

# Community Newslink

Spring 2011



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## The many faces of Operation School Bell Committee members.

Volunteers who put smiles on the faces of school children in Tucson.

Come smile with us!

## Mission Statement

Assistance League of Tucson is a volunteer philanthropic organization that provides essential goods and services to improve the lives of disadvantaged men, women, and children in the greater Tucson area.



Which Tucson organization uses 100% of your donations to support programs that help the Tucson community?



Which Tucson organization is staffed entirely by volunteers?



Assistance League of Tucson does all of these things.

## Operation School Bell® - A Look Back

Anyone observing Operation School Bell during a school dressing will marvel over the precision, organization, and efficiency of Assistance League of Tucson's signature program. Appearing more like a fully stocked children's clothing store, complete with dressing rooms and plenty of back stock in all sizes and styles, our Philanthropic Programs Center operates like a well-oiled machine. Even seasoned retail professionals would be envious of our experienced, caring volunteers and their attention to the smallest details. This model of success came together thanks to the dedication of our volunteers who researched, planned, and perfected the program.

In the fall of 1993, discussions began about Operation School Bell after the California chapters shared stories about the program's success. A year later, after countless hours of fine-tuning and negotiating with local retail merchants, Assistance League of Tucson had their first school dressing. Clothing was laid out on tables or stored in plastic crates. Offices and bathrooms were used as "dressing rooms" and each child received two pairs of socks and underwear,

one pair of long pants, two pairs of shorts, two t-shirts, shoes, and a backpack.

As more schools experienced first-hand the positive reactions of their students, the demand grew. School uniforms were added to the mix along with additional items of clothing, hygiene kits, and school supplies. Volunteers purchased items wholesale to cut costs and allow even more children to be served. Operation School Bell dressed 350 children in 1994 and in the 17 years since its inception, Assistance League of Tucson has dressed more than 38,000 children.

Although Operation School Bell has changed over the years, adding additional items and moving into much larger quarters for the dressings, the needs of the children and the effects on the volunteers who serve them are unchanged. From the first dressing in 1994 until now, the children who come to the dressings energize and inspire our volunteers. And the children? The grateful, ear-to-ear smiles tell the story as each child lays claim to his or her big blue bag brimming with clothing, supplies, pride, and renewed hope.



Two smiles are better than one. Twin brothers have fun filling their blue bags with new clothes.

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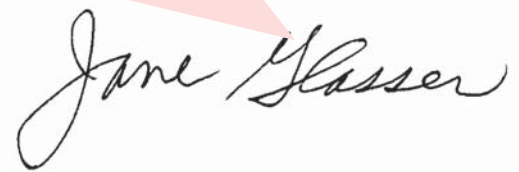
On the cover page we looked back at the history of Operation School Bell. Now let's look back at some of our other programs. It has always been the goal of Assistance League of Tucson to search for needs in the community that are not being adequately met at the time by other local services. In 1960, a survey of the community indicated the need for a service that would provide help in the households of individuals or families that were in temporary need of such aid. Homemaker Service, our first program, was begun in response to this need. Over the next three decades, similar services became widely available in Tucson, so in 1996 Homemaker Service was discontinued. During the intervening years,

other, smaller, programs came and went as we continued to seek the best ways to fill the needs of our community. The programs that accomplished this are still going strong today.

One of these programs, Starting Over Supplies, began in 1985 as the Survival Kit Project. Since then, thousands of individuals who were starting over after homelessness, domestic abuse or addiction recovery have been able to begin their new lives in an apartment stocked with basic household supplies. Another program, Assault Survivor Kits®, was started in 1997. The fresh clothing and toiletries given to the victims of sexual assault before leaving the hospital cannot erase their tragic experience, but it can restore some dignity to the victim.

As needs in the Tucson community change, we will adjust as we have in the past, always looking forward. Thomas Jefferson expressed it well when he said,

"I like the dreams of the future better than the history of the past."



**Westward Look Resort**

Thank you for inviting us to model our Boutique fashions at your Fashion Show Luncheons.

Visit our website to learn more about our philanthropic programs.

Make a donation on-line at [www.assistanceleagueticson.org](http://www.assistanceleagueticson.org)

Graphic design courtesy of Emily Maseeh.



**Sundays at the Museum.**

Every Sunday, the Tucson Children's Museum invites nonprofits to set up displays in the lobby of the museum. We spent a wonderful day talking to the generous people of Tucson, many of whom promised to stop by our Thrift Shop to get great bargains and to support our philanthropic programs.



*"A donation to Operation School Bell helps put a smile on a disadvantaged child's face."*

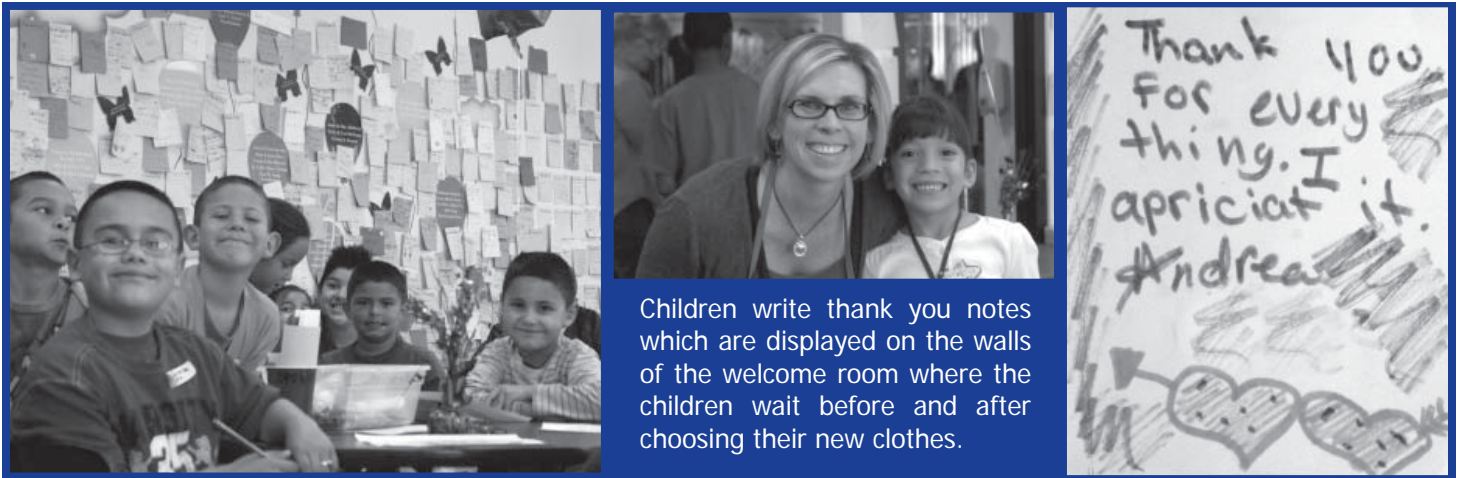
- Janine Schulte  
Chairman, Operation School Bell



**Saved by the Bell.** At the recent Assistance League fundraiser, Tux 'n Boots®, our generous attendees donated \$10,000 to provide clothing for disadvantaged children in the greater Tucson area. Contributions like these assure the continuation and success of Operation School Bell.

*"WOW! Congratulations to you and the organization. The students and staff at Drexel Elementary truly appreciate your efforts. Many of our students would be without at our school. Thank you for bringing more than a smile to a child's face; you allow them to attend school by respectfully clothing them and giving them dignity. Thank you."*

Debra Garcia  
Principal, Drexel Elementary School



Children write thank you notes which are displayed on the walls of the welcome room where the children wait before and after choosing their new clothes.

**Starting Over Supplies.** For individuals and families who have overcome homelessness, domestic violence or drug and alcohol addiction, the prospect of outfitting a home can be financially overwhelming. This year our caring volunteers and your donations provided 808 clients with kits containing new basic household supplies and toiletry items for "starting over." We partner with twelve different social service agencies to make a difference in their clients' lives.

*"Moving into their own home is a huge step toward independence and having a life free from abuse. Starting Over Supplies contributes significantly toward that move."*

Stephanie Noriega  
Client Services Supervisor, EMERGE! Center Against Domestic Abuse

**Assault Survivor Kits®.** Our volunteers, working with Southern Arizona Center Against Sexual Assault (SACASA), provide immediate relief to survivors of sexual assault with our kits. Each kit includes new sweat pants, socks, t-shirts, sweatshirts, underwear, flip-flops and tennis shoes plus toiletry products. Sexual assault victims' clothing is often taken into evidence, so our kits allow survivors to regain their dignity by returning home in something other than a hospital gown. The average cost per person is \$10; we spend about \$2,000 each year.

*"We at SACASA are extremely thankful for our collaboration with Assistance League of Tucson for the difference they make in the lives of our clients."*

Yvonne Villa-Wiseley  
Crisis Services Program Supervisor, Southern Arizona Center Against Sexual Assault

**"WHAT'S IT WORTH?"** Do you have unique items around your house and wonder about their origin and worth? Have you considered donating these items to our Thrift Shop or even trying to sell them at auction? You will have an opportunity to determine origin and value at a new and special event Assistance League of Tucson is planning for February 12, 2012. Stay in touch through our Community Newslink and website. We promise you will not be disappointed!



### Save the Date

**Raytheon Air Warfare Systems Golf Tournament**  
Benefits Operation School Bell  
September 2011  
Arizona National Golf Club

**Teddy Bear Tea**  
Benefits PAWS Auxiliary  
October 2, 2011

**Tucson Meet Yourself**  
Downtown Tucson  
October 7-9, 2011

**What's It Worth?**  
Supports philanthropic programs  
Doubletree Hotel  
February 12, 2012

**Assistees Fashion Show**  
March 2012

You are invited! Please contact us at 326-8452 or [info@assistanceleagueticucson.org](mailto:info@assistanceleagueticucson.org) to join us.

### AT A GLANCE...

May 2010 - March 2011

Operation School Bell®  
dressed 3,652 children

★  
Starting Over Supplies  
served 808 people

★  
Assault Survivor Kits®  
supported 116 people

★  
100% of funding stays  
in Tucson to benefit our  
community.

**Assistees® "AHTTa Girl Awards."** "Assistees Helping Tucson Teens," supports middle school students by providing needed supplies in the areas of art, music, and physical education. The funds for their program are raised through their annual fashion show, which was recently held on March 6. To emphasize "Doing Good in the Neighborhood," those Assistees who go above and beyond in service for the month are honored at their meeting with an "AHTTa Girl" gift bag filled with goodies. Assistees strive to earn this award.



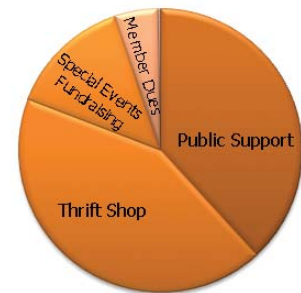
Assistees Krista and Lea receive their AHTTa Girl Award Gift Bags. Thank you to all our Assistees who contribute so much to Tucson by volunteering for four years beginning in 9th grade.

**Professional Association of Women's Services (PAWS).** PAWS offers a wonderful opportunity for women in the workforce to volunteer in the community since meetings are held outside of work hours. The signature program of this vital auxiliary is the Teddy Bear Program which provides teddy bears to children in crisis through responding agencies such as police, emergency room personnel and social workers. Recently we received a thank you note from a registered nurse at St. Joseph's hospital who gave a bear to a 2 1/2 year old little girl who had to be monitored for 8 hours due to an overdose. Watch for the Share-a-Bear campaign this spring and consider giving *A Box of Bears*.

### Consolidated Statement of Revenue and Expenses

Reviewed Financial Statement for May 1, 2009 to April 30, 2010

Revenue	
Public Support	\$213,177
Thrift Shop	\$238,544
Special Events Fundraising	\$77,644*
Membership Dues	\$27,633
Other Revenue	\$1,569
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$558,567</b>



Expenses	
Philanthropic Programs	\$435,200
Thrift Shop Operating Expenses	\$46,504
Special Events Expenses	\$5,122*
Administrative Expenses	\$35,098
Membership Expense	\$17,889
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$539,813</b>



\*Special Event Totals do not include direct benefit to attendees or cost of merchandise sold. We are a volunteer organization. This year our volunteers donated 42,464 hours which, according to the 2010 U.S. Department of Labor guidelines of \$21.02 per volunteer hour, is a donation of \$892,593.



*"Those of us who were 'gung ho' on School Bell in '94 knew we were starting a wonderful program for kids in Tucson. I'm so happy it is thriving and going beyond our expectations." - Carol Fern*

President Assistance League of Tucson, 1993-1994



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(held at the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona)  
Stone Canyon Community Foundation  
(held at the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona)  
The Surplus Line Association of Arizona Foundation  
Tucson Electric Power  
The Wolslager Foundation

**Pass It On.** Donations that do not sell well in our Thrift Shop such as towels and sheets with holes, ragged blankets or quilts are "passed on" to the Humane Society. "Without Assistance League's donation, the animals wouldn't have this soft bedding," says Susie Jones, an Assistance League member who takes our contributions to the Humane Society. For more information please contact our Thrift Shop at 325-1585, and let's continue to help create a greener Tucson by reducing, reusing and recycling.



Katie, a caretaker at the Humane Society, helps new arrivals adjust to their unfamiliar surroundings.



*"To see kids directly benefit because of a donation we made, is the best reward we could ever receive! Park Place not only provides premier shopping... but more importantly, allows us to work directly with great community partners such as Assistance League."*

- Benjamin McCorkle  
Operations Director, Park Place Mall



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Best Buy on E. Broadway  
Beverly Hills Hotel & Bungalows  
Beyond Bread  
BigLots!  
BJ's Brewhouse  
Blue Willow  
Bookman's  
Brooklyn Pizza Co.  
Carole Electric Corporation  
Caruso's Italian Restaurant  
Century Gateway 12 Theatres  
Chantilly Tea Room  
Chris Bubany's Studios  
Christie's Appliance  
Chantilly Tea Room  
Chocolate Iguana on 4th  
Choice Greens  
Civano Nursery  
Copenhagen  
Craigs Fine Art  
Create Café and Catering  
Cuisine Classique Cooking School  
Dakota Café and Catering  
Dalco Development, Inc.  
Deco Art for Living  
Dedicated Dental  
DeGrazia Foundation  
DeGrazia Gallery in the Sun  
Delectable's Restaurant & Catering  
Deppe's Landscape and Design

DesertLeaf  
Design Definitions  
Design to Fit  
Diane Calvert Designs  
Dillard's, Clinique Cosmetic Dept.  
Discovery Smiles Dentistry  
Don Swanson Designs  
Dragon's View Restaurant  
Eclectic Café  
El Guero Canelo  
El Molinito Restaurant  
Elizabeth Arden Red Door Spa  
Esperanza Designs  
Eucalyptus Stoneware  
Excel Electric  
Federated Wholesale, Inc.  
First Book Marketplace  
Flemings Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar  
Fountains Non Denominational Church  
Funtasticks  
Gallery Golf Club  
Gaslight Theatre  
Ghini's French Caffè  
Glass Illusions  
Golf Galaxy  
Golf N Stuff  
Golf TEC  
Golfsmith  
Good Egg  
Good News  
Great Waves Salon  
The Grill at Hacienda del Sol  
Guadalajara Grill  
Hacienda del Sol Resort and Spa  
The Hair Tree  
Head West Smoke Shop  
Heartland Automotive Services, Inc.  
Hilton Tucson El Conquistador  
Holmes Tuttle Ford Lincoln Mercury  
Hush A Salon and Day Spa  
Inglis Florists  
International Wildlife Museum  
J. Scordata Salon  
Jerry's Cigars  
Jim Click Nissan  
Jimmy's Broadway Automotive Service

Jon Wolf Photography  
Jonathan's Cork  
KGUN 9 Morning Blend  
Kitt Peak Observatory  
KMSB FOX 11  
KOLD 13  
Kona Village  
KVOA TV 4  
La Societe des 40 Hommes et 8 Chavaux  
Live Nation  
Loews Ventana Canyon Resort  
The Loft Cinema  
Long Realty  
Lowe's Oracle  
Mac's Indian Jewelry  
Madaras Gallery  
Magic Garden Nursery  
Mama's Famous Pizza & Heros  
Mama's Louisa's Italian Restaurant  
Mayfield Florist  
Maya Palace  
MEGZ Art  
Merrill Lynch  
Metro Car Wash  
Mi Casa  
Mini-time Machine Museum  
Mostly Bears  
Nambé  
Nan's Snappy Turtles  
Native Tele-Data Solutions Inc  
Neil Capin Enterprises, Inc.  
New Image by Leah  
Nimbus Brewery Co.  
On Media  
Oro Valley Country Club  
Outback Steakhouse  
Paloma Art Gallery  
Pandora at La Encantada Mall  
Park Place Mall  
Passion for the Love of Pastry  
Pastiche  
Philabaum Gallery  
PICOR Commercial Real Estate  
Planned Marketing Solutions  
International, Inc.  
Plunkett's Office Products & Hallmark

Real Deals Home Décor  
Reid Park Zoo  
Rogue Theatre  
Ruby Begonia Interior Plants, Inc  
Sahuaro Trophy  
Santa Rita Golf Club  
Sedona Rouge Resort & Spa  
Shirley Starkey Watercolors  
Silverbell West Women's Club  
S. Silverberg & Sons Jewelers  
Simoniz Car Wash  
Skate Country  
Skyline CC Fitness Center  
Skyline Country Club  
Specialists in Dermatology  
Soloway Designs  
Southern Arizona Community Bank  
Southwest Canyon Creations  
Southwest Energy LLC  
S'relli Consulting, LLC  
Strahl Creations  
Table Talk @ Home  
Tastefully Simple  
Tavalino  
Temco Air Environmental  
Tiffany & Company  
Toque de Pasion Boutique  
Tohono Chul Park  
Trader Joe's Campbell  
Trader Joe's Wilmot  
Tres Amigos  
Tucson Botanical Gardens  
Tucson Children's Museum  
Tucson Lifestyle Magazine  
UA Presents  
University of Arizona  
Vans Golf Shop  
Vantage Bowling Center  
Ventana Canyon Golf & Raquet Club  
Venus by Mars  
Villa Feliz Flowers  
Vistoso Community Newsletter  
Vivace Pizza  
Walmart Store #1325  
The Westin La Paloma Resort and Spa  
Westward Look Resort

## Community Recipients

Assistance League and its Auxiliaries benefit the following organizations and agencies with needed goods and services.

Altar Valley School District  
Amity Circle Tree Ranch  
Amphitheater School District  
Arizona Children's Association  
Borderlinks  
Casa de los Ninos  
Cavett Elementary School  
Child & Family Resources, Inc.  
Child Protective Services  
Christian Faith Center  
CODAC Behavioral Health Service  
Community Food Bank  
Corbett Elementary School  
Craycroft Elementary School  
Davidson Elementary School  
Drexel Elementary School  
Elvira Elementary School  
Emerge! Center Against Domestic Abuse  
Esperanza Elementary School

Flowing Wells School District  
Friends of the Library  
Gospel Rescue Mission  
Habitat for Humanity  
Holaway Elementary School  
Hollinger Elementary School  
Humane Society of Southern Arizona  
International Rescue  
Jewish Family and Childrens Services  
Keeling Elementary School  
La Frontera Center  
Liberty Elementary School  
Los Amigos Elementary School  
Los Ranchitos Elementary School  
Lynn/Urquides Elementary School  
Maldonado Amelia Elementary School  
Manzo Elementary School  
Menlo Park Elementary School  
Mission Manor Elementary School

Mission View Elementary School  
Myers-Ganoung Elementary School  
Nash Elementary School  
New Beginnings  
Old Pueblo Community Services  
Open Inn  
Our Family Services  
Oyama Elementary School  
Parents As Teachers  
Pima County Sheriff's Department  
The Primavera Foundation  
Prince Elementary School  
Pueblo Gardens Elementary School  
Reach Out and Read  
Rivera Elementary School  
Roberts/Naylor Elementary School  
Robles Elementary School  
Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Southern Arizona Center Against Sexual Abuse (SACASA)  
Southern Arizona Child Advocacy Center  
Southwest Family Education Resource Center  
St. Joseph's Hospital  
St. Mary's Hospital  
Sunnyside School District  
Tu Nidito  
Tucson Unified School District  
Tucson Youth Development  
UMC Child Life Specialists  
University Physicians Healthcare at Kino  
UPH Children's Multi-Specialty Center  
Van Buskirk Elementary School  
World Care  
Youth on Their Own





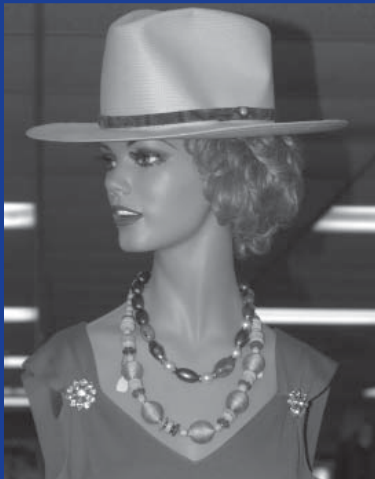
Assistance League® of Tucson  
1307 North Alvernon Way  
Tucson, AZ 85712

Thrift Shop (520) 326-1585  
Chapter Office (520) 326-8452  
info@assistanceleagueticson.org  
www.assistanceleagueticson.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

## Support Operation School Bell ... Clean Out Your Closets



Inherited art from Aunt Agnes that is not your style? Received a gift that you really appreciate but don't know what to do with it? Treated yourself to a new set of pots and pans? Don't leave these gems in the back of the closet. Donate those unwanted treasures! Support Operation School Bell!

Our philanthropic programs benefit from your donations to our Thrift Shop. More than half our program funding comes from Thrift Shop sales. Your donations benefit you too since they are all tax deductible.

Clean out your closets, give us your yard sale leftovers, bring us your gently used furniture. Stay in the know about our latest specials, sign up to become a valued customer at our website [www.assistanceleagueticson.org/Assistance League Thrift Shop](http://www.assistanceleagueticson.org/Assistance League Thrift Shop).



Shopping in the Thrift Shop supports our programs too.

### Shop Hours

**Tuesday - Friday**  
10 am - 4 pm

**Saturday**  
10 am - 2 pm

**Located at 1307 N. Alvernon Way.**  
**For more information call 326-1585.**

**Drop off donations on Mondays from**  
**9 am - 12 pm and during shop hours.**

Assistance League® of Tucson, a chapter of Assistance League®, is a nonprofit, nonpolitical, nonsectarian volunteer organization and is qualified under IRS code 501(c)(3) and Arizona Tax Credit Law ARS-1088.