***WHO WE ARE***

WE ARE ASSISTANCE LEAGUE, a national nonprofit organization that celebrates the power of the volunteer to evoke positive change in the world. We touch the lives of thousands of children and adults in the St. Louis area. We are a respected and effective **all-volunteer** service organization whose members believe a giving heart and simple compassionate acts make a world of difference.

 ***OUR PROGRAMS***

***Operation School Bell®***

 *-Provides new school uniforms for deserving children in school settings*

***Operation HUG***

*-Supplies teddy bears to comfort children and adults in traumatic situations*

***Steps to Success***

*-Provides athletic shoes for deserving students*

***My Own Fun Stuff***

*-Delivers activity kits to hospitals, schools, and agencies to entertain children and adults*

***Project ROSE***

*-Delivers personal care gift bags, clothes and household items for women and their children in shelters*

***Assistance League Outreach***

*-Provides short-term assistance through agencies to individuals in need*

 ***HOW ASSISTANCE LEAGUE SERVES THE ST. LOUIS COMMUNITY***

* Last year Assistance League provided over **5,469** elementary school children from **27** area schools

with two sets of new uniforms, socks, underwear, dental hygiene kits and an age-appropriate book. An additional **5,959** children received clothing, personal hygiene kits and books given to **21** agencies to distribute on an as-needed basis.

* After 28 years of service, Assistance League has provided more than **68,178** children with **new school clothing**.
* In 1987, we were one of the first nonprofit organizations to distribute **teddy bears** to emergency personnel and social agencies. We now serve **26** agencies in the St. Louis community.
* In 2001, Assistance League began providing **athletic-style shoes and socks** to school children. Last year, our members visited **30** elementary schools to properly fit and provide athletic shoes and socks to **3,308** children.
* Assistance League delivers kits for quiet activities to **21** hospitals, schools and agencies. Started in 1996, last year we provided over **21,900** activity kits.
* Since 2001, Assistance League members have delivered **gift bags** containing clothing, personal care and household items for women and their children in 4 area shelters, affecting over 16,200 lives. In an effort to show a caring spirit, we include a cake and a fruit basket each month.
* We now cooperate with other area agencies to identify **unmet community needs**. Our newest program, **Outreach**, begun in 2007, has provided assistance to over 51,200 lives since its inception.

The St. Louis chapter of Assistance League began over 28 years ago and is one of 122 chapters nationwide. Our members put ***Caring and Commitment in Action***through community-based programs. During the past fiscal year, **2015-2016**, members contributed over **63,900** volunteer hours to serve **50,017** individuals in the St. Louis community.

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