

#### DIRECTOR SPOTLIGHT



We hosted a graduation ceremony on May 30th to honor 21 members of this year's Leadership class.

Project team topics were: Health/ Youth, Community Awareness/ Growth, Social Concerns and Arts.

Are you interested in being a part of Leadership Jackson County? If so, we are recruiting members for the 2024-2025 class. To receive and submit an application go to:

www.leadershipjacksoncounty.com.

- Rexanne Ude

#### SPONSOR SHOUT OUT



Thank you to Premier Companies for continuing to support Leadership Jackson County!

# **2024 Graduation Edition**

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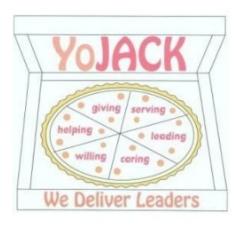
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# What is YoJack?

YoJack is a leadership program for the youth of Jackson County. The mission is to develop leadership skills at an early age and to promote positive culture among youth that teaches them to deal with issues greater than themselves.

YoJack brings together eighth grade middle school youth from ten schools in Jackson County. Two cohorts of youth complete YoJack each school year: an August-December cohort and a January-May cohort. Similar to the adult program, YoJack participants learn more about Jackson County and participate in a community service project during the course of the program.

YoJack is offered at <u>no cost</u> to all participants and relies on financial support from corporate and individual sponsors and the fundraising efforts of LJC. If you would like more information on how to help support YoJack, please email Karen Haas, YoJack Director, at yojackindiana@gmail.com.







#### Leadership Class of 2024

"Be The Example" was the theme for this year's Leadership Jackson County cohort. On May 30th, The 21 members of the class of 2024 highlighted their projects and celebrated their achievements during their graduation ceremony at Pewter Hall.





Knowing what is right doesn't mean anything unless you do what is right. –Franklin Roosevelt

### LJC Class of 2024 Projects

# Art: Pop-Up Art Gallery

Team Members: Amanda Gee, Kristi Gray, Kyle McIntosh, Shaney Smith

On April 20th, a Pop-Up Art Gallery was held at Jackson County Public Library to highlight local artists. In partnership with SICA, the event showcased 20 local artists, including 3 youth and 17 adult artists from Jackson County. Also at this event were 5 local food vendors. The team reported that the Pop-Up Art Gallery attracted more than 100 attendees in its inaugural year, but they hope to share local art with even more residents by offering similar events across the county in the future.

# Community Growth/Awareness: Fashion Forward

Team Members: Kathy Barber, Aspen Cooper, Angie Hallow, Jena Hanks, Alison Schryer

This team focused on supporting residents of Jackson County who are in need of clothing and other basic items. To do so, they organized a clothing drive and held a Fashion Forward event on May 11th, highlighting local boutiques, creators and food vendors, while raising funds that were used to purchase toiletries and other basic items. The team is hoping to find an organization in Jackson County that is willing to support Fashion Forward as an annual event.

# Health & Youth: Get Moving

Team Members: Jada Collins, Tammy Hamp, Kristen Hines, Lute Lahrman, Colin Smith, Andy Wolka

In partnership with Healthy Jackson County and the 5210 project, this team's goal was to help encourage youth to participate in at least 1 hour of daily physical activity. To accomplish this, they filmed a series of short videos geared toward encouraging elementary-aged youth to develop healthy habits, specifically focused on physical activity. The videos have been published on the Healthy Jackson County YouTube channel and the team is hoping that local schools will not only show the videos to their students, but also that schools will create their own videos to highlight ways youth can be more physically active.

### Social Concerns: Festival Latino

Team Members: Mickey Ault, Ryan Cesarski, Vicki Conway, Emily Engelking, Heather Kasting, Angie Wieneke

To support and raise awareness of the Latino culture throughout Jackson County, this team worked with Su Casa to develop the Festival Latino event. This event will showcase the valuable and diverse cultures that are growing and enriching our communities and the hope is that this will become an annual celebration in our county. The team is hoping this event can take place later this year.





#### LJC Class of 2024

















#### Supporting Leadership

Did you know that Leadership Jackson County benefits annually from a fund administered by the Community Foundation of Jackson County? Your gifts to help that fund grow can be made to the Nita Mousa YoJack Fund. Gifts may take the form of a memorial for a loved one, to mark milestones in the lives of your family and friends, and they can be part of your estate planning. Earnings from your gifts to the fund, or an endowment you may choose to start, can benefit YoJack for years to come. For information about how you can donate now or through planned giving, call Foundation President & CEO, Dan Davis, at (812) 523-4483.



LJC Board President, William Braman, accepted an annual grant disbursement from the Nita Mousa YoJack Fund. Dan Davis presented the check during the April LJC board meeting.

If you are interested in providing financial support for Jackson County Leadership programs, please visit our website or scan the QR code below: www.leadershipjacksoncounty.com/support



You may also choose to support YoJack through the Community Foundation of Jackson County.

#### We want to hear from you!

What you like to see in future editions of our quarterly newsletter? Feel free to reach out to us via our website or on Facebook with your ideas.

https://www.leadershipjacksoncounty.com/



