

Ohio House of Representatives  
77 S. High Street  
Columbus, Ohio 46215

March 7, 2025

Dear Representative,

My name is Jennifer Wolfenbarger and I am the Treasurer on the Executive Board of Directors for Junior Achievement of North Western Ohio. I have been on the Board for 2 full years.

I am also a Group CFO for Owens Corning, headquartered in Toledo, Ohio. I was drawn to the mission of Junior Achievement, "helping students develop a clear vision of future success and a defined path on how to get there before they graduate high school." I have witnessed with my own niece and nephew that without a clear vision of what they want to do, they jump into college and inefficiently struggle for 6+ years to find their calling. Junior Achievement provides the experiences, tools and resources to make a more informed decision on next steps towards college, career, military, the trades, etc.

My company has also benefited from Junior Achievement in gaining access to our diverse community at an early stage via high school internships. This is a win-win for Owens Corning and the students. As an employer, I get a diverse group of well prepared students and the students get to experience our great culture and try out a number of different roles through project work. They are also paired with a mentor that helps guide them through their future planning. We have found that this experience creates a great pipeline of future talent and enriches the students, many of which do not have a structured home life.

I am incredibly passionate about what Junior Achievement is doing in my community. I ask that you include an amendment to HB 96 that would provide \$2.75MM per fiscal year to Junior Achievement. This funding will expand JA's impact statewide, ensuring that every student has access to resources that empower them to make actionable career plans and contribute to Ohio's workforce. The funding will support programs in all 88 counties of the great state of Ohio.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards

**Jennifer Wolfenbarger**

VP, CFO Insulation, Owens Corning

**Jennifer Wolfenbarger**  
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Ohio House  
77 S. High Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

March 5, 2025

Dear Representative,

My name is Karen Slawinski and I have had the privilege of supporting Junior Achievement of Northwestern Ohio for the past several years through my company, The JDI Group. Through events such as JA INSPIRE, Business of Life, Community Learning Experiences, and the 5<sup>th</sup>-Year Internship Program, I've witnessed firsthand the incredible impact JA has on students. I am also proud to serve as a member of their board.

JDI's partnership with Junior Achievement has brought numerous benefits including talented interns, two of whom have grown into valued long-term team members of our A/E and IT teams. Their contributions have strengthened our firm, and we take great pride in supporting their professional development.

Beyond corporate benefits, JA's influence on our community is evident. From fostering career exploration and life skills to facilitating internships and scholarship opportunities, JA has transformed the lives of many young people. Witnessing their confidence grow as they discover new possibilities is inspiring.

As a dedicated JA supporter, I urge you to include an amendment to HB 96 that would provide \$2.75 million per fiscal year to Junior Achievement. This funding will expand JA's impact statewide, ensuring that every student has access to resources that empower them to make actionable career plans and contribute to Ohio's workforce. The funding will support programs in all 88 counties.

Your financial support will help continue this trajectory of positive life-changing experiences for our youth! Thank you for considering this important investment in Ohio's future.

Sincerely,

Karen Slawinski  
Director of Business Development and Marketing  
[kslawinski@thejdigroup.com](mailto:kslawinski@thejdigroup.com)



March 3, 2025

State of Ohio Legislature  
Ohio State House  
Columbus, Ohio

Re: Junior Achievement

Dear Ohio Legislator;

My name is Timothy E Fry, I am an Architect and the President and CEO of an Architecture and Engineering Consulting firm, The JDI Group, Inc., in Maumee Ohio. We have been a supporter of Junior Achievement of NW Ohio for many years. This organization is making it possible for young people to get exposed to many different career paths that many of them didn't know existed or didn't know how to get in touch with members of that particular vocation.

I have had the pleasure of speaking to many of the students interested in Architecture and Engineering and see the glow in many of their eyes when they learn how to go about it. In fact, one such student is currently a Co-Op employee of The JDI Group for about three years. I was speaking to his class through Junior Achievement in High School and noticed the complete interest in Electrical Engineering. Now, he is a student at the University of Toledo, College of Engineering studying Electrical Engineering. It would give me no greater honor than to have him join our firm upon graduation.

This program is one way for employers to contact interested young people early and expose them to the fields of Architecture and Engineering as well as many other fields. They can obtain first-hand knowledge of working in the field of their choice. This is a great way to assist these young people to make that difficult and frightening choice. It is very hard to find the right people to fill open positions in a growing firm and to retain them. This program fills that void very well.

We ask you to include an amendment to HB 96 that would provide \$2.75 million per fiscal year to Junior Achievement. This funding will expand JA's impact statewide, ensuring that every student has access to resources that empower them to make actionable career plans and contribute to Ohio's workforce. The funding will support programs in all 88 counties.

Sincerely;

Timothy E Fry, AIA  
President / CEO

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