

making a difference

Linda West

GIVES BACK TO THE HOUSTON JUNIOR FORUM INC.

Content provided by resident **Linda West**; Written by **Elizabeth McCabe**

Houston Junior Forum Inc. (HJF) is a cause near and dear to resident Linda West’s heart. She shares, “I have volunteered for a total of 15 years with this group. I was a member in the late ‘70s and early ‘80s for about eight years, then after I retired as a caterer/event planner, I joined again about eight years ago.”

Volunteering at HJF gives Linda meaning and purpose to her retirement. When she opened Mélange Catering & Special Events in 1987, she paused her volunteering at HJF. After she retired, she was excited to become active again.

Currently, Linda serves as president of HJF. Linda says, “I have served as the vice president of membership, the vice president of activities, and president-elect. I am an active volunteer at the Houston Junior Forum Resale Shop and do service at many of the 14 Houston nonprofits that are designated as HJF service sites.”

As president, Linda invests 30 hours a week to stay on top of everything. She adds, “I usually volunteer 8-12 hours at service sites each month.” Best of all, every ounce of effort makes a difference for those who need it most. Two of the programs of which Linda is most proud are the college scholarship program, providing four-year scholarships to undergraduate college students, and the HJF Community Grants Program, providing funding to HJF service sites to help meet their project needs.

“Supporting our service sites and our resale shop is a great way to ‘pay it forward,’” says Linda. She and others at HJF make children’s school experience better by providing much-needed supplies. Helping single mothers with small children learn workplace skills is fundamental to their future. Serving a senior citizen a hot meal or mentoring a student makes a difference for them.

Linda says, “Check out our website, www.houstonjuniorforum.org, for more information; visit the HJF Resale Shop (1815 Rutland in the Heights); or send an email to me at president@hjfhouston.org. This year, we are celebrating our 75-year anniversary of service to the greater Houston community. We love serving others and making new friends while performing service work is an added bonus.”

Get Involved

Membership in HJF is open to women 21 years of age or older. If you are interested in serving the Houston community; volunteering with children, youth, women, and senior adults; planning fundraising events; and participating in social activities, HJF is for you.



Pricing items for the retail shop



Christmas around the resale shop - go check it out!



Krista Parker, Karen Darnell, and Linda West volunteering at the resale shop



Joey Rivera and Linda West



Linda in action leading a meeting

HJF supports 14 different organizations. These include Amazing Place, Christian Community Service Center (CCSC), Dress for Success, Gracewood, Harrison’s Heroes, Holly Hall Retirement Community, Houston Area Food Bank, Interfaith Ministries (Meals on Wheels and AniMeals), Kids’ Meals, Literacy Now, See to Succeed, The Nehemiah Center, Third Age Learning Center (TALC), and Undies for Everyone plus The Houston Junior Forum Resale Shop.

Loving Life in the Neighborhood

Linda and her family have lived in the neighborhood for 18 years. It’s home sweet home.



What drew them to the neighborhood? Linda explains, “My husband’s family home was on the same property that we currently live on today. Wilding Lane has been a part of my life since we married, so I absolutely love living in this neighborhood. I love the trees and the fact that the villages are their own entity.”

Her husband Rob supports Linda’s activities, but after retirement spends most of his day on the tennis court. Linda’s grown children and grandchildren live away from the area and are very proud of Linda and her volunteer efforts.

We want to thank Linda for making a difference through her involvement with Houston Junior Forum!

Houston Junior Forum Resale Shop
1815 Rutland, Houston, TX 77008
[@HoustonJuniorForum](https://www.instagram.com/HoustonJuniorForum)



We Design Rooms That Hug You



The Leading Full-Service Interior Design Firm In Houston



TERRAVISTA

INTERIOR DESIGN GROUP

(832) 264-6081 | www.TerravistaIDG.com

