



# HOUSTONNOTES

THE JUNIOR LEAGUE OF HOUSTON, INC.

Building A Better Community

## President's Message



Who are our "customers" really? The renowned expert on organizational development and leadership, Peter Drucker of The Drucker Institute, offers this wise description: "People

or persons whose life is most changed by the organization's mission and those who must be satisfied in order for the organization to achieve results." It would be fair to say then, that for the Junior League of Houston, our "customers" include every one of our 5,200+ members.

While the size of our League is of course impressive, and some would say unsurpassed, our lineage of 88 years is quite marvelous. How, you might ask, have we managed to not only maintain our League chapter, but in contrast with other less fortunate chapters around the world, to actually grow stronger and more impactful in our community over a span of nine decades? In other words, how have we been sustained so well and for so long?

Credit of course goes to over 3,000 of the League's most important customers – our sustainers. To be specific, at the time

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*Houston Notes, October/November 2011 Issue*

## Ruth Zomalt-Burrell

TO SPEAK AT OCTOBER GENERAL MEETING

All it takes is a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, a piece of fresh fruit and one-half pint of juice to keep a child from going hungry for a day. That does not sound like a lot to ask, but according to statistics, one out of every three children in this city goes to bed hungry each night. That sad number puts Houston second only to Detroit for major U.S. cities with the highest number of hungry children.

Sounds overwhelming, does it not? Enter Ruth Zomalt-Burrell, Executive Director of Kids' mission in life? To single child in Houston And she is leading a volunteers yearly and who gladly join her in against hunger.

"I have set out to city to have no hungry "and to empower people available resources to create a platform build better lives for families."

It is this zeal for her personal and professional mission that has brought Kids' Meals into the national spotlight. The first meals on wheels for children in the nation, Kids' Meals served 1,400 meals daily in 2010. Burrell has been honored by several organizations for her hard work and dedication to serving Houston's hungriest impoverished children. She has been honored with the Samaritan Spirit Award by the Krist Samaritan Center and the Jefferson Award for her passion and perseverance to end hunger among children in need. She has dedicated her life to helping others and it isn't just her nine-to-five job; she has dedicated her life to helping others. Over the years, Burrell has raised eighty-seven foster children and spends her weekends working in Santa Fe,



Meals, Inc. Her ensure that not one goes to bed hungry. force of over 10,000 seven staff members this personal vendetta

make Houston the first children," Burrell said, living in poverty with and educational tools upon which they can themselves and their

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