

mission

Volunteers working in the Tucson community to help those in need.

vision

Recognized as a leading force for hope and positive change.

100% of donations stay in the greater Tucson area to benefit our community



When Esther came to Operation School Bell, she wrote, "Thank you for my clothes and my school supplies. Thank you for being kind to me."

community newslink

ANNUAL REPORT 2017



Thanks for your help!

YOUR DONATIONS MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR US TO CONTINUE:

- Operation School Bell® Provide school children with brand new clothes and shoes to improve the quality of their lives.
- Hooked on Books Stock school libraries and classrooms with books so students can do their homework.
- Starting Over Supplies Give a fresh start with new basic household supplies to adults and families in difficult situations.
- Teddy Bear Program Provide child-safe bears to comfort children in crises like abuse, neglect, hospitalization and bereavement.
- Assault Survivor Kits® Offer dignity to assault victims with clothes when theirs are kept for forensic evidence.
- Assisteens® Help High School students learn leadership skills while giving back to the Tucson community.
- Assistance League Thrift Shop Sell gently-used, donated goods to support our programs.

Arizona Charitable Tax Credit Changes INCREASED LIMITS for 2017

You may claim a tax credit for voluntary cash contributions you make to a Qualifying Charitable Organization. Assistance League of Tucson is a 501(c)(3) Qualifying Charitable Organization.

The Arizona State Tax Credit program allows you to make a donation to an eligible organization and receive a dollar-for-dollar credit against Arizona state taxes owed. These donations count as charitable contributions and may be deducted on your federal return if you itemize your deductions. The charitable tax credit donation limits have doubled to \$400 for individuals and \$800 for couples filing jointly. Donation due dates for the tax credits are April 15th of the following year.

Please consult your tax advisor for more information.

Transforming Lives • Strengthening Community



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A Message from Our President

As we turn our attention to celebrating the holidays with our family and friends, we also celebrate the joy and hope Assistance League has given to our community this year. A card we received from the parent of three children who came to Operation School Bell reminds us how vital our programs and our volunteers are:

In the name of our family, I want to thank, with all our hearts, every single person of the School Bell program for the help my children received. And a special thanks to this amazing woman, her name is Helen, for being very kind and patient with our family. This act of kindness impacted us in a way that inspires us to pass on acts of kindness to others. Thank you very much.

Each of the children wrote a note, too.

Eric: Thank you for all you did for me and my sisters. I'm really happy because today I will go to school in my new clothes and shoes.

Jill: It was my birthday and it felt like a big present from you guys.

Samantha: *I want to thank everyone for helping me choose clothing fit for me. I will always remember this with great gratitude.*

Our 403 volunteers helped 10,812 people this year. But, it is not just about numbers; our volunteers and our donors restore dignity, give hope and support to our Tucson community. I thank all of you for your contributions of time, expertise and effort. Celebrate with us this season and lend a helping hand by directing your year-end giving to Assistance League of Tucson. Donations may qualify for the AZ Charitable Tax Credit (\$800 for Married filing jointly and \$400 for others). Together we can make a difference.

The Financials

Reviewed Financial Statement for May 1, 2016 to April 30, 2017

Consolidated Revenue & Expenses

	Revenue
Public Support & Grants	195,898
Thrift Shop	454,693
Fundraising Events	60,273
Membership Dues	28,341
Other Revenue	513
Total Revenue	\$742,407

Philanthropic Programs Thrift Shop Operations Fundraising Events Administrative Expenses 591,320 69,244 21,7383 76,565

Membership 76,565 17,474 Total Expense \$776,343

*Special Event Totals do not include direct benefits to attendees or cost of merchandise sold.

We are a volunteer driven organization. This year our volunteers donated 56,199 hours which, according to the U.S. Department of Labor's value of \$23.35 per volunteer hour, is a donation of \$1,312,247.

Liabilities & Assets

Assets
Cash & cash equivalents
Accounts receivable
Prepaid expenses
Inventories
Property & equipment
Total Assets**

1,039,843
227
4,379
167,571
1,351,678
2,563,698

Liabilities

Accounts payable 52,256
Deferred dues revenue 15,229
Other deferred revenue 2,003 **Total Liabilities** \$69,488

Net Assets

Unrestricted 2,469,158
Temporarily restricted 25,052
Permanently restricted -

Total Net Assets \$2,494,210

Total Liabilities & Net Assets \$2,563,698



^{**}National Assistance League® requires all chapters to have one year's operating expenses in reserve.

Operation School Bell® - helping Tucson children

Volunteer Linda Loomis recalled helping one little boy who wanted a pink hoodie for his sister, because he already had a hoodie. Another little girl



was excited to receive new clothing, "now I can go to church on Sunday because I have something pretty to wear".

Each child receives one week's supply of new school clothes, shoes, a warm hoodie, a book and a backpack. Your generosity also allowed us to clothe 100 Court Appointed Special Advocate program children. With your help, we provide HOPE and DIGNITY for Tucson school children in need.

- 4,157 children dressed for school
- 39 Tucson area schools and 3 agencies served
- \$80 dresses one child
- \$800 dresses ten children
- \$2,880 dresses a busload of children
- \$5,760 dresses two busloads
- \$110 dresses a hard-to-fit child at JCPenney
- \$150 funds the school bus trip to Assistance League

Hooked on Books - an Operation School Bell program

Being able to complete school assignments is satisfying and rewarding. Struggling to do so without the right reference books or supplies is frustrating and discouraging. Providing elementary school libraries and classrooms with books that students can use helps them love learning and want to come to school.

- 750 children can use library books
- 4 Tucson school literacy programs
- \$1750 funds educational books for one school library

Starting Over Supplies - strengthening Tucson families



A woman now employed by a social service agency relates that when she was building her life back up after illicit drug use, she was finally able to move into an apartment. She arrived in this unfurnished apartment to find a box from "SOS." It contained "starting over supplies" needed in a new home including a new shower curtain and pillow. The only other thing she needed was a bed. She purchased a blow-up mattress with her first paycheck.

- 2,615 families start afresh
- 13 agencies supported
- \$67 gives a kit to a single person
- \$85 helps a family of two
- \$111 equips for a family of three
- \$137 cares for a family of four

The laundry basket full of supplies includes blankets, linens, dishes, pots and pans, and cooking and eating utensils. The laundry basket also has been approved for use as a bassinet.

Assisteens® - high school auxiliary of Assistance League



These dynamic teens represent "caring and commitment in action" as they volunteer for philanthropic projects throughout Tucson including the Community Food Bank, Habitat for Humanity, Ben's Bells, Casa Maria Soup Kitchen, Brookdale Senior Living, the Fisher House and

- 120 Assisteens, grades 9-12 from 8 Tucson area high schools volunteer
- 4,386 donated hours
- \$15,500 mini grants given to 18 Title 1 middle schools

many more. They also volunteer in Assistance League programs. Annually, Assisteens host a fashion show fundraiser to fund *Assisteens Helping Tucson Teens*. This program awards mini grants of PE equipment, art and music supplies to local Title 1 middle schools.

"It will be a joy to hear these new clarinets in action as they are of high quality and produce a beautiful tone. I am grateful for the Assisteens and your contribution to my classroom, which will greatly benefit my students," writes a teacher who received a mini grant.

Teddy Bear Program - treasured symbol of comfort



Recently, we partnered with Tu Nidito to provide 73 bears for children attending Camp Erin, a weekend bereavement camp for children who have experienced the death of someone close.

Brigid Frasquillo, Tu Nidito Assistant Program Director, said "When campers first arrived at Camp Erin, they were full of excitement and nervous energy. • 1,470 children comforted by a hear

• 8 agencies served (ERs, law enforcement, social service)

• \$25 gives bears to three children

• \$100 provides a bag of 12 bears to one of our agencies

Many of those worried feelings started to melt away the minute the campers entered their cabins and saw teddy bears waiting for them.

The bears were a fixture in the arms and backpacks of the campers the entire weekend. They joined us at mealtimes, at each activity, at the camp fire and of course, bedtime. We know that the gift of these bears may seem

like something small but in reality it was huge. They provided comfort, joy and companionship to all 73 campers at a time in their lives where sadness and worry take center stage. Thank you!"

Assault Survivor Kits® - restoring dignity

In 2015, Children's Advocacy Centers around the country served more than 311,000 child victims of abuse and neglect by providing victim advocacy and support to these children and their families (*National Children's Alliance*®). Our program provides clothing, toiletries and snacks to the So. AZ Children's Advocacy Center for children ages newborn to 18. Often the children's clothing is taken from them for evidentiary purposes; new clothing ensures the child's dignitive to addition, when shildren are presented from their bases the clothing

- 1,400 children from So. Arizona Children's Advocacy Center
- 420 individuals from So. Arizona Center Against Sexual Assault

dignity. In addition, when children are removed from their homes, the clothing helps facilitate their transition to foster care. Forensic interviews and examinations are lengthy; the simple snacks keep the children nourished.

Assault Survivor Kits program also provides simple clothing and toiletry items for victims of sexual assault following forensic exams at local hospitals, as needed by the So. AZ Center Against Sexual Assault. Both agencies we assist tell us that the clothing, toiletries and snacks give the individuals hope that they are starting a new chapter in their lives and the abuse is over.

Assistance League Thrift Shop - a neighborhood gathering place



Recently, a customer came to the shop to purchase a hammer because he had been a recipient of one of our Starting Over Supplies kits. He said, "This is my way of giving back." A young woman who was getting married in 5 days found a beautiful wedding dress worth \$1,000 for \$40 dollars. Our volunteers made sure

- 62% of funding for our programs comes from the Thrift Shop
- Your donations of gently-used items bring in the customers
- Our volunteers welcome you!

the fit was perfect. It made her day. The thrift shop has everything: greeting cards, baby clothes, antiques, clothing, dishes, artwork, books and furniture.

P.A.W.S. Auxiliary Merged with Assistance League

After 27 years of dedicated service by a small group of working women, the Professional Association of Women's Services (P.A.W.S.) Auxiliary has now formally merged with its parent organization, Assistance League of Tucson as of May 1, 2016. The P.A.W.S. programs have been integrated into Assistance League's programs.

Teddy Bear Program continues as a signature program of Assistance League. Groom for Success and Food For Thought have been folded into Assault Survivor Kits. Hooked on Books is a welcome addition to Operation School Bell. The Annual High Tea and Share-A-Bear are fundraisers. Former P.A.W.S. volunteers are an invaluable part of Assistance League of Tucson. They continue to work to make a positive difference by supporting vital programs for at-risk children in the areas of literacy, emotional and physical well-being.

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Southern Arizona Center Against Sexual Assault Southern Arizona Children's Advocacy Center

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Teddy Bears

St. Joseph's Hospital ER St. Mary's Hospital ER Banner Multispecilaity Clinic Tu Nidito Children and **Family Services** Southern Arizona Children's Advocacy Center **Jewish Family Services** Pima County Sheriff's Dpt Sahaurita Police Dpt

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What goes around comes around!



Gallery West

The odds were stacked against Melissa Salnicky, a pregnant single mother of three, who was forced to move into a shelter when her meager income couldn't pay the bills.

Yet, Melissa Salnicky beat the odds.

After receiving a Starting Over Supplies kit and children's clothing from Assistance League while in transition, Melissa's life began to turn around. Flash forward several years and although Melissa is still a single parent, she

opened Studio 37, a nail spa, with business partner Daniel De Santis. Wanting to give back to the organization that helped her, Melissa bought an ad in our fundraiser program last year, and publicized Assistance League by displaying our bookmarks in their shop. Thank-you!

We have endeavored to list donors correctly for the period of January 1, 2016 to April 30, 2017. If your listing is incorrect or you would like to be listed differently, please accept our apology and contact us at info@ALTucson.org or 326-8452 x6. Thank you for your continued support.





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

520-326-8452 info@altucson.org ALTucson.org NonProfit Org US POSTAGE

PAID

Tucson, Arizona Permit 628

YOUR GIVING, OUR THANKS!



for the brand new clothing that put smiles on the faces of 4,000 school children!

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