

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Junior League of New Orleans to Host Covenant House's Jim Kelly and Screening of "Shelter" on THURSDAY, APRIL 12 at 6:30 p.m.**

*April, 2, 2018 NEW ORLEANS, LA* – The Junior League of New Orleans (JLNO) will host its next Speaker Series event on April 12<sup>th</sup> at JLNO Headquarters. This event is free and open to the public.

**6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.**

**Thursday, April 12th**

**JLNO Headquarters (4319 Carondelet Street)**

**RSVP: <https://www.jlno.org/liftingtheveil>**

"The Junior League is proud to partner with Covenant House as we host our next speaker series event focusing on mental health and substance abuse among homeless youth in NOLA. Covenant House is more than just a shelter as it provides supportive counseling and the tools needed to help youth become independent, productive members of the community," said JLNO President Kristen Koppel.

**About the Speaker:**

Jim Kelly, Executive Director of Covenant House, will present a screening of "Shelter," a powerful film by the award-winning Renaud Brothers and executive producer Michael K. Williams. This documentary tells the raw and emotional stories of brave young people as they seek help and hope.

"The filmmakers captured the goodness, beauty, and resiliency of our young people. Along the journey, they fell in love with our kids," said Jim Kelly, Executive Director of Covenant House.

The film will be succeeded by a screening of the "Where Are They Now" short video that follows up with the 10 youth featured in the documentary and a discussion of the needs and experiences of homeless youth in New Orleans.

**About the JLNO Speaker Series:**

The JLNO Speaker Series is an educational initiative to address the needs of women and their families in the New Orleans community. Free and open to the public, the next Speaker Series event presents Lifting the Veil: Mental Health and Substance Abuse among Homeless Youth in New Orleans.

To find out more information or to register, visit: <https://www.jlno.org/liftingtheveil>

*The Junior League of New Orleans is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization committed to promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women and improving communities through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers.*

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