or all financial obligations for a member. All such situations will be held in strictest confidence. It is up to the member to present a written request to the Advisory Committee explaining why she is not able to meet her financial requirements and the amount she is requesting be waived. The Advisory Committee Chairman shall present a copy of any such request to FBJSL President for review by FBJSL Board. The Advisory Committee shall notify the member of any amount that has been waived.

Service Obligations

- All members (returning and new) MUST complete eight (8) service projects throughout the course of the Teen League year. All projects must be projects offered through Teen League project sign-ups.
- Service hours shall be completed by the May meeting and reported by June 1 of that year.
- All project sign-ups will be handled via Sign-Up Genius. All members must have their own email address in order to access the Sign-Up Genius system. We will no longer allow parent emails to be used in order to verify attendance by our members.
- Sign Up Genius does not require members to set up an account to sign up for projects. However, if a member prefers to receive a text reminder for their projects, the member will need to set up a Sign-Up Genius account and add their mobile number information to the account. Teen League has no ability to set up text reminders for members.
- Project sign-ups will be sent out via Sign-Up Genius by email. Members are responsible for monitoring their own email and signing up for projects as they are made available. Members will be able to remove themselves from project sign-ups through a certain deadline. After the closed deadline for each project, members are expected to attend the project.
- Members who sign up and do not show up for any project will owe fines. Members who do not show up for more than 3 projects risk removal from Teen League with no refunds. We are unable to find replacements for members after the project deadline. Being short-staffed for our charities is unprofessional. We appreciate every member's commitment to the community.

Meetings of Members

Attendance

1. Members must attend both of the general meetings. A fine may be assessed for each absence.
2. New members are required to attend an informational meeting.

Location

All meetings and functions of the Fort Bend Teen Service League shall be held at facilities that do not discriminate against women or on the basis of race, religion or national origin.

Quorum

The number of members attending a membership meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Voting

1. Members must be present in order to vote. There shall be no absentee ballots.
2. Any votes taken by the members are subject to review and approval by the Advisory Committee and FBJSL Board of Directors.

Parliamentarian

1. A member of the Teen League Leadership Committee, as selected by the Advisory Committee, shall serve as Parliamentarian.
2. The Parliamentarian shall use the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised to guide the proceedings of the Teen League.

Teen League Leadership Committee

Members

The Teen League Leadership Committee, composed of teen members, shall consist of a Chairman and up to eight ad-hoc members (collectively referred to as the "Teen Leadership Committee").

Eligibility

To be eligible for the Teen Leadership Committee, a member must be in good standing.

Nominations

1. Applications for the Teen Leadership Committee are due to the Advisory Committee Chairman no later than the April General Meeting. The nomination period can be extended by joint decision of the Advisory Committee and FBJSL Board.

2. The Advisory Committee Chairman will set up interviews with Teen Leadership Committee applicants sometime in April. The interviews will be managed by existing Adult Advisory Committee members, new Adult Advisory Committee members, and the current Teen Advisory Committee Chairman.
3. The announcement of the new Teen Leadership Committee will be made at the May Banquet.

Election, Term, and Assumption of Office

The Teen Leadership Committee shall be elected at the May general meeting of the Teen League for a one (1) year term. All elected officers shall assume their duties immediately following the May general meeting.

Quorum

A majority of the members of the Teen Leadership Committee present at a Teen Leadership Committee meeting shall constitute a quorum.

Resignations

Any committee member may resign effective upon giving written notice to the Chairman, unless a later date is specified in the notice of resignation. The resignation need not be accepted to be effective.

Vacancies

1. Vacancies occurring on the Teen Leadership Committee shall be filled by the Chairman with a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Teen Leadership Committee, subject to confirmation by the Advisory Committee and FBJSL Board.
2. If there is a vacancy in the Chairmanship, it will be filled by someone on the Teen Leadership Committee with a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Teen Leadership Committee, subject to confirmation by the Advisory Committee and FBJSL Board.
3. Teen League members may elect an officer to the Teen Leadership Committee at any time to fill any vacancy not filled by the Teen Leadership Committee.

Fort Bend Junior Service League Core Placements 2018-19 (2019-2020 TBD)

FBJSL and Teen League currently focus our direct service volunteer efforts at six placements, noted below, in the Fort Bend County community. Teen League also works with local schools and other charitable organizations that request our help. Our members have the opportunity to work with a variety of organizations in a variety of ways.

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.

Houston Museum of Natural Science – Sugar Land 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.” Teen League volunteers assist the HMNS by providing volunteers at community events to include family game night and specific holiday events.

Lunches of Love is a non-profit organization committed to helping end childhood hunger in Rosenberg-Richmond by providing a free nutritious sack lunch during extended school holidays and weekends. Teen League volunteers will assist this organization in preparing food for distribution.

Gigi’s Playhouses are Down syndrome achievement centers. Our Vision is to see a world where individuals with Down syndrome are accepted and embraced in their families, schools and communities. We are a unique Down Syndrome organization providing a permanent brick and mortar location offering direct education and therapeutic programs to our clients, their families and community.

Reining Strength is a Premier Accredited Center through the Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship, International (Path Intl.) and provides therapeutic horsemanship programs for people of all ages – children and adults – who have physical, cognitive, social or emotional needs.

Fort Bend Children’s Discovery Center is transforming communities through innovative, child-centered learning. The Fort Bend Children’s Discovery Center offers a multitude of exhibits that engage kids in the ultimate learning experience.

Fort Bend Junior Service League Events

This year, Teen League will help with the Sugar Plum Market. The Market is the League’s primary event/fundraiser planned by the Fort Bend Junior Service League. The Market benefits many different Fort Bend County charitable organizations.

Sugar Plum Market is a fabulous shopping extravaganza held in November each year. It is a fun-filled event with food, shopping, and raffles. 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.

Past Teen League Projects and Volunteer Opportunities

The following are examples of some of the service projects the Teen League has undertaken in the past:

KSLB Events: The teens have volunteered for several Keep Sugar Land Beautiful events in the past. Some of these events included the Recycle for Reuse, Boo Bash, tree planting in 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.

Literacy Council Holiday Event: The Literacy Council invites their tutors, students, and their families to a Holiday Open House. Light hors d'oeuvres are provided by the Literacy League and the Literacy Council provides drinks (punch and coffee). The teens provide the craft/ornament. The teens also had a story time with the children.

Rainbow Room School Supply Drive: In August, several of our teens went to the Rainbow Room and 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.

Women's Center Craft Days/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 have helped to make Valentine's Day and Mother's Day more special for the children and mothers in the shelter by doing crafts with the children and hosting parties for the loved ones of these children in the shelter.

Houston Museum of Natural Science (Sugar Land). The Museum creates community events such as Solve it Crime Lab, Festivals Around the World, Spooktacular and Dog Daze. Teens assist with the events by manning activities and games, walking dogs, dressing up in Halloween attire and assisting families with games and crafts.

THE FORT BEND TEEN SERVICE LEAGUE POSITION STATEMENTS AND PLANS OF ACTION

AGING

The League is committed to supporting and promoting programs and services that benefit the physical, economic, mental, emotional, intellectual and social well being of senior adults.

ARTS AND CULTURAL ENRICHMENT

The League is committed to the development, support and accessibility of the arts and encourages the availability of cultural opportunities to all members of the community.

CHILDREN

The League is committed to ensuring that children and their families have access to opportunities and services essential for the child's physical, intellectual, emotional, mental and social growth, and supports such opportunities and services.

DEPENDENT PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

The League is committed to recognizing that dependent persons with physical, mental and emotional disabilities, and their caregivers, face many difficult problems with limited choices. We support the development and funding of quality programs, services and living arrangements for dependent adults and their caregivers. We further support increasing public awareness and volunteerism on these issues.

DIVERSITY

The League is committed to supporting efforts to create a greater appreciation of similarities and understanding the value of differences in all people. The League will support programs and services which reflect awareness of the increasing racial, religious and ethnic diversity of the Fort Bend area.

EDUCATION

The League supports and promotes quality education and is committed to using its resources to positively impact the education of all children and adults. We, therefore, will support community efforts, legislative initiatives and judicial actions that promote quality education for all members of the community.

ENVIRONMENT

The League is committed to promoting environmental awareness and encouraging responsibility in the attainment of a safer, cleaner and healthier environment in order to protect, enhance and preserve the quality of life today and for future generations.

HEALTH

The League is committed to supporting quality, affordable health and human services and comprehensive health education for every state of life and for all people in the Fort Bend community.

HOMELESSNESS

The League is committed in recognizing the needs of those families and individuals in our community who are considered homeless; those lacking a fixed, regular and recognized residence. We support comprehensive services and efforts to address homelessness. We advocate strategies that include intervention as well as prevention.

HUNGER

The League is committed to recognizing that adequate food is essential to the well-being of all men, women and children. We support comprehensive services and efforts to feed the hungry.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The League is committed to supporting education, advocacy and action to meet the short-term needs of the economically disadvantaged and to aid in developing long-term solutions.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE

The League is committed to supporting funding and community projects that promote education and intervention to prevent substance abuse by children and adults.

VIOLENCE

The League is committed to the elimination of violence by supporting programs and services designed to understand the problem of violence, to assist, educate and protect the victims, and to work effectively with abusers and/or potential abusers.

VOLUNTEERISM

The League is committed to volunteerism and will support efforts to ensure the future of volunteers in the community and the promotion of trained volunteers in direct community service.

WOMEN

The League supports and promotes efforts that it deems appropriate to ensure the intellectual, economic, social, mental, physical and emotional well-being of women.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

League Year:

September 1 – May 31

Mailing Address:

Fort Bend Teen Service League (FBTSL)
P.O. Box 17387
Sugar Land, Texas 77496

IS THE TEEN LEAGUE TAX-EXEMPT?

Fort Bend Junior Service League (“FBJS”) is classified as an U.S. Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(3) non-profit organization and is exempt from paying federal income tax. FBJS is also exempt from paying state sales tax on items purchased by FBJS members for FBJS use. As a project of FBJS, this also applies to the Teen League. You may obtain a copy of FBJS State Sales Tax Exempt form for Teen League purchases by contacting the Treasurer.

CAN THE LEAGUE MAILING LIST BE USED FOR MAILINGS FOR OTHER GROUPS?

Teen League list is for personal use of FBJS and FBTSL members ONLY.

HOW DO YOU GET PUBLICITY FOR YOUR LEAGUE ACTIVITY?

Always consult with the Teen Leadership Committee concerning any publicity that will be going to the public.

IF SOMEONE ASKS YOU “HOW DO I JOIN FBTSL?”

Be candid and informative, while briefly explaining that ours is a volunteer-based organization. At this time, there need not be an invitation to join. Explain our age requirements and stress our emphasis on volunteer services. Tell them that they can contact the current Teen Leadership Committee or Advisory Committee at teenleague@fbjstl.com for information on the next new member class. Also emphasize that Fort Bend Teen Service League reaches out to all young women who demonstrate a commitment to volunteerism.

WHAT ARE ANNUAL DUES?

Each member must pay annual dues of \$75.00.

All new members must pay an additional one-time \$50.00 registration fee.

All dues are non-refundable.