

FACT SHEET

LET'S ACHIEVE TOGETHER

Junior Achievement is committed to delivering relevant, compelling, and innovative educational experiences that build young people's capacity, spur economic development, and contribute to global advancement. In partnership with many organizations and volunteers, JA is transforming the student experience with **in-person and virtual programs** that apply everyday learning to energize students and enhance their education. Our focus on **financial literacy, work and career readiness, and entrepreneurship** will empower the next generations to build a better future for themselves and their community.



OUR VALUES

- Belief in the boundless potential of young people
- Commitment to the principles of market-based economics and entrepreneurship
- Belief in the power of partnership and collaboration
- Conviction in the educational and motivational impact of relevant, hands-on learning

OUR SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITMENT

We at JA of Washington stand for social justice. We are committed to educating in a way that dismantles inequality, racism, and oppression and sparking honest conversations in our communities. The future we envision and for which we prepare our students cannot exist unless we become catalysts for change. We pledge to do better. We must all do better.

WHAT IS JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT?

Junior Achievement (JA) is the nation's largest organization dedicated to giving young people the knowledge and skills they need to own their economic success, plan for their future, and make smart academic and economic choices. JA of Washington is funded by over 3,600 corporate and private contributors as well as special events.

PROGRAM REACH — Meeting You Where You Are

In 2019-20, JA of Washington reached 35,235 students in over 1,273 classrooms and out-of-school locations. In response to the pandemic, JA shifted many of its programs to the digital sphere. Platforms such as Google Hangout, Zoom, Schoology, MS Teams, and more are being used to connect volunteers, educators, and students with JA's virtual programs to meet them where they're at, no matter their school situation. The goal for 2020-21 is 35,415 students.

VOLUNTEER MODEL

JA of Washington's over 5,000 volunteers come from all walks of life, including business experts, college students, parents, and retirees. These dedicated individuals serve as job shadow hosts, classroom/virtual and JA Capstone program mentors and volunteers, and are the backbone of our organization.

PROVEN SUCCESS

JA uses independent, third-party evaluators to gauge the impact of its programs. Since 1993, evaluators have conducted studies on the effectiveness of Junior Achievement's programs. Findings prove that JA programs have a positive impact in a number of critical areas. Summaries of the results are also published in the JA Programs section at jawashington.org/programs.

ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW

A local volunteer Board of Directors provides strategic leadership and direction for JA of Washington in its six regions. Each Board is comprised of business, education, and civic leaders, representing a wide range of companies and academic institutions across Washington state. These Boards set the policy and direction for each region. Lisa Stirgus, Chief Experience Officer at Harborstone Credit Union is Chair of Junior Achievement of Washington's Statewide Board of Directors. Natalie Vega O'Neil is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Junior Achievement of Washington.