



**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**The Junior League of Charlotte to Host Second Annual Working Lunch  
Featuring Elizabeth Smart**

Charlotte, N.C., Feb. 27, 2019 - The Junior League of Charlotte, Inc. (JLC) is pleased to announce the second annual JLC Working Lunch on April 29, 2019, at 12 p.m. at the Le Méridien Charlotte. Author, speaker, and child abduction survivor, Elizabeth Smart, will serve as this year's keynote speaker.

The abduction of Elizabeth Smart was one of the most followed child abduction cases of our time. Smart was abducted on June 5, 2002, and her captors controlled her by threatening to kill her and her family if she tried to escape. Smart was safely returned back to her family on March 12, 2003, after being held a prisoner for nine grueling months.

Through this traumatic experience, Smart has become a leading advocate for change related to child abduction, recovery programs, and national legislation. Smart has helped promote the National AMBER Alert, the Adam Walsh Child Protection & Safety Act and other safety legislation to help prevent abductions. She is also a *New York Times* best-selling author and the founder of the Elizabeth Smart Foundation.

Elizabeth will speak about her inspiring book, *Where There's Hope*, published in 2018, on what it takes to overcome trauma, find the strength to move on, and reclaim one's life.

"We are honored to host Elizabeth here in the Queen City. The Junior League of Charlotte has long-advocated for child safety, and Elizabeth's inspiring message aligns perfectly with the Junior League's mission of promoting voluntarism, developing the potential of women, and improving the community through the effective action and leadership of trained volunteers," says Alicia Morris-Rudd, the 2018-19 president of the JLC.

General admission tickets to the JLC Working Lunch are \$75 and VIP tickets are \$125, which include a meet and greet with Smart along with a copy of *Where There's Hope*. Table and event sponsorships are also available. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit the JLC Working Lunch website at <https://www.jlcharlotte.org/spring-fundraiser-jlc-working-lunch/>.

**WHAT:** Second Annual Working Lunch

**WHEN:** Monday, April 29, 2019  
11:30 a.m. VIP Meet and Greet  
12:00 p.m. General Admission

**WHERE:** Le Méridien Charlotte  
555 South McDowell Street North Tower  
Charlotte, NC 28204

**HOW:** <https://www.jlcharlotte.org/spring-fundraiser-jlc-working-lunch/>

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Tag @JLCharlotte with #JLCleads, #JLCWorkingLunch

**About the Junior League of Charlotte, Inc.**

The Junior League of Charlotte, Inc. (JLC) is an organization of over 1,700+ women who have been dedicated to promoting voluntarism, developing leaders, and improving this community since 1926. Over the past 93 years, the JLC has dedicated over \$13.7 million dollars and more than 1.7 million hours of volunteer service to the greater Charlotte community. Our signature leadership training programs include Leadership Development Institute, Get On Board and Public Policy Institute. Our signature community projects include Big Shot Saturdays, Give Kids A Smile, and Kids in the Kitchen. Additional information on community impact, including our community partners, can be found on our website: [www.jlcharlotte.org](http://www.jlcharlotte.org). You can also follow us on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), and [Instagram](#).

**About Elizabeth Smart**

Born in Utah in 1987, Elizabeth Smart was abducted from her home at age 14 in June 2002. She has since become a noted activist and author, launching the [Elizabeth Smart Foundation](#) in 2011, authoring *My Story* in 2013 and most recently *Where There's Hope* in 2018.

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