# Impact Report 2022-23





















#### Dear Supporters,

At Junior Achievement of Greater Fairfield County (JAGFC), we are dedicated to providing young people with the skills and knowledge essential for success in adulthood. Program content, along with access to mentors and opportunities for social-emotional growth, guide students toward a brighter future.

Boundless Possibility is the guiding principle both for our organization and for the youth we support. As our organization continues to grow, reaching more



students with powerful student experiences, we can deliver on the promise of our mission, nurturing youth with possibility and with hope.

We hope this report inspires you to support our mission and our students.

Sincerely,

Bernadine Verditto

**Bernadine Venditto** President, JA of Greater Fairfield County

**Michael Steinharter** Chair, JA of Greater Fairfield County Board of Directors

# MISSION AND VISION

JA's mission is to inspire and prepare young people to succeed in a global economy. Through learning experiences taught by volunteer role models, we equip students with essential knowledge and skills. Our vision is for young people to develop the skillset and mindset to build thriving communities.



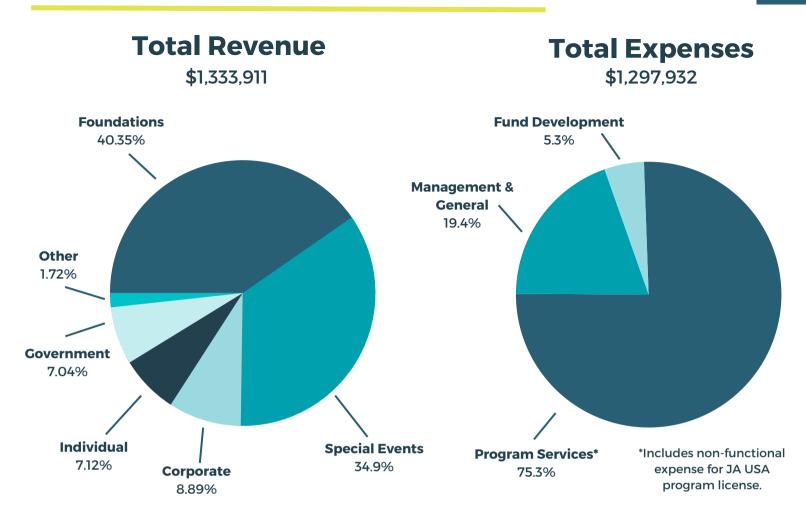
## **PROGRAMS AND PATHWAYS**

We work with local youth and community members to achieve greater social and economic equity through programs focused on financial literacy, work and career readiness, and entrepreneurship.

## **CORE VALUES**

- Believe in the **boundless potential** of young people to be future leaders
- **Inspire curiosity** through education and exposure to possibilities
- Teach and model skills that help to build a more **inclusive and equitable community**

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2022-2023



# **SERVICE TERRITORY\***



\*Service territory shows where we can provide program. The towns and schools receiving services vary from year to year.

#### Greater Danbury Area:

Bethel, Brookfield, Danbury\*\*, Monroe, New Fairfield, New Milford, Newtown, Redding, Ridgefield, Sherman, Wilton

#### Valley Area:

Ansonia\*\*, Derby\*\*, Seymour, Shelton

#### Lower Fairfield Area:

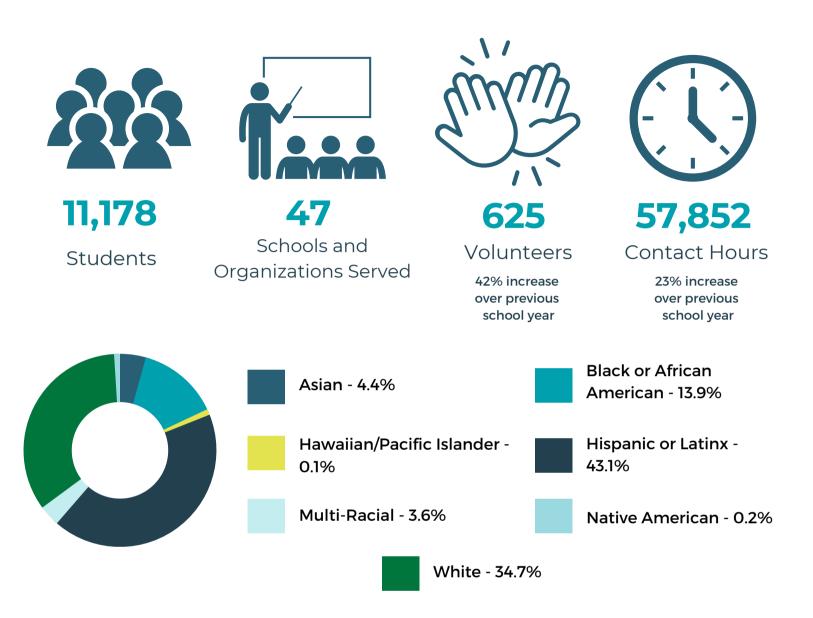
Darien, Greenwich, New Canaan, Norwalk\*\*, Stamford\*\*, Weston

#### Greater Bridgeport Area:

Bridgeport\*\*, Easton, Fairfield, Stratford, Trumbull, Westport

\*\*Priority school districts and communities.

# 2022-23 STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS



# **DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION**

Financial literacy, workforce readiness, and entrepreneurship are vital components of social justice, ensuring that individuals, particularly those from marginalized communities, have the knowledge and tools to navigate the complexities of the financial system. It empowers people to make informed decisions about saving, investing, and budgeting, reducing their vulnerability to exploitation and predatory financial practices. By promoting these pillars, Junior Achievement levels the playing field, providing access to economic opportunities and resources. It enhances social mobility, reduces wealth disparities, and fosters a fairer society, ultimately contributing to broader social justice goals by creating a more equitable and inclusive financial landscape for all.

# **SUCCESS STORIES**

Together with our partners, Junior Achievement empowers the next generation by equipping them with the knowledge and skills to build successful futures for themselves. JA helps students to develop successful financial management habits, empowers them to explore the potential of becoming an aspiring entrepreneur, and provides them with the skills necessary to succeed in a global workforce.



#### **EMPOWERED FOR CHANGE**

This past spring at Central High School in Bridgeport, a group of female eleventh and twelfth grade students were joined by a highly skilled, successful, and distinguished panel of female guest speakers. Panelists shared honest personal stories about their journeys to success, the challenges they encountered along the way, and their triumphs.



#### **HIGH SCHOOL HEROES**

During the fall, Ansonia High School students participated in our High School Heroes program, where they spent several weeks training and teaching JA Our Region to local fourth graders at Mead Elementary School. This program encouraged our high school students to give back to their community, while developing important skills like leadership, public speaking, and being positive role models for the younger students.



### **JA INSPIRE: HERE TO CAREER**

This past year, high school students participated in JA Inspire: Here to Career, our signature career exploration experience. Through this program, students completed curriculum focused on skills assessment and career planning, encouraging students to think further about their futures. They also heard from guest speakers across a variety of top industries including Finance, Healthcare, and Energy, and participated in mock interview and resume writing workshops.

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