

# community newslink

ANNUAL REPORT  
2019



## 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



New backpacks make for smiles all around.



*Cheers to  
60 Years!*



## Cheers to Change! 1959 to 2019

**1959** Assistance League began as The Service League of Tucson with one program, Homemaker Services, to provide temporary in-home care during illness and recovery.

**1964** Incorporated as Assistance League of Tucson as a member of Assistance League, a national organization.

**1985** Due to the changing needs of the community, we replaced Homemaker Services with a new program, DES (Department of Economic Security) Client Survival Kits, which later became Starting Over Supplies.

**1989** Teddy Bear program began giving out bears to comfort children.

**1994** Operation School Bell® provided new clothing to 335 Los Ranchitos Elementary School students.

**1997** Assault Survivor Kits® restored dignity to survivors of assault.

**2009** Assisteens Helping Tucson Teens gave out its first in-kind grants to support middle school art, sports, and music with supplies.

**2019** Toiletries for Teens gives teens access to proper hygiene.

## Arizona Charitable Tax Credit

**PLEASE USE YOUR DONATION TO SUPPORT US!**

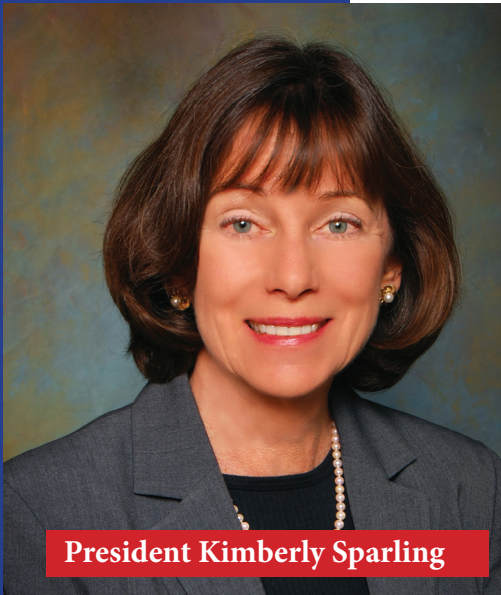
You may claim a tax credit for voluntary cash contributions you make to a Qualifying Charitable Organization. Assistance League of Tucson is a 501(c)(3) Qualifying Charitable Organization.

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 are \$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**

## A Message from Our President



**President Kimberly Sparling**

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As we celebrate our 60th anniversary of serving those most in need in the Tucson area, we want to thank our dedicated volunteers, our many generous donors, and the community leaders who serve on our Advisory Council for furthering the mission of Assistance League. Thanks to this support, we have grown from an organization of 22 women with one program in 1959 to an organization of almost 400 men and women who work with more than 60 schools, agencies, and organizations to serve over 13,000 people annually.

This year at the National Assistance League Conference where the 120 chapters of Assistance League gathered, we celebrated the 100th anniversary of Assistance League of Los Angeles, the founding chapter. There were at least 15 chapters that were celebrating more than 50 years of service to their communities. We met our fellow volunteers from around the country. What became clear is that Assistance League works, and that it has worked very well for the last century.

What is it that works? We are all-volunteer. We are member managed and member governed. We serve the communities in which we live, and we are hands-on in both our programs and our fundraising.

Since 1959, the passion to give back that we see in each and every volunteer – to make our communities better and to help those most in need – is what makes Assistance League successful. This is what made it possible for a nurse at St. Joseph's hospital to write, "I gave a 2 year old girl an Assistance League Teddy Bear to comfort her as she received stitches. She loved the bear and named it Ryan." Cheers to 60 years of passion working and to everyone who has made it possible!

## The Financials

Reviewed Financial Statement for May 1, 2018 to April 30, 2019

### Consolidated Revenue & Expenses

	Revenue
Public Support & Grants	251,059
Thrift Shop	617,931
Fundraising Events	16,017
Membership Dues	23,455
Other Revenue	20,758
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$929,220</b>

	Expenses
Philanthropic Programs	597,852
Thrift Shop Operations	68,915
Fundraising Events	1,308*
Administrative	185,396
Membership	11,643
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>\$865,114</b>

\*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 48,044 hours which, according to the U.S. Department of Labor's value of \$25.72 per volunteer hour, is a donation of \$1,235,692.

### Liabilities & Assets

<b>Assets</b>	
Cash & cash equivalents	685,802
Prepaid expenses	26,115
Inventories	215,784
Investments	444,559
Property & equipment	1,259,507
<b>Total Assets**</b>	<b>\$2,631,767</b>

<b>Liabilities</b>	
Accounts payable	29,843
Deferred dues revenue	12,719
Other deferred revenue	1,380
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$43,942</b>

<b>Net Assets</b>	
Unrestricted	2,568,993
Donor restricted	18,832
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>2,587,825</b>

**Total Liabilities & Net Assets**  
**\$2,631,767**

\*\*National Assistance League® requires all chapters to maintain one year's operating expenses.



## Operation School Bell® - helping Tucson children

Operation School Bell just completed its 25<sup>th</sup> year of service in the Tucson area. In 1994, Operation School Bell opened its doors to help 335 children. During the 2018-19 school year, 4,669 students were dressed, bringing the grand total of children served by the program since 1994 to almost 72,000.



- 4669 children dressed for school
- 40 Tucson schools & 3 agencies served
- \$89 dresses one child
- \$25 provides a voucher to buy shoes
- \$890 dresses ten children
- \$3204 dresses a busload of children
- \$110 dresses a hard-to-fit child at JCPenney
- \$150 funds the school bus trip to Assistance League

At a dressing, each child chooses a week's worth of new clothing – jeans or shorts, t-shirts, a hoodie, underwear, socks, new shoes, a backpack, and a book. The children attend one of 40 K-8 Title I schools or live at one of 3 agencies in the Tucson area. Children attending uniform schools are given vouchers to shop for their uniforms and shoes at a local Burlington Store. Other children are bused to our Philanthropic Programs Center where volunteers help each child select their new school clothes.

One principal wrote, "These students come to school in their new clothes and shoes more confident and with improved attitudes about school and learning." Another principal stated, "Students who were unable to participate in athletic activities are now able to run around our track, basketball court, and playground with shoes that are sturdy and dependable."

## Starting Over Supplies - strengthening Tucson families



When you are starting completely over, a basket of supplies with the necessities for the bedroom, bath and kitchen is a life saver. When those supplies are new high-quality products, it gives the recipient a sense of dignity. We have clients who are starting over for many reasons. Some are alone and others are large families. Others are escaping abusive situations with only the clothes on their backs. One client was sleeping in her car with her 5 children. We helped one refugee family who arrived with their 10 children and no household goods. All were seeking independence and a feeling of self worth. We are proud to have helped them take that first step.

- 1508 families served
- 31 agencies supported
- \$67 gives a kit to a single person
- \$85 helps a family of two
- \$112 supplies a family of three
- \$138 equips a family of four

## Assisteens® Helping Tucson Teens - in-kind mini-grants benefit teens



These dynamic teens represent "caring and commitment in action" as they volunteer for philanthropic projects throughout Tucson.

The high school members volunteer in the Assistance League Thrift Shop and other Assistance League programs. They also volunteer in the Tucson community with nonprofit organizations such as Community Food Bank, Ben's Bells, Casa Maria Soup Kitchen, Fisher House, Tucson Diaper Bank, Angel Heart Pajama Project, and many more. Assisteens fundraise by hosting an annual fashion show and by selling poinsettias. Profits from these events fund mini in-kind grants for art, music and PE supplies and equipment at Tucson Title I middle schools.

- 106 Members in grades 9-12
- 11 High schools represented
- 4365 Volunteer hours

## Teddy Bears - treasured symbol of comfort



An Assistance League Teddy Bear makes a bad day ...GOOD. To make sure our bears reach more children, we now provide them to the Banner clinics of nephrology, abdominal transplant, pulmonology, and orthopedics. The bears are kept in a treasure chest as prizes for cuddling during tedious and painful procedures.

- Over 3000 children comforted by a bear
- 11 agencies served (ERs, law enforcement, social services)
- \$25 gives bears to three children
- \$100 provides a bag of 12 bears to one of our agencies

Southern Arizona Children's Advocacy Center let us know that they had a six year old girl who received a bear after an interview. The bear became her constant companion until she misplaced it at daycare. She missed her bear so very much that the director called to ask for a replacement, which she picked up the next day. Hugs and smiles all around!

## Assault Survivor Kits® - restoring dignity



Assault Survivor Kits volunteers work with Southern Arizona Center Against Sexual Assault and Emerge! to provide simple clothing and toiletry items for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking. After forensic exams are conducted at local hospitals, clothing and personal items are kept for evidence, so victims are left with only a hospital gown. Our Kits allow victims to regain their dignity when departing the hospital.

- 1600 children from So. Arizona Children's Advocacy Center
- 400 individuals from So. Arizona Center Against Sexual Assault
- Emerge! Center Against Domestic Abuse

Assistance League volunteers (shown in photo) shop for clothing, toiletries and snacks for Southern Arizona Children's Advocacy Center (serves ages newborn to 18) who are victims of sexual, physical and/or mental abuse and who have witnessed violence. New clothing and simple snacks comfort the children. All the 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 that the abuse is over.

## Assistance League Thrift Shop - 50 years in our community



The Thrift Shop started in 1968 as a small gift shop to help fund our first Philanthropic Program and after 50 years has grown to be so much more! The shop is now a treasure trove of essentials, clothing, furniture, books, and art. Our wonderful customers keep up with us on Facebook leaving comments like "Great place to shop!" and "ALWAYS FABULOUS finds!!!" So we were happy to see our Thrift Shop was, again, awarded the coveted "Customer Favorite Thrift Shop" in Tucson. Most recently a donor from North Carolina tracked us down; his mother lives here in Tucson and had moved into assisted living, so he wanted to donate his mother's furniture and other belongings to us! Every new customer and donor in our store is an opportunity for us to tell the story of Assistance League of Tucson.

- 69% of program funding last year came from the Thrift Shop, up from 62% the previous year
- Volunteers worked 14,827 hours sorting donations
- Volunteers worked 1,530 shifts on the Sales Floor

## Hooked on Books - literacy means success

Since 2002, Hooked on Books has been supporting the love of reading and literacy development in Tucson. Currently we provide books to three Title I schools in three districts based on each school's requested library and classroom needs. We also partner with Sunnyside School District's Parents as Teachers program by providing them with books and materials that are used for parent education and to teach literacy skills to children.





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Cavett E.S.  
Davidson E.S.  
Dragonfly  
Drexel E.S.  
Elvira E.S.  
Emerge!  
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Pima County Sheriff's Dept  
Sahuarita Police Dept  
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Subway  
The Benevity Community  
Impact Fund  
The Frederick Gardner  
Cottrell Foundation  
The Gaslight Theatre  
The Guilford Fund  
The Mini-Time Machine  
Museum  
The Pocono Charitable  
Foundation  
The Temp Connection  
Thoroughbred Nissan  
Tohono Chul Park  
Tombstone Monument  
Ranch  
Tucson Charity Bridge  
Club, Inc.  
Tucson REALTORS®  
Charitable Foundation  
University of Arizona  
Vantage Bowling Centers  
Verde Canyon Railroad  
VIP Designs, Inc.  
Ward J and Joy A Timken  
Foundation  
Westward Look Resort  
Wheel of Fortune  
White Stallion Ranch

## Community Recipients

### Starting Over Supplies

Amphi Public Schools-  
McKinney Vento  
Arizona's Children  
Association  
Caring Connections for  
Special Needs  
Casa De Los Ninos  
Catholic Community  
Services  
Codac Behavioral Health  
Community Bridges  
Community Partners  
Integrated Healthcare  
Compass Affordable  
Housing  
Cope Community Services  
Dept of Child Safety (DCS)  
Easter Seals Blake  
Foundation Nurse Family  
Partnership  
El Rio Health  
Emerge! Center Against  
Domestic Abuse  
Flowing Wells USD Family  
Resource Center  
International Rescue  
Committee  
La Frontera Center, Inc.  
MAPS  
Old Pueblo Community  
Services  
Our Family Services  
Pima County  
PPEP Integrated Care  
Primavera Foundation  
St. Cyril St. Vincent de Paul  
The Salvation Army  
Star United School District  
Tihan  
Tucson Preparatory School  
University of Arizona  
Fostering Success  
Youth on Their Own

## New Generation - our future leaders

High school offers countless opportunities for students to join volunteer groups and organizations to give back to their community while sharing the experience with their friends and peers. However, the communality of a group or club that is solely volunteer based and works together as a unit to make a difference in their community is much harder to come across in college and among young, professional adults. The goal of the New Generation Committee is to bridge this gap between high school and adult service work and to make it easy as well as rewarding for the middle generation to make a difference.



New Generation recently launched a toiletries program for Tucson Unified School District students in need. Through our donation of hygiene products, this program provides teens in need with the self-confidence that comes from being clean and healthy. Nobody should have to compromise their health due to their lack of means to purchase hygiene products. We want to minimize this unmet need in our Tucson community.

We have endeavored to list donors correctly for the period of May 1, 2018 to April 30, 2019. If your listing is incorrect or you would like to be listed differently, please accept our apology and contact us at [info@ALTucson.org](mailto:info@ALTucson.org) or 326-8452 x6. Thank you for your continued support.







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

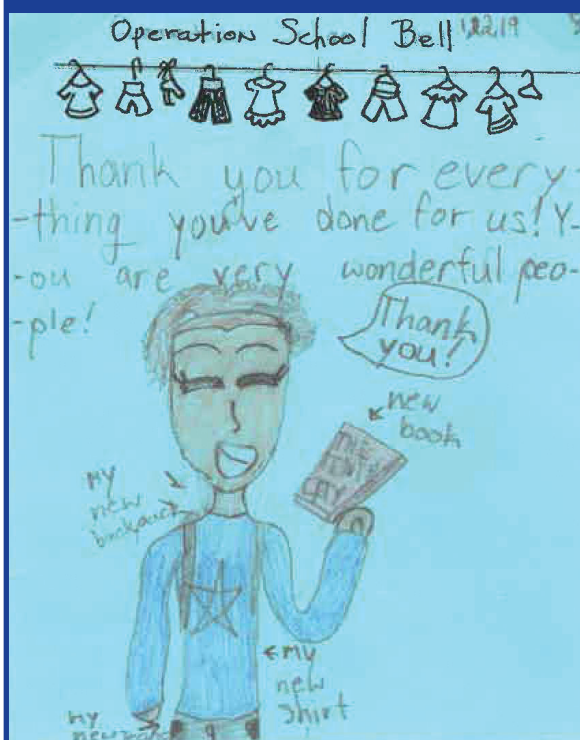
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## YOUR GIVING, OUR THANKS!



# Thanks

for the brand new clothing  
that put smiles on the faces  
of 4,669 school children!

DONATE • SHOP  
VOLUNTEER



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 43-1088.