



December 2016

- On December 9th, David Wiercinski retired from JPA after 20 years of distinguished service. He began as Director of Development and then as Chief Development Officer. Over the years, David has overseen the development of JPA's grants program, securing almost \$1 million from leading foundations in Chicago. JPA will miss David. We wish him all the best in his future endeavors!
- Buy your [Early Bird Casino Night tickets](#) for just \$100. After January 1st, tickets will be \$125 and then \$150 at the door.
- We enjoyed our visit from Andrea Ziel, the Executive Director of [Women On Call](#), this month. They will help us connect with their online network of professional women volunteers on various JPA programs.
- Our end of year Board Meeting included a special musical performance by students from [KIPP Ascend](#) in North Lawndale—one of the schools where JPA works.
- [#GivingTuesday](#), November 29 was a great success for JPA! Thank you to everyone who donated, shared pictures/posts, and talked to friends and family about the wonderful work of JPA.
- Many thanks to everyone who came to our Associate Board's Happy Hour at Joy District on November 17th! Guests scooped up early bird tickets for Casino Night scheduled for February 11th at the Chicago Cultural Center. Guests also learned about the great work JPA does. Mark your calendars for our next Happy Hour on Thursday, January 12.
- Small [group therapy](#) affords students with the opportunity to share their feelings and learn they are not alone. Now in it's second year, JPA therapist Jenna Kraft met with eight 3rd graders, all of whom are dealing with the loss of a family member or loved one. These young people draw strength from their peers in the face of enormous loss.
- Many thanks to the following sponsors for their in-kind donations in support of JPA's 9th Gear Program: Lawndale Christian Fitness Center, Ben & Jerry's, Summer Skills, Midwest Graphics & Awards, Inc., and JPA's Auxiliary Board.