

## FACT SHEET

### 100 YEARS OF FOCUS

Junior Achievement has been helping students turn their dreams into firm financial reality since 1919.

Over the past 100 years, Junior Achievement has reached over 112 million students in the U.S., helping them to become more likely to graduate high school, earn a degree, start a business, and escape poverty.

Junior Achievement of Washington was founded in 1953 and has served over two million students across Washington and Northern Idaho.



### OUR VALUES

- ✓ Belief in the boundless potential of young people
- ✓ Commitment to the principles of market-based economics and entrepreneurship
- ✓ Passion for what we do and honesty, integrity, and excellence in how we do it
- ✓ Respect for the talents, creativity, perspectives and backgrounds of all individuals
- ✓ Belief in the power of partnership and collaboration
- ✓ Conviction in the educational and motivational impact of relevant, hands-on learning

### 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's in-school programs are offered at no cost to the school and community organizations. JA of Washington is funded by over 3,600 corporate and private contributors and special events.

### PROGRAM REACH

In 2017-18 Junior Achievement of Washington reached more than 74,000 students in over 2,700 classrooms and after-school locations. JA programs are taught by volunteers in inner cities, suburbs, and rural areas throughout Washington State and Northern Idaho. In addition, JA of Washington operates two JA World education facilities, located in Yakima and Auburn, providing JA's high impact experiential programs *JA BizTown*® and *JA Finance Park*®. Mobile *JA Finance Park* experiences are now operational in Eastern Washington. The goal for 2018-19 is 76,288 students.

### VOLUNTEERS

Junior Achievement of Washington's 5,800 volunteers come from all walks of life, including business people, college students, parents and retirees. These dedicated individuals serve as mentors, job shadow hosts, classroom and JA World volunteers, and are the backbone of our organization.

### PROVEN SUCCESS

Junior Achievement is one of a few nonprofits to use independent, third-party evaluators to gauge the impact of its programs. Since 1993, independent 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 findings are also published in the JA Programs section at [www.jawashington.org/programs](http://www.jawashington.org/programs).

### ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW

Strategic leadership and direction for Junior Achievement of Washington is provided by a local volunteer Board of Directors in each of its six regional areas. Each board is comprised of business, education, and civic leaders, representing a wide range of businesses and academic institutions across Washington State. These boards set the policy and direction for each region. Steve Hatfield, Region Bank President, Wells Fargo, 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.