



## Assistance League of St. Louis

### Fact Sheet 2018-2019

### *We Are Assistance League*

We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization who celebrates the power of the volunteer to evoke positive change in our community. In 2018-19, we touched the lives of nearly 50,000 children and adults in St. Louis. Our programs are conceived and designed to empower, not enable; provide opportunity, not promote dependence. We are attentive and responsive to changing needs in our community. Our 518 volunteers are engaged in hands-on delivery of much-needed goods and services directly to deserving people. We have no paid staff. In 2018-19, our members and friends donated 79,207 volunteer hours through our philanthropic programs. These hours have a value of \$1.8 million and are equal to 38 full-time paid employees.

#### *GuideStar Platinum Seal of Transparency*

Our chapter has received a Platinum Transparency Rating from GuideStar, the world's largest source of information about nonprofits. Fewer than 1% of nonprofit members earn Platinum status. The thoroughness of our program assessment practices is a major factor in this achievement.

### *Serving the St. Louis Community*

- In fiscal 2018-19, Operation School Bell served 7,312 elementary school students, fitting and providing uniforms, socks, hygiene products and an age-appropriate book. Operation School Bell has served over 90,000 students since it began in 1990.
- In the last year, Steps to Success visited 36 schools and 2 agencies to fit and deliver shoes and socks to 4,011 school children.
- Project ROSE volunteers purchase, package and deliver gift bags with clothing and personal care items to 4 area crisis shelters and 2 agencies and to sexual assault survivors. In 2018-19, we served 2,853 women and children in shelters. Since 2001, we have contributed to the well-being of 24,700 women and their children.
- Begun as a pilot in 2017, Books from Friends held book fairs in elementary and middle schools and provided over 15,000 books to aspiring readers.
- In partnership with St. Louis Community College, Assistance League Scholarship provided financial aid to 12 individuals aspiring to improve their lives through higher education.
- Assistance League Outreach served 561 individuals with one-time critical needs.
- My Own Fun Stuff and Operation Hug touched the lives of nearly 25,000 children and adults in hospitals or facing traumatic situations with activity kits and teddy bears.
- Waste Not has provided gently used clothing and toys to 8,308 deserving families.

### *Our Programs*

Operation School Bell®  
Operation Hug  
Steps to Success  
My Own Fun Stuff  
Project ROSE  
Assistance League Outreach  
Assistance League Scholarship  
Assistance League Waste Not®  
Assistance League Beyond the Bell  
Books from Friends  
Beyond the Bell Clothing

For detailed information on our programs, please see our website at [alstl.org](http://alstl.org).



[stlouis.bbb.org](http://stlouis.bbb.org)



### **Operation School Bell®**

Provides and fits new school uniforms, socks, personal care items and an age-appropriate book to deserving students in St. Louis community elementary schools.

### **Operation Hug**

Provides teddy bears to comfort children and adults in traumatic situations.

### **Steps to Success**

Provides and fits new athletic shoes and socks for deserving elementary school children.

### **My Own Fun Stuff**

Prepares and delivers activity kits to hospitals, schools and agencies to entertain children and adults.

### **Project ROSE**

Purchases, packages and delivers personal care gift bags and clothing to women and their children in emergency shelters and to sexual assault victims. Provides household items to women and their children transitioning from emergency shelters.

### **Assistance League Outreach**

Provides one-time or short term assistance to individuals in need through partner agencies.

### **Assistance League Scholarship Program**

In partnership with St. Louis Community College Foundation, provides financial assistance to individuals emerging from a life transition who aspire to improve their lives through post-secondary education.

### **Assistance League Waste Not**

Ensures that donations that are not usable in our programs or saleable in our resale shop are distributed directly to those in need.

### **Assistance League Beyond the Bell**

Umbrella program for projects supporting school children and young adults. Current projects include:

- **Books from Friends:** provides books to aspiring readers in elementary and middle school.
- **Beyond the Bell Clothing:** provides uniforms to schools and agencies that differ from Operation School Bell standard uniforms.